

HISTORIC SITES

in

Milford

Pennsylvania

Milford Architectural Study Group

PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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A PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL PROJECT

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and prepared by

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PIKE COUNTY HISTORIAN

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Homes - Milford's Great Resource

Houses listed in the 75 to 100 year age category to date are: Brookside Villa; Dr. Emerson's the Louis Rodriquez House; Hendrian's; Reed House; Curtis Rice Home; Fuller House; the Edward Stine's; John Fleming; Bess Van Etten's; Orville Nearing's; Takosh House; Bill Hinkel; The Collingwood; Guests; Sue Miller's; Bruphacher's; Tom Quick; Elsie Atkins; St. Patricks Convent; Villa Madeleine; Maroldi House; Gassman's; Len Doyle's; Sandy Beecher's; Finkleday's; Amy Rinckhoff's House; Guttenberger's; Alpine Building; Fauchere; Kipp House; Louis Chol's; Ray Walsh House; Dr. Klaer's; Robacker's; Ostertag House; Robert Forsythe's; Edna Van Tassell Green's; Gregory Myer's; Bruce Earlin; Baker House; Schneck's; Helen Hissam's; Levi Cole's; Paul Schmalz; Schmalz, Sr.; Carl Muhlhauser, Sr.

and Jr.; O. Howard Wolfe's; Robert Fish House; Mike Gatzke, Jr.; Grey Towers; Ethel Wolfe's; Telly Bryce; Graham House; Siemer House; Margaret Armstrong; Rondolph Gregory; Guidance Center, Dr. Phyllis O. Edwards; Mildred Hardtla (former Sophie Funk's home); Hoey's; Dagn House; Aspinwall; Vanda Summer's; Gunther Passarge; Hillcrest; Clarence Walton House; Bob Blood's (Milford Beach); Ernestine Caletini's; Richard Smith's home; Don Howes (former Ryman House) Dr. Edginton's; McGoey House; Anderson House; Elsie Kayton's; George Siddons; Gladys Friend's House; Cahill House (Penny Boutique); Dr. Bullock's office; Village Market; Finan's Home (Warner's) Nellie Coykendall House; Clyde Rowe House; Perry House; Struther's; Quibbel; Misenhelder; DeWitt House and Bud Kleh's.

Landmarks, public buildings, churches, business places and hotels were also listed which fell in this category. They were: The

Tom Quick Monument; Milford Community House; Court House; Jail; Boro Building; Milford Elementary School; Early Learning Center; Police Barracks; Pike County Dispatch; Bloomgarden's; Hotel Fauchere; Laurel Villa; (former Judge School); John Kurz Office; Dave Chant's offices; Penn State Extension (Courthouse Annex #1); Forest Hall; Kraft Travel Agency; Paper Store; Masonic Building; Milford Inn; Laurel Villa; Dimmick Inn; Hotel Fauchere; and the Veterans Home. The Milford Convalescent Home (former Misenhelder House); Lucille's Beauty Nook; Paul's Bakery; Law Offices, Gumble, Thomson & Linshaw; Rowe's Mill; Blacksmith Shop; Arlington Hotel; John Muir's "Treasure Hill."

Churches in the 100 years or more category are the First Presbyterian Church and Manse of Milford; the St. Patrick's Catholic Church (old building); and the Methodist Church.

The Mott Street Bridge is another of Milford's landmarks.

Architectural Study Committee Formed

The Milford area Architectural Study Committee will present as a public service a series of articles and pictures recognizing many of the old buildings of historical significance in Milford. Committee members who have been working with the Pike County Extension Service include Robert Fish, Norman Lehde, Edith Lees, Cynthia Van Lierde, Herbert Moore, Albert and Bets Steiner, Ada Greening, Ernest Chamberlain, Phyllis Edwards and Diane Robacker. The articles, which will appear weekly in the Pike County Dispatch, will be based on studies made by Mr. Joseph Young. Mr. Young is an architect of Scranton, and on research completed by the Junior Historians of Delaware Valley High School. During this Bicentennial period we are all experiencing a renewal interest in our past. It is hoped that these articles will help to recall the rich architectural and historic heritage of our community.

Bluestone Buildings

In studying the architecture of the homes in Milford Boro, the Milford Architectural Study Committee has been impressed with the buildings and homes using blue stone.

The Milford Elementary School, built in 1904, used bluestone in its construction. Alfred Marvin was the architect. He was also the architect for the addition built in 1926.

The Ben Anthony house, corner of 6th and Harford Streets has an air of indestructibility with its use of blue stone, three huge flagstones covering the porch, and the polished marble columns. The Pike County Power & Light Building on Broad Street is another distinctive home using blue stone. Built in the Norman style of architecture, it compliments the picturesque Forest Hall Building across the road which is a combination of bluestone and stucco. Dr. Klaer's home on East Ann Street is another example of using bluestone effectively. Grey Towers, of course, is a classic example of the beauty and timelessness of blue stone.

The Bluestone industry, flourished during the mid and late 1800's. Huge quarries were opened in Shohola and Pond Eddy areas. The name that comes up most often in connection with the quarrying operations is that of John Fletcher Kilgour. Norman Lehde, Pike County historian, had this to say about the Bluestone Industry in his "Pike County Days" a series which appeared weekly in the Pike County Dispatch.

"John Fletcher Kilgour was born in Kingston, New York, on March 14, 1841. He started to work with his father, Thomas Kilgour, driving a team hauling stone from the quarry to the dock when he was 16 years of age. He worked for his father for a few years, then quarried stone on his own, and later conducted a retail stone yard in Newburgh, New York."

In 1868, believing that large stone interests could be developed in Pike County, he purchased around 4,000 acres in the Pond Eddy area. Starting operations the following year, he increased his labor force from 50 to 150 men in two months. Later in the year, the firm of Kilgour, Vignes and Company was formed. It was composed of the following men: Kilgour, James H. Rutter (later president of the Hudson River Railroad) George S. Readington of Port Jervis, and David Vignes of Kingston, New York."

"In 1870 Kilgour was convinced by James Fisk of the advantages of having the railroad facilities of the Erie and also having men in New York City, the establishment of the time, with interests in the business. A new company was formed. When this was done, Fisk was made President and Kilgour, General Superintendent. Among the stockholders were Jay Gould, the capitalist and William Marcy Tweed, "the boss of New York."

In 1873 a combination of many things started to lead to the destruction of the company. There was the business panic of 1873. Gould, accused Fisk and Daniel Drew with having plundered the Erie and left the company. Fisk was shot over a woman and the

Tweed Ring was unmasked as a company of rascals whose misdeeds became legendary.

The company failed and even Kilgour's own residence was mortgaged. His health failed and he spent a winter in Hot Springs, Arkansas. However, the axiom that a man may be down, but not out, was soon to be epitomized by John Fletcher Kilgour. After John

Kilgour's unfortunate business association with "Boss" Tweed, Jim Fisk and Jay Gould, and the failure of the company in which they were associated, and his financial troubles, he was a sadder but wiser man. Upon recovering his health he returned to quarrying stone in 1878. He leased a quarry and started working with about 25 men. In a year he had increased the number of employees to 100 and by 1883 had a force of 250. In January of that year, he associated himself with E.S. Parker and their firm was named "The Kilgour Bluestone Company."

When Alfred Mathey wrote his history in 1886, he reported that, at that date, the firm employed 450 men by the day and another 150 on piece work and was contemplating increasing the number to 800 during the year. The author notes that the company had erected large mills for sawing, planing and polishing stone, and were prepared to do the finest kind of carving and moulding. The mills, located at Parkers Glen ran day and night, electric lights being used at night. The company owned 6,000 acres of land, leased a like number of acres; had 23 quarries. Their property extended along the Erie from Sawmill Rift to Hancock on the main line and on the branch to Hawley.

It was also noted that the company had erected a school house for the children of their employees and furnished a teacher at company expense. A hall was also erected for the use of the workers who joined a temperance organization. At that time, Kilgour was the owner of the Shohola Glen Hotel and the Shohola Glen Property. He was contemplating building a switchback railroad to transport people from the Erie thru the Glen at a fare of five cents.

In a recent book on Shohola, local historian, George Fluhr notes that Kilgour, after 1886 again encountered business failure. However, he kept returning to the blue stone industry. He died in New Jersey in 1904.

Local Bricks In Landmark Buildings

According to information in the Pike County Historical Society, and supplied by Helen Greening, Curator, there were two locations in Milford that made bricks.

One was situated near Milford across the Sawkill, near where the

Wyckoffs now live. This was known as the "Wallace" Brickyard and it is from this source that bricks for the Presbyterian Church and the Kayton Building were obtained.

The second site was near Matoras in the swampy area below Masurack's swimming pool and the old Marvin Farm on the Old Milford Road. This was the "Rose" Brickyard and bricks used in the construction of the Crissmanhouse (chimneys and foundation) came from this source.

Some of the bricks were coarsely made and of different sizes. The clay used in their manufacture was found in small areas, usually along streams, near the surface of the ground. One small vein of clay can be seen along the Sawkill across the stream from the Arlington Hotel.

According to Court House records dated August 26, 1872, the brick used for the Court House was ordered from Henry S. Mott who was located on the Sawkill. However, Mr. Mott was supplying bricks to the Center Square (present Tom Quick buildings) and the quality of these bricks did not meet the criteria of the Commissioners, Van Gorden, Hoffman and Rosencrance. Accordingly, they passed the following resolution: "Resolved that the brick delivered

and being delivered by Henry S. Mott at Center Square in the Town of Milford under contract with us dated the 24th of February, 1872, are not good well burned merchantable and lawful bricks and that the same are hereby condemned by us and that we will give the same Mott notice of said condemnation and notice that we are in want of good brick at once to carry on said building." Apparently Mr. Mott must have subsequently met the specifications because the records of Aug. 13, 1873 states: "Settled with Mott for Brick."

It is assumed that the other brick homes in the village are made of native brick. However, at this writing it has not been possible to verify this supposition.

Cobblestone Houses in Milford

This article on Milford's cobblestone houses has been prepared by Bethel Steiner for the Architectural Study Committee, which works out of Mr. Joseph Staley's office.

When one gets into stone work in the Milford area, one immediately runs into the name of Snyder, for the Snyder family and the men they trained did practically all of the stone work in the

town. In preparing this article the writer spoke to Russell Snyder, Mrs. John L. Snyder, Leonard Snyder, Carl Snyder, Everett Orben, and John Supplee, as well as several of the owners of the houses involved. The material gathered was fascinating. It is regrettable that it cannot all be included here, but for now we will speak of just nine cobblestone buildings, and we will also give a brief account of the Snyder family.

The outstanding cobblestone building is the Episcopal Church. When the forty-three-year-old wooden church burned, on September 28, 1913, it was replaced, in 1914, by the present stone structure. Just about all the Snyders worked on it: Andrew, Leonard Snyder's grandfather; Joe, Frank Snyder's father; George, Carl Snyder's grandfather; Joch C., Lillian Musselwhite's grandfather; John L. and Charles, two of Andrew's sons, were helpers. The stone came from the Pinchot property. When the addition was put on the back of the church in 1964, Leonard Snyder had the contract, and his father, John L., helped to lay the stone, which came from just across the river, from the Stanley Roberts place.

Different members of the Snyder family worked on the Dispatch building when it was built in 1915. Joe and Andrew were mentioned specifically, but undoubtedly other Snyders were involved also. Mr. Cy Terwilliger, Violet Clune's father, had the building erected when he moved his print shop and newspaper office from the present Bloomgarden building. John Supplee states that when they started to excavate for the foundation, the site was so full of rocks that every stone for the building came right from the excavation.

Mrs. James R. Bull's house at 210 West Ann Street was also the work of the Snyder family. It was built in 1920 by one of the "uncles," she recalls, but she is not certain which one. Incidentally, because the Snyders were such a large clan, many of the older men were called "uncle." It was Uncle Joe, Uncle John, etc.

The Spotts house at 301 West High Street, was built by "Uncle John" i.e., John C. Snyder. Mr. Colbert reports that some of the stones in his house are enormous, that one in particular, high up in the fireplace inside the house, is so large he wonders how the "mud" supported it.

In 1926 Everett Orben built his own first home for himself and Hazel and their infant son Kenneth at the upper end of George Street. He had Joe Snyder and John C. Snyder do the stone work.

The Stanley Cole house at 310 West Harford Street is a cobblestone house, built around 1910. There had been a frame house there belonging to the Rochottes, and in a front room of the house

the Rochottes ran a small store, serving the needs of that end of the town. Revoyres' bakery wagon delivered baked goods there for sale. Florence Rochotte Smith is still living, and she recalls the store's lovely kerosene hanging lamp and the glass case which protected the baked goods. The house burned down, and Henry and Elizabeth Rochotte Cotterill had the present house built. Russling DeWitt (Lila Kyte's father) had the contract to build the house, and Ross Kleinstuber thought that the Snyders did the stone work, but Mrs. Smith remembers Aristide (Art) DuBois as being a mason on the job. Leonard Snyder says that all those men worked together, so it is difficult to sort out just which men did which job.

Parenthetically, the name of George Gregory often comes up in these researches. He was the father of the present-day Randolph Gregory and a grandfather of "Skip" Gregory. He would contract for building jobs and then assemble the carpenters, masons, etc., which were needed.

There is a nice example of a cobblestone house at 109 Ninth Street. At present it is occupied by the Von Dohlen family. Originally it was built for Mrs. Edith Tyler, but by whom and around what time this writer has not learned.

The Zernhelt house at 110 West George Street is the exception that proves the rule: it was not built by the Snyders. Mr. John Armstrong first built the house now owned by the Jay Rose family. After he sold it to the Guffantis, he built the Zernhelt house, sometime after 1925.

The Spotts house at 301 West Catherine Street is a fine example of the cobblestone house. We know quite a bit about it because it was built in 1946, and Mr. Everett Orben, the builder, is still alive. The stone for the Spotts house came from a stone fence over in Jersey. Harry Snyder (Lillian Musselwhite's father) was one of the masons, and another was Clarence Van Auken, who was related to the Snyder family and had learned the mason trade from them. Masons' helpers on that job were Jake Howey and Donald Gavaille, Clarence Van Auken's nephew. Another man who worked on the house was Eston Myer from over in Jersey. (Mr. Orben

relates that the same group built the stone house for Mrs. Wade, over across the Mott Street Bridge on the Old Dingmans Road).

The present writer was especially interested in a little cobblestone whimsey which the late Clarence Van Auken constructed at the house where he lived, next to Frank Murphy, on Ann Street. The house itself is stucco, but the steps are of stone, and a rather heavy balustrade curves down along each side of the steps. At the end of each balustrade Clarence built an urn made of small cobblestones to hold plants. Look for the urns the next time you pass the house.

Henry Snyder and Catherine Cron Snyder were married in 1850. They had eleven children, and four of their sons became masons: Andrew C. Snyder, b. 1857; John C. Snyder, b. 1860; George T. Snyder, b. 1862; and Joseph G. Snyder, b. 1870. The work produced by these men and their descendants can hardly be over-estimated. They were enormously prolific workmen. Andrew had two sons who were masons, Charles and John L., and his grandson Leonard also followed the trade. Mrs. John L. Snyder told this reporter that her husband had worked on many, many buildings, not only in this area but in New York state, in New Jersey, and all over. John C. had two sons who became masons, Chester and Harry. If we were going into other stone houses besides the cobblestones, we could speak of the many ones which Harry constructed in Milford. George T. died comparatively young, in 1916, and did not live to do as much work as the others, but he did work on the Episcopal Church and other buildings in town.

One interesting closing note is that the Ogdens just recently were having some cobblestone work done on the front of their house on George Street. Blace Hotalen was doing the stone work, assisted by Bill Drexler and Chris Ogden, and sure enough, he had been trained by Leonard Snyder!

Milford's Hotel Industry

The Milford Architectural Study Committee was interested in a Research Paper undertaken and written by Matthew Stanton Gatzke in January 1976. Matthew chose as his subject, a history of Milford's Old Hotels. We are indebted to him for the information contained in his report and which we are repeating here.

The Hotel Industry in Milford was thriving before and during the beginning of the century. It flourished until the coming of the automobile. Then the greater mo-

bility afforded by the car made it possible for vacationers to go back and forth more easily and travel around rather than stay in one place. The time when families came for the entire summer was at an end.

Milford's location...its picturesque hills, brooks and trout streams and the Delaware River made it an ideal vacation spot. The invitation issued by the Milford Chamber of Commerce in its promotion of Milford as a "Vacationer's Dream" was typical of the 1920's. It read: "While desiring to foster the Elysian character of this land of heart's desire, we are glad to invite others here to enjoy it with us...others who are of the best type of American citizens. To such as these, we extend the hand of welcome."

The hotel industry brought in all types of people. Their efforts to entertain their guests made for a lively summer season and afforded the townspeople an opportunity to enjoy these cultural activities as well as to meet people of all nationalities from all over the

United States and Europe. Many of the summer people subsequently made Milford their permanent home, or built second homes for the summer.

The hotels played a large role in the development of Milford, offering employment to many families. Laundering services were in demand; fresh eggs, milk, butter, vegetables and fruit were supplied by local farmers. Waiters, gardeners, bartenders, bus boys, dish washers, chefs, cooks, porters added up to the involvement and livelihood of a lot of people in this industry. The people were helped and so was the economy.

Many of the old hotels mentioned in Matthew Gatzke's report are no longer on the local scene. Some have been either torn down, or burned. Examples are the Grand View Hotel; The Bluff House; The Homestead; The Sawkill House, The Crissman House; Colonial Inn; The Vantine and the Bellevue.

The Grand View Hotel was built and operated by William and August Metz, Sr. in 1897. Moving here from Jersey City, they established a fine lodging house right outside the village of Milford. It was 3 stories in height, with a surrounding porch and situated on

a bank (where 209 is now located), with a beautiful view of the river. The Hotel's outdoor pavillion was very popular for night dances and parties. It had forty rooms and lavatories on all the floors. In their brochure they note the large farm in connection with the house supplied all the butter, eggs and fresh vegetables. Fishing and hunting were attractions offered

the guests, as well as bathing and boating in the Delaware. Unfortunately, this hotel had a short life. It was burned to the ground in the early 1900's.

Ruth Metz Grant, daughter of August Metz, Sr., showed this writer the brochure sent to the prospective boarders. Terms for board and lodging for a week were from \$8.00 to \$15.00. Transients \$2.00 a day, with special rates offered for the season. Stage fare from the Port Jervis R.R. Station was \$.50.

General Stores ... an institution

The old general stores were an important part of living a century ago. Aside from being a source of household supplies, food, clothing, toys, or whatever a housholder might need, it was also a gathering place. A place to socialize, to hear the latest news and pass it on to friends and neighbors. Direct communications at their best!

Large barrels held coffee, sugar, oatmeal and crackers. Orders had to be put into bags and weighed. Coffee beans were dumped into a large coffee grinder which was

pumped by a foot pedal attached to the wheel. Tea came directly from the Far East in large square boxes decorated with oriental designs. Money was kept in a drawer under the counter and pulled in and out. . . no fancy cash registers here!

According to an interesting account written by Vera Ryman Weaver, Mr. Ryman's youngest daughter, the worst things to sell were molasses, prunes, tub butter and kerosene oil. For the molasses and tub butter, you had to pull up a trap door and go down into the damp, dark cellar. People brought their own jugs for molasses. This

was kept in a barrel or hogshead which had spigots. There was no way you could fill the jugs with their small openings, without getting molasses all over your hands.

Prunes came in wooden boxes. They had to be dug out and weighed. . . a sticky job! Kerosene oil was kept behind the store in a shed. People brought their five or one gallon cans to be filled from the big container. Another task impossible to complete without getting covered with oil.

Barter was an accepted way of doing business. Farmers brought butter and eggs to the store and received in return, groceries or other articles. Sometimes pheas-

ants were brought in and these were shipped into New York by way of Port Jervis and the Erie Railroad. they were sold to the Waldorf Astoria for 50 cents a piece!

Mrs. Weaver recounts that Tuesdays and Fridays were order days. Orders were picked up from customer's homes in the morning, and afternoon, then filled and delivered. Orders were packed in large flat baskets with a paper bag separating each order.

When furniture had to be delivered to outlying boarding houses, it called for packing a lunch and taking the family along, making a picnic out of the long trip.

To add to the friendly atmosphere of the Ryman & Wells Store, big porch rocking chairs were placed on the flagstone pavement on each side of the front door. Here the proprietors and clerks could relax and visit with each other when there was a lull in business, or with their customers when they had time to spare.

William S. Ryman came to Milford in 1800. He lived with his Aunt, Margaret Ryman on Fourth Street in the house used as the rectory for St. Patrick's Church (now demolished) He married Susannah Almer on October 21, 1881 in Sparta, Wisconsin. They then returned to Milford to live and Mr. Ryman became a partner to Mr. Henry B. Wells and managed the General Store. When Mr. Wells died in 1905, his share was bought by Mr. Ryman and he took his oldest son, Dudley as his partner.

All of the five Ryman children worked in the store. Vera Ryman (Weaver) was the youngest, and she remembered that the time she enjoyed the most was between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Then people would come in to buy toys and Sunday School teachers would buy presents for their pupils. . . 50c was allowed for each child! Sunday Schools were allowed a discount on all presents.) Most of the toys came from Germany and unpacking the crates containing dolls, games, trains and toys of all sorts was a cause for great excitement. Equally exciting was the ceremony of trimming the Christmas tree for the store window. This was placed on a revolving music box stand, which played "Silent Night" and was hung with ornaments, candles and tinsel.

The Ryman and Almer families were rugged individualists. They contributed much to the history and economic growth of Milford along with the other enterprising business men of that time.

Alpine

The Alpine, N.W. corner of Broad and Catherine Streets was part of the Hotel Fauchere complex. It is now owned by Anne Chol Metzger. It has an ageless quality. And why not..? With a ringside seat on the main thoroughfare, the Alpine has watched the passing of the Victorian Era with its horse and buggies, the coming of the automobile, and...finally, the take over of the 18 wheeler's. This building has seen a lot of living!

The original part of the building is said to be 18th century and at one time was known as the "Old Plank House". It is a plank house underneath and was an Inn when the Old Plank Road ran from Milford to Scranton. The front porch with its Doric columns was probably added later. Originally, it was a 1½ story building about one half as deep and as wide as the present building. Now it stands 2½ stories high and the gambrel roof gives it a special character.

This building has been used by many tenants and for many purposes. The first floor has been occupied as an Inn and later as a Bar Room and hotel. The bar room was the old fashioned "Sawdust on the Floor" operation and was run for many years by a woman, Nettie Rupp after the death of her husband. With the advent of Prohibition, this establishment was closed down.

A Barber Shop, Beauty Shop and the first Chain store to come into Milford were at one time housed in the Alpine. Later when the A & P moved down Broad Street Heaters Market established their business on this corner.

It could not be ascertained from any available source for what purpose the building was used when it was first built.

Presently the building houses the offices of the Bureau of the Aging and is rented by the Pike County Commissioners.

Anthony home

"Rugged"...."time defying"....Ben and Sheila Anthony's bluestone home on the corner of Sixth and Harford Streets stands like a fortress. A monument to its builder, Horatio Hazelton, who quarried every stone and bluestone slab he used in building this house.

Here is a house that shrugs off the noise of the ever growing traffic. The stone walls completely close out all traffic noises, just as they kept out the dust from the horse and carriage traffic, on the dirt roads several decades ago.

Joe Young, AIA, advisor to the Milford Architectural Study was enthusiastic about the solid and substantial look of the Anthony house, noting while it had no definite period architectural style, the bluestone made it individualistic. "The kind of a home a man would feel was his castle."

Exceptional features singled out by the architect, Mr. Young, was the three polished granite columns; the three long flat bluestone slabs making up the porch floor; the solid blocks of cut bluestone used in the stair risers; the one ton slab of bluestone...with hole drilled to fit the flue...used to cap the chimney; the contrasting second story of wood construction.

Basement tunnel

For some reason, still to be determined, there is the beginning of a tunnel in the basement. Where it was going or why it was begun, is still a mystery, but it made a great place for the Anthony Children, Agnes, Christopher and Ben to explore and play in when they were little.

Needless to say the foundation for a house of this weight and proportion, had to be strong! And it was. The story is told that when it was laid up, the neighborhood children would ride around it on their bicycles. Steel beams were used thruout the house to support the floors and ceilings.

Ben and Sheila Anthony bought the house in 1950....from a very reluctant John Bissert. And then, only because he liked them! During the initial stages of trying to buy the house the Anthony's never got inside...but this is a house they knew they wanted and nothing else mattered. When they did take ownership there was much to finish, but it was a job they tackled happily.

Before John Bissert's occupancy, a Dr. Oliver Victor Lembeck bought the house from Paul Bournique, Executor of the estate of Henry B. Wells.

Quarried in Mill Rift

The original owner and builder was Horatio Hazelton. In researching the records it is impossible to tell whether Mr.

Hazelton designed the stone structure but it is presumed that he did.

It is known that he cut, chipped and polished each block and slab used in the construction. The stone came from a quarry he bought in Mill Rift.

Originally, Mr. Hazelton wanted

to buy land in Mill Rift, but the landowner, thinking he had a wealthy prospect, asked a price which Mr. Hazelton refused to pay. Instead, he bought Lots 619 plus 622 in the Boro of Milford and hauled the bluestone from the

quarry to this site.

Granite columns \$875 each

The granite columns used on the porch came from a quarry Mr. Hazelton had owned in Montana before coming to this area. The Anthony's recently found the bill for these pillars....\$875.00 each...a lot of money for the turn of the century.

While building his home, Mr. Hazelton and his wife Eleanor lived in the little brick cottage on the side of his lot bordering on Pear Alley. Progress on the house must have been painstakingly slow. The first record of any assessment appears in 1915 in the County's books.

The limits to which a man will go to fulfill a dream is a cause for wonder. But...inherent in every man, is the desire to build his own home...with his own two hands. When this urge is realized, the home which results has a special quality. The Anthony home...built by Horatio Hazelton...is such a house.

The Arlington

The Arlington Hotel, located on the banks of the Sawkill at the foot of Christian Hill, has always been a family operated business. Originally catering only to summer boarders, it has always been a family operated business. Originally catering only to summer boarders, it has adapted its services over the years to include motel accommodations, a restaurant and bar, plus indoor and outdoor recreation facilities for guests.

Owned by James and Jean Maun, the business is no longer seasonal but operated on a year round basis.

The building is the usual three story building, characteristic of the boarding houses built in the late 1890's but there the similarity ends. The varying roof lines and the story book cupola on the addition to the original building, give the Arlington a distinctive character. Character brought to it, by additions and renovations made by each of the owners.

The decorative bricked porch and entrance, and the attached gazebo for summer parties are fairly recent additions. The swimming

pool was installed after the '55 flood. Prior to that, guests could bathe in a natural pool in the Sawkill which ran past the hotel. All rooms have been modernized in keeping with to-day's standards.

The original part of the Arlington was built by Frank Seitz for his mother and father. The Seitz's operated the business until Frank lost the hotel in a card game with Harold Thornton whose family owned the Dimmick Inn.

From the Thornton's the hotel passed into the hands of Ed Boyd and his wife. The Boyds with the help of their three children, Helen, Bill and Janet, plus some outside help during the height of the season, ran the boarding house. Mr. Boyd was a butcher, with a shop on Broad Street.

After the Boyds, the hotel was sold to Felix and Rosa Arndt and Paul and Stephanie Szabara. They planned to run the hotel as a partnership but this partnership was shortly dissolved leaving the Arndts as sole owners. The Arndts sold the business and building to the present owners, The Maun's.

The Arlington not only offered ample living quarters for the Maun's and their nine children, but now with the help of their older children, Francis, Steven, Mathew and Christine, the expansion of their hotel-motel facilities to include a restaurant and bar have been made possible. These accommodations are enjoyed by guests, visitors, private parties, area people, and transients.

Margaret Armstrong House

The Margaret Armstrong House located on the corner of East Harford and 4th Streets dates back to 1855. Of wood construction, the two story house, with gable roof and small entrance porch has had additions over the years. These are obvious, but acceptable, having common elements of eave line and siding. The additions are in the tradition of the Connecticut Colonial.

Connecticut Colonial Architecture buffs should observe the handsome proportion of width to height... both for front facade and end gable, and the disciplined window treatment prior to the installation of picture windows. One of the advantages of the Connecticut Colonial house is that it can bear certain additions, renovations and modernizations and still retain the original 18th century characteristics.

This style is recognizable with eave and roof to the front, shutter-

ed windows, balanced with entrance door and small porch in the center. Trim details are simple moldings. The original plan was two rooms deep, each side of a center hall, first and second floors.

Earlier houses had central chimneys. Eighteenth and 19th century houses frequently added fireplaces and gable end chimneys.

Mr. Joe Young, Scranton Architect, who has been making a study of the Landmark homes in Milford, working with the Milford Architectural Study Committee, in his description of the Armstrong house notes that the attic windows are both unusual and disturbing, to be located with a corner cut off but a center location, he concedes, would have conflicted with the chimney.

Mr. Young makes a comparison with the "Siemer" (Chandler Saint) house across the street, circa 1750, regarding the historical and architectural significance of the Armstrong and Siemer House. The Armstrong house was built a century later in 1850. Comparison, Mr. Young observed is made difficult by the changes that have been made in both homes in design and aesthetic influences. However, the Armstrong house remains closer to authenticity of Connecticut Colonial. The formal front block stands unadorned in white clapboard

except for the picture-type windows to the left side and the bracketed entrance porch that probably had columns in the original design. The double hung windows are well proportioned and somewhat larger and less divided than those in the Siemer House across the street which predates the Armstrong House by a century.

The "Armstrong" house was built by John H. Wallace in 1855. He also built the Masonic building which is next to this property. The house was originally intended as a two story residence. Later, Wallace passed away, leaving the house to Jacob Klaer his administrator. In 1913, Klaer sold the house to Fred Klaer, who in the same year sold the house back to Jacob Klaer. Elizabeth Lattimore bought the house from Klaer in 1915. The present owner, Margaret Armstrong purchased the house from Elizabeth Lattimore in 1941.

This twelve room house has four additions: a kitchen; an upstairs bedroom and two bathrooms. Only a small portion of an upstairs hallway contains the floor originally laid by Wallace. The house contains two cellars and an attic.

Of interest is the fact that the first Boro Council meeting was

held in what is now Margaret Armstrong's living room.

Mrs. Armstrong shares the house with her sister, Mrs. Agnes Visintainer. Margaret Armstrong is the wife of Andrew (Mickey) Armstrong. They had one son, James who presently lives in Vineland, New Jersey. Mr. Armstrong owned and operated the garage directly across the street from his home for many years. Margaret Armstrong was an elementary school teacher in the Milford School before her marriage.

Atkins House

If houses could only talk the Atkins House situated on Broad Street and Plum and Blackberry Alleys would have an interesting history to relate. Built in 1790-95. it began as a small two story building with a deep cellar. A small crawl space above the second floor served as an "Indian Watch!"

Any house that started out watching for Indians and now sees cars, and trucks thundering by all day ... and all night ... could really tell a story.

Built by James Wallace, for his daughter Helen who married John

T. Cross, the original part of the house still stands. It has the plank doors and locks of the period which required 'outsize' keys, and the wide board flooring still exists but is now covered with a newer floor.

Like Topsy, the Atkins House grew probably as family members increased and as time and finances permitted. Snug and secure in its setting, this house, like a contented dowager, sits by the side of the road, defying time rich in its memories and gracious in appearance.

The house is unadorned, except for the classic dentils and attic window with single shutter; the shuttered bay window on the ground floor; the porches and the decorative stained glass window flanking the two floor length windows; plus the gently sloping roof of the original part of the house which adds interest and character to the general architecture.

Mrs. Elsie Atkins, the present owner, is an authority in antiques, and her advice in this field is continually sought by professionals as a consultant, and for appraisals. She and her daughter, Sandy Kiley and her granddaughter Jennifer, appreciate the rich heritage of this house and have preserved its charm and tradition thru their use of period furnishings and accessories.

Blanche Cross-Dissinger owned the house before Mrs. Atkins purchased it from Mrs. Dissinger's Executor, Eleanor Shepherd Emerson. Mrs. Dissinger had taken possession from Helen Cross, in April of 1891. Helen Cross had received title from her father, James Wallace, April 9, 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Dissinger were accomplished musicians and socially active. During their tenure of occupancy, the house was alive with music and guests.

James Wallace built, or had the house built in the last decade of the 1700's and in some ways, this solid and substantial home reflected his own character and background.

He was an enterprising merchant, coming to Milford in 1774 from Maryland. He opened a store in the village and was known for his strict integrity, fair dealing and good trade. These virtues apparently paid off, for he was considered to be a wealthy man.

He was elected 1st Superintendent of the Presbyterian Sunday School in 1823. And was one of the organizers and a ruling elder in the church in 1825. He opened his home to the itinerant ministers of the early days and was known for his kindness and generosity to the poor and wayfarers. The story is told that he was so strict in his regard for the Sabbath that he would entertain strangers in his own home free of charge from Saturday to Monday or pay their bills at the village hotel rather than let them travel on a Sunday. He served as Postmaster for several years; treasurer of Pike County from 1823-25 and County Commissioner from 1828 to 1831 inclusive.

James Wallace married Elizabeth DeAerts Smith, daughter of Dr. Smith of Smithfield. They were the parents of seven children. He built the Atkins House and the Brupbacher House for his twin daughters.

Bloomgardens ...

Bloomgarden's Department Store was built in 1888 by AD Brown and B.C. Brown. Mr. and Mrs. Louis Krawitz bought the building in 1902 moving from their original location in the Van Etten Building on East Ann Street (site of the old liquor store). The Krawitz' also owned a store in Hawley, Pennsylvania which was operated by Mrs. Krawitz while Mr. Krawitz travelled by horse and wagon thru the country side, selling to the widespread settlers in the county and to people in Milford, Matamoras and Port Jervis. A rigorous schedule ... espe-

cially when it is considered that Mr. Krawitz moved here from Paterson, New Jersey for reasons of health.

In 1918 Jake Krakower, a brother-in-law, took over the store coming here with his family from Ohio. They operated the store until 1934 when Mr. Krawitz's daughter, Claire and her husband, Jonas Anehel assumed ownership. Following the Anchels, Gert Krawitz Bloomgarden and her husband Hank, took over in 1960.

Previous to coming to Milford, the Bloomgardens lived in Honesdale. They owned and operated the Army and Navy Store and Vanity Fair.

An important part of Milford's business community, Bloomgarden's is an asset to year round residents and an attraction to summer visitors and people from the Tri-States area.

One of the unusual features of this building was the third floor ... constructed to be used as a hall. It had a stage where plays could be presented and parties for special occasions used to be held here. Square dances were held in the hall every Saturday night at one time ... a lot of history in this landmark building.

Bluff House

In the day of the big Boarding house...the Bluff House, built in 1855, was the Colossus of them all. When it was completed, after three additions, it could accommodate 350 guests.

The hotel's location on a bluff overlooking the Delaware, gave it its name. The view was magnificent and the river afforded prime recreation in the way of swimming, boating, and water sports.

Amenities

The Bluff House offered many luxuries not found in too many of the boarding houses of that era. Rooms had hot and cold running water; steam radiator heat; private baths and laundry facilities.

The younger, more active crowd found the huge ball room and dancing floors very desirable. Tennis courts; swimming pool; shuffle boards...-ll were in demand by guests and added to the attraction of this hotel and caused it to grow at a phenomenal rate.

Quick Sr.'s prosperous grist mill and saw mill. Several other businesses thrived along the Vandermark in the 1800's - a tannery, a cloth dressing mill, a wagon shop, an iron foundry, and a hoop pole factory run by Jack Vandermark - until they finally yielded to the industrialization of the late 1800's.

These various properties were consolidated by John Brodhead and became part of the Brodhead Farm. The farm had previously belonged to Louisa Ross Brodhead's parents, and was known as the Hugh Ross farm. John Brodhead (1802-1881), a descendant of Daniel Brodhead of Monroe County, became one of Milford's leading citizens.

One of the Brodhead's nine children, Kate, married Charles Van Wyck of Poughkeepsie, New York. Van Wyck, a lawyer, served as a Colonel in the Union Army and was later elected to the Senate. The Van Wycks lived for many years in Nebraska where they raised their three daughters. After the death of her husband in 1895 Kate Van Wyck returned to Milford and purchased her parents' farm.

The house underwent an extensive modernization - the spindled porch with "gingerbread," the fish scale shingles, and the brackets were undoubtedly a part of the facelift. A 1900 brochure lists the "Brookside Villa," and a 1910 picture shows the neatly kept Villa in an idyllic setting with a latticed dining room extension, a foot-bridge across the brook, and a summer house banked by lilacs.

In 1904 Happy Theodora Van Wyck Benner inherited the property from her mother and in 1912 she sold it to Tobias Nelson who had worked at the farm. In 1916 Oscar and Nell Wells purchased the farm and two years later Nell Wells inherited the property. She continued to operate the Villa as a summer boarding house which was still furnished with pieces bearing the name Brodhead.

Nell Wells later built a house on Sarah Street and in 1928 her property along the Vandermark and down Bennett Avenue was divided into lots and sold for \$100 each. The Villa passed to the Musselwhites and then to the Anteners, who remodeled the inside into apartments. The present owners Greg and Kitty Myer still maintain the building as an apartment house.

Rockers no longer line the veranda of the "Brookside Villa," but the old boarding house stands witness to an important period in the story of Milford.

Brupbacher House....

Have you ever noticed that houses, like people ... have special characteristics?

The Brupbacher House, Broad and East High Street, like its owners, Gene and Nell ... is warm and friendly. It seems to beckon you to stop and visit. The interior is just as homey and interesting as the exterior. Fortunately, additions and renovations have not destroyed the charm of another century, and the Brupbachers have been most careful to preserve all the important architectural features. Furnished with period pieces, this home is a real classic!

In Harry Devlin's "Roadside Tour of American Houses" ... Mr. Devlin has this to say about the Brupbacher House: "This handsome Farmer's Greek Revival house has a noble feeling despite its deceptively small size. The passerby won't know that a false front covers a shed at the near side of the picture. The builder knew what he was doing. He gave the viewer an impression of dignity and serenity altho it is really just a farmhouse with pillars and a pediment. It shows what good grooming can do!"

This classical architecture, inspired by the Greeks, was introduced to America in the 1820's. Its simple basic forms and bold directness led to its popularity in domestic architecture. It was greeted with unusual enthusiasm and became very popular. The revival lasted for 30 years and pushed south and westward with the expansion of the frontiers.

Built in 1835 by James S. Wallace, the Brupbacher House and the house next to it, presently occupied by Mrs. Elsie Atkins, were built for twin sisters. There are 14 rooms and 3 stair cases. Originally the house had three rooms.

In 1867, Helen and John Cross bought the house from the builder, James S. Wallace. According to the records, in 1870, Helen Wallace was the next owner. Fifteen years later, in 1885, the property was sold to Blanche Bidlack. Ownership was transferred to John Reed in 1920. Reed, late the same year, sold to Xenophen Huddy, a New York City lawyer. Mr. Huddy had married the form-

er Lila Van Etten, of Milford. For a year and a half prior to the purchase of the property in 1939 by Eleanor and Eugene Brup-

bacher, the spacious house was operated as a Tourist home, known as "The Columns."

At the time the Bidlaks occupied the house, the late Andy and Kate Middaugh lived in the west wing. Dick Middaugh was a year old at the time, and "Sis" Sheen was born there.

The Boro of Milford owns the square in front of the house. Local history relates that the erection of the town monument sponsored by one community faction brought on a real hassle with an opposing group. This happened during the residency of the Huddy's and

reportedly Mr. Huddy was so upset he became ill over the whole matter. Mr. Huddy's law offices were across High Street where the John Kurz Insurance Agency is now located.

Norman Lehde, Milford Historian, has been researching the Silent Movies made in Milford at the beginning of the century. He has a picture of Mary Pickford and Henry Walthall in front of the Brupbacher home taken while filming the "Informer." This was not the only time this location was used by the Film Industry, which is not surprising, considering the charm and individuality of the Brupbacher House. A house, just as impressive to day as it was a generation ago!

The Bryce House

Enhanced By Time!

Built in 1860 at the start of the Civil War, the Bryce House, located on Harford Street and Rasperry Alley has marked time over a century. Like its neighbors across the street, The Wolfe, Harrington and Findlay homes, time has only seemed to enhance its appearance and charm. A reminder to passers by, of a past and unhurried era ... where gracious living was a way of life.

Joe Young, Scranton Architect and advisor to the Milford Architectural Study Committee, describes the house as a variation of the "Colonial Connecticut Farmhouse." He especially admired the original door and the entrance.

The original part of the house contained only the present living room. It is believed that a partition separated a small bedroom and the present day living room. The original sofa remains in this room.

From what little can be learned, it is believed that the house was once a boarding house. For this

operation, a heated dining room was added.

One of the interesting details in the Bryce house is the cellar. This has a beautiful flagstone floor. Fireplaces in all the rooms are another special feature. Mrs. Bryce, the present owner keeps a fire in the living room fireplace night and day, making it a cozy place to visit...and great in the winter when the snow is deep and the wind is cold.

The Flagstone patio on the back of the house with its fluted columns overlooks a walled in garden, shaded by large trees and made colorful with flower beds of all varieties of flowers ... a hobby of Mrs. Bryce's. Here can be found escape from the traffic which passes the house.

The original owner of the house was Oscar Mott. In 1861, Alexander Riviere acquired the property. Through inheritance, Emma S. Riviere was the next owner. Later it was owned by Emilia Riviera and purchased from her in 1923 by John J. Poillon. James and Thelma Bryce bought the house in 1928 and is still in the possession of Mrs. Bryce.

Burns House

The "Maude Burns" House on East High Street (Circa-1870-88) now owned by Mrs. George Miller, Pine Acres, was described by Scranton Architect, Joseph Young, as a "Spindle House" characteristic of the fashion popular in the 1870 Victorian Period.

Other houses in Milford using this form of decoration are the Muhlhauser, Jr. house on W. Ann; Gregory Myer home on East Ann, and Rosemary Lind's house on Sawkill Avenue.

The clean cut straight lines of this house are relieved by the decorative spindles on the porches and balconies and the deep bays on the sides of the house. Hand carved brackets and fish scale shingles, and the scroll decorations in the peak of the three attic gables all add further interest. The porch roof is enhanced by mini-gables on each section of the porch.

The gable scroll work and spindles were probably ordered from one of the several millwork catalogs which furnished builders of houses of that era, with their victorian decorations. These decorations furnished a whole new industry for American craftsmen who were kept busy turning out acres of grillwork, spindles, and other decorative trim for homes, in the last years of the 19th century.

According to the Assessment records this house was built October 27, 1888. Originally it was owned by H.B. and Phoebe Wells.

Succeeding owners were: Trustees of the Vandermark Lodge, Order of Odd Fellows; George Daumann, Jr.; Louis Fauchere (1889); William Armstrong (1903); George Daumann (1906) George and Agnes Daumann (1925); George and Mary Bull (1928) George and William Daumann (1941); Ray and Nellie Ammermann to Lloyd Buchan (1941); Ray and Nellie Ammermann to Maude Burns, (1946). Maude Burns to Sue Miller (Mrs. George) (1949).

Chamberlin House

One of the Pike County houses listed in the Pennsylvania Historic Site Registry is described as follows: "Presbyterian Parsonage, 215 Ann Street, Milford (1850) Very large, two and one half story frame building with long porch and numerous wings. Private."

The house referred to stands on the northeast corner of West Ann and Sixth Streets and is currently owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Chamberlin.

The property on which it stands has been owned since Milford was founded by a number of well known families, including Moses and Jonathon Brink and George Bowhannan.

On January 13, 1847, Sealy Sayre, Henry DeWitt and wife Elizabeth, sold it to the Trustees of the Presbyterian Congregation of Milford for two hundred dollars.

By this time, the Presbyterian Church which had been founded in 1825 apparently needed a permanent residence for its pastors and I bought the land for this purpose. For it is recorded that the First Presbyterian Parsonage on Ann Street was built during the pastorate of Reverend Mr. Bradner who served in that capacity from 1849 to 1853. The Session minutes of July 12, 1851, mention that the Session Meeting was held "at their usual monthly meeting place at the Parsonage."

Close inspection of the basement walls, supporting beams, roof rafters, etc., lead to the belief that the center part of the house was constructed first and consisted of a parlor with master bedroom above and kitchen to the west, with fireplaces on a common chimney heating all rooms. The front door was originally in this section. Then some years later, the large Greek Revival Style wing with its four high pillars, front and rear, was

added along with a new chimney serving four more fireplaces ... two upstairs and two down. The final small wings, music room to the east, and garage to the west, are twentieth century additions.

Two huge and stately copper beech trees on the property have certainly been growing in their present locations for many decades as has the beautiful pink dogwood in the front yard, reputed to be one of the largest in the county.

On March 13, 1872, the congregation voted to sell the Parsonage to raise funds for a new brick church building provided they could get \$4,000. for it and not have to go into debt for the new church. John Wallace's offer was accepted in the above amount and the deed was executed on February 11, 1873.

Subsequent owners include Albert Quick; William Angle, Catherine Kinzler, the Nelson Palmers, the August Kiels, Irving and Virginia Mott Moore, Harry and Gertrude Mott Wintermute.

Cliff Park

-Cliff Park Inn and Golf Course has an interesting history....and it's interesting because 5 generations of Buchanans have made it so.

In writing about Cliff Park, it is impossible to separate the place from the people who brought it about. For that reason, a short resume of who they were and where they came from, might be in order.

Research leads us back to Robert Buchanan...or "Bowhannan". (The older generation used the names interchangeably) He was born in Ireland, 1735. His parents were Scotch planters in Parish Buchanan, Loch Lomond, Scotland. They came to Tryone County, Ireland, during a famine. In 1739, they sailed from Londonderry Ireland, to this country, settling in the Walkill Valley, Little Britain, New York (Ulster County). Robert married a Scots-woman Miss Elizabeth Falls. They had 10 children.

Their oldest son, George Buchanan (1763-1824) came to Milford around 1800 after selling his farm near Newburgh, New York. Unfortunately he had accepted \$10,000 in Revolutionary currency which turned out to be worthless. However his resourcefulness and enterprise soon overcame this predicament.

According to the records he must have been one of the busiest men in Milford. No one name appears more often on property transactions than that of George Buchanan. At one time records show that he owned 30,000 contiguous acres of land from Milford to Pond Eddy. This represented a large holdings even for an era when land was cheap.

He bought and sold land, and much of it was acquired by barter, in payment of lodgings and of debts.

George Buchanan was the first owner and operator of the Vandermark Hotel near the Court House. Jurors used to lodge there when called for jury duty and often paid their rent with pieces of land.

George was one of the first judges of the Pike County Courts and the first Pike County Court was held in the cellar of his tavern. The basement of his father-in-law's home (Thomas Rose) was used as a place of confinement for "unfortunate debtors."

At one time he lived in...and owned...the former Douglas Callahan property at the mouth of the Sawkill on 209, which is now owned by the Park Service. This is reputed to be one of the oldest houses in the area and at one time was an inn.

Mr. Buchanan is given credit in the papers of his time for opening Broad Street by "clearing out the brush." He was actively engaged in the lumbering business and operated a tannery on the Vantine Kill for many years.

George Buchanan was married twice. First in New York to Sarah Eldred in 1795. Then to Olivia Rose in Pike County. He had 11 children, two by his first wife and nine by Olivia Rose Buchanan. Five of them remained unmarried. Theodore married Martha Cross; Sally married a "Mr." Quinn and Emily, married Ebenezer Warner, all familiar names in the early history of Milford.

Harry Winters Buchanan was the son of Theodore and Martha (Cross) Buchanan. He married Annie Felt of New York City. They had two children. Theodore Stewart (1893) and Harry Winters Buchanan Jr. ("Babe") 1898.

Stewart Buchanan was an Executive with U.S. Hoffman, Machinery, Inc. His work took him to the midwest where he met the present Mrs. Buchanan, the former Bernice Wilson, of Des Moines, Iowa.

Ted Buchanan and Nancy (Buchanan) MacGregory, were the children of Stewart and Helen (Browning) Buchanan. Ted has two daughters, Patricia and Judith. He and his wife, Barbara (Juw) Buchanan, of Minneapolis,

Minnesota, have lived abroad for many years because of his position with the Lykes Steamship Lines. They lived in Milford briefly but presently are residing in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Nancy (Buchanan) and Donald MacGregor have two daughters, Sandra and Sally. They have lived in Minneapolis and Canada and are presently moving to Boca Raton, Florida. Sally is married and has one son.

Stewart and Bern Buchanan converted the former Club House into a private home overlooking the rolling greens. Mrs. Buchanan divides her time between Cliff Park and Boca Raton, Florida where she has a second home.

Upon his brother Babe's death at age 43, Stewart Buchanan

returned to the East and stepped in during the summer to help his mother manage the Inn and the golf course. Altho a successful business man, Stewart seemed happiest when he was at home at Cliff Park...Riding the mower on the greens; superintending one or all of the many projects constantly underway. Installing new gadgets on machinery and planning changes and additions with his nephew, Harry Buchanan III.

Harry Winters Buchanan, Jr., (Babe) married Eugene O'Brien of Brooklyn, New York. He was an executive with the Socony Vacuum Oil Company (now Mobil Oil).

He helped his mother Annie Felt Buchanan develop the golf course in its early days. Mechanically minded, he was invaluable as a 'trouble shooter'. The machinery and problems connected with running a smoothly operating golf course called for someone who could cope with ever recurring crises. This fell to Harry Jr.'s lot, along with planning for the constant improvement and extension of the golf course.

The Harry Buchanan's had two children, Harry Buchanan III and Gene Anne (Buchanan) Titus. Harry III and his wife, the former Barbara Combes, Larchmont, New York have 6 children, Harry Buchanan, IV ("Bucky"); Cathleen; Bruce; Virginia; Brien; and Mary Ann.

Harry Buchanan, III is President of the Virginia Chemical Company and he and his family live in Portsmouth, Virginia. However every free minute,

weekends and all summer, they are all at Cliff Park, working, enjoying the place and their guests.

Gene Anne Buchanan Titus, daughter of Harry Buchanan Jr., is the widow of the later Allen Titus. Mrs. Titus has specialized in

Insurance management and has followed a business career since her graduation from Cornell University. She has worked in New York and Milford, and is presently Executive Secretary in the Reassessment Bureau in the Pike County Court House, Milford. Mrs. Titus lives adjacent to Milford picturesque Glen, but like all the Buchanans, her heart is in the 'hill' of Cliff Park, and that is where she can be found most the time.

Members of this present generation bring the same determination and enthusiasm to retaining the charm and warmth of Cliff Park, while continuing to add all necessary comforts of modern day living for guests.

Once you have visited Cliff Park, it is easy to see why the Buchanans have such a love for the land. The view of the gently rolling tree covered hills, is bordered by densely forested land which extends to the edge of the cliffs. From the cliffs, which are 900 feet above the Delaware River and the valley below, the view is breathtaking. Here eagles soar, and wildlife abounds. Another world, a retreat now easily found today. It is little wonder why there is a constant clamor for "Rooms at the Inn!"

Annie (Felt) Buchanan was a woman ahead of her time!

In 1900, not content with enlarging the Buchanan Farm house (Circa 1820) to accomodate summer boarders, she converted farm fields into a golf course.

It took many years to clear more land and plan the course. The prolonged illness of her husband, Harry Buchanan Sr., slowed construction and the responsibility of going forward with this ambitious project was hers. Unfortunately, Mr. Buchanan passed away in 1912, a year before the course was completed (1913) and opened to the public.

Frank Hyatt, a sportsman and daily golfer, was a friend of the Buchanans. He shared their enthusiasm for the construction of a golf course and acted as advisor and architect during the construction of the nine hole course. These were located where the first five are now, right in front of the Inn, where guests could sit on the spacious 'wrap around' porch, and watch the golfers.

It is interesting to know that two of the first greens that were planted with South German Bent Grass are still in use. Cliff Park was the first Golf Course to import

this, as an experiment that proved very successful.

Early golfers had to form their own sand tees. Their golf balls were formed of gutta percha and larger than today's regulation golf ball. A set of clubs consisted of a driver, a spoon; brassie; and niblick; in addition to the various mashies and the putter. Golf, as it is played today, is in sharp contrast to that played on the Cliff Park Course in the early 1900's.

In 1929, the Golf Course was extended. After the second World War (1946) most of the greens were rebuilt. In 1970, the "19th Hole" was a boon to golfers searching for an oasis in which to relax and gloat (and/or cry) over their scores! Locker rooms built at the same time, offered added convenience to players.

A Club House (now the home of Bernice Buchanan and the late Stewart Buchanan) was built in 1927. This accommodated 100 guests. On one occasion, with their flair for the unusual, the Buchanans brought an Hawaiian band from New York. This was one of "THE" social gatherings of the year, and caused a stir in hotel circles in Milford.

With its picturesque location in rolling, tree covered hills, the Cliff Park Golf Course has always been popular with amateur and pro-golfers and for people who just like to come and watch.

'A legend'

Cliff Park Inn and Golf Course is a legend. A heritage created by 5 generations of Buchanans... and a valued legacy for future generations of the family to enjoy.

The land was acquired by George Buchanan in 1803. It is unique in the fact that ownership has been in the Buchanan family since that time. Regarded as a trust, the land has been used wisely. First thru logging operations, which supplied railroad ties a thriving industry in the 1800's and early 1900's. The cleared land released more acreage for farming.

A tannery was operated on a site in the rear of the present barn. The barn is a masterpiece of craftsmanship. Built on a slope, there is a ground floor and two stories above it. One look at the hand hewn beams, and you realize this building will stand forever.

Architectural roots

The original farm house, built in 1820, is the heart of the present Inn. The two rooms now serving as dining rooms were originally the kitchen and dining room. The fireplace (still operable) was a 'cooking' fireplace. With its crane,

copper and iron pots, it is now the focal point of interest in the larger dining room. Guests are intrigued with the high fireplace mantle; the antique sideboard; and other family heirlooms. Lace covered round oak tables add a touch of victorian elegance and old world charm to an Early American setting.

In 1900, Annie Buchanan started a summer boarding house. This grew to the point that an addition had to be made to the original farmhouse. An Inn was born!

John Dodd, AIA, in his description of Cliff Park Inn for the National Park Service notes in part, "While the original farmhouse is no longer in evidence, the structure has some architectural merit as an example of a "Turn of the Century" hotel of the Pocono Mountain Resort Area. It's long and spacious verandah is certainly an attractive feature and a trademark of this type of building. The polygonal bays, extended at the two corners with their Doric style columns are special features."

Mr. Dodd singled out the single panel front door with its broad mouldings and the 4 light side panels, offset by a pair of pilasters on each side, and the impressive trim and heavy lintel.

Modern times

In 1913, farm fields which had been converted into a golf course were open to the public. A boon not only to guests at the Inn, but also to resident golfers and those staying in the Milford Area hotels. The advantage of a nearby golf course was widely used in advertising by the local hotels as a special attraction of the area.

To keep pace with modern improvements, electricity and a generating plant was installed for the comfort and conveniences of the guests.

In 1929, the golf course was extended. After the war in 1946, greens were rebuilt. The "Pump Room" Wing was added in 1955.

Locker rooms and the "19th Hole", 1970 additions were welcome conveniences to golfers.

And so...Cliff Park kept apace with the times. Serving the public thru recreation furnished by the golf course and the hospitality of the Inn. Each generation of the Buchanans have left their mark. It is safe to predict that each succeeding generation will do the same.

The Buchanans do not have to search for their roots. They are right here in Cliff Park....growing and strengthening.

The Community House

One of the buildings that lend charm to Milford is the Community House. Centered on Lots 327, 328, 329 and 330 and bounded by Broad and Harford Streets and Pear and Blackberry Alleys, the building is now in use as the Pike County Public Library and as the headquarters of the Pike County Historical Society.

Thanks to the Community House Association, which was organized in 1924 and to the liberal support which the local citizens give to that association, this fine old building has been kept in good repair and has been painted regularly. (Old timers can remember when the community had a painting bee, and everyone turned out to help paint the building). Also the grounds have been attractively improved and maintained. Originally built as a private dwelling, the Community House is a good example of a "re-cycled" building, i.e., a building for which a second use was found.

The home was built by Cyrille Constantine Desire Pinchot, who, along with his father Constantine, had fled to this country from France after the defeat of Napoleon Bonaparte. Constantine the father, did not live long after coming to America, but Cyrille built a store here in Milford, a long building whose location we have not yet ascertained, and he became a very prosperous merchant. He cleared the land and built his fine home, the present Community House in 1824.

Cyrille Pinchot had four sons: Edgar, James W., John F., and Cyrille. He also had a daughter Mary A., who married George W. Warner, a lawyer of Bridgeport, Connecticut. All four sons were given an interest in their father's store and helped there, but Edgar then went into the Wholesale drug business in New York. James W. went into the manufacturing and wholesale of wallpaper in New York and Cyrille died young at the age of twenty-two and is buried in the Pinchot Family Cemetery near Grey Towers. Only John continued on in the store after his father Cyrille retired.

By Cyrille Pinchot's will, dated June 17, 1873, the home was left to his son James. Mrs. Andrew Spotts, a sister of Mrs. Marie Olsen and of Mrs. Ann Metzgar, all daughters of Warren Chol of the Hotel Fauchere, recounts that her maternal grandfather, George Heller, lived in the house with his bride and that James Pinchot and

his bride lived in the house at the same time. We do not know whether the house was converted into a two family house, or whether they all lived there together. At any rate, Grey Towers was being built by the year 1886, and once James Pinchot and his wife moved into Grey Towers, the old Pinchot Homestead was no longer used as a residence.

Around 1900, James Pinchot offered the homestead to the town to be used as a library. The May 10, 1901 Press says that "Reverend C.H. Carpenter was in New York last week to select books for the Milford Library to be established by James W. Pinchot and has purchased about 1200 volumes." Some difficulty must have arisen, for the books were put in storage. Some time after 1900, the Pinchot family again became actively interested, and the books were taken out of storage and finally the library was reorganized under the direction of Mrs. Amos Pinchot in the Pinchot Homestead under the name of the Homestead Free Library. The history of how the library was developed financially from the early days can be found in the library in a book entitled the Bicentennial Celebration of Milford, Pike County, Pennsylvania 1733-1933, on pages 32 and 33.

James Pinchot had three children, Gifford, Amos, and Antoinette. On January 8th, 1921, all the other heirs deeded their interest in the Community House property to Gifford Pinchot, who in turn conveyed the property to the town for very specific use as a library and community meeting center, stipulating that if the community could not support it as such, then the property should revert to the Pinchot Estate. Just recently, however, all the Pinchot heirs have "signed off" on that stipulation, and the property will not revert to the family, since under the excellent management of the Library Board and the Community House Association, there seems little danger that the building will fall either into disuse or misuse.

The Library is open thirty-five hours each week, has around 20,000 volumes, subscribes to fifty four periodicals, circulates over 8,000 books a year. The librarians answer a multitude of questions and put up interesting displays and sponsor story hours for children. The rooms upstairs which house the Historical Society's exhibits are well worth a visit. Recently refurbished, the rooms form an attractive background for the valuable items displayed there.

Joseph Young, AIA., Scranton

Architect, has this to say about the Community House: "The style is Early Greek Revival." The Greek Revival Style in America marks its birth in Philadelphia with Benjamin Latrobe's Bank of Pennsylvania, designed in 1798. The Greek form, starting as a symbol of cultural democracy, spread from the federal areas to give dignity and aesthetic expression to a growing country. The classical proportions, so carefully copied by Latrobe and his contemporaries were soon simplified and domesticated in builders' handbooks. Thus the builders from Western New England developed a rich delicacy in handling classic motifs. Proportions tended to be tall, narrow and graceful. Cornices were thin and projecting and ornamented or decorated with suitable Greek design derivatives. Behind the classic motifs frequently stood the original colonial Connecticut house.

The Pinchot house is an example of such a combination. The basic house is a severe and unadorned, but well proportioned box, broken only by the simple entrance frames and arched windows. But the porches are Greek pediments, employing quite elongated-paired columns with Ionic style caps and dentil decoration on the architrave and raking cornice. Although the columns and pediment are not in the proportions set forth by

Vitruvius or Vignola or Asher Benjamin, the combinations are harmonious, acceptable, and just impressive enough to suggest that the owner was successful, cultured, gracious and a little reserved.

The Pinchot house is a well preserved example of the early Greek Revival expression in the hinterland. The date of 1824 coincides closely with the earliest molding of the New England colonial and Philadelphia classic Greek, "when the popularity was fresh and the resulting designs were contemporary."

So much for architectural technicalities. Indoors, the house has lovely proportions. There are beautifully hand-carved wooden mantels on the three fireplaces downstairs, possibly the work of a well known Philadelphia artisan. The broad halls, the staircases, the arched windows with details lovingly wrought, are testimony to a gentler age when workmen had time to do painstaking work and owners had leisure to enjoy it. A word about the hanging lights on the two porches: they came from Dingman's Ferry, from the Episcopal Church that was demolished for "Tocks." Someone rescued two of them for the Community House.

Crissman House

The Crissman House was built in 1825-26 by Timothy Candee. At that time it was called the "Pike County House" and it stood on the corner of Broad and Harford Streets. This was one of the Milford hotels which was open year round. It was a large, two story L shaped building with two long front porches for the pleasure of the guests, maples planted by the townspeople (a custom still carried on today) provided welcome shade. The building contained a tap room, dining room and dancing hall. Lodging was available for 50 guests.

The heirs of Timothy Candee sold the hotel to John Clark who later sold it to William Dutcher. Next owner was A.D. Templeton, and after that, there was an endless line of owners before the hotel came into the possession of the Crissman's. During the 1830's and the 1840's, the business was run by many people....with names familiar in the history of Milford. Among them were H.S. Mott; Ira Coburn; George Biddis; Charles Mott; Jacob Sands; and Oscar W. Mott.

In 1853, Cyrus Crissman bought the hotel from Oscar Mott. He renamed it, the "Crissman House." With business increasing, he added a third story. The register showed that New York City bankers stayed there and Horace Greeley, the originator of the Sylvania Colony. When Cyrus Crissman died, he left a widow and six children. Mrs. Crissman tried unsuccessfully to carry on the

business herself, and then with a succession of managers until 1876.

That year, Frank Crissman, at his mother's request, took over the operation of the hotel. In 1888 he purchased the property. Like his father, Frank spent a moderate fortune in constructing additions and making improvements to make the Crissman House one of the most up to date hotels in the area. One of the big innovations was the introduction of acetylene gas for lighting. It was said of the Crissmans, that they were never satisfied unless they were making renovations.

The Crissmans were of old Holland Stock. Cyrus came from Sussex County, N.J., to manage the Shohola House in Shohola.

Frank Crissman was born December 26, 1854 in the Crissman House, spending his early life there. For several years he worked as a brakesman on the Erie, in Port Jervis. Frank married Miss Francis Gulick of Bernicia Island, California on October 27th, 1885 in Milford. They had two children, Millicent and Frank Millicent, (Mrs. Charles Switzer), returned to Milford 40 years ago, and now resides on East George Street, Milford.

Frank Crissman had a great interest in local affairs. The Crissman House became the hub of political and civic activities and was known as the Democratic headquarters of Pike County. It was a meeting place for county and local politicians. The Masons held their meetings in an upstairs room and villagers enjoyed congregating in the "Reading Room."

In the early 1900's, John Thornton purchased the hotel. Owners or managers after that were George Biggs, Eugene Boillat; Floyd Thatcher; and Joe Gagnon. With the decline of the hotel business and the general economic climate, only the bar and dining room were kept in operations the last several years.

The last owner of the property was Edith Gregory. Skip Gregory ran the bar for a short while, until on Sunday, February 7th, 1960, the Crissman House was levelled to the ground by fire. Only a plaque exists which tells of the hotel's existence and history. The Grand Union erected a store on this site.

Del-a-View

Overlooking the intersection of Harford and Mott Streets is an impressive and stately building called the Del-a-View. It seems to remain aloof from the hustle and bustle of the highway below, its tall graceful lines recalling to the passerby a time when the pace was less hurried than today. For the past twelve years the Del-a-View has been the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Ostertag. The Ostertags, who "love old things, including houses," have preserved the character of their Early Victorian home both inside and out.

Built in 1847 when architectural styles were moving away from the classical Greek influence toward the Gothic Revival, the Del-a-View retains elements of both. Builders, working from Downing's, "Architecture of Country Houses," and similar books, were free to pick and choose materials, details, and

treatments, and often their interpretations was uniquely eclectic. The basic brick structure is clean and simple with flat brick arches over tall narrow windows. Al-

though the roof is steep in a Gothic manner, the full front gable is not typical of suggested designs for the 1840's and 1850's. The heavy cornice and gable rake, with irregular combinations and placements of brackets, indicate classical design. In contrast, the fragile fretwork, the clustered columns and flat-arch pediment over the front steps express a feeling of hospitality. The interior plan of the house has been restored by the Ostertags to nearly the original fifteen rooms.

The house was built by J.S. Wallace, a merchant in the village who also built several other early Milford homes. His wife, Elizabeth, was the daughter of Dr. DeAerts Smith. Their seven children were born in their spacious sunlit home, which remained in the Wallace family for nearly forty years.

The ownership then passed briefly to Wallace and Eliza Fuller; then, one year later, to John Cornelius. The Cornelius family owned and operated the Sawkill House, a prosperous hotel nearby on Harford Street which was popular with vacationers from New York to Philadelphia. J.

Cornelius was a gracious host and respected citizen who served his community in several capacities, including that of Sheriff. For the next forty years, 300 Harford St. was known as the Cornelius' house. Shortly after the turn of the century the property was purchased by Annie Cornelius Hallet, and then in 1922, by Betty Cornelius. They were both daughters of John Cornelius, and they, in turn, rented the property for another forty years.

In the 1920's a famous movie star, Miss Mildred Manning, rented the house. She and her husband, Augustus Phillips, a matinee idol of the twenties, starred in the O. Henry series. While residing in Milford "Gus" Phillips was involved in local stage production at Haubert's Theatre. Miss Manning called her home "Mir-Mar."

After she purchased the property in 1948, she built the small cottage on the alley and styled it after houses she had seen while traveling in the West. Miss Manning later remarried and became Mrs. Sinexon, at which time she sold her home to Conrad Dilthey.

Mr. and Mrs. Dilthey named their "new" home the "Del-a-View" and operated it as a rooming house. A few years later they sold

it to Charles Dimmick, who continued the business until 1963, when the present owners acquired the property.

The Wallaces would be proud to see how well their home has withstood the stresses of 127 years. And that it still adds beauty and "gives an air of some taste" (quote from a mid-19th century style-book) to the village of Milford.

The Dimmick Inn

A village landmark since the mid 1800's, the Dimmick Inn has been a well known landmark located at the crossroads of Routes 6 and 209. It has been designated as an Historic Site and is included in the Commonwealth's Historic Site Registry. Constructed in 1856 by Fran Dimmick when the original Inn burned down, the hotel has hosted many celebrities from New York and Philadelphia, among them Horace Greeley.

The story is told that Greeley walked into Milford one hot summer's day. Altho he was past his prime, he was still very vigorous. He had started a day or two before, to walk from Greeley, Pennsylvania to New York and Milford was one of his scheduled stopping places. Dusty, and dripping with perspiration, he strode into the office of the Dimmick Inn, and asked for accommodations to bathe his aching feet. The clerk in charge, taking him for a vagrant, suggested he wash his feet in the horse trough in the stable yard.

Mr. Greeley did not disclose his identity, nor request a private bathroom, but went as he was directed, to the pump at the trough. While bathing his feet, he was recognized by a friend who soon made Greeley's identity known. Profuse apologies were made by the management and he was invited into the hotel where he could finish his bath in private, with all the conveniences of the hotel at his disposal. Mr. Greeley, it was said, good naturedly declined the courtesies, but seemed to enjoy the embarrassment of the hotel staff. Later, at dinner, he was overwhelmed by the hotel's hospitality in their effort to make amends for not recognizing him when he arrived.

Miss Fannie Dimmick, the builder and first proprietor of the Dimmick Inn was described as a "Character." She wore masculine attire and, according to a news account of that period, "was not given to frills and frumperies" but could cast a fly, drive a pair of four, ride a broncho side saddle or astride; and draw the sweetest melody from her violin.

One was quoted as having said the best chicken she had ever eaten was a stray hen she once shot when out camping. The hen had wandered far from the barnyard and had appeared at just the right time and when provisions had given out. Without being cleaned or plucked, the hen was thrown into the camp fire and allowed to scorch for about ten minutes, when it was taken out and eaten.

One article in describing "Fannie Dimmick" stated, "Miss Fan, like the waterfalls, mountains and trout streams is one of the attractions of Pike County and she is the biggest hearted woman ever born in the Delaware Valley." A rare tribute! Miss Fan's Dimmick Inn has served the public from the days when guests arrived on foot or horse and buggy, to todays mobile population and the automobile.

The Dimmick Inn was constructed in the mid 1800's to be operated as a hotel, a function still carried on under the name of "Poor Richard's Corner." It is a three story brick building with a gable roof, originally with a two story porch across the front.

According to Joe Young, Scranton Architect, working with the Milford Architectural Study Committee, in style design the hotel is Revival Connecticut Colonial. In his description of the Dimmick Inn, Mr. Young states, "This simple brick building with its large scale, and simplicity of brick surfaces and fenestration, is as New England as the white clapboard houses down Harford St. The rectangular brick box was unadorned, its appeal depending entirely on symmetry of windows and doors and the graciousness of the double porch veranda. The Connecticut styles is further emphasized by the window shutters, the straight simple eave trim with typical gable returns and the double end chimneys."

Continuing, Mr. Young noted, "the building alone has no great architectural significance. However, its location as a visual anchor at the intersection of Harford and Broad Streets is important, and in comparison with other corners, its size and disposition should demonstrate that visual continuity of a city requires either maintenance or replacement of properly located and properly scaled buildings. The Old Dimmick Hotel is one such building to be maintained."

Deed research shows that in 1901, Marie Norton Thornton and John R. Thornton acquired the building. In 1904, the building was sold for the Thornton's by the Sheriff of Milford, George Gregory to Cornelius W. Bull and wife. In the same year, the building was sold to Mable L. Luhrs and Albert H. Luhrs. Marie Norton Thornton then re-acquired the building in

1907. She owned the hotel for 16 years and in 1923 sold it to Ethel B. Gibbs. Several years later, Gladys A. Friend and Richard N. Friend bought the building (1940). They sold the hotel to the Hoey family who operated it for fifteen years.

In 1973 Final Inc. obtained ownership of the Inn and it is now being managed by Harry Geiger.

Earlin Home

Since it was built in 1864 by the Van Wyke's this home on 107 East Ann Street belonging to Bruce and Luise Earlin, has seen a lot of living.

In style, it is described by Scranton Architect Joe Young, as 'Connecticut Colonial'. Additions have somewhat obscured the original simple lines in the original building which is the central section and wing to the left. The right wing was added in the 1920's. This has a decorative stone fireplace chimney and turret. Mrs. Barkley built this addition after her marriage to Dr. Barkley. It is believed the glass enclosed porch and the room above that, was added at still another time. There is another addition at the rear of the house.

An added bonus is the attractive building in the rear of the grounds. Now used as a garage, it was formerly a carriage house and stable. When the Noyes bought the house from the Van Wykes, Mrs. Noyes made a studio for her

daughter Ethel, on the second floor of this building. A skylight was added to give extra light needed for painting. Ethel Noyes Barkley was a versatile artist and writer. The room is panelled and has a large fireplace which kept the studio comfortable and cheery. Mrs. Barkley found this a pleasant retreat to pursue her hobby of painting.

Special decorative features in the Earlin House are the round windows in the gable and on the porch. The wrought iron fence replaced the original picket fence which enclosed most grounds in the 1860's. The house has several fireplaces...all of them working.

Mr. Earlin tells an interesting story. When making renovations, the workmen removed an old fireplace mantle. Behind the wall they found an envelope with a newspaper clipping, an Indian Head penny and a stamp all dated 1864.

Bruce and Luise Earlin and their two sons, Jeff (9) and Mark (7), use every inch of this thirteen room house. The boys have their own rooms, playrooms and den. Luxuries of space not found in modern

day homes. The Earlins have enjoyed living on East Ann Street for the past 8 years. They bought the property from Fran and Nell (Brupbacher) Fischer. The Fischers bought from the Executors of the Ethel Noyes Barkley estate. They were the first to begin restoration and in their first year of occupancy used 77 gallons of paint!

The Earlins made some interior changes to fit their pattern of living, but basically the house layout is much the same as it was when built by Mr. Van Wyke in 1864.

residence of

Dr. Phyllis O. Edwards

The residence of Dr. Phyllis O. Edwards on East Harford Street at Cranberry Alley is a three story house of early Victorian architecture. Assumed to have been built by Daniel M. Brodhead in 1837, the building stands today much as it was originally made, except for modernization.

The home is of frame construction with a mansard roof, having four sides with slopes on each side. The lower slopes are almost vertical and the upper slopes nearly flat, allowing maximum inside space on the top floor which is now unusable.

With a porch across the front of the building, two rear porches and two front balconies, the size of the house is impressive. We might imagine Alice in Wonderland asking the Cheshire Cat... "How many rooms?"...and the cat drolly responding, "That depends on the way you count them."

An architect who toured the residence excitedly exclaimed, "Why you have five potential fireplaces." That seems to be a bit far-fetched, but there were once three fireplaces on a common chimney.

The second sale of the property occurred in 1859 when the buyer was Sarah A. Salmon. The place became an early boarding house known as the "Salmon House." In 1888, John M. Hoffman bought the property.

Henry B. Wells purchased it in 1893 at a sheriff's sale, and rented rooms on the two upper floors. Kathryn and Paul N. Bournique bought the property in 1920.

Next came the William Zeiglers who ran a tourist home and tea room, called "The Cottage." The family was a musical one, and it is said that Matilda Zeigler would sit on the second floor balcony on summer evenings and sing hymns. Mr. Zeigler was a carpenter, and the house bears witness to his handiwork.

In 1963, Dr. Edwards and the late Mrs. Letitia Ryder formed a partnership in the property ownership and a tutoring-counseling service, "The Dr. Edwards Guidance Center." New siding was added to the house which was redecorated and refurbished. The lay-out of the old house lends itself to modern living with a central foyer graced with a rail staircase, comfortable rooms, and a general homey effect.

Emerson House

The Emerson House at 800 Broad Street, next to the Vandermark Creek Bridge, is one of the larger Milford homes so well worth preserving. It stands on Lots 375 and 376. Indoors gracious rooms with high ceilings have for many years set off the possessions which the Emersons acquired through their years of Army travel. The late Dr. Gouverneur V. Emerson, the son and grandson of doctors, became an Army doctor and attained the rank of

General before his retirement. His son Henry (Hank) has likewise attained the rank of General. He served on Mark Clark's staff during World War II, became known as the Gunfighter in Vietnam, and is still on active duty.

The Milford Architectural Study Group often have difficulty determining exactly when a house was built or by whom. According to the Junior Historians' research, Henry Windfield built the original house in the mid 1800's. Abram Windfield and Charles H. Windfield became the owners in 1859. The picture dated 1902 shows the property when it was known as the Windfield house.

On January 31, 1863, Abram Windfield and his wife Almada sold the house to John C. and "Margery" Hissam. He was the great-grandfather of Ben Hissam, "Bitsy" Kopfinger, and David Hissam, present-day Milford residents. The picture with all the family (plus the family cow gathered in front of the house was taken during the time when John C. Hissam was the owner. The people in the picture are identified as follows: John C. Hissam, Margaret Van Auken Hissam, Unidentified, Grace Hissam Loreaux, John Hissam, Lucian Hissam (1870-1927), Jack Loreaux, Asa Hissam, Warren Hissam, Kate Hissam McGown, William McGown, Lizzie Hissam Latimore.

For a brief time Britton A. Barnes held the property, but on October 16, 1890, he sold the house once more to John C. Hissam. In 1901 John C. Hissam,

through his executor Lucian Barnes Hissam, passed the house on to Kate McGown, his daughter. At that time the Milford Cemetery Association held a \$1300 mortgage on the house. David Hissam says that his ancestor, Kate McGown, was a very colorful character. She weighed 550 pounds and had to go in the post office door sideways. Her husband, Billy McGown, drove the stage to Port Jervis.

On November 24, 1920, Mary Schlichter became the owner. She sold the house to Dr. Emerson's parents, Dr. Henry Everett Emerson and his wife Eleanor, but they owned it very briefly for on December 4, 1922, it became the property of Dr. Gouverneur V. Emerson and his wife Marie.

Hotel Fauchere

Louis Fauchere, when he left Vevey, Switzerland, around 1850, left behind his fiancee, Rosalie Perrochet, of Neuchatel. He came to America with his brother Alphonse and his friend Henri Mouquin. Henri Mouquin gained fame at Delmonico's restaurant in New York City and Louis Fauchere worked there as a chef. He returned to Europe, married his sweetheart, and brought her back with him. His descendants still treasure a costume of the canton of Vaux which Rosalie wore, perhaps on her wedding day.

Louis' reputation as a chef grew. Soon he spent his winters only at Delmonico's and his summers at

A large French colony had developed in New York City, people from Alsace, Belgium, France, and Switzerland. Attracted by the lovely hills and magnificent vistas of the Delaware, some of them had migrated to Milford, so when Louis Fauchere decided he had the means at last to leave New York and buy a hotel of his own, he looked toward Milford.

At the corner of Broad and Catherine Streets there was a small inn kept by Desire Culot, whose wife was aunt to Rosalie Fauchere. Louis bought the property and began to give the public food and service of a quality undreamed of in that neighborhood before. Some of the inhabitants called him "the crazy Frenchman."

Not for Milford people only was his delectable French cookery. Hoop-skirted ladies and elegant gentlemen from New York sought him out in his new location. Soon the sight of handsome equipages standing in front of his little inn

became accepted by Milford people as a matter of course in the long years that followed.

After awhile, as Louis continued to prosper, he decided to build a new hotel on the corner. He moved his small two-story building to the back of the lot, conducting business there as usual until the three-floored new hotel could be completed. And on the front door of that hotel he proudly placed an ebony plate engraved "L. Fauchere", and there you will find it today.

Later, because of increasing guests, Louis built, on adjoining land he bought on Catherine Street, a substantial brick house he called "The Cottage". His friends the Mouquins often summered there.

As time passed and his fame grew, Louis found himself in enough funds to be able to close in the winter and take yearly trips to Europe, returning always with some new recipes, some new cooking utensils, and new pictures and furniture, all in use to this day. One such piece, incidentally, was a billiard table, the first Milford had ever seen.

Louis Fauchere was an autocrat in conducting his business—tossing a sauce, if it was not up to his standard, into a pail with orders to "make it again". After Louis' death Mme. Fauchere asked one thing of her descendants, that Chicken Marengo never be served in the hotel because no one but Louis could make it as he did, ever. It never has been.

Louis Fauchere's first chefs were Fritz and then Charlie Sadler. Charlie's son went on to be a chef at Pinehurst, carrying on the Fauchere tradition there. Other famous chefs have been Edward Nesbaum, Charley Carr.

Emile Bappan, Eugene Groslimond and Caesar Chiappini. It was Eugene Groslimond who later established the Swiss Inn on the old Milford Road.

Louis Fauchere had a son, but he died young, so the business was inherited by his daughter Marie Victorine. Her first husband was Alfred Chol, a singer in the Opera Comique. They had two children, Louise Chol (Lyman) and Warren Chol. After the death of her first husband, Marie married a Parisian, M. Tissot. Her son, Warren Chol, had four children: Louis, Sr., Margaret (Spotts), Marie (Olsen) and Anna (Metzger). Louis Chol, Sr., had three children: Louis Fauchere Chol, Jr., Warren Chol, and Marie (Mimi) Chol (Cooper). Many of the descendants, both male and female, have Fauchere as their middle name.

Among the old-time celebrities who stayed at the Fauchere was undoubtedly Sarah Bernhardt. Mrs. James Bryce has a postcard, written in French by the famous actress, telling of a restful stay in Milford. Norman Lehde also tells how Sarah Bernhardt's son was left to stay in Milford while the actress was on tour. On a recent trip to Paris, Louis Chol, Jr., set out to visit Louis Fauchere's grav. He found it, after much difficulty, in the Pere Lachaise Cemetery in Paris—not far from the grave of the Divine Sarah.

Fauchere Annex

The Annex of the Hotel Fauchere, will soon be a busy place when Lew Miller's plans to make professional and business offices in the building are realized.

Interior renovations of this structure and the Hotel Fauchere are now going forward and application is being made to the National Trust for Historic Preservation to place these buildings on the state and National Register. The Fauchere has already been accepted and placed on the state inventory. The Milford Preservation Association is working with Mr. Miller on these applications.

'Queen Anne'

This turn of the century building (405 Broad Street) was acquired by the Hotel Fauchere in 1906. It was built in 1902 for Dr. H.E. Emerson, a local physician. Designed by an architect in Middletown, New York and built by A.D. Brown of Milford, the house combines the elements of classical design, shown by the dentil molding, decorative swags and symmetry, typical of a 'Queen Anne' Plan.

The interior featured glazed tile fireplaces thruout the house. Beautifully designed wood panelled stair case is dominant in the large 'living hall' foyer. Luxuriously large bathrooms, using marble... was another distinctive characteristic of this outstanding home. The decorative cast iron fronts for the fireplaces are now eagerly sought collectors items.

Attended Harrimans

It was the money he received for his professional services, plus a 'Thank you' gift from the Averill Harrimans that enabled Dr. H.E. Emerson to build this home. Dr. Emerson accompanied the Harrimans on a ten month 'round the world' tour.

Combining business with pleasure, Dr. Emerson visited hospitals and attended lectures in various colleges, broadening his education and medical expertise.

Dr. H.E. Emerson was born October 26, 1866. He attended public and private schools, later taking courses in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, graduating in 1887.

On his return home, he opened a drug store which was located on the site of the present annex of the Hotel Fauchere. When construction was started on the Annex, this building was moved across the street to its present site and is now occupied by Schneider's Delicatessen.

While conducting his drug store, he studied medicine with his father, Dr. Vincent Emerson and in 1888 entered the Medical Department of the University of New York, where he was graduated in 1892. After taking the Medical Boards of Pennsylvania, he established himself as a practicing physician in Milford. He was active in the community and was especially interested in educational affairs.

He was married in 1885 to Nellie Burbage who came to America from Granard, Ireland. They had four children: Alicia J.; Gouveneur; Nellie and Madge. His wife died about a year or two after the "Annex" was built.

Under the Fauchere ownership, the Annex was used as overflow quarters for their guests and in hunting season, red coated hunters filled the rooms.

The Annex is one of the buildings featured in "Crossroads" which will be introduced 4 p.m. May 4 at a reception and tea at the Presbyterian Church.

Finan house

The John Finan house located on 406 Broad Street, Milford, is typical of the adaptive use of many of the larger homes in the village. From a comfortable home for John and Nadine Finan and their four children, it has been converted to

attractive and efficient offices for the Luffy Real Estate, Inc. Prior to that, the first floor had been used by the Geological Survey Offices.

Just before the turn of the century, in 1889, Ebenezer and Emily Buchanan Warner decided to move from Model Farm on the River Road to the boro. The site they decided on, was owned by Emily's father, George Buchanan. It was located on Broad Street, next to the Court House, where George Buchanan had a farm house.

Before construction could begin, the farm house had to be moved to the rear, on Peach Alley. It was then converted into a stable and carriage house. Later the building was used for storage of the Boro's street equipment. When the new fire house was being built it was demolished.

Ebenezer Warner was one of the area's first scientific farmers. Before planting his crops he would test the soil...very often to the amusement of farmers of that day. However the results spoke for themselves, and he was soon respected for his knowledge...coming to be known as the "Potato and Cabbage King." He later expanded his crops to include the growing of wheat on the island in the Delaware opposite Model Farm.

His efficiency did not end there. After moving to the village of Milford in 1891, he again displayed his faith and vision by organizing and opening the First National Bank of Milford in 1900. It was called "Ebenezer's Folly" and came about inspite of luke warm interest and incredulity on the part of the townspeople. However, with the backing of a small group of practical business men and farmers, the bank was established. It prospered and grew, justifying his faith and good judgment.

When Ebenezer Warner died in 1904, his son, John C. inherited the property and lived there with his wife, son John, and daughters, Dorothy and Ann. In 1950 John C. Warner, Jr. who had inherited the house and lived there with his wife, Patricia, made major alterations in the home his grandfather had built. The wide porches across the width and length of the building were removed. Rooms made larger, and kitchen and bathrooms modernized. Further changes and additions were made later by the Finans when they purchased the building, to accommodate their growing family.

For the most part, with the exception of the porches, the exterior lines are unchanged. The deep bays on both sides of the building, the dormers and the balconies with their decorative shingles, spindle railings and carved brackets...still remain to give this Victorian building a traditional look of elegance.

The Finkelday house

The Finkelday house at 203 West Catherine Street pictured here is reputed to be the second-oldest house in Milford. How it got that reputation is a mystery. (The oldest house with in the Borough is supposed to be the Siemer-Wissinger house on Harford Street. The Bowhannon house, outside of town, just to the right of the bridge as you leave Milford going south, is supposed to be even older than that.)

Court House records show that the property goes way back to Armstrongs, Steeles, Purcells, and to a Julian Cross in the early days. But then Julian Cross had bought a parcel of several lots on Catherine Street from one Lewis Cornelius, town treasurer, in 1898. This last transaction was

signed by Francis A.L. Smith (who was born in 1774) and was witnessed by Cyril C.D. Pinchot, Gifford Pinchots grandfather. To go farther back than that would take a Philadelphia lawyer, and unfortunately the Study Group does not have one in its employ.

Certain parts of the house give evidence of great age, especially the section on the left-hand side, but there again only an expert in the methods of construction could assign an approximate date to the building. Even the main section leans a little from the perpendicular. Certainly the house is old. It has been well taken care of by its owners down through the years and is an attractive, historic asset to the town.

Home of Robert & Dorothy Fish

The Robert Fish home on West Ann Street, portrays the charm of a bygone era. Its stately appearance is relieved by the gingerbread whimsy, typical of the Victorian period. Here is a house that has character. One that was made to last. And one that was built with pride by its builder and the craftsmen of that time.

There are some discrepancies in the records as to just when the Robert Fish home was built. According to the deed books (researched by the Jr. Historians) it was built shortly before 1846. One source of history discloses it was built by an Italian Artist...the same artist who built Grey Towers, the home of Gifford Pinchot.

The 1846 date was given some further credibility when Robert Fish, the present owner discovered an old tombstone from an old foundation under a porch of the house. This was for an infant, Mary Ann Armstrong, aged 18 months. The date.....still faintly visible on the marker was....1846.

According to research conducted by Joseph Young, A.I.A. Scranton Architect, he estimated the Fish house was built between 1870 and 1875. He based his assumption on the fact that this was one of the designs in a book published by Vaux in 1864...."Villas and Cottages" Design 26. This design, (Number 26) was for a wooden villa with tower and attic. It was copied in hundreds of Eastern Towns and villages for upper middle class merchants, mill owners, and other prosperous citizens who were building new houses in the period of reconstruction following the Civil War. Brick or stone was used frequently in construction. The decorative motives, such as window trim, paired brackets, moldings, etc., were carried out in masonry. Other Victorian elements of the veranda, fretwork, fanciful details and bay windows were retained.

In the Pike County Dispatch Series, "99 years ago" there is a note mentioning the construction of the Andrew Armstrong home, hearing out the 1875 date.

It was pointed out by some historians that if a house was destroyed by fire, no mention would be made in the records of that, or the rebuilding when it occurred.

That the house is at least 100 years old has been definitely established. From the deeds and records as researched by the Jr. Historians it would seem to prove that the earlier date of 1846 is also authentic. The decision will have to be left to the reader!

This five story house contains 23 rooms. These rooms contain decorative ceilings and the walls are constructed of stucco. The fish-scaled shingles at the top of the tower; round, arched windows and a mansard roof, typify the Franco-Italianate styled architecture of the house.

It is interesting to note that the Pinchots presented the Armstrong Family (the original owners with a carved white marble mantle...a duplicate was once in the White House!) This is still one of the outstanding features of this home. Banked with flowers, it was the perfect setting for Nancy Fish's wedding to Dr. Mounir Hanna of Cairo, Egypt.

To the rear of the fireplace is a dumb waiter, still in good working order. This was used to bring food, prepared in the basement kitchen, up to the dining room.

Another unique feature of the Fish's home is a mahogany banister which sweeps in an unbroken line from the first to the third floor.

Decorative ceilings, moldings and cornices were the work of the artist builder. Carried out in

classic egg and dart; bead and reel; and fleur de lis designs, this skilled craftsmanship could not be duplicated today. Not only is this a lost art form, but labor costs would make such work prohibitive.

Originally, this home was known as the "Armstrong Manor", or, in later years, the Frederica Armstrong. It has had a succession of owners. The first being Catherine Roof. In 1846 she sold to Sealy Sayre and Henry DeWitt. These owners only resided in the house for one year, selling the house to the Presbyterian Congregation of Milford. However, according to research conducted by

Ernest Chamberlin on his property which adjoins the Fish residence, the tract on which his home and the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fish are situated, at one time was one. The search seemed to prove that the property was bought by the Presbyterians but it was the Chamberlin house that was used as the manse.

In 1873 John and Bella Wallace became the new owners and they were succeeded by Andrew and Margaret Armstrong two years later (1875) The Armstrongs resided there as did their daughter Frederica who at one time, operated her home as a boarding house. The late Andrew Armstrong and his wife living at E. Harford & Fourth Streets, and whose home is another landmark residence) resided with Miss Frederica briefly. Theirs was an errand of mercy as they moved in to take care of Miss Armstrong while she was ill. Colin C. Black, a mortician bought the property from Frederica Armstrong in 1889. Mr. Black built a Mortuary chapel alongside the house. Property was later acquired in the 1950's by the Wolfe Family who intended to turn the building into apartments. However, the plans never materialized and the house was sold to Robert and Dorothy Fish, the present owners.

Fortunately, the Fish's appreciated its historical background and intrinsic charm. They restored it...inside and out...with Mrs. Fish, an artist in her own right, using the magic lamp of creativity to recreate an era dedicated to elegance and gracious living.

Mr. Fish, a Civil Engineer, is the Delaware Rivermaster and is employed by the Federal government. He has an office on Broad Street in the Geological Survey Building.

Mrs. Fish's creativity finds outlets in painting, design and needlework. She has shown her work in local and area art shows and has won special recognition for the intricate embroidered and appliqued quilts, clothing and christen-

ing dresses she makes for her daughters and the children of Dr. and Mrs. Hanna, Michael and Leslie. The only place this writer has seen anything to compare with Mrs. Fish's talents has been in a museum! Petit point chair covers; embroidered wall hangings; decoupage.....all lend themselves to the Victorian Atmosphere so beautifully-carried out by Mrs. Fish in her home.

The Fish's have two other children, Melinda, who became Mrs. Stephen Galbreath last Spring and lives in Lexington, Kentucky. Bobby, a student in Orange County Community College is majoring in Architectural Technology.

The old homes in Milford and Pike County present a saga of our nation. Craftsmen of past generations all had a purpose for what they did. Whatever they made, was made to last!

The County is changing rapidly. Particularly in these last two decades with the rustic areas being developed. The modern short cuts in construction, and the use of new building materials provide sharp contrast to the spacious old homes built by artisans of earlier eras. In the face of this change and growth, antiquities and old houses are finding it hard to survive. Some consider everything old expendable.

The value of our cultural heritage must be judged against the uniform construction of today, represented in settlements spring up, all looking alike, regardless of where they may be.

Whether you are lukewarm or "Gung Ho" about the county's Bicentennial Celebration, it has caused us to look back and assess life as it developed over the last 200 years in Pike Co. The importance of preserving structurally sound buildings add to the quality

of life and the physical environment.

Forest Hall

Forest Hall is a registered National Historic Landmark. It is one of Milford's "windows on the Past." A product of the turn of the century, when style and design were imaginative and individualistic.

In design, Forest Hall would fall into the general "Victorian" architectural category. However, it combines the stylistic features of the Norman and Queen Anne periods. The 19th Century had a special romantic preference for resurrecting historical styles and giving them new life.

The architects of Forest Hall were Hunt and Hunt. Their firm had gained great prominence, having designed the base of the Statue of Liberty. Friends of James W. Pinchot, they had designed Grey Towers for him as well as the bluestone Post Office Building, on the corner of Broad and Harford Streets.

Giving a distinctive character to the building, are the prominent projecting and receding surfaces. The raised medallions and recessed niches with their statuary, designed to match those in the Post Office Building. The effective use of 5,000 native bluestone quoins around the windows and on the front and end walls of the building.

Fieldstone for Forest Hall was obtained from the Foster Hill Farm. Slate for the roof came from the Slateworks in Newton, New Jersey. Specifications called for 8 x 14 or 8 x 16 slate...with straight edges. The two story slate roof, with its dormers, chimneys and turrets gives an 'Old World' look to this stately and historic building.

Kept in character

Carefully spelled out, in the contract which was awarded to E.S. Wolfe in 1904, were the instructions to keep the new building in character with the existing bluestone building located on the corner of Broad and Harford Streets.

Specifications called for the floors to be on the same level. Second story windows to be of the same height and width. Niches on the new building to follow the design and detail of niches in the Post Office Building. The entrance to the new building to be similar in detail to the Post Office entrance, but to have double doors. Cellar steps to be 4" bluestone, as were the chimneys. The chimneys were to be carried full size to the bottom of the cellar. Another dummy chimney was to be built on the end of the wall next to the Post Office Building and to be started at the roof lines and run up.

Four shops were located on the first floor of the building. To permit adaptive use, specifications in the original agreement called for the partition wall between the two large stores nearest the Post Office Building, to have arched openings to admit use as two stores or one.

The First National Bank having outgrown its first quarters in the Brown Building (Bloomgardens), took up quarters in the first floor of the new building in the space now occupied by Heller's Sea Food Market.

On the second floor, there are two apartments, one at each end of the building. A large auditorium takes up the greater part of the second floor. Wood panelled, with beamed cathedral ceiling and huge marble fireplace, this hall was used until the late 1930's for community gatherings; amateur theatricals; flower shows; and meetings of all kinds.

It also provided class rooms for students of the Yale University Forestry School. The students came for the summer and lived in tents in the Forests surrounding Grey Towers.

James Pinchot's interest in Forestry led him to establish this summer camp. It no doubt had an influence in Governor Pinchot's interest and concern for the forests of this country and in conservation practices.

For a short period of time, Alquist Engineering, (the fore-runner of Sparkomatic) had their offices in the hall.

Landscaping in front of the building has been a victim of to-day's traffic. Twice, Edward Macksoud, formerly of Milford and now a resident of Ridgewood, New Jersey, donated fully grown nursery trees and had them planted by professionals. Unfortunately, they have succumbed to the exhausts from trucks and cars. Trees shading the back of the building were victims of parking lot construction.

Two building moved

Before construction could begin on Forest Hall, two buildings had to be removed to a nearby location (Harford Street). One of the buildings had been used as a Barber Shop and the other as a telegraph and telephone office. The contractors instructions were to put a suitable foundation (not a cellar) under each of the buildings, and have them put into perfect order for occupancy, after they were removed. For this, he was to be paid \$100.00.

It is believed that the buildings in question were the Kraft Travel

Agency (now demolished) and the Village News Stand.

The land on which Forest Hall is built was cleared in 1765 by Isaiah Newman for farming. Ownership of the land and buildings stayed in

the Pinchot family until 1978, when Gifford B. Pinchot sold the property to Milford attorneys, Sidney L. Krawitz and Arthur K. Ridley.

Gatzke house

The home of Mike and Frances Gatzke (614 W. Harford Street), looks snug and secure in its picturesque setting. No park was ever more carefully planned or tended. Adding to the 'calendar' setting, is a stream and a duck pond to the rear and side of the building. Trees, some of them as old as the 150 (+) house add dignity and shade. Lawns and flagstone paths add interest. A mini-estate and a treat for the passerby, as testified by the endless stream of visitors to the Pinchot Institute who pause to look on their way to Grey Towers.

The builder of this landmark home is not known. Nor is the date it was built. The first mention of a house is made in a handwritten

deed when Sam Dimmick deeded the land to Anna Eldred. This was dated 1864. The house is described later in 1879 when it was deeded to Peter A.L. Quick from Edwin B. Eldred and Anna, his wife. However, research leads us to believe that the cottage existed long before that time. Still later deeds mention not only the house, but other buildings.

In the late 1800's and early 1900's, this property and house was known as the "Quick" place. Peter A.L. Quick was apparently, a colorful individual and had extensive real estate holdings. His name is prominent on deeds and in news accounts of his era. He is referred to in "Life Along the River Road" by William Henn,

well known Pike County Historian and author. An account of his many business enterprises and life is covered fully in Mathews History of Pike and Wayne Counties.

The present Gatzke House was probably used for one of Peter Quick's tenant farmers. Although later, it is recorded that his wife lived there. Originally it was thought to be a "Salt Box" structure. Later additions made it into a rectangular shaped building... typical of farm houses built in that period. Many of these have since been demolished or partially torn down. It becomes apparent when doing research on these old homes that the area owed a great debt to these tenant farmers for

their contribution to the growth and sustenance of the area. They played an important part in the county's history, although they are given little credit or recognition in local historical records. The small farmers provided food for the local people, fuel and other commodities and services.

Interesting features remaining in the home, are the small 'eyebrow' windows with hand made blown glass panes still intact. Handmade doors are found on the second floor. The wooden shutters with half moons are just like some of those found in the Pinchot Buildings. The east end of the living room still has the original timbers and old square handmade nails. Timbers are oak and some chestnut, and according to Gatzke becoming almost petrified with the passage of time.

There is a small fireplace made of brick which was not in the original structure. It is thought that this was installed when the stairs were changed and the new fireplace was installed in their place.

Lattice work trellises were used on all the porches. They were ornamental as well as practical and used extensively on Milford homes.

The property borders the Vantine Creek on the west. There is evidence of a bridge and buildings having been near the small brook running thru the property. At one time there was a wagon road where 10th Street might have been if developed. This crossed the Vantine Creek to the original old Vantine Hotel, which was located there.

Description of the property, when listed for sale by Peter Quick's Executor, Lena A. Talmage, in the Milford Dispatch dated February 11, 1904 reads in part: "Ten town lots beginning at the corner of Harford and Tenth Streets in the Boro of Milford, the whole comprising about two acres of land. A cottage and outbuildings; excellent garden. The terms of the sale are cash. One third of the purchase money is to remain charged on the properties to secure the widow's dower unless prior to the sale arrangements can be made to release same." It is interesting to note that the property brought in \$585.00 at this sale held in the Courthouse Lobby. The original tract extended from 7th Street to the Mill Race along the Vantine Creek and up Route 1 above what is now part of the Pinchot Institute property.

Here is a house that has seen a lot of living. Since its construction

there has been a constant stream of owners and tenants...a tribute to the unknown builder whose handwork provided shelter for many families for a century and a half. According to research carried on by Frances Gatzke, the first records showed Sam Dimmick to be one of the first owners. In 1864, Edwin and Anna Eldred were deeded the property. Peter A.L. Quick acquired ownership in 1879. Lena Talmage, Quick's executrix sold the property in 1904. John Beck was the next owner (1913) Asa A. and Alice Beck Martin (1921), Walter Ridley (1930), Luella R. Wolfe (1933). From 1933 to 1946 Luella and Charles Thornton, Paul and Clara Wolfe Cutter, Clinton Wolfe; Burton and Lucienne Wolfe either owned or lived in the house.

In 1954, J. and Emma Eustis bought the house from Ed Almquist. William and Anna Zeiser occupied the premises until Eleanor and Fran Fischer bought the house in 1961. They sold to Mike and Frances Gatzke in 1970. Other well known Milford families who lived in this house were the Leslies; Virginia Quick Hodge; Gilpins; the John Lohmann's (former Game Warden) and probably others whose names do not come to mind.

The Graney's

The home of the Graney's on the corner of Ann and Fifth Streets, is colonial in style, acquiring elegance with the addition of Greek Revival details. These include fluted Doric columns, dentil moldings and a horizontal transom above the door.

The Greek Revival had its first expression in America in 1798 and flourished in the U.S. during the 1830's and 40's. It is believed its appeal stemmed from the often expressed sentiment that Americans were the spiritual successors of Ancient Greece with its Democratic ideals.

Structurally, the Graney home is in mint condition. Deep cellar with thick stone walls. An attic that is easily reached by a wide stairway, and high enough to have a large finished room, plus plenty of storage room. Beams are notched and pegged. The rooms are

large with moderately high ceilings.

The building is believed to have been built between 1830 and 1850. Fanny Dimmick was the first owner. Presumably it was used to house the overflow guests of the Dimmick Inn. The Inn was the stopping place for people coming from New York and Philadelphia and for their families, who would come and stay for their vacations and sometimes for the entire summer.

Past history of this home came to life when the Graney's found old letters addressed to Fanny Dimmick, and E.H. Biddis among others, in the attic. The quill pen strokes were unmistakable and names mentioned in the letters were reminiscent of some of the old settlers of Milford.

Antique collectors who pay high prices for parts of Bedroom Chamber sets at auctions and from dealers will be interested to learn that an estimate sent to Fanny Dimmick from Hadley's, 1 Cooper Institute, 3rd and 4th Avenues, New York City, listed ironstone chamber sets at \$2.50 and \$1.75 per set. These consisted of 1 covered chamber. One Brush Vase. One Mug. One Mouth Vase. One Ewer (Pitcher) and Basin. Quotation for five dozen dinner plates was \$5.75. Three months advertising in the Home Journal, 3 Park Place, New York, a weekly newspaper, cost \$26.00. No wonder they were known as "the Good Old Days."

Also of interest were the high buttoned shoes believed to have belonged to Fanny Dimmick. They attested to the fact that she occasionally dressed up. "Miss Fanny" as she was called, was recognized as an 'eccentric' and usually dressed in men's attire.

Other known residents of this house were Calvin Trouton, Mabel Titus, Allen and Gene Anne Titus, the Sholem's John and Ann Fields, and the Graney's the present owners.

The Graney's moved to Milford from Brooklyn New York but they were no strangers to the area, having been summer residents of Dingmans Ferry while their family was growing. The Graney's have nine children, twenty-eight grand children and four great grandchildren. They find their Milford home not too large for their own use and yet easily adapted to accomodate members of their large family when they come to visit.

Gibbons Home

The Ann Gibbons home on Lower Broad Street, has seen a lot of living, but the rugged bluestone foundation and porch steps were built for that kind of endurance, as was the rest of the house.

The wide porch with its classic cornices, arched panels and ornamentation; square graduated columns, makes this house distinctive. Note the floor length windows and the window frames with dentils for accent. The three bay windows on the second level are high and narrow, lending interest to the design. A three bay gable on the third floor makes each level different.

Porch fretwork falls into two categories. The 'factory mades' and those sawn to order. Millwork catalogs over a period of 50 years from 1870 to 1920, offered an enormous selection of decorative details from which the contractor or homeowner could select architectural ornamentation for his porch. Not only spindles and knobs, the spool work of columns and screens, but functional details as well, could be ordered.

Almost all the homes on lower Broad Street are in the 75 year, or over category, (most of them over the century mark) making them eligible for designation as an historic District.

Greening home

Built at the turn of the century by "Rusling Dewitt, the home of Allen and Ada Greening Senior, located on the corner of West Ann and Sixth Street, has a rugged but classic simplicity of design. The wide porch with its unadorned columns; uncluttered porch railings; lends enjoyment to outdoor leisure in the summer. A smaller, less formal side porch...a sun room...ideal for flowers; are extras...not affordable in today's streamlined houses.

The wide front door, with broad mouldings, flanked by two...four light...stained glass side panels match the stained glass panels in the upper section of two large front windows, and the windows on the Sixth Street side of the building. The soft multi colored light filtering thru the colored leaded panes, light up the front and back stairways and their wide

landings...giving an ethereal effect on a bright sunny day.

The four sided roof is most unusual...with its four mini-paned doormers. The eaves are wide and the roof has a slight inward bow...like the Dutch roofs...to carry the water away from the house.

Attractively landscaped, the grounds provide the perfect setting for the Greening House. There are trees for shade; ornamentation; and fruit. Shrubs,

ample green lawns...immaculately kept...make this home a showplace and an asset to the community. Mrs. Greening, an avid and experienced gardener grows flowers of all kinds. She also plants and cares for a large vegetable garden which provides fresh produce thruout the growing season. Frozen and canned, it is enjoyed as well thru the winter months.

The building contractor planned and constructed the house himself, doing all the carpentry and plumbing. He lived here with his family until his death. His wife then went to live with her daughter Lila (Dewitt) Kyte. Mr. and Mrs. William David and daughter Carol rented the house for a number of years. For one year one of the state troopers stationed in Milford made this his residence.

Ada and Allen Greening bought the property in 1943. It was here their children Ada and Allen Jr., were raised. The Greenings still reside here. Father and son are active in the well drilling business in this area...and in this way contribute to the development taking place in the county. Allen Greening Jr., serves as Supervisor in Dingman Township. Ada Greening Lewis (Mrs. Charles) her husband and Charles Jr., live in Gettysburg. Mrs. Lewis teaches Business Administration in the Gettysburg College.

Gregory House

The house now occupied by Pike County's Prothonotary Randolph Gregory and his wife Janet, on East Harford Street is an excellent example of Victorian Architecture in the French Mansard Style.

Scranton Architect, Joseph Young of Scranton, working with the Milford Architectural Study Committee, estimated this home was built sometime between 1860 and 1870. In his notation on the historical and architectural significance of the Gregory House, Mr. Young stated: "The Gregory House shows an underplay of ornament and sophistication of

detail that puts it among the most important examples of Victorian Houses. In this example, the scale and placement of openings and the fitting of window sash into the flat arch (in contrast with the window head detail on Ostertag House... half a block away) enhances the brick walls rather than visually separating from the walls."

Regarding the derivative of the style design, Mr. Young wrote this description: "In the mid 17th century, the French architect, J.H. Mansart devised a new roof shape that gave the appearance of a traditional sloping roof, but in reality provided additional story height because it sloped steeply and was flat on top...our perennially favorite mansard roof. The French Revolution brought chateau building to an historical memory and the old Baroque and Rococo styles of France were redirected into the Empire Style under Napoleon. The American penchant for borrowing stylistic

motives soon discovered and used this new roof treatment quite adaptable to the two story square or rectangular brick or stone house that had previously been in style either Italianate or Gothic. Decorations usually lacked the exuberance demonstrated in some of the Gothic Revival work and when combined with elements assumed appropriate in these Victorian times the results frequently showed remarkable restraints."

The features of the Gregory house: "Altho the facade reads as three-bayed, there are actually 5 openings across the front. The well proportioned windows with

flat arch hards are enhanced with matching shutters. The steep sloping roof surfaces are patterned slate. Ornamentation consists of the omnipresent cornice brackets, slender square columns with molding trim, and incised triangular corner braces.

Research of the property by the Delaware Valley Jr. Historians showed that the land originally belonged to John Conklin in 1829. David Brodhead and his wife then gained possession, selling the property to John S. Wallace. When Wallace passed away the house was left to his heir, John C. Wallace. In 1875 Wallace sold the property to Helen E. Heller, who, in 1880 sold it to James S. Wallace. In the same year, Wallace sold the house to Mary R. and George R. Bull. Effie Gregory purchased the house from the Bulls in 1920. After Mrs. Gregory's death in 1959, the house was transferred to the current owner, Rondolph D. Gregory.

Rondolph Gregory relates a story about his mother. In her eagerness to gain possession of the house, she paid the price asked by the Bull's. This was the cause of great consternation to her husband, George, who informed her he could have gotten it for \$500.00 less. An unpardonable sin in any family!

Grey Towers ...

No one can view Grey Towers and be unmoved by its beauty. The massive bluestone building with its three towers has the aura

of Camelot. It would be easy to imagine Knights and their ladies attending banquets in the great hall and relaxing on the terraces.

Grey Towers links the past and the present centuries. It is tradition and beauty. A continuum of history.

Designed like a French Chateau, Grey Towers was completed in 1886 by James Pinchot. Architectural work was under the direction of Richard Morris Hunt, who was the architect for the base of the Statue of Liberty.

The ancestral home of Governor Gifford Pinchot, Grey Towers was designated as an Historic National Landmark in 1963. The castle-like structure is set amid 100 acres of rolling hills in Milford Township. The blue stone used in its construction was a product of Pike Co. quarries. Originally, the grounds consisted of 3,600 acres of land, dominating the watershed of the Sawkill Brook. The estate includes gardens and woodlands and is now maintained by the Forest Service who administers the estate. The building and grounds were turned over to the U.S. Forest Service by

Dr. Gifford B. Pinchot and Mrs. Amos Pinchot in 1963. President John Kennedy came to Milford for the Dedication.

Grey Towers is now used to conduct meetings and seminars on environmental studies. In the summer months it is open to public tours.

Medieval in appearance with its three great stone towers it is a nice contrast to today's modern structures of glass and concrete. Built by Gifford Pinchot's father, James Pinchot, construction started in 1884 and completed in two years. It contains 41 rooms, some of them containing the original Pinchot furnishings as testimony to the elegant 19th century living. Some of the treasures of Gifford Pinchot, world travelling conservationist are on display.

The Great Hall contains some of the treasures that Gifford Pinchot collected on his many trips to Europe, the South Seas and the Far East. The room is medieval, with furniture dating back to the middle ages.

The Library contains over 3,000 books on Forestry; the Biological and Physical Sciences; Philosophy and education. Among some of the original furnishings in this room is a full length portrait of 3 members of the Pinchot family in Florentine Costume painted by the noted French artist, Alexandre Cabanel in 1872. Pictured are Gifford Pinchot at Age 7, his younger sister Antoinette, and his mother, Mary Eno Pinchot.

The Tower room adjoining the Library was Gifford Pinchot's private office which has been left undisturbed since his death in 1946.

The large Conference Room is used for meetings, lectures and film presentations. It formerly served as living and dining quarters. In the room are a mural by a Scandinavian artist, a medieval painting on wood panel; and a portrait of President Kennedy presented to the Forest Service by Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy.

Stepping thru the French doors of the Conference room you come out on the patio. The mosaic covering the ground was designed by Mrs. Pinchot.

Immediately beyond the patio is the "Fingerbowl." This unique water table was built after the Pinchot's returned from their trip to the South Sea Islands. When the Pinchot's entertained, they often seated their guests around the rim of this bowl. Dinner plates rested on the rim. Large wooden serving bowls, brought from the Polynesian islands, floated on the water and conveyed delicacies from guest to guest.

The steps beyond lead to an arbor protected plot that once contained the family's swimming pool.

The "Letter Box" provided spacious quarters for Gifford Pinchot's political records and files and served as a haven of solitude for his many hours of research work. It now contains memorabilia of Pinchot's days as Chief of the Forest Service, Professor at Yale University, and as Governor of Pennsylvania.

Following the path along the Reflecting Pool, you come to the Amphitheater Overlook. Because of the lay of the land, this site lent itself to an outdoor theater. The Pinchot's used it often for theatrical

cal productions, campaign gatherings and picnics. The plaque at the far end of the amphitheater marks the spot where the stage was set for dignitaries at the dedication ceremonies.

At the far end of the Reflecting Pool is the "Bait Box." This was

built as a playhouse for Gifford Bryce Pinchot who was called "Mr. Fish" by his father, because of his keen interest in fishing. The "Bait Box" now harbors a picture gallery of important events in the life of Gifford Pinchot as well as the Dedication Ceremonies.

Other interesting features around the house include a bust of the Marquis de Lafayette set in a niche on the second story facade of Grey Towers. Ornamental eagles and turkey, cast in lead and mounted on marble pillars, decorate the terrace at the front of the house. Stone steps lead from the terrace to the moat. Along the walkways are occasional millstones from grain mills that once flourished in the area. Opposite the Commemorative Site is a sugar maple tree which was planted by General William T. Sherman about a century ago. The great Civil War leader was a close friend of the Pinchot family and a frequent guest at Grey Towers.

In 1898 Gifford Pinchot was named head of the Forestry Division in the Department of Agriculture with a staff of 12 persons, 6 for clerical and 6 for scientific work. Within 7 years, the number of employees had increased to more than 700, many of them graduates of the newly established forestry schools. In 1898 that the first field work was done by U.S. Forestry employees. The field work consisted of special investigations in connection with lumbering.

Around 1900, the Forest Conservation Movement began to expand greatly under the dynamic leadership of Gifford Pinchot. The next two decades saw the establishment of a forestry profession, and the National Forest System was developed and expanded.

The Yale Forestry School was established in 1900, offering a graduate curriculum in forestry, leading to a master's degree. Summer sessions were held in Milford, on the Pinchot Estate and in Forest Hall.

Guests' Home

Architecturally, the Richard Guest House on 208 East High Street is a combination of the Georgian and Federal periods and generally described as "New England Colonial."

Built in the last quarter of the 1800's by James S. and Helen Wallace, the original construction was probably the two story...2 room deep building, the classic style common in this area from the early 1800's. The center hall; the regular placement of the windows, hold to the formality of this type of architecture.

Additions of the square bays on the front and side of the house, and the single bay dormer gives this house a distinctive character and interesting lines. The floor length windows on the first floor are characteristic of the 19th century. Large glass sliding doors,

and a stone patio have been added to the Garden side of the house to better view the colorful flower beds and grounds..planned and landscaped by William Heilemann and enjoyed by future tenants.

This building has a clean uncluttered look. A dignity that time has enhanced rather than diminished. At one time the grounds were encircled by an ornamental wrought iron fence and gate.

Unlike many of the old Milford homes, ownership was transferred many times, and rented during the summer months. This also applied to the smaller two story building on the rear of the property, which has since been torn down. One of the summer tenants of William Heilemann, was John Mohrmann and his daughters, Elsie and Freda, of Brooklyn, New York. They spent several summers vacationing in this home and like so many of Milford's summer residents, Elsie and her late sister, Freda, both retired teachers, moved here permanently, residing on Broad Street.

Tracing the ownership, the records show that in March of 1881 the house and property were sold to William and Sarah Hill; in June of 1888, the Hill's sold to A.D. and Hannah Brown. Next transfer was in March 1889 when Mary B. Hughes became the new owner selling to Thomas and Elizabeth Sykes, of Philadelphia in June of 1896. Mary E Hughes came into possession July 1907, selling the house once again to Thomas and

Elizabeth Sykes in June of 1911. Next owners were Harvard and Louise D. Burnett (May 1921); William C and Ann Heilemann, in September of 1945; sold to Josephine Lutfy, and the present owners, Richard B. and Miriam Guest, took possession in May 1973.

Extensive interior renovations were undertaken by the Lutfy's and the present owners.

The Guests' Richard and Miriam, with their four children, Bruce Karen, Kimberly and Kerry Lisa came to Milford from Holmdel, Monmouth County, New Jersey. Mr. Guest is an Executive with the Kolmar Corporation.

Mrs. Violet Clune informs us that Rudy Vallee and his wife rented this house for several summers. Also the John Haley's and their three children, Catherine, Ann and Margaret. They later moved to 5th and West High Street. The Lew Kirchers, who operated the "Windsor" (Judge School Building) and the Laurel Villa, rented the building on the rear of the property.

The Harford House

John H. Wallace owned it from 1837 until his death there in 1872. It is located on Harford Street between the Coachman's Inn and the Gregory House and is reputed to be over 200 years old, the oldest house in the borough.

It features an 18th century wood panelled dining or keep room, much of it in its original green-blue buttermilk paint; an original 18th century center stairway; a late 18th century Federal sitting room with original floors, moldings, chair rails, doors, plaster, and a finely decorated Federal mantel. Upstairs the master bedroom and sewing room have been restored to circa 1790's.

Mrs. Seimer, a former owner, wrote in a letter to Mrs. K.M. Depuy, "The house and grounds were there before the town was laid out, so it stands as a monument to the village as it was in the beginning." Milford was laid out by John Biddis in 1793, although the village takes as its founding date the year 1733. In the book celebrating the bicentennial of Milford, Mrs. Ethel Noyes Barkley said that the house was built originally by Robert Harford of Philadelphia and was later owned by Dr. Francis Smith who came to this country with Lafayette.

Mrs. Depuy says that in all the years she was growing up here she heard that Lafayette had paid a visit to his old friend Dr. Francis Smith in Milford, and her understanding was that the visit had taken place in the house we are speaking of. She remembers that both Mrs. Barkley and Mrs. Cahill, who lived in the house next to Forest Hall, spoke very positively of this visit. Furthermore, she was given a gown for the Historical Society, and this is the note which was in the box with the gown: The blue satin dress with apron, lace cape and cap, worn by Catherine Camilla Broadhead, wife of Francis Josephus de Aerts (afterwards changed to F.J. Smith) who came to America with Lafayette as a medical officer and surgeon. The dress is supposed to have been worn when Lafayette visited the family during or after the war. Kerchief and cap belonged to Ann Searles, granddaughter of the two above, sister of Eliza Ann Pinchot, wife of C.C.D. Pinchot.

The dress was inherited by Mrs. George Welton Warner of Bridgeport, Conn. She had been Mary Augustine Pinchot, only daughter of the Cyrille Pinchots, who built the Community House as their residence. Her brother James was Gifford Pinchot's father, and her mother was a granddaughter of Dr. Francis Smith. At any rate, Mrs. Warner entrusted the gown to her daughter, Elise Warner Poirier, who is buried in the Milford Cemetery. Mrs. Poirier sent it to Mrs. Gifford Pinchot when the latter was in poor health, so it was tucked away in a closet. Mrs. Pinchot's daughter-in-law, Mrs. Gifford Bryce Pinchot, came across it and gave it to Mrs. Depuy for the Historical Society.

Beers' 1900 biographical history of the northeastern Pennsylvania counties indicates that the elder Dr. Smith lived in Smithfield, down towards Stroudsburg, but the 1886 Matthews history indicates that his son, also Dr. Francis Smith, did live in the Harford Street House, and it is possible that the Lafayette visit did take place there, as it was closer to New York. Aside from the note with the gown there is no documentation of the Lafayette visit.

The present owner of the house, Chandler Saint, has traced its deeds back to 1797 and says that to find deeds earlier than that you would probably have to go to Easton and search the records there. He has generously shared the results of his research with the Study Group.

In 1797 John Biddis sold the house to Andrew Apple; in 1802 Apple sold it to Charles P. Heath; in 1808 Heath sold it to James Barton; in 1819 Barton (an innkeeper) sold it to Timothy Smith who sold it in 1819 to Dr. John Sims, a physician. In those four transactions there was one lot only. Dr. Sims bought the lot next to it also, and in 1822 he sold the property to Daniel Brodhead. In 1829 Brodhead sold it to John Conkling and in 1830 Conkling, by then a resident of Port Jervis, sold it to Samuel Depuy. In 1835 Depuy sold it (back?) to Daniel Brodhead, and in 1837 Brodhead sold it to John H. Wallace. John H. Wallace died on Jan. 1, 1872, at age 67. In 1875 John C. Wallace sold the house to James H. Heller and Helen E. (Wallace) Heller. In 1903 Helen Wallace Heller sold the property, now back to one lot, to a daughter, Helen Lanchantin, through whom it came to her daughters, Mrs. Helen Wissinger and Mrs. Edna Seimer. When they died, not many years ago, the house was inherited by Edna's son, William Seimer. He sold it to Thomas Hanney of Mill Rift, who hoped to restore it and have it open at certain times as a museum. When he did not have the time to work on the project as he had hoped, he sold the house to Chandler Saint, the present owner.

Mr. Saint believes that the house probably consisted originally of two rooms down and two rooms up and a sleeping attic. Over the years rooms have been added, the roof-line changed, a six-foot central chimney removed and replaced by smaller chimneys. He says that the front chimney is original, with the downstairs fireplace originally used for cooking; the door which he believes was the original front door has a circa 1740 lock. A newspaper The Eagle of the North, first published in 1827, and renamed The Northern Eagle and Milford Monitor in 1828, was supposed to have been printed in the long addition at the rear of the house by Dr. Francis Smith. Chandler says that he can find no evidence that there was ever a printing room there, nor can he find any evidence of there having been a hiding place for escaping slaves on the Underground Railway, as has long been rumored. The barn in back does have shutters of a type that were closed and used in the event of Indian attack, and he believes that it is the only building in Milford to have such shutters.

Harrington's

The home and offices of Dr. Joseph Harrington, 208 West Harford Street is believed to date back to the mid 1800's.

The house has been enlarged and modernized. New windows, dormers and additions have somewhat altered the original symmetry. This home is typical of the two story, two room deep (side Hall) house, which appeared in this area around 1800.

The living room still is lighted by wide, floor length, shuttered windows. The wide 'wrap-around' porch could tell tales of quieter days when only horses and wagons passed on a narrow dirt road.

A one time boarding house, and later a tourist home, this building provides ample quarters for Dr. Harrington, his wife, Eileen and their four children. Givi Ann Marie, John, and Lisa. There are six bedrooms and a bathroom on the second floor and two bedrooms and a bath in the attic story. Dr. Harrington's professional suite is located on the first floor, plus four other rooms and two baths.

Very little could be found on the past history of the Harrington house. It was learned that a Judge Charles DeKay Townsend, a New York City Judge, built the house. But for some reason did not live in it until many years later. The house stood vacant for several years and acquired the doubtful distinction of being haunted. Later investigation showed that noisy pipes were the culprits...not a 'run of the mill, card carrying ghost'!

Judge Townsend had married Alice (Poillon) Harsell, a daughter of Peter Poillon, of Milford. Mrs. Townsend had a son, Norman who lived in the house on 110 East Harford Street described by Architect Young as "American Exuberant".

Virginia Mott Moore told Dr. Harrington that her mother and father were married in his living room, which would tend to establish the fact that the house was in existence around the mid 1800's. It has had many owners before Dr. and Mrs. Harrington took possession. Two previous owners whose names are familiar in Milford were Charles Quinn and Lillian Diehl.

During the time the Yale Forestry School was being conducted in Grey Towers and Forest Hall, two members of the Yale faculty became interested in this property. A Professor Graves bought the building, and his associate, Professor Herman Chapman rented from him. Lillian Myer Duggan used to baby sit for the Chapmans and when they

moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico for Mrs. Chapman's health, Lillian accompanied them. They have remained fast friends throughout the years.

Hissam House

Mrs. Helen Van Vorst Hissam owns a most interesting house situated on Lot 452 at 109 West Ann Street. Her son David has listened for years to old-timers on both sides of his family, the Titmans and the Hissams, and he puts forth this theory about early Milford.

Long before the town was laid out by John Biddis in 1793, the main road in town came down Christian Hill, went through some of the present Pinchot land, and followed the Sawkill Creek. (Certainly a lot of the very oldest homes face the Sawkill). There were three farms and three farmhouses here, so David's theory goes. One of the three farmhouses was the Siemer house down on Harford Street. Another was on the site of the present Brookside Villa but was not that same house; the farmer who lived there eventually built the Emerson house across the brook and moved into it. The third farmhouse was located either where O. Howard Wolfe's house is or where Glen Musselwhite's house is, but at any rate it was the farmhouse of the Wolfe farm.

The Hissam's house was built as a tenant's house for this last-named farm. The road in front of their house, leading up to the farm, the present Ann Street, was called French Lane. The Hissam house dates back at least to 1798 and may be older. Old deeds were recorded in Philadelphia, but here are the deeds recorded in Pike County: Book 1, p. 67, records that on Dec. 16, 1811, Matthew Ridgeway bought the property from Matthew Kean. Then in Book 17, p. 63, there is some mention of a Leopold Wikoff owning it in 1797. Deed Book 21, p. 517, records that I. Fisher Learning bought Lot 452 in 1823 and paid \$50 for it. He

owned it for thirty years and Mrs. Hissam has a Learning letter in her possession. In 1853, according to Deed Book 26, p. 181, James H. McCarty bought the property, again for \$50. On April 1, 1865, McCarty and his wife, Liza S., sold a property consisting of the Hissam and Sneck buildings to Desire Gulot for \$1800. (The Sneck house was made from a barn or a carriage house adjoining the Hissam house). Gulot had a disagreement with his wife Honore and moved to Paris. His attorney, by the name of Tartar, sold the house to John Gaillard on Nov. 24, 1871, for \$3500. Accord-

ing to Deed Book 66, p. 47, the Mitchell "girls" Isabella and Mary J., bought the house in 1870. Later on Mary moved next door into the present Cole house, for she wanted to start a millinery shop. In the late 1800's, Isabella added a front porch to the Hissam, so that the two houses look somewhat similar in the accompanying photograph. James and Alice Mitchell owned the house from 1912 to 1926, and Pauline Findlay owned it from 1926 to 1932. The Benjamin V. Hissams bought it in 1932; Mrs. Hissam is the present owner.

The house has not been changed much. Around the turn of the century a second story was added to the lean-to-kitchen on the back to provide another bedroom and a bath upstairs. In the 1930's, since the house had only single plank

floors, pine floors were added. Side windows were added around the same time. In 1949, the front porch that had been put on was taken off. Three chimneys have been taken off at the roof line. Otherwise the house is pretty much as it was originally built.

The front of the house has six-inch siding, the right side five and a half, the left side four inch, and the back seven and a half inch. David Hissam believes that one took whatever width they happened to have at the saw mill on any particular day. The slope of the roof has an inward bow so as to carry the water away from the house, since they didn't use gutters then. This was known as a Dutch roof.

The chimneys came only to the first floor, as there were stoves in each room downstairs and the stovepipe went up through the floor to a chimney of the second floor so that the heat from the stove pipe would warm the room upstairs. There are places for three fireplaces, but they were never built, although the dining room has a nice old mantel. If one goes down into the cellar, one can see where special beam construction exists to support the fireplaces that were never built. The outside floor beams are hand-hewn five by sevens; the center beams are three by seven. The flooring consisted of four, five, and seven inch planks.

There is a chair rail in both the kitchen and dining room. The "bead" on the interior wood trim attests to the house's age. The windows on the front and back of the house are six over six, many with the original glass. A center staircase leads from the original three rooms downstairs to the three original rooms upstairs. As has been stated, the bedroom and bath over the kitchen were added

around 1900. The windows on the second floor are nine inches from the floor; the ceilings are seven feet high. Downstairs the windows are twenty-seven inches from the floor and the ceilings are eight feet high. There is a cellar under the living room only. Its walls are constructed of the stone taken from the excavation, with a small amount of brick used in a special square foundation under the front door. The cellar floor was originally a dirt floor, of course, but has since been paved.

One special piece of furniture in the house is a solid cherry highboy with original hardware and a lovely sunburst carving on the front. The Hissams have had this family heirloom lovingly refinished, and it is truly a museum quality. They take pride in their old home and its history and are anxious for its future preservation.

The Howe House

East Broad Street and the Sawkill Avenue are made up of all old homes. This could easily qualify for designation as a National Historic District. Many of the houses are being restored ... fortunately without spoiling their outstanding architectural features.

The Donald Howes' home, situated on Broad Street and Gooseberry Alley is one such home. It is a house that has seen a lot of living ... and yet has withstood the test of time. It has a sense of permanence and quiet beauty, and stands as a monument to the workmanship of the builders of a past era.

In style, Joe Young, the architect, acting as advisor to the Milford Architectural Study Committee describes it as "Connecticut Colonial Farmhouse." Plain and unadorned ... its simplicity is a tribute to its designer and builder, Jacob S. Sanett and to the first owner, Milton Dimmick.

Built in 1846, this house unfolds a saga of the many families who occupied it. When Milton Dimmick took possession it was a typical small framed farmhouse, like so many others of that period. However, over the years, additions were made, and at times it was occupied by two families at one time. In 1853, Captain Oscar Harold Mott and his wife bought the house from Milton Dimmick. Ownership later passed on to Cyrus Crissman and his wife in 1856. Crissman also built and operated a blacksmith shop on this property. In 1858, Solomon Newman bought the house and sold it to Louise C. Newman on January

29, 1896. Shortly thereafter, Frank Schorr acquired the house and property. In 1897 transfer of title was made to Louise C. Newman, by Frank Schorr. Wallace and Sara Newman bought the house a few months later in 1897. Succeeding owners were Alberta K. Rundel and her husband, Lester V. Rundel; E.B. Kintner and Eva Kintner, his wife; and Clyde Kintner bought the house with Albert Rundel and E.B. Kintner as trustees. Barton V. Hillard was the next owner and while he owned the house, it was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Ryman and Mrs. Ryman's sister, Edith Vyse. Following this, the Donald Howes' bought the house from Mr. Hillard in 1955 and are the present owners.

Of interest is the fact that Hank and Carl Fieg, Janet Fieg Gregory and Emma Walters were all born in this house, children of Sara Newman Fieg.

Charles and Laney Hannas made this their brief home for a time, and it was during their tenancy that Hank Fieg married Carolyn Hannas.

The Judge School

Lovers of Victorian architecture take delight in the large rambling house across from the Catholic rectory in Milford. The building has been divided into six apartments, and the red town houses on the left of the property are recent additions, but at one time the house with its five lots was the luxurious summer home of William Armstrong and his family.

William Armstrong was the grandfather of Mabel Donald and the great-grandfather of Jeanette Donald Hanna. The present writer got in touch with Jeanette Hanna, who was at one time among the descendants who inherited the big old place. When she was a very small child, all the Armstrong relatives still used to spend their summers there.

She believes that the house was completed around 1898. William Armstrong was a highly successful New York builder. Jeanette states that he built Washington Market in the city and also an addition to the Museum of Natural History, among his many other projects. Having made his fortune, he could afford to build his summer home in Milford as lavishly as he desired.

By 1926 the family heirs were no longer interested in keeping the place and sold it for a time to Harold M. Winsor. The latter was an excellent chef who ran the big establishment as a first-class hotel, the Winsor. For a brief time it

was the most fashionable place to stay in Milford, but by 1930 Mr. Winsor once again relinquished the property to the Armstrong heirs to satisfy a mortgage. In 1941 the heirs, which now included Jeanette and William Hanna, sold the property to Margaret Duer Judge for \$5,000. That sum would not even have paid for the roof on the house, but the upkeep and taxes had become too great a burden to bear.

For almost twenty-five years Mrs. Judge ran the place as a home for retarded children. She was able to keep the place up very well indeed, both inside and outside. Some of her plantings of rhododendrons and azaleas still survive. However, with the coming of new state regulations she was compelled to close her school. In 1967 Mrs. Edith Gregory bought the property from Mrs. Judge's estate. In 1969 Mrs. Gregory sold the house and three lots to Donald and Elizabeth McKay. In 1971 she sold them the remaining two lots.

The present owners are Lee and Nancy Palmer; they bought the big house from the McKays in 1972. Mr. Palmer reports that it was the McKays who had the town-houses built, although it was Mr. Palmer's company which actually constructed the modular units. At the present time the Palmers own four lots. The town-houses occupy the front half of two lots, but the Palmers own the rear halves of those two lots as well as the three on which the large house stands.

Mr. Palmer estimates that the original house must have had about thirty rooms. He could not say whether the bathrooms had been part of the original house or whether they had been installed later. He did find pipes that had provided gas for illumination at an earlier time. (As the old-timers know, a facility for manufacturing illuminating gas once stood somewhere behind the present Borough Building, and Milford had gas lamps to light the streets).

Joseph Young, the Scranton architect who advises the Architectural Study Committee, describes the old Armstrong mansion as "wild" Victorian. Certainly it could not be duplicated today. Though it's a costly building to keep up, one can hope that it will continue to find owners who are interested in preserving it.

'Klaer' House

According to research by the Junior Historians, the original portion of the Myer house was built around 1815 by James S. Wallace. The older, smaller one and a half story farmhouse ap-

pears to be an addition at the back of the imposing structure which faces Ann Street. However, many interior details attest to the earlier period of this part of the house: the wide plank flooring, six panel doors, and exposed beams. The windows are six panes over six and upstairs the low windows are six over three.

Two arched brick fireplaces share the same chimney and open into adjoining rooms. The larger fireplace still has its iron cooking arm and is located in what was the dining room. The cellar kitchen was directly below in a surprisingly spacious room with high stone walls, thick beams, and an outside entrance. A dumb-waiter lifted the food up to the dining room. Even so, the narrow cellar steps are deeply hollowed from years of use.

During the 1800's, the property changed hands nine times. The names are unfamiliar, and it seems likely that the house was rented at least part of the time. The 'Milford Dispatch' dated 1903 notes that "J.C. Westbrook, Jr., will move from the (George) Mitchell house on Ann Street to the house on the corner of Ann and Third Streets, which he has recently purchased," (the R. Forsythe house).

Architectural styles in the later nineteenth century reflected the romanticism of the period; people also wanted their homes to express a feeling of status. The Myer house is an example of one of the many small plain houses which fell "victim" to a Victorian modernization in the form of an impressive and fashionable addition.

The lavishly spindled porches and fish-scale shingles indicate the addition was probably built after 1870 when builders began using a lathe, and the textured look was "in." The entryway has sidelights with three panes above the door. The large windows are nine panes chandeliers, have been retained by over six. The center hall opens to two large rooms each with a mantel where a parlor stove once provided heat. One ceiling is intricately patterned, and moldings are generous throughout. Three mantels in the older part of the house, two of which surround the old brick fireplaces, were probably added at the same time. Many of the original furnishings, including paintings and exquisite chandeliers, have been retained by the Myers.

In 1914 Maria (pronounced Ma ri' a) Bull Klaer moved back to Milford from Stroudsburg after the death of her husband, John Klaer. She acquired the house on Ann Street and lived there with her sister, Hulda Bull. Her four children, Anna, Harvey, Clarence,

and Bertha, were pursuing their careers. Harvey Klaer was a Presbyterian minister, Anna Klaer taught school in New Jersey and Bertha Klaer taught elocution at a private school in New York City. After her retirement Anna Klaer lived in Milford with her mother and her aunt.

Anna Klaer was an industrious and self-reliant woman whose interests included organic gardening and health and nutrition. She wrote in one of her many books on these subjects, "To lengthen thy life, lessen thy meals," a saying which is still appropriate today!

In 1965 the Klaer house passed to Maria and John Klaer's great granddaughter, Kathyrene Klaer Myer and her husband, Gregory. Their spacious home easily accommodates their family of five boys. Like all families who live in "historic" houses, they've enjoyed puzzling over the mysteries unique to 109 Ann Street. Who was "Lizzy Onderdonk R" who scratched her name in the parlor windowpane in such perfect penmanship? What does the beautiful carved and decorated inscription "Mintlaw" represent? Who was "Lizzie Bull," the young girl who signed and dated her school slate in June, one hundred and six years ago?

The Myers have, of course, added their personal touch to their home as each generation did before them, but they have been careful to preserve the character and charm of their lovely home, and thereby of the entire community.

Mildred Bournique Klaer.

Many of the important architectural structures in Milford are related to prominent merchants who resided in the town. Dr. and Mrs. Harvey Klaer's house, for example, was built by Paul Bournique, the manager of "Bluff House," a famous hotel and summer resort in Milford in the late 1800's and early 1900's.

Paul Bournique and Catherine Wells Bournique, his bride, built their home in 1898 at the end of East Ann Street on property adjoining the Bluff House. A tile in the fireplace bears that date. The Bournique house represents one of a variety of styles from the Victorian era. Devoid of most fanciful details common to that period, the house does retain many French Gothic elements. Notable among these are the tall, arched, foiled windows, the ribbed window vaults, and the high arched gables. One of its most distinctive features is the first story construction of Bluestone, which was quarried in the 1800's at Parker's Glen, Shohola. It is one of

the few homes in the area made with the blue-grey stone (Grey Towers is another) which was used primarily for building in New York City. The fireplace chimney is uniquely patterned using a combination of bluestone and brick. There is also the interesting addition of a small parapet on the top of the roof which can be reached by an attic stairway. The design was copied from the Bluff House, which boasted a similar but larger parapet, or walkway, offering the guests a panoramic view of the Delaware. The Bournique children were delighted with their own private playhouse in the sky.

Paul Bournique, born and raised in Milford, was the seventh of ten children of Desire and Emilie Loreaux Bournique. Desire Bournique came to this country from Lorain, France, in 1847, as a young man. He arrived in Milford in 1863 where he began the manufacture of silver watchcases, employing about 75 operators in his factory. His original homestead was on Harford Street where the Sunoco Station is now, and his factory was behind his house bordering the alley.

Emilie Loreaux was born New York City in 1836 and came in Pike County with her parents to twelve brothers and sisters in 1849. Her father, who served under Napoleon Bonaparte, had previously purchased 160 acres in Dingman Township, cleared a small part, and settled his relatives from France on the farm. He gave up his successful import business in the city to settle here where he established a new business, a brewery.

Emile and Desire were married in Hoboken, N.Y. in 1855, and, although they lived most of their lives here, they saw three of their six remaining children return to the city. They did not live to see their son, Paul, marry Catherine Wells, the youngest daughter of Henry B. Wells and Phoebe DeWitt Wells. H.B. Wells was the proprietor of the Bluff House and one of Milford's most respected businessmen, whose story will take another chapter.

After his marriage to Kittie Wells, Paul Bournique became the manager of the Bluff House and continued in that capacity after it was inherited by the four Wells sisters in 1906. Catherine assisted with the hotel, was active in her church, and enjoyed horseback riding in addition to raising a family.

The Bournique children, Paul and Mildred, loved growing up in the resort business. The Bluff House had tennis courts, a large ballroom, an outdoor pavillion, and

nearby on the Sawkill, a lovely picnic area called "The Glen" where guests and neighbors enjoyed swimming, hiking, and in the winter, skating. At that time before automobiles became popular, people vacationed for the entire summer bringing their enormous trunks of clothing (no Quiana knits wash 'n wear in 1900). The Bluff House was a frequent vacation spot for movie stars - does anyone remember Francis X. Bushman, or Beverly Bane?

In 1920 the Bluff House was sold. During the next several years Paul Bournique served as President of the Milford Bank. He was widowed in 1928 and his children married and moved away. Mildred and her husband, Harvey Klaer, lived in Owego, N.Y. before she and her children returned to Milford in 1944 while her husband was in the service. In 1948 the house where Mildred Bournique Klaer was born became hers. The Klaers raised their children there, and they, like their mother, were delighted with their playhouse in the sky.

Kiger House

The Milford Architectural Study Committee have spent a great deal of time researching Milford houses, yet it is often difficult to pinpoint just who built a certain house and in what year. The house belonging to Georgiana Kiger, on Foster Hill, is a case in point. It is seen in the accompanying photo and is the subject of this sketch. Though Mrs. Kiger and the present writer traced the deed back to 1870, one still cannot be sure just what structures were on the property when it was sold. One can only conjecture that the house began as a small farmhouse, that it has been remodeled and added on to over the years.

Certainly it is a fine, solidly-built structure, almost certainly over one hundred years old, and therefore merits preservation. Mrs. Kiger believes that a central stairway was moved at one time, that formerly one faced the main stairway as one entered the front door. Now a series of columns support the ceiling where the stairway may have been. The Kigers themselves made changes in the house, including adding a fireplace to a once-chilly sunroom. The exterior of the house, however, has not been changed within the memory of John Santos, and he has known the place since he was a boy. The old-timers do remember when there was a barn on the property. It was torn down many

years ago. A two-car garage was built at a later period.

One of the former owners, Mr. John P.M. Joseph, was a retired landscape architect. Mrs. Kiger states that it was he who laid out the grounds, and one of the nicest features of the property is the way in which the hillside has been terraced and laid out in lawn, beds and borders. Bird-feeders attest to the further outdoor interests of the present owner.

The section of Foster Hill where the Kiger house is located is referred to in the deed books as Eldred's addition to the town. Just running through the various owners from 1870 to the present time does not really cover all the people who have lived in the house, for often a house was rented rather than bought. Nevertheless, it may be of interest to note that in 1870, Anna and Edwin Eldred sold the property to Vincent Runyon of Blooming Grove; in 1873 he sold it to Louis Rochotte; in 1900 Margareta Rochotte received the property through her husband's will; she sold the place in 1911, to Mary Francis Rogers; the latter, along with her husband William A. Rogers, sold it to John P.M. Joseph in 1912; in 1921, John and Emily Joseph sold it to George H. Gibbs and Ethel B. Gibbs; in 1928 the Gibbises sold it to Barbara E. Braun; in 1937 John Eckes bought it from Barbara Braun's estate; in 1946 Corinne J. Eckes bought it from John Eckes' estate; in 1947 Georgiana and Charles Kiger bought it from Corinne and Henry Eckes.

Old-timers will remember that Ethel B. Gibbs at one time also owned the Dimmick Inn, as well as the house just below the Dimmick Inn on Harford Street. The latter house used to stand where the Milford Bank now stands; it was moved to make room for the building of the bank.

To return to the Kiger house, we might mention that its hillside location offers a lovely view of the town below and of the Jersey hills in the distance. All together it is a charming house, both inside and out. It rightfully belongs in the roster of fine old Milford homes.

Kurz Insurance Building

Centre Square provides a very attractive front yard for the John Kurz Agency, located on Broad and High Streets.

The Building, simple and unadorned, has good clean cut lines. If there ever was any ornamentation on the building, it has long since been removed. Small paned picture windows give ample light for the agency staff...and still

remain the charm of another era. Black shutters flank the second story windows, and the twin doors with their interesting caps-welcome all comers.

The final touch is the simply-designed white railing, topped with flowering window boxes, which are set parallel to the front of the building. A most effective decoration and together with the landscaped grounds, it gives a warm friendly feeling to everyone who stops here.

The offices housed in this building combine efficiency with charm. The low ceilings and large field stone fireplace easily combine with modern office furniture and equipment and the result is very pleasing.

No one looking at this attractive office would ever suspect that it was a laundry in the early 1900's, and owned and operated by Roscoe and Ethel Gourlay. Where typewriters and computers now stand, there were once big wooden tubs filled with steaming water and soap suds. A wood stove, going all the time, kept a phalanx of flat irons ready for ironing. Windows were impenetrable...made opaque by the constant steam from the boiling water.

It was the hotels and the summer residents that kept this laundry going almost round the clock. To keep up with the work, the Gourlays would hire many local residents to help them. A prime example of how the Hotel Industry affected the economy of the area. It provided work for almost every family, in one way or another.

This building, like many of the other old homes in Milford, now converted to business uses, is a prime example of the adaptability of the old homes to changing needs.

According to people who remember, the exterior of this house, are much the same as when it was built. The portion of the house (to the right) with a flatter roof, is apparently a later edition,

as shown by the different ceiling heights and floor levels. At one time this was probably a duplex house.

With the growth of the insurance business, partitions between the two sections were removed and the whole building is now being used.

The earliest records found go back to 1903, but it is believed that this building was built in the middle or late 1800's. After the Gouray's ownership was taken over by Lloyd Buchan. He sold to FXP Huddy, a lawyer in 1918. Mr. Huddy, lived in the Brupbacher house and he converted this

building into law offices from which he carried on his practice.

The George Bartons and the Andy Middaugh, together with quite a few well known local people, at one time or another rented and lived in this building. Dorothy Stroh Tisdale, Attorney rented the house and later bought and lived in it, in 1934. She used the first floor for her law offices.

Present owners, John Kurz, bought the property in 1955...but it wasn't easy. This was not one of your usual 'run of the mill' methodical closings. The events leading to this in August 1955...the year of the famous flood...are very interesting and unusual.

The Kurz, Johnnie, Adelaide and Gerry, were visiting friends in Danbury, Connecticut. Their friends were urging them to stay a few more days. However, with the closing scheduled for August 20th, Kurz's lawyer was urging him to come home. As the weather was bad and it was pouring, the Kurzs decided to return home and started on their way. That this decision turned out to be fortunate, was borne out when they learned that the pizza parlor they frequented with their friends every night, had been washed away in the Danbury flood with the loss of several lives and missing persons!

Getting home, however, still posed a challenge with bridges and roads washed away. Milford was in a state of emergency. As soon as he got home, John Kurz joined the Milford Firemen in rescuing flood victims; settling claims; providing food for stranded tourists and families who had been forced to evacuate.

Eventually, however, the closing took place and the building is an attractive asset to the business District and the community.

Note: Once more the Architectural Study Committee is appealing to anyone who has facts pertaining to the old homes in Milford. Only in this way will the full story of the interesting old homes be fully revealed.

In regard to the John Kurz Agency Building, one source informed us that at one time the building was used as a lock up or jail. During Roswell Palmer's tenure of Pike County Sheriff, he gave a key to the jail, to John Supplee.

Apparently this was a practice in the 1800's as we find mention of George Buchanan using the cellar of the tavern for vagrants, etc. Also Thomas Rose kept people in his cellar. Probably homes in the vicinity of the jail (then the court house) were used when necessary.

Any information to substantiate these theories will be appreciated.

The Milford Architectural Study Committee is grateful to Mrs. Helen Hissam for some added information on the Kurz Insurance Agency Building. She tells us that Frank Gassman carried on his plumbing business here. She also remembered that Rod Quick was a one time tenant in this house.

Laurel Villa Lodge

The Laurel Villa Lodge is one of the five buildings making up the Laurel Villa complex, which covers 10 boro lots on the eastern border of Milford Boro.

The Lodge stands tall and proud, four stories high, unadorned except for the attic dormers and decorative porch railing which encircles two sides of the hotel. Giant maples on Ann and Second Streets shade and soften the building. They provide comfort for summer guests who come to relax and enjoy this rural setting.

Other buildings are the famous Laurel Villa Casino with its bar and large banquet hall. The bathing pavilion, the laundry building and the annex.

The Lodge, built in February, 1876, has had several owners...the Meinke's; Bohlen's Kirchers; Doschers and presently, the Muhlhausers.

It was under the progressive management of Herman and Anna Doscher and the Muhlhausers that the greatest additions and improvements have been made. Rooms were modernized, with each room having its own private bath. It was the first place in Milford to install air conditioning.

The Casino with its bar and large banquet hall was built to accommodate large parties and to be used as a recreation hall for guests. It is a favorite gathering place for local and area parties and for the bus parties that come daily from all over the Northeast to enjoy the modern swimming pool, good food and entertainment offered by the Villa. Music every week end by a name band is an attraction for summer and local residents of the entire Tri-States Area.

Modernization and adapting to changing recreation patterns has kept Laurel Villa from the decline suffered by many other Boarding Houses and hotels which were built in the same era. A tribute to its owners.

The "Marguerite"

The "Marguerite" formerly located on Sawkill Avenue was another of Milford's well known boarding houses. It was built in stages, the original building probably started in the 1880's. It was built by Richard E. and Mabel Struthers Humbert, on land given to them by Mrs. Humberts' family, the Struthers. The Humberts came from Brooklyn.

Beginning as a two story building with large attic and vine covered front porch, it soon proved too small for the boarders who clamored to come to the house along the Sawkill and enjoy food fresh from the garden and rustic country living.

In 1910, half the boarding house was destroyed by fire. It was rebuilt, adding a third story and attic. It is not quite clear whether the large wing with its twin turrets were added at this time or later. This addition lent the boarding house a distinctive architectural style. The added conveniences, represented in the large dining room and bathrooms, provided welcome comfort for the guests. The wide portico and large 'wrap around' veranda offered guests their favorite relaxation...a place to sit and rock, and enjoy the brook and their rustic surroundings.

The Humberts had four children, Mabel, Marguerite, Robert and Lucy (who died in infancy). The Hotel was named after Marguerite (Peg) who married

Hugh Astlett. They made their home in Halcyon, in Dingman Township, the estate now occupied by Robert Humbert, his wife, Eleanor, and son, Bob.

After 1925, the business was sold to Hary Dranow. Mr. Dranow installed a handball court and a swimming pool. Following his

ownership, the hotel was operated by the Pleshette family and they changed the name of the hotel to the "Colonial". Later ownership was acquired by the Rackmills, owners of Malibu Ranch.

The Colonial closed in 1940 and was in a severe state of deterioration when it burned to the ground on a blustery cold night in the winter of 1967.

Masonic Building

Believing that the main road to Port Jervis would go down 4th Street, John H. Wallace built his 3 1/2 story brick building (now the Masonic Hall) on this street over 100 years ago.

The first floor was used for a

general store. It is believed that the upper stories were used for storing supplies. According to some sources, it is reported there was an opening on the 3rd floor where supplies could be hoisted for storage or lowered into waiting wagons for deliveries.

(It was bought by the Masonic Order many years ago and is used as a meeting hall for their organization and for the Order of the Eastern Star. When the Malhame Vestment Company was founded by the late David Malhame, Sr., the store section was used as their base of operations.

John Carey, PH.D., of the Department of History, Lehigh University describes this building in his history "Study of the properties in the Tocks Island National Recreation Area" as an "Interesting example of 19th Century store architecture. A kind of architecture which, in itself, is fairly ungraceful."

In direct contrast to this opinion, Joe Young, Scranton Architect and advisor to the Milford Architectural Study Committee admires the building as an "Authentic Commercial Victorian Building.

And so....readers may take their choice.

McTernan Home

Located directly across from the Milford Memorial park, on the corner of Catherine and Fifth Street, the home of Hugh McTernan is much the same as it was when it was built in 1857, for its first owner, James Watson. The only renovations made by the present owner was to make the upstairs windows smaller and install a picture window overlooking the park.

It is possible that the rear two stories were a later addition, but this could not be verified.

Distinctive features of this landmark home are the fish scale shingles on the third story, and the

squared off dormers. Also the first floor bay windows with their decorative wood molding and window trim, giving this home character and charm.

After Mr. Watson's tenancy, ownership was acquired by James Quinn in 1873. At a Sheriff's Sale in 1885 this nine room house was purchased by George & Catherine H. Horton. The next owner was Mrs. Josephine Lattimore, who bought the house and lot for \$500.00 in 1909. She, in turn, willed the property to her daughter, Florence E. Lattimore.

On the 21st of May 1946, Amy Rinckhoff bought the property from Miss Lattimore and lived there until 1966. John Rinckhoff, her son, and executor of her estate, sold the house to the present owner, Hugh McTernan, October 21st, 1966.

The spacious house is well preserved. It has an air of permanence and dignity...earned over the years by adapting to different modes of living from the Victorian Era to the present day modern.

Millford Elementary School:

The Millford Elementary School, built in 1904 possesses "no architectural significance" ... according to Joe Young, Scranton architect and advisor to the Millford Architectural Study Committee. However, he notes that the use of blue stone makes it distinctive. This plus cupola and gable, and the second story windows (center bank) give the school an air of dignity and character... a contrast to some modern schools of today.

The entrance was formerly of blue stone but had to be changed on mandate by the state, to meet fire safety regulations.

The bluestone used was quarried in the county. Some of it from a quarry on the former Charles Boileau property in Dingman Twp. along the Dwarfskill and presently owned by Marcel Van Lierde.

Millford Field Club

The Millford Field Club was first organized in 1909. The primary purpose of the club at the time of its inception, was the promotion of the sport of tennis.

At this time, the game of tennis was just beginning to gain popularity and was fast attaining its present position as the most universal sport in the world. It was only natural that Millford, a growing, prospering summer resort, should have some organization to sponsor this game.

During the organization and operation of the Millford Field Club many men stand out as pioneers in this movement. They were: Norman Harsell; Lancelot W.

Armstrong; F.B. Bournique; Warren Chol; J.C. Hedorfer; Gerald Lewis; Frank LeCompte; T.B. Morse; N.G. Palmer; A.W. Ramson, A.B. Sullivan; Leo W. Wertheimer; August Keil; and John C. Zimmermann.

The land at Sixth and Catharine Streets, where the Club and courts were built, was originally leased from Amos and Gifford Pinchot.

The Pinchot's were enthusiastic supporters of the Milford Field Club. Four clay courts and a modern club house was built on the property. (Present site of Edith Gregory's house)

But tennis was not the only diversion for members. The social side was quite as important, and the club house was the scene of many enjoyable teas, dances and card parties. On the lawn in the rear of the club house were clock golf; croquet and other games. Residents of Milford recall how gay and happy a social center the Field Club was in those days.

The courts were open to visitors by the day, week, month or year. Terms per set of Tennis, each player 10 cents. Per day, 35 cents. Per week, \$1.50. Two weeks, \$2.75. One month \$5.00 Each additional member of the family, \$2.00 Yearly membership, Gentlemen, \$7.00; Ladies, \$6.00. Each additional member of the family, \$2.00.

Tennis tournaments were held every August for the Delaware Valley Championships. They were sponsored by the Field Club which was operating under the auspices of the United States National Lawn Tennis Association.

Many of the Tennis 'Greats' of the day, Bill Tilden, Don Budge, Frances Hunter, Percy Keniston and Cecil Donaldson came to Milford to play in the tournaments. Accomodations offered visiting players were provisions for showers and locker rooms. Meals and lodging were provided by the Tennis Tournament Committee at various hotels for a \$2.00 per day. No wonder they were called the "Good Old Days!"

The Field Club was such a model of organization and cooperative effort that it drew much outside attention. Several prominent periodicals devoted space to its success, and Mr. Fred Hawthorne, well known tennis authority, made a special visit to Milford to see what had been done.

Spalding's Athletic Library allotted a complete chapter in its volume for tennis to an article outlining the perfection of the club as a model for similar ventures in other resorts.

As such, the club prospered and was a huge success for the first 6 years. From 1915 to 1918 came a period of decline. However, 1919 witnessed a revival of the club, and several new supporters were found. For the next three or four years, the Field Club was once more its old self and was patronized by both young and old.

For a while, the interest of a few individuals kept the Field Club a going concern, but it lacked the brilliant social side so characteristic of it in the earlier years. However, it still remained the tennis center of this region. It drew town support and remained an indispensable attraction for the summer season. Several attempts were made to completely revive the old organization, but these proved ineffectual.

The revival, unfortunately was short lived, and about 1923, the breakup of the old organization came about. The tremendous growth of golf and the increase of other outside attractions diverted the interest of many of the members.

The Millford Inn

Built in the late 1800's, the Millford Inn was one of the show places in Milford. The beautifully landscaped grounds were set off by ornamental wrought iron fences and gates. Two tiered fountains splashed into a large pool, bordered with flowers. Flowers outlined the curving flagstone walks thru the gardens.

According to sources contacted by the Millford Architectural Study Committee, the original building (corner Ann and Fourth Streets) was the private home of a Doctor Armbruster. Later it was converted into a hotel. Characteristic of the period, was the decorative molding and the large bay window with floor length French doors. Also the cupola on the original building singled the house out as belonging to people of means.

Henry and Mabel Cotterill operated the hotel in 1915. Around 1916-1918, Mr. and Mrs. Fulvio Piergeorgi came from Hot Springs, Georgia and assumed ownership. The Piergeorgi's had three children, Louise, Tony and Virginia (now Mrs. Benner). A wing was added to the original building to accomodate more guests. In the summer season a 7 piece orchestra played in the large casino. A large basement kitchen kept the owners and a large staff busy preparing food for the guests who would come for several weeks, or stay for the summer.

The three Gezebos on the grounds were not only ornamental, but popular with the hotel guests. Only one remains to-day. This is situated on the corner of Apple Alley and Fourth Street. It stands as a reminder of times past when life was more leisurely. Of interest is the fact that under one

of the summer houses there was an ice house. The ice was cut from Sawyer's Sawkill Pond and stored in a cellar under the Gezebo. This was reached through a trap door in the floor of the building. It augmented 2 other ice houses in the rear of the Inn.

After operation of the Inn by a succession of managers, Jules and Ernestine Caletini purchased the Milford Inn in the 1930's. They operated the Inn for many years until fire destroyed a large rear section of the building. After it was rebuilt, the Caletini's converted the building into apartments, leaving just the bar operating in the rear of the building. A casualty of the fire was the decorative cupola on the original part of the building. This was not replaced.

Misenhelder House

The "Misenhelder House" was well known in the "Hey day" of the Boarding Houses. It was famous for its food and hospitality provided by the owners, Phillip and Bridget Misenhelder from 1919 to 1953. After Mr. Misenhelder's death, Mrs. Misenhelder provided only lodging for guests until her passing in 1959.

The first State Police assigned to the Milford area were lodged here. Their horses were kept in the large barn built by Phillip Misenhelder and located in the rear of the boarding house.

Originally this building was located on the West Side of Broad Street and John (in the front section of the property now owned by Warner M. Depuy). It served as the office and residence of a Dr. Schummell(?). Dates painted on the cellar stairway state: "Completed June 21st, 1827"...giving this house a long history of service.

Phillip Misenhelder bought the building from the McLaughlin Family in 1912. It was moved to its present site on John Street, in two parts. The smaller section at that time was only one story. A second story was added after the house was moved to its new location.

In 1926 another addition was made to the original structure. This contained twelve bedrooms with hot and cold water in each room; five bath rooms and a large kitchen. With this addition, the house could accommodate 50 guests.

The Misenhelder family sold the house, and the property on which it was situated, to Howard and

Kathleen Eberhard in 1962. The Eberhards renovated the interior to meet the needs of a nursing home. They operated the Milford Convalescent Home until selling to the North American Medical Centers, Incorporated of King of Prussia, Pennsylvania.

This building is another example of how the old homes in Milford lend themselves to expansion and conversion to business purposes. Even more remarkable when it is considered that the original part of this house built in 1827, is still in productive use.

Muhlhauser Home

Distinctive in architectural style, the Carl Muhlhauser's house on West Ann Street and Raspberry Alley is an imposing home. It has an air of stateliness and dignity not found in to-day's construction, which is designed to save labor and for more casual living. Timeless in design, this house is as attractive now as when it was built in 1901.

The large rooms; ample closet and pantries; high ceilings all make for 'living room' too costly to reproduce to-day. The tiled fireplaces with their specially designed mantle pieces with fluted pillars; the leaded glass windows; decorative molding and beautiful woodwork are the 'crowning jewels' of this house built for Clinton O. Armstrong by Henry Canne. Architect was T.I. Lindsey, Middletown, New York.

Outstanding is the ash wood stairwell and staircase with its wide landings, highlighted by reflections of light thru the stained glass windows, which overlook the stairs. The effect is dramatic, and made the perfect setting for wedding pictures of the Muhlhauser's daughter Marian.

Carl Muhlhauser (Senior) is the second owner of the house, having bought it in 1952 from Max Armstrong, son of Clinton Armstrong. The records Mr. Muhlhauser has in his possession are the original records made up by the architect, Mr. Armstrong and his builder. There are nine separate contracts, spelling out in meticulous detail, each step of the construction with each contractor. Of interest is the Mason's agreement calling for an 18" wide foundation and 5 cellar partitions of brick, the center partition to be 8" wide. Now that's SOLID!

Note is made in the specifications of a "Bell Hanger". This was the mechanic whose trade it was to install the door bells in the house, as well as the buzzers in the dining room and kitchen and thruout the house that would summon the help when they were needed. As bells

were all the same pitch, an indicator was always installed (Bell Ringer) to show which buzzer was being rung. Batteries supplied the energy needed for this purpose.

One of the most unusual features in the Muhlhauser House is the triangular bays and dormers and the rounded (right) front of the house. The leaded glass transoms, the wide veranda; natural stone footings; and blue stone walks, make this home unique and different.

Built in the late 1800's by Charles H. Wood and now occupied by Carl and Dory Muhlhauser, Jr. and their four children, the house on 208 West Ann has weathered time, change and ownership. It was the former home of Mrs. Violet (Terwilliger) Clune.

The style is timeless. The fish scale shingles ornamenting the gables, offer a pleasing contrast to the conventional clapboard construction. The four sided roof, broken by gables, front and side, make for an interesting roof line. Hand turned spindles, pillars and brackets on the 'wrap around' porch have a great decorative value. The bay jutting out on the side of the house breaks up the otherwise unbroken lines of the house.

Joe Young, Scranton architect, working as an advisor with the Architectural Study Committee describes the design as "Country Carpenter." This is a traditional house. Functionally and aesthetically, it is most attractive and provides ample living quarters for a large family. It does this without sacrificing comfort or space. It has four bedrooms, and four rooms downstairs, and two baths. It was built by Charles H. Wood who was grandfather to Violet Terwilliger Clune; Bertha Terwilliger Tower; and the late J. Foster Terwilliger, former editor and owner of the Milford Dispatch.

Charles H. Wood and his son, Charles G., conducted an Undertaking business under the name of

"Wood and Son." They used the large building in the rear of the house as a work room and some time funeral parlor. Charles H. was a graduate of the Packard Business College and the United States School of Embalming, passing the State Board of Examinations of Pennsylvania. When the Carl Muhlhausers took possession of the house a few years ago they found a baby's casket on the beams...a reminder of the former owners and their business. Another claim to fame was the fact that Thundercloud, one of three Indians who posed for the nickel (a resident of Dingmans Ferry) was laid out in state in this building.

Later the Woods went into the insurance business covering the entire county and New Jersey. The business was eventually sold to John Almer.

In a Biographical record, the Wood home is described as "one of the brightest, most cultivated and hospitable homes in Milford. The Woods were prominent members of the village and the Episcopal church. Mrs. Wood and her daughter Blanche, were active in Sunday School and church work.

Two hundred and eight West Ann Street has had only a few owners...staying in the family until sold by Violet Clune to Carl Muhlhauser, Jr. Charles H. Wood, the builder and first owner willed the house to his wife, Blanche. Charles G. Wood, their son, lived there for a few years. Foster Terwilliger owned the property for a period of only a few months, after which Violet Clune took title.

Nearing

The house owned by Dorothy Raymond Nearing, corner of George and 4th Streets is another home that can boast of a one family ownership. Built by Mrs. Nearing's grandfather, F.F. White and his wife, Mary Cornelia White, in 1901, the White's moved here from Brooklyn.

The house was built by A.D. Brown and like many he built, has special features which seem to be his trademark...rounded, squared or octagonal bays; turrets, curved fronts, wrap around verandahs. This house originally had a large wrap around porch that extended around three quarters of the building. This was removed in later years and the entrance changed to face George Street rather than on 4th. The turret provides interest and a decorative architectural detail...capping as it does, the three story squared bay. Bays on each side of the house and an interesting broken roof line adds further distinction to this house.

Always interested in remodeling, the Nearings, Orville and Dorothy changed the interior to suit the needs of their family which consisted of two children Sheila and Peter. After their marriage, the house was converted into a two family dwelling. A practical approach to using a big house to the best possible advantage. The large carriage house (later used as a garage) was eventually dismantled and moved to Twin Lakes to provide the basic structure for Nearing's summer residence.

The White's had one daughter, Lelia. She married Dr. Courtland Fields Raymond. An interesting side note on this, is the fact that

the Raymonds, New York residents spent their vacations at the Homestead and this is how Lelia and Dr. Raymond met.

Dr. and Mrs. Raymonds had three children, Dorothy, Cornelia, (Mrs. Robert Stroyan, Sun City, Arizona) and Courtland Frederick Raymond.

Dr. Raymond set up dental offices in three local homes...first in the building now occupied by Gumble, Thomson and Linshaw, then in the Atkins House and finally in the home now occupied by the late Courtland Raymond and his wife Gladys on George Street.

Courtland Raymond inherited the Nearing House from his grandmother, Mary White, later selling it to Orville and Dorothy Nearing.

The Perry's

When 211 West Catherine Street was transferred to George B. Perry and Helene M. Perry, his wife, in November of 1975, it consisted of the tract of land fronting on Catherine Street, comprising all of Lot Number 570 (as numbered on the map or plan of the boro of Milford) and a small part of Lot Number 559).

In March 1836, this was part of the property of two acres which was transferred from Lewis Cornelius to Julia Ann Cross. These two acres apparently comprised most of the land now bounded by Catherine Street, Fifth, High and Sixth Streets.

Prior to the transfer of lots numbered 570 and 559 to Mary Van Auken, wife of Anthony Van Auken, in April of 1863, the two acre plot had several buildings on it. There were three houses and two barns. The total assessment for the land and the buildings amounted to \$560. The two lots, transferred from Julia Ann Cross, widow to the Van Auken Family, had no buildings on them.

As of April 1964, the two lots changed back again, this time becoming the property of James Cuddeback. Mr. Cuddeback did not build on the property.

In December of 1869, Mr. Cuddeback, who was a teamster, had acquired several other town lots and sold Lots 570 and 559 to Thomas L. Armstrong. In 1870, Thomas L. Armstrong, druggist had his property assessed at a total valuation of \$260, including \$100 for a house. Apparently the house, now numbered 211 West Catherine Street was erected in early or mid 1870. It should be noted that there were several Armstrong families living in Milford at that time, perhaps unrelated to Thomas L. and his wife Chestine.

February of the following year, 1871 found the property again changing hands. At that time, it became the property of James Quinn and he retained ownership for some eighteen years. He died intestate and his heirs, as of March 1999, split the property in two parts as it is now divided.

In 1915, the house and grounds (all of Lot 570 and part of Lot 559) were sold by the Quinns, to E.S. Wolfe, who in 1923, transferred them to Clinton Wolfe. Mary Swezy acquired the property from Clinton Wolfe, October 5, 1925 and she kept it for exactly 23 years, transferring it on October 5, 1948 to Joseph A. Cusack. The home is known to many Milford residents as the Mary Swezy House.

Mr. Cusack transferred ownership to Doris Rosencranse in February 1962 and Mrs. Rosencranse (now Mrs. Edward D. Nelson) conveyed the premises to Cornelius William Bonner and his wife, in March of 1965.

In August 1968, the Bonners sold the property to William F. Kauer and Muriel H. Kauer, his wife. The Kauer's did extensive repair work on the house, including modernization of the kitchen and bath.

George and Helene Perry purchased the property on November 14, 1975 but did not move from their former home in Manhattan, until March 1976.

Pike County Court House

The selection of Milford as the County Seat was contingent upon the people raising \$1500. This was done and the construction of the courthouse (the present Jail) was started in 1814 and completed a year later. It was built by Daniel Dimmick. The present Court House was constructed in 1872-74.

When Milford was designated as the county seat, the selection was confirmed by an act approved March 26th, 1814 when Pike County was erected from Wayne.

The bell in the present courthouse was formerly in the jail when it served as the original court house. It was placed in the Belfry in 1844. Before that a triangle was used to call the assembly at the Courthouse. Prior to using the triangle, the sheriff would mount the cupola and blow three long blasts on a tin horn.

The first county court in this county is said to have been held at the home of a Mrs. Lee, in Milford. Whether this is fact or fiction has not been definitely determined. There are two conflicting

accounts. According to Norman Lehde's "Pike County Days," the first court in the county was held in 1798 at the home of George Bowhannon (the former Callahan property-Glen Acres). This is located on the Sawkill Creek and Route 209. Courts were held in the home because at that time there were no public buildings.

The new court house will be the third building built in the county for that purpose. The first one is serving as the present Pike County Jail. In 1851, a second brick building was erected in front of the site of the present court house, to hold some of the county offices. Upon the completion of the court-house, in 1874, it was sold and removed. Highest bidder for the sale and removal of this building was John Gaillazo. His bid was \$290.00. Later the record shows that H.B. Wells bought the contract from the successful bidder and proceeded with the removal after being bonded by the commissioners.

The resolution to build a new court house was passed by the commissioners Hoffman, Griswold, and Brodhead on October 23rd, 1871 work to begin immediately. Altho no mention is made in the records of an Architect being engaged, apparently one was engaged at the outset.

On January 6, 1872, the Commissioners contacted S.T. Van Auken to build a foundation and on the 9th they met with him to lay it out. On the 10th of January a survey was made of the lot the Courthouse was to be built on (Lot 401), and a deed was received for the Lot 402 which adjoined the county property. The two lots cost \$1,000.00.

On January 11th, Commissioners Van Gordon, and Hoffman met to receive proposals for digging the foundation for the new building. A resolution was passed to borrow \$400. and to levy a 13 mill tax on the dollar.

In the Dispatch's "99 Years Ago" the following account appeared "Work has actually been commenced on the New Court House; between 30 and 40 men being employed excavating for the basement. The building is to be of brick and located directly in the rear of the present Court House which will be continued in use until the new structure is completed. The extreme length of the front of the building including the wings will be 120 feet and the depth of the main building 104 feet. The offices and vaults of the several officials will be located on the first floor, while the second story of the main building will be fitted up for the Courtroom ... the jury rooms being located in the wings. The judges, attorneys, and criers

rooms will be directly in the rear of the Court Room. The main audience room will be about 90 feet in length by 53 in breadth, perhaps a little more than one fourth of which space will be set apart for the Bench and Bar. All the details of the building have not been positively agreed upon, but the above is sufficiently accurate to give a general idea of the plan which will be adopted."

Contract for digging the foundation was awarded to Ralph B. Thrall for 3 1/2 cents per cubic yard.

Henry S. Mott was awarded the contract for supplying all the brick for the building (Feb. 14, 1872). It is interesting to note, that in August 16, 1872, the Commissioners passed a resolution condemning the brick made by Mott as "not good well-burned merchantable and lawful bricks!" Mott was notified of this action and told that good brick was wanted at once to carry on with the building of the court house.

When S.T. Van Auken, gave up his contract for the stone work of the new Courthouse, because of ill health, the Commissioners decided to have this done under their own supervision.

Contract for building was let out and received on March 16th and 20th of 1872. On March 22nd, 1872, contract for building, "according to plans and specifications now on file" was awarded to A.D. Brown of Milford for the sum of \$26,096.00. Meeting with the architect, George Barton, Paterson, N.J. is recorded in the minutes of the March 28, 1872 meeting.

On January 6, 1874, A.D. Brown, contractor notified the commissioners that the new court house in Milford was completed 'as per contract'... and demanded settlement at once.

There appeared to be some difference of opinion on the commissioners part and Mr. Brown's statement. Upon inspection they declared the building was not completed, but 'deficient in many essential aspects.' Mr. Brown was notified to advise the commissioners by noon the next day (July 7, 1874) that he intended to complete the building fully and to their specifications. The commissioners further stated that failure to comply with this mandate would constitute a refusal.

Then, as now, labor troubles plagued the construction project but at least there were no unions involved and negotiations were on a 'one to one' basis.

On July 15, 1874, another inspection was made of the new court house by the commissioners, to see if the objections they had raised to the contractor A.D. Brown and H.B. Wells had been

corrected. It was found that they had not ... The contractor and his bondsman insisted that the terms of the contract had been carried out and the building was completed.

The Commissioners in a resolution stated their intention of

taking possession of the new courthouse, remove the objections, complete and finish the building to specifications as per agreement. This would be done at the expense of A.D. Brown and liability of H.B. Wells. These gentlemen were notified that they would be held for "all damages sustained already and to be sustained."

The minutes of July 21, 1874, showed that Mr. Brown had a change of heart and reconsidered the demands from the commissioners. He agreed to finish his work as per his contract and the commissioners on a 2 to 1 vote, rescinded their resolution to take over the work themselves. They stipulated that when completed, the work must be satisfactory to George Barton, the Architect, S.W. Hotchkiss, J.H. Williamson and Frank Brade, Builders. Frank Brade to act as umpire.

With the completion of the building, furniture for the new court house was purchased from Goodal in Port Jervis. The District Attorney applied for, and received, the use of a room opposite the Grand Jury room in the new court house.

Mr. Watson "to take charge of the new Court House; to keep all the rooms; to trim and fill lamps." For these duties he was to receive \$25. for November and December.

Landscaping necessitated lowering the grade and removal of the earth from the front of the new building. The commissioners entered into a contract with E.W. Ayres to furnish the necessary number of ornamental trees for the front of the Court House, with the provision that Ayres guarantee the life of the trees and replace those that die. For this, Mr. Ayres was paid \$50.00. Ayres was also commissioned to put in a hedge from the stone steps in front of the building ... on both sides of the walk to Broad Street.

At the September 1875 term of court the Grand Jury recommended among many other things .. that a new outbuilding be constructed "for the convenience of the court, county officials, jurors and others that have business before the court." They suggested the out building be constructed of wood. Other recommendations made was to keep the basement window under the new court house clean and free from ashes. A guard rail or railing be placed at the rear

of the building around the steps to keep persons from falling into the entrance of the cellar. The privy in the jail yard be repaired ... and ... "that the hog pen near the front of the Court House be removed before the next term of court or indicted as nuisance by the District Attorney!"

As in any new building, improvements were constantly planned and being made on order of the commissioners of that year (1874-75) (Ira Rosencrance, S.W. Drake and George Geiger). Contract was made for the grading in front of the Court House, the ground to be harrowed and put in good condition for sowing timothy seed. A trench was ordered dug on the 3 foot walk on the path which connected with the path on High Street. Also to bank up the Court House on High Street to enable the water to run off from the building but to build it no higher than the bottom of the corner stone. This was all to be done for the sum of \$6.56 ... and to be accomplished by the end of the month! Try and get anything done that fast today!!

Another contract that makes you believe "the good old times" were really good... was the contract awarded to T.J. Klein. This was to take water into the addition of the old court house from the lead pipe in the New Court House. Mr. Klein, for the sum of \$49.00 furnished all the materials and labor, in the 2 weeks allotted to him to complete the job ... "in a good, substantial and workmanlike manner!"

Courthouse Annex

Courthouse Annex #1, the Ed Stine House and St. Patrick's Convent have been loosely described as "Queen Anne" style of architecture.

The circular turrets and bays; use of decorative and different types of shingles and contrasting woods are all featured in these homes built in the mid to late 1800's. The large medieval chimney found in the Stine house is also typical of this style. So is the vertical boarding on the convent. Gables are steep, dormers are prominent and porches are wide. The porch on Annex 1 was removed when the property was purchased from the Florence Lattimore Estate by the county for use as county offices.

Interiors of the three above buildings carried out the Queen Anne trend toward openness and informality. Featured were large foyers with beautifully carved wood staircases and panelling. Rooms are large and flow one into another. These homes lent themselves to gracious living in an era where entertaining was an art and a way of life.

Structurally these buildings are built like forts. Deep cellars... stone walls...and beams that will last forever. Roomy attics are bigger than most of to-day's modern apartments or homes.

In an era where space 'per se' is so very costly and difficult to find, these homes are a priceless heritage...

Sources researched indicate that Abram D. Brown was the builder. And that they constructed in the last quarter of the 19th century.

Three doctors opened offices in this building. The first, Dr. William D. Kenworthy, a native of Philadelphia moved to Dingmans Ferry. Later, in 1898 he opened offices in the Broad Street Building. A Dr. Ross followed Dr.

Kenworthy and upon his death, the property was sold to Josephine Lattimore.

The lattimores lived in the house, later renting part of the building to Dr. Henry Benzenberg.

When Dr. Benzenberg moved to Selingsgrove, Pennsylvania, the building was sold to the county by the lattimore Estate. With some renovations it was adapted to house county offices and is expected to be in use even after the new courthouse is constructed.

Pike County Jail

One of Milford's most famous landmarks is the Pike County Jail. It is one of the most picturesque buildings of its kind and is the second oldest court house in Pennsylvania. It was built by Daniel Dimmick in 1814 of cobble stones picked up in the adjacent fields of the village. Several years ago, cement was added to preserve it. It was originally built as the Courthouse so that Milford would qualify as the county seat. During this time it was also used as a meeting place and for church services until the first Presbyterian and Methodist Churches were built around 1825. In 1871, the great increase in population made it necessary to change this building to the County Jail, for which purpose it is still used.

The building has two stories, a basement, and an attic, and on top of the building is a cupola. One hundred and fifty years ago, George Biddis, a son and founder of Milford, made a wooden effigy of a giant trout to surmount the belfry of the old Court House as a weather vane. The fish was carved out of a stick of white pine, 6 feet, 2 inches long. It had been painted only once and had become so weather beaten and worn looking, that it was decided several years ago to replace it. It now hangs in the Pike County Historical Society.

The bell was placed in 1844. Before that a triangle was used to call the assembly at the Court House, and previous to that, the sheriff would mount the cupola and blow three long blasts on a tin horn. This bell was later transferred to the present Court House.

There was only one sheriff who was ever compelled to execute a man in this jail. The convicted murderer was hanged in 1897 by Sheriff H. I. Cortright. The rope was attached to the roof rafter and around the man's neck then he was suspended through a trap door on the second floor and dropped to the first floor.

The Pike County Jail is Early American Colonial in design, and is of state-wide fame, beauty, and antiquity. It is in excellent condition and is being well preserved.

Everyone is familiar with the fish that adorns the cupola of the historic Pike County Jail. But few people know that this was carved by Ralph Myer in 1932, as a replacement for the original which was designed by George Biddis, a son of Judge Biddis, the founder of Milford.

The original was carved out of a stick of white pine, 6 foot and 2 inches long. It was painted many times, but eventually became so worn and weather beaten that it was retired to the Pike County Historical Society where it still may be seen.

Ralph Myer was commissioned to replace the weather vane and he made the trout the same size as himself ... 6 foot, 3 inches, fashioning it out of Ponderosa Pine which he obtained at Chance Rowe's Lumber Mill. Mr. Myer carved the symbolic trout, rubbed it down and applied gold leaf. The shining gold dimmed with age and weather and has since been painted over and over again, during the ensuing years.

Mr. Myer attended the Milford Academy (Edna Green Van Tassel's present home) which was the subject of one of the recent articles on the old homes of Milford, by the Architectural Study Committee,

on the old homes of Milford. Dan Hornbeck was his teacher and Mr. Myer still has in his possession the 7 inch dictionary which belonged to Mr. Hornbeck.

Mr. Myer noted that much of the "gingerbread" decorating some of the old houses in Milford was constructed in Brown's Lumber Mill, located on the Vandermark Creek.

James Alfred Myer, Ralph Myer's father, was a professional photographer. He came to Milford in 1882. Before he built his house and studio on West Harford Street he put up a tent and took pictures in that during the summer. In the winter he returned to Philadelphia. In 1897, he built his house and studio and his three youngest children, Jame Edson, Clyde and Vera were born there.

George Poillon

Mr. George Poillon, 5 Sagem Road, Greenwich, Connecticut sent a picture of the house in which he was born to the Milford Architectural Study Committee. It was located on the corner of Broad and East Ann Street, where the Milford Diner is now located. This house and the Boyd House next to it, were torn down when the new diner was built by Graham Musselwhite a few years ago.

Mr. Poillon, his brother John and his sister, Mrs. Charles Wildrick, were all born in this home. Mrs. Wildrick is the widow of the former principal of the Milford School.

Mr. Poillon's grandfather, John J. Porter had the house and the 'Boyd House,' which was on the adjoining lot built around 1850. There is no record of the name of the builder.

Mr. Poillon states that his aunt owned the home up to 1915 when she sold it to John H. Van Etten, who also put up the building in the rear of the diner. The family of Henry Ludwig lived in the house for a few years until Graham Musselwhite bought the property.

Like all homes of this period, the house was large, having 10 rooms and a basement kitchen. There was a dumb waiter elevator to serve meals up to the dining room.

Mr. Poillon reports that his father was a great game hunter and he remembers having plenty of game when he was growing up. He is now in his 80th year and is still very much interested in Milford and Pike County.

Red Fox

Beautifully situated in a pastoral setting, the Red Fox Inn has been described by one writer as an "American Gothic Farmhouse". Its appearance today without the wide porch which originally hugged the width and length of the building is unadorned except for the shutters which add an understated decorative touch.

Ducks paddle around in the brook between the house and the old 19th Century Barn. Vigilant geese guard the 'doorstep garden', or march militantly in the lane leading to the house. Flashy bantam roosters perch overhead in the apple trees, startling visitors when they fly to the ground.

The Red Fox Inn is owned and operated by Alan and Ronnie Lieb. When they bought the property, they made extensive renovations of the building, inside and out. Always being careful, however, to maintain the traditional character and charm of this building. Porches and pavilion were removed. Rooms were enlarged and modernized, each having its own private bath. When the dining room was being renovated, large notched oaken beams were uncovered and

these were left exposed. Massive hand carved oak furniture, belonging to Mr. Lieb's grandmother was brought over from England and the atmosphere created transports dinner guests back in time. The Lieb's have made dining at the Red Fox Inn a feast for the eyes as well as a supreme culinary experience.

Phil Axt preceded the Lieb's but operated the bar only. The Goehrigs, Grace and George, from Hillside, New Jersey (1939-1959) operated the Schanno House as a boarding house, and it was during their tenure, the bar was added.

Lizzie Schanno, widow of Joseph Schannon operated the boarding house for only a few years after his death in January of 1933. For a woman of advancing years, it was just too big an operation.

Joseph Schanno came to this country with his father, mother, three brothers and a sister. The Schannos, like many other French families emigrated to America to evade forced military conscription for their sons. Coming from the Vosge Mountain in Alsace Lor-

raine, Pike County seemed to be a little like their homeland. When Joseph Schanno came to Pike County from New York City, the rest of his family were already established in the Hotel business, having built the Hotel Schanno.

Of interest is the fact that Charles Pierre, founder of the Hotel Pierre travelled with the Schannos. Pierre and Jo Schanno, when they arrived in New York found employment as dish washers in one of the large hotels.

In 1893 Joe Schanno purchased 95 acres of land from George Quinn. The 12 room farmhouse and the barn was believed to be one of the two farms on the Andrew Fisher Tract dating back to the early 1800's. The farmhouse was then known as the "Chestnut Grove House". After operating this as a small boarding house, the Schanno's in 1904 built the three

story addition and renamed the new structure, the "Schanno House".

Joseph Schanno was married to Lizzie Olmstead, a native of Pike County. They had no children. Together they built a very successful Boarding House business. Many families would come and stay all summer. This, plus a heavy week end business, kept the house full and offered employment to local people. The cuisine was simple hearty country fare. Fresh fruit, vegetables, eggs and milk were produced right on the farm. Lizzie Schanno would set bread at night and rise at 4 or 5 in the morning to have fresh baked bread ready for breakfast. A spartan way of life!

The Robackers

One of the early homes appearing on the map is the Robacker house on Third Street. In 1850 it was the home of James and Sarah Barton. Little is known of these early Milford residents; an exhaustive title search reveals that James Barton purchased the property in 1816, nineteen years after Judge John Biddis laid out the town into numbered lots. In 1858, the earliest assessment records credit Sarah Barton, widow, with 1 town lot, \$60.00; 1 house, \$100.00; and 1 barn, \$30.

The Bartons probably built their home in the early 1800's. The original house was two stories, two rooms deep with a side hall. This form appeared in this area in the last quarter of the 18th century and was the basis of many

houses built throughout the 19th century. The roof is a variation of a salt-box style with a front gable facade. It sloped steeply in back so that the rear of the house was only one story. In the 1900's a two story addition was added to the back of the house.

Original details inside include wide floor boards upstairs, four panel doors with iron hardware, and windows with six panes over a larger single pane.

The open, spindled stairway in the entry hall curves upward and around a landing on the second floor. Instead of a fireplace, each room was heated by a parlor stove, which all connected to the same chimney. It was the custom then to build a simple decorative mantel around the stove, but the dining area mantel was lost during a remodeling.

The structure of the Barton house illustrates the mortice and tenon techniques. Hand hewn timbers were notched and pegged to make a frame of posts and beams. Large free-spanning beams were used for the floor joists. Nails, a scarce item in early times, were not needed in the framing of the Barton house.

This manner of building in wood was widespread in this area in the 1700's and in the early 1800's. In those days work was begun

months in advance preparatory for the day of house raising. The trees were felled and squared in the forest, then hauled to the building site. After a time for them to season, the carpenters came and worked astride the timbers with auger, chisel and mallet from morning until night. Even the mill work was prepared by hand. How well they built their works remains as a silent witness.

In 1873 the estate of Sarah Barton became a part of a series of property transactions; then in 1880 the house and part of the lot was sold to Catherine Howell for \$1,000.00. In 1896 Harry T. Baker, a lawyer, and Virginia, his wife, purchased the property, which remained in the Baker family for 73 years. The Bakers had three daughters. Ann Baker Cross inherited the property in 1936 and resided there after the death of her husband, Frank Cross, the postmaster. Another daughter, Alice Baker Brown, and her husband, Nelson Brown, purchased the house in 1944. They vacationed there for many years before making it their permanent home. Nelson Brown was a Professor of Forestry at Syracuse University and wrote several textbooks in the "new" field of conservation. He supervised the planting of trees at Hyde Park and served as a special consultant to the President during

both wars. The Browns were personal friends of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and of Gifford Pinchot. The Robackers found many snapshots of them in the house when they purchased it in 1969.

Successive owners have made many interior changes in the Barton house over the last 150 years. But, the exterior remains basically unaltered and lends a sense of continuity to the village of Milford.

Rowe mill

A government grant is being sought to adapt the old Rowe grist mill on the Sawkill for electric power generation.

Chandler Saint, owner of the 97-year-old mill that once played a large part in the Milford area economy, saw a recent article in the Dispatch about the federal Appropriate Technology Small Grant Program.

The program provides grants of up to \$50,000 for development of energy projects that may have application for future use by individuals, cooperatives, municipalities or businesses.

With the aid of caretaker Steve Szabara, Saint prepared a grant application that has met with interest from the U.S. Dept. of Energy.

The Rowe mill which presently houses an antique shop and boutique, is in a good state of preservation. Constructed in 1882, it succeeded other mills on the location that date back to the early 1800's. It was operated for purposes of grinding grain until the late 1950's.

The mill features an overshot steel water wheel, four feet wide with a diameter of 28 feet, built by Alanson ("Chance") Rowe in the early 1900s. Rowe also constructed the huge wooden drive pulley and maple cog gears (instead of metal ones, to avoid sparks and the hazard of explosions from grain dust). Aside from providing power for milling, the gears also ran Rowe's machine shop.

The mill also has the older turbine wheel, which may date from the days of the first mill on the location, built by James Barton around 1830. Barton was the son-in-law of John Biddis, Milford's founder and first developer.

Water power for the mill was supplied from the Sawkill and Vantine brooks. The original dam was built on the Sawkill near the

Arlington Hotel. The abandoned mill race can still easily be followed as it parallels Sawkill Road into the discharge pond from the old borough reservoir behind the John Ryder house.

Another dam at that site supplemented the Sawkill water with the waters of the Vantine. The mill race continues behind the Ryder property to the vicinity of the mill. At one time it crossed the road through an overhead trough on its way to the water wheel.

After the original mill was destroyed by fire in 1882, owner Jervis Gordon built the present building, doing away with the overhead trough and burying a new flume pipe underneath the road.

Saint and Szabara envision laying a quarter-mile of new flume pipe in the old raceway to restore the original flow pattern of water to the mill. This time the water wheel will power an electric generator instead of a granary, however.

A separate generating building will be constructed behind the mill, with the generator estimated to provide enough power to supply all the electricity needs of the mill, blacksmith shop across the street and three residences, which are also owned by Saint. The blacksmith shop dates from the 1860s, when the mill property was owned by the Finger family.

The Dept. of Energy has been impressed with the plan, due in large part to the lack of obstacles to be overcome, Szabara said. Saint already owns the property and has the deeded water rights, and the mill power generation machinery is in serviceable condition.

He noted too that the purpose of the grant is largely educational, and the mill building already houses businesses open to the public.

It is just as cheap to buy a generator as to locate grindstones and other machinery to replace what was sold out of the mill by a previous owner, Szabara said. He termed the project an example of how "a 19th Century grist mill can be adapted to 20th Century needs to generate electricity instead of grind grain."

The rustic mill, blacksmith shop and environs, with a little exterior restoration, could also become an integral part of a borough historic preservation district, quite attractive to tourists.

St. Patrick's

Convent

It is said that Trappist monks in the early 1800's travelled to Pike County to inspect land donated to them for the purpose of establishing a monastery.

A wearying journey from Philadelphia, only to find very rugged conditions in a wild and undeveloped setting. Discouraged, these early churchmen returned home.

In 1847 a Reverend James Maloney is mentioned as ministering to Honesdale and vicinity, and travelling as far as New York State. Father Maloney was the first priest to visit Hawley where he built a church. It is this Hawley church which is the parent of St. Joseph's Church, Matamoras and St. Patrick's in Milford.

Prior to 1877 when the first St. Patrick's was built on 8th Street, the Revoyre' moved to Milford from Deposit, New York. They lived on Broad Street where they operated a Bakery (site of Paul's Pastry Shop.) There being no Catholic Church, Mrs. Revoyre invited Father Nalin of Port Jervis to come and conduct services in her home. For three years, mass was celebrated in this place for the Catholics in Milford and the surrounding area.

When St. Patrick's church was built, it was a mission of St. Joseph's, in Matamoras, until 1946, when it was declared a parish by the Diocese of Scranton. Rev. Vincent J. Mahon elected to leave St. Joseph's and assume the pastorate of St. Patrick's. He

retained this post until his retirement in 1972. Succeeding him were Monsignor Michael Kennedy, Rev. Eugene Gunning, and the present pastor, Rev. Joseph Weber.

The present St. Patrick's church was built in 1956. In design it is in keeping with the rural feeling of the county and the boro of Milford.

No account of the Catholic Church would be complete without recognizing the supportive role of the Lebanese Summer colony. At one time there were about 100-plus families who spent their summers in Milford. In larger part, it was their organization and sponsorship of fund raising activities and church events, which were a vital force in building and maintaining the church.

St. Patrick's Convent...Queen Anne in style, is an excellent example of eclecticism. It has the bowed (2 story) front bays. Palladium, 3 bay window in the hipped gable. Ornamental brackets and contrasting decorative use of wood siding. The wide verandah across the front and side of the building, opens the house to the outdoors and makes for pleasant summer living.

The queen Anne style of architecture was inspired by the transitional architecture of the pre-Georgian period, and was the choice of small town America, until the turn of the century. Typical of this period, the convent has a large foyer or "living hall" with a glazed tile fire place. Featured is a panelled wooden staircase. Rooms flow into each other from off this hall. The deep cellar and large roomy attic are luxuries not found in to-day's modern homes.

The Convent building was constructed by A.D. Brown, for the Swepenhiser family, around 1870. George Swepenhiser, a Civil War veteran, served for many years as Commissioner's Clerk in the Court House. Next occupants were Mrs. Buchan and her son, Lloyd. They sold to Chester A. Dissinger, former Superintendent of Schools. He lived there for some years with his family until the Diocese of Scranton bought the land and building, which then became the property of St. Patrick's Parish. A Catechetical Center was established in 1946 and the building now serves as a Convent for the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, who were brought in to staff the center.

Hotel Schanno

DINGMAN TWP.—the 85 year old Hotel Schanno shows no signs of aging. It has defied time and floods and sits snug and secure along the banks of the Raymondskill.

Built in 1892 by Anna, Charles and Paul Schanno, the hotel is located at the mouth of the Raymondskill at the end of the deep gorge carved by the Raymondskill Falls. With this wild and picturesque background, its 25 acres have always been a favorite spot for hunters and fishermen...as well as summer boarders and tourists.

The Schanno's-Emil Paul, his wife and six children—came to America in 1878 from the Vosge mountains in Alsace-Lorraine, France. They settled in Dingman Township (via New York city) and after several years, three of their children, Anna, Charles and Paul Schanno, built the Hotel Schanno.

Paul Schanno and his wife returned to Pike County after operating Maple Grove in Bushkill, and the Riverside Hotel in Delaware Township.

Another brother, Leon, returned from the West. He stayed and assisted in running the family business. After the death of Paul, Anna and Charles (1909-1912-1917), Leon carried on by himself.

During the period from 1917 to 1930 the Hotel gained great popularity. Then prohibition and

The excellent French cuisine provided by the Schanno's was probably equally exciting to vacationists and the townspeople who frequented the Hotel and Bar. Fresh fruit and vegetables served to guests direct from the orchards and garden were part of each meal. No need here for high priced promotional advertising.

Built close to the ground and only two stories high, the 19 room hotel was more graceful in appearance than most of its 19th century contemporaries, which were usually 8 stories in height, with high roofs making possible additional quarters, for help or management. Another attraction was the wide 'wraparound' porch for guests who came to relax and enjoy the rural scene.

the Depression brought about a slackening in business.

The flood & Later

Leon Schanno died in the late 1930's, leaving the hotel and property to his brother Paul's three daughters, Madeline Goldeisen; Margurite Edmundson, and Pauline Hendershott. Ownership and management of the hotel was assumed by Madeline and Charles Goldeisen. They carried on until 1955 when the '55 flood took its toll of the first floor of the building.

In the Fall of 1955, the Goldeisens sold to Vincent Manna. They stayed in the hotel until the end of the 1955 hunting season and then moved into a new home they had built on another part of the property.

The next owners were Larry and John Hoey. They purchased the hotel from the Manna's in 1965. The Hoey's leased the business to Joe and Virginia Splendor. A lease which has been honored and

renewed by the Army Corps of Engineers who became owners by acquisition, in June of 1972.

The Splendoras continue to carry on the business, and Mr. Splendor, a well known artist, uses one of the large first floor rooms with its original fireplace, for his studio.

The Schmalz's

Among the many good things that can be said of old houses, is that they really provide living and 'growing' room for families. The "Emily Mitchell" house, corner of Ann and Fifth Streets is such a place. Paul and Bernadette Schmalz, present owners can testify to this! And so can Vic and Jane Orben from whom they purchased this early Victorian house in 1972.

In 1950, the Orben's bought the house from Emily Mitchell's guardian, John C. Warner, President of the First National Bank. Miss Mitchell was a daughter of William and Helen Mitchell. She was a recluse and a collector, so the Orbens fell heir to the mammoth task of sorting and cleaning up a collection of many years, plus trying to modernize the house for every day living. A task which they tackled with their characteristic vigor and imagination.

The Schmalz's in their turn, added their own ideas and labor to fit their particular interests and the needs of their family. Paul, being a building contractor was able to work on the distinctively styled slate roof, and do all the remodelling and renovations himself.

They were aware of the important architectural details and the house remains much as it was when it was built by William and Helen Mitchell in 1874. It is believed that the smaller (rear story and a half) part of the house was the original building; and the larger (now front) part of the house was built while the family occupied the smaller section.

Inside, the marble front fire place, fine woodwork and the wide molding adds to the special charm of the spacious rooms. The recessed front door, with its bevelled glass and floor length living room windows; the three window bays and shutters make this home a class. A special note should be made of the Keystone 3 bay windows in the attic, which are most unusual. The heraldic quartering scroll work and decorative curved trim on the porch is characteristic of the better homes in the early Victorian era.

Altho there were only three owners of the house, the land was bought and sold many times. According to the records, the original owner was George Bowhannon. William Mitchell, the builder, was a partner in the well known firm of William and George Mitchell, general merchants, Milford. The Mitchells were of Scottish Ancestry, coming to this country from the Parish of Lony-side, Aberdeen, Scotland. The Mitchell Sisters, Mary and Isabella, had a millinery shop in what is not the Levi Cole residence. The Mitchells were active members of the First Presbyterian Church.

Schocopee School House

The name Schocopee is lost somewhere in history, as is the date the old red one-room schoolhouse was built. Prior to last fall, the faded, rotting boarded-up building fit the description in the opening stanza of the Whittier poem.

Then the Pike County Historical Society dismantled the Schocopee School, board by board, and transported it by truck from its historic location on the Fire Tower Road, Milford Township, to its new home at Apple Valley, Route

6, as an addition to the tourist village being created by Ed Metzger.

Months of painful reconstruction followed, with original materials being used whenever possible. The old blackboards and pot-bellied stove, were moved in, with authentic double seat desks, school exercise books, teachers attendance records and memorabilia from many of Pike County's other one room school houses, to make the memorial complete.

Class reunion

And Monday, the Historical Society invited interested citizens to an open house and dedication ceremony. Among the distinguished visitors were members of the class of 1907, the year the school was closed.

Also present was the last teacher at the school, Jeannie Struthers Newell, who now lives in Florida.

Emilie Case, of Dingman Town-

ship, and Hazel Orben, of Milford Township, both in their 80s, compared mental notes and reminiscences. The reconstruction was fairly faithful they said, although Emilie missed the raised platform that teacher Jeannie Struthers Newell used to stand on. It helped Miss Struthers look so imposing. Emilie recalled, much older than her 18 years.

Initials carved in the weathered siding were a puzzle--"W.Q. Who was W.Q., Hazel," Emilie asked. Hazel shook her head. "One of the Quicks?" she asked.

"Still sits the school-house by the road," Emilie mused, rattling off a few stanzas of the Whittier poem.

She can recite many other long-ago verses from memory: Some she recited as a school girl at Schocopee, from 1903 to 1907; others she taught to her own classes in two one-room school-houses in Pike County. Following

her graduation from Milford High School, in 1911.

School days

I had a happy childhood. All the memories were happy," Emilie said. She remembers walking the one-half mile to the school house with the Myer children, detouring around the bull in the Olmsted pasture which had all the children scared.

Struthers house

Here's a house by the side of the Sawkill that has seen a lot of living! Now owned by Rosemary Lund, it was formerly occupied by the late Effie Struthers, who was totally blind as a result of scarlet fever when an infant. Effie's mother was the famous actress, Jennie Gourley (Struthers). The Gourleys came to Milford as children, every summer. When Jennie Gourley Struthers retired from a successful career on the stage, she moved to Milford and this house on the Sawkill Brook.

Miss Gourley and two other members of her family were on the stage when President Abraham Lincoln was shot. Two other brothers were in the audience that evening. The blood stained flag, used to cover the president is in the Pike County Historical Society the gift of the Struthers Family.

Because of Effie's disability, her mother willed the house on Sawkill Avenue to her. There were two other children, Jean Struthers (Newell) and Vivian Struthers. Jean and Effie were teachers and Vivian was a Civil Engineer and Surveyor. Effie taught Braille in a

school for blind children.

The house was built about 100 years ago, before the turn of the century. It was originally owned by James Emerson. Lucie Findlay Hyatt's mother was married from this house and Dr. Gouverneur Emerson's father, Everett was born here.

The house is described by Joe Young, AIA, Consulting Architect to the Milford Architectural Study Committee as "Country Carpenter" in style. It has been well preserved and its simplicity of line, makes it timeless in design.

Tom Quick

Originally two separate buildings, the Tom Quick Inn was made one when the properties were bought by Bob Phillips, Sr. in 1945-50.

The two original hotels were known as "Centre Square" and the "Terwilliger House". While in operation both hotels were always filled. Both establishments were famous for their dining rooms, and apparently that spoke for itself.

The first building was built on the site of the old "Union House" which was torn down and replaced with Centre Square in 1882. Builder was George Dauman Sr. The new hotel had 18 rooms and modern improvements including steam heat and hot and cold water and a bar.

After the death of George Frieh in 1899, his wife Louise (Beck) and daughter Pauline carried on the business. A task easily assumed because of their familiarity with the hotel business. Mrs. Frieh was Louise Beck before her marriage, the daughter of Ernest Beck. The "Beck" name was synonymous with the hotel business in Milford.

They biked in for lunch

The second building was called the "Terwilliger House". Mrs. Amanda (Beck) Terwilliger was the sister of Mrs. Frieh. This was mainly a boarding house, with lodging and meals for boarders and transients. The meals were very popular and people would bicycle from Port Jervis to take advantage of the good food, made appetizing by the use of herbs and condiments raised in a large garden in the rear of the hotels.

There was always a long line of bicycles filling the bicycle racks which were provided for guests who traveled a great distance. The season lasted from May to October, and the Terwilliger House was always the stopping place for teachers attending the Annual Teachers Institute.

Despite drastic interior renovations, the exterior of the buildings still maintain their stately and distinctive appearance. The towers with their decorative brackets and curved dormers and the mansard roofs scooping upward from the bracketed cornices, lend beauty and character to the buildings.

According to research by Jr. Historians, the land on which Centre Square was built was owned by John Garland (1882). Ownership then passed into the hands of Frances and Pauline Bergot (1886). That same year, Mary Frieh, guardian of Emil Bergot became the owner, selling in 1900 to George A. and Louis J.

Frieh. That same year the property was turned over to William F. Beck, and Pauline Wildnauer. In 1944 the property and building was purchased by Robert C. Phillips, Sr.

The Terwilliger house did not have such a long succession of owners. Originally, the land was owned by George Dauman, Sr., and wife. George Dauman sold to Henry Stevenson, Executor, under the will of Nellie Woodward Buchan. In 1942, Lloyd Buchan appears to have obtained sole ownership and he in turn sold to Robert C. Phillips in 1950.

The Tom Quick is now owned and operated by Richard Lutfy who bought the hotel from Robert C. Phillips, Jr. in 1976.

Hotel Vantine...

The Vantine Hotel was known as the "Farmers Hotel" when John C. Beck built it in the last quarter of the 19th century. It was always the first stop for the farmers from the outlying Districts, on their way to Milford or Port Jervis. Again, on their return, they would stop again to have dinner and some drinks before journeying back to their farms in the townships. The hotel's name was changed to the "Vantine" when ownership was acquired from the Martin's by Henry and Mary Lohmann. They had operated the first "Vantine" which was located on the present Saint property, formerly the home of the Aytieh's.

When the tourist business began to increase, John C. Beck built the new hotel on Harford and Sixth Streets. It was three stories in height with verandas around the first floor. Rooms were large, with bathroom on each floor. There was a large bar room and a dining hall. The hotel kitchen was located in the basement and food brought up to the dining room, via a dumb waiter.

The Beck's were all in the hotel business. John C. Came to this Country from Germany when he was 2 years old. His father operated the Vandermark, which later was taken over by his brother Fred. His sisters, operated the Terwilliger House and the Frieh House, adjoining establishments, which are now combined and known as the Tom Quick.

Residents who remember, tell of the attractiveness of the grounds of the Farmers Hotel. The mowed lawns; fruit trees...black cherry, pear and apple. Nut trees, gooseberry and currant bushes. A long grape arbor leading from the rear of the hotel to the outside "convenience" where one could pluck a

bunch of blue, pink or white grapes to eat on the way!

A large barn was part of the hotel premises. Here were kept pigs, chickens, horses and carriages of the guests. Later, when Asa Martin went into cattle dealing in a big way, cows, and calves were kept there. It was from here, that the first local milk route was started.

There was also a large ice house which was filled each year with layers of ice packed in sawdust. Underneath this, was a storage cellar where milk, cream and butter were stored. With the advent of electricity and automatic refrigeration, this ice house was moved to John Street, where, with some renovations and additions, it now serves as a comfortable home.

Well remembered by all the children who grew up in the Hotel, was the fabulous balustrade...ideal for sliding downstairs whenever they got the chance.

After the death of John and Rose Beck, ownership passed to their daughter Alice and her husband, Asa B. Martin. They operated the hotel for a number of years and it was here the four children grew up...John B. Martin (Chestnut Hill, Pa., Asa R. Martin of Milford, Donald R. Martin, of Phoenix and Marie Martin Shannon (wife of W. Roland Shannon, Glen Crest, Milford).

Following the Martin's, Mrs. Emma Wolfe operated a tea room in the hotel. Her four children, Everett, Philip, Kenneth Claude and Lois enjoyed living in the spacious hotel.

Next owners were Mr. and Mrs. John Lohman. They ran the Vantine as a hotel and during their ownership, the State Police were stationed there. After the Lohman's sold to Bill and Chris Richards, the State Police remained from April to October. When Richards got a Liquor License, the State Police had to leave.

The Richards proved to be popular hosts and this was a favorite stopping place for local residents, tourists and especially for hunters to stay in the hunting season. The Richards three children were born and raised here... Barbara, Chrissy, and Bill Jr.

When the Richards retired, Eckerts bought the place, changing the name to the "Dutch Oven". They ran the business more as a discotheque.

The Vantine was always a busy place. Boarders were kept and the hotel was a hub for local residents and workmen to get together. Salesmen found it convenient to stop here and a name of local interest, "Louis Krawitz", Hawley, appears frequently on the old

hotel register. Mr. Krawitz was the father of local attorney Sidney L. Krawitz and the founder of Bloomgardens.

In earlier days, a special room on the third floor was set aside for transients (wanderers, tramps) who were sent by the authorities for one night's lodging and instructions to "get out of town" the next morning!

In 1974, Albert Luhrs bought the property and tore down the hotel to make room for the hardware store and sheds which now occupy that corner.

The Vandermark Hotel

A forerunner of the razing of the Vandermark was the auction of its furnishings held last week. This building and the one next to it, will be demolished to make room for the construction of a new court house.

It is appropriate that this be the site of the new court house as the first court of Pike and Wayne Counties was said to have been held in the basement of this tavern when it belonged to George Bowhannon (Buchanan) in 1785.

George Buchanan, who owned many other properties, sold this building in 1851 to James S. Wallace. The next owners were John Van Gorden and his wife (1854). In 1860 they sold the building to John Crop who transferred title to Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Schneider in 1866. Ten years later, in 1876, James S. Wallace reacquired the property. In 1882, it was again sold to Johanna Christian Geyer and her husband. The estate of the deceased Johanna Geyer was willed to her heirs in 1901. They were: Sophia Middaugh and husband; Amanda E. Terwilliger and husband; Ernest Beck; Louise J. Frieh; William Beck; George H. Beck; M. Wilhelmina and Catherine A. Beck. On October 24th, 1921, Frederick A. Beck and Louise M. Beck, bought the property from the heirs. The following day, it was again sold to Andy B. Middaugh and Catherine, his wife. John Freebour received the property from Mr. Middaugh on November 22, 1934. Vera E. Myer, in 1946, bought the house from Emmett V. Steele. She sold to Tom and Jessie Kiley in 1955. On February 16, 1959, Tom Kiley sold to Joseph A. and Margaret S. Gagnon. The county then acquired the property for the purpose of building a new courthouse.

It is assumed that the building was operated for the most part as a tavern thruout the years. Under

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Beck's ownership, they operated it as a boarding house and saloon. According to information obtained from Mrs. Carolyn Depuy and Mrs. Roger Sheen, the first state police in Milford boarded here and their horses were stabled in a large barn in the rear of the house.

The first Register which is now in the Historical Society, shows the name of some noted celebrities. Norman Lehde's "Pike County Days" notes that William Jennings Bryan and James J. Corbett, the pugilist were two of the notables who stayed at the

Vandermark. The names of many of the old families and early settlers are found listed as guests. They stayed in the Vandermark when they were called for Jury Duty. The 'horse and buggy' travel was not speedy, and it was simpler to stay at the county seat while court was being held.

The demolition of the Vandermark ends a colorful era in Milford's history. This hotel touched on many lives and profided a meeting place for residents for the past two centuries. If the walls could talk ... what tales would be told!

Walsh home

It is hard to imagine the Walsh's peaceful home on Catherine Street as the bustling homestead of the past century filled with the activities of Jacob Schorr, his large family, and his various businesses. In those days the property included a 45 foot barn, half of which accommodated the horses, wagons and mules necessary for a stage line and a prosperous ice business. The part of the barn bordering the alley was thickly insulated with cork and was used as an ice house. For over thirty years "Jake" Schorr cut ice from Sawkill Pond (and sometimes the Delaware, if the weather was right) and delivered it by wagon to Pike Counties. He retired from the ice business at the age of 75 to the lighter demands of local carting and farming.

Born in 1838 at Wirthemberg, Germany, Jacob Schorr came to America as a small boy. He was living in Milford when he enlisted in Company B, 151st Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry - the only full company of volunteers from Pike County in the Union Army in the Civil War. On July 1, 1863, this regiment was in position at Seminary Ridge when attacked. They lost 287 men, including their General Reynolds. They fell back and took a position on Cemetery

Hill where they faced Picketts Charge on the second day. Jacob Schorr also served with his regiment at Gettysburg and at Chancellorsville. He was discharged as a corporal in 1863 when his enlistment term expired.

After returning to Milford, Jacob Schorr worked as a driver for the "Findlay and Wheeler" Stage-Line. A few years later he purchased the property where he would build his home. In 1873 he purchased at livery stable behind Gregory's Garage on Broad Street and went into business for himself driving his own stage between

Milford and Port Jervis. The stage route followed what is now called the Old Milford Road, stopping to rest at the "Halfway House," later the "Evergreen." Jake Schorr took an active interest in town affairs, and during these years no parade was complete without his familiar figure driving the stage. The Findlay coach that he drove was donated to the Historical Society by the Findlay family and is on display at Moon Valley Park.

In 1869, Jacob Schorr and Mary Stichler of Dingman Township were married. Together they built their home on Catherine Street, the same house where years later they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary by renewing their vows and pledges amidst their many friends and relatives, children and grandchildren. The Schorr's six children were born and raised in their house - John, Frank, Lulu, Jacob, Fannie, and Leonard. Running a large household was very different in the 1800's than it is today. Mary Schorr undoubtedly worked long hours taking care of her family, but she found time to be active in the Prsbyterian Church and to enjoy her many friends.

Leonard Schorr, who was born in 1896, lives in Milford with his wife since retiring as a fireman in Garden City, New York. He recalls the fun of accompanying his father on the stagecoach and also the hard work of helping with the ice business. He remembers delivering ice to the Yale Forestry School, now the Pinchot Institute. The Schorrs are enjoying living in Milford and recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Frank Schorr was the County Surveyor for many years before moving with his family to Scranton. John and Jacob remained in Milford, as did Fannie who married Ernest C. Wood. Lulu married Robert Terwilliger and lived in Ridgewood, New Jersey. She returned to Milford several years ago to visit the house where she was born. Mr. and Mrs. Walsh enjoyed meeting her and learning some of the history of their home.

The structure of the Schorr house illustrates an early style of architecture popular in this area in the 1800's. The I-type house can be described as a two story house

with attic, one room deep, with a full cellar, and a gable roof with end chimneys. This form was developed in the lower Delaware Valley by the 1700's, and first appeared in this area in the late 1700's. The exterior and interior details changed with the current style of the period. This form often acquired additions, two rooms were added to the rear of the Schorr house to accommodate the Schorr's growing family.

The interior of the Schorr house included the original four rooms with a central entry leading to a simple stairway. The two rooms downstairs were heated by parlor stoves with exterior chimneys, one of which has been removed. The cellar was separated into two rooms by the stairway. One room was finished with a large cooking stove. The cellar kitchen was a solution to the heat of the summer cooking fire. The other room was a vegetable cellar with a large preserve rack.

The Walsh's bought their home in 1952 from Lillian Gourley Schorr, widow of Jacob Schorr. The interior of the house has been redecorated, with linoleum covering the wide floor boards and paneling on some of the walls. But many original details are obvious, and the house is still furnished with many of the beautiful pieces belonging to Jacob and Mary Schorr.

The Van Tassell House

Mrs. Howard Green's house, next to the Methodist Church on Ann Street, is truly one of the landmarks of Milford.

On August 7, 1827, Samuel G. Thrall sold the property on the "Northeastly Corner" of Fourth and Ann Streets to the Trustees of the Milford Academy. So says the beautifully written deed in Mrs. Green's possession.

It would seem logical that the Trustees bought the land for the purpose of building a school there, for A History of Milford High School, written by George W. Turner and Norman B. Lehde has this to say: "In time, the exact date is not known, a rather pretentious building, with a cupola, was erected on lower Ann Street, adjoining the Methodist Church. It was usually called "The Academy." Generations of Milford children learned their 'three R's' there. The building, having been remodeled, still stands, presently

occupied by the Van Tassell family." Mrs. Green, of course, before her marriage, was Edna Van Tassell.

On May 31, 1882, the Trustees of the Milford Academy conveyed the property to the Board of School Directors of the Independent School District of Milford. Incidentally, if anyone has a picture of the old "Academy," the Historical Society would appreciate being allowed to make a copy of it. When the Independent School District no longer needed the old "Academy" for a school, they put it up for sale to the highest bidder.

The buyer was John Charles Grasmuk of Manhattan, who got it for \$950. Mr. Grasmuk had the building remodeled as a summer home for his family. When the building was a school, its longer side had faced Ann Street, and it had no excavated foundation. Mr. Grasmuk had a cellar dug and a foundation laid, then he had the building swung around on to it, with the aid of timbers and teams of horses, so that the house's longer side now runs along Fourth Street and the narrower side faces Ann Street. (If the Academy was indeed built around 1827, then it was there before the present Methodist Church, for the latter was not built until 1865.) Mr. Grasmuk had bathrooms installed and provided scientific flues for the stoves, fireplace, kitchen range, etc. He had a family of daughters and kept "help" to do the work, so the many rooms of the house must have been occupied. (His daughter Carrie married and had a son named Herbert Burt, who married Audrey Wolf of Milford. The Burts, who live in Atlanta, were in Milford just recently on account of the death of Audrey's mother, Mrs. Ethel Detrich Wolf). Eventually the Grasmuk family found that they preferred going to the seashore for the summer, and they put the house up for sale.

It was bought by Mrs. Green's grandmother, Mrs. Pernina Van Tassell, in 1915. She had lived in the old Herrick place, diagonally across from the Grasmuk property, and she saw the possibility of running the big house as a boarding house, which she did for many years. The Van Tassells were hospitable and had many friends among the "old-timers" of the town. On holiday occasions there was always room for one more at their large dining-room table, and certain of their acquaintances who might otherwise be alone on the holiday were always invited to come and eat with them. Because they lived beside the church, they

also befriended along line of Methodist preachers and their families, from World War I days down to the present time.

Mrs. Green's father, William Van Tassell, had been in the livery business. When the automobile came along, he continued to drive people wherever they wanted to go, charging them fixed rates to various points in the area. Mrs. Green's late husband was a ticket agent for the Erie Railroad, and since she is not a "thrower-outer," she has an interesting collection of memorabilia on local transportation.

One group of people which William Van Tassell drove about in the early days was the motion-picture crews. In one picture Mary Pickford was supposed to be in danger of being swept over a waterfall. She agreed to do the bit only if Mr. Van Tassell held the wire they had tied around her, which he did. Another time Edna Van Tassell got to be in the film with Francis X. Bushman when they needed a child in the scene.

Mrs. Green and her daughter Adista, along with their cocker spaniel Napoleon, still live in the Van Tassell homestead and still keep alive the house's spirit of hospitality.

What aspects of the house make it worthy of preservation? For one thing, it's a large "Victorian" type of house which fits in with other homes along the length of Ann Street. The simple structure with its gable roof and straight sides gains character from a number of influences. The white trim which follows the eaves forms a pediment to remind us of Greek Revival. The brackets under the eaves are Italianate. The entrance and wrap around porch were undoubtedly renovations done in 1905 to make the house conform to a fairly well-to-do family's idea of a fashionable summer home.

Home of Ethel Wolfe

Another of the solid and substantial homes of another era is the Ethel Wolfe house. This is located on the corner of Harford and Sixth Streets and has watched a lot of history pass by its doors, since it was sold to Seth Williamson in the early 1830's. The date of construction is undetermined.

After owning the property for 27 years, the Williamson's sold it to Henry B. Wells and Phoebe H. Wells. In 1867, the Wells sold to Elizabeth Finger who in turn sold to Sera A. Finger in 1903. The current owners, the late Edward and Ethel Wolfe bought the house in 1925. Several additions were made to the original structure by the Wolfe's. The house is now

owned by Mr. and Mrs. Wolfe's daughter, Audrey Wolfe Burt.

Typically Victorian, the Wolfe House with decorative dentils and brackets under the eaves and porch roof; plus the unique recessed attic window give the house substance and character. The deeply recessed double front door, with bevelled glass and the floor length windows are other attractive features of this landmark home.

The picket fence is no longer there. And trucks and cars on Route 6 beat a noisy path past the house. Legislative Route 746 which passes the side of the house is the gateway to some of the developments in Dingman and Delaware Townships making this a very busy corner. But a house that has endured the dust of unpaved roads and the horse and carriage, can easily withstand the advances of Progress!

Zaloom House

The imposing "Zaloom" house on West Harford Street was not always so distinguished. It was, at one time, a "Sleeping Beauty".. waiting for someone with imagination to bring it to its present stately appearance.

Built by Clinton Wolfe in 1903 for Madame Garnier, George B. and Marie Zaloom bought the house in 1923...and...the transformation began!

According to Virginia Depuy, one of Zaloom's daughters, her mother was less than thrilled with her father's choice of a summer home for the family. But, with her characteristic vigor, Marie Zaloom immediately set to work to change the exterior and interior of the house.

In redesigning their Milford home, Mrs. Zaloom was guided by the needs of her husband and four

children, Vivian, Jeanne, Virginia and Ernest. Her first consideration was to provide plenty of room. Room for them to live...to grow...and be with their friends and family. With this in mind, porches were removed; some enclosed; and some added with rooms above to give added space.

On the first floor, a free flowing effect was achieved by removing doors and constructing arched doorways. The high ceilings gave a feeling of space. The decorative crystal chandeliers highly polished hardwood floors and imported furnishings, made this a home for gracious living!

The "Mediterranean Look" was brought about by applying stucco to the exterior of the original structure. Stucco was widely used in the 20's.

The Sawkill House

The Sawkill House was reputed to be one of Milford's first hotels. The section that is left is located on East Harford Street (Between the Arco Garage and Dr. Edwards Guidance Center.

In design, the Sawkill House was similar to the Dimmick Inn. It was three stories in height with two large porches across the front of the hotel on the first and second floors. It was built in 1823 by Lewis Cornelius. He ran the tavern while the main hotel was being constructed.

When completed, it contained a public hall, sleeping quarters and a dining room. For several years, the main hall was used as the Masonic Lodge Hall. The hotel could accomodate 60 people and the

After an arsonists fire in March 1975, all traces of the "Homestead" one of Milford's most popular hotels has disappeared. Bulldozers levelled what little was left and filled in the foundations. This closed another chapter in the Hotel Industry which flourished in Milford during the 19th, and the early part of this century.

In recent years, anyone viewing the decaying rambling old structure would find it hard to imagine that 100 guests used to be housed, fed and entertained here. The large dance floor was a popular attraction and swimming facilities in the Vandermark Creek was enjoyed by guests of all ages.

210 East Harford Street, Milford, now a one family dwelling, is an excellent example of Victorian store architecture.

It was built in 1875 by Sheriff C.A. Smith who lived next door [200 Third Street]. The store was operated by a Mr. and Mrs. Charles Haffner. Mr. Haffner repaired, designed and manufactured harnesses, saddles and other supplies, plus making repairs on other leather goods. During the last part of the 19th Century and the first part of this century, this shop was the center of great activity for the people of Milford and the surrounding area. The advent of the automobile caused the business to close and the store was renovated and converted into living quarters. There are three bedrooms and bath in the second story. Living room, dining area and kitchen take up the first floor. A few years ago, it was again used commercially as a shop for fire place accessories. This building has clean classic lines. It is unadorned except for the decorative brackets and pilasters, and the curved attic window. The recessed, hand carved front door, with bevelled glass in arched frames, is the unusal 'jewel' of this house. The building is owned by Derek Huber, and occupied by tenants.

well known Drexel Brothers, bankers; and Horace Greeley were among its famous guest.

When Lewis Cornelius died, his daughter ran the hotel, but in a short time, business began to decline. In an attempt to rebuild business, new owners installed bowling alleys on the ground floor. This was the last improvement to be made before the Sawkill House was closed.

After the front section of the building was demolished, the section that was left was taken over by the Odd Fellows Lodge and used as their meeting hall. Following the Odd Fellows dissolution, apartments were made in the building.

The present owners are Frank and Vilma Guttenberger, of West Catherine Street, Milford.

The Homestead was an imposing 4 story building with tree shaded covered porches on two levels. It was built by Abram D. Brown. To build the hotel in the late 1800's, Mr. Brown demolished a tannery he had been operating on his site. Average rates were \$2.50 a day and \$10.00 to \$18.00 per week.

In the late 1930's, the Methodist Church bought the hotel and property, planning to use it as a home for Senior citizens. A plan sponsored by the Milford Pastor of the Methodist Church. Because of lack of sufficient funds to cary out the extensive renovations necessary, the plans were never carried out.

For several years, the hotel and grounds were used by various groups, as a camp

The Homestead

"Inglenook"

