

Thistle



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By Any Other Name ...

by Sandra Morgan

In early June 2004 the historical society received an e-mail with a genealogical inquiry from a resident of Leicester, England. Sandra Morgan kindly shared the story of her search for information about her ancestor's brother, who was an important figure in Millburn's early history.

I started to research my family about two years ago, after my teenage daughter was going to France on a school trip to visit WWI war graves. The teachers suggested that if we had any family members buried in France/Belgium, they would look up the graves and pictures could be taken. I knew I had an uncle there and was able to locate the grave from the War Graves Commission and at the same time there was an article in our local newspaper about the 1881 Census produced by the LDS and that copies were in libraries.

Once I found my great-grandparents, I was hooked on genealogy. I am fortunate to live in the same place most of my ancestors had a connection with, so I was able to obtain a lot of information quickly.



(Woodrige Eaglesfield's grave marker was recently found in the Springfield cemetery at the end of Main St in Millburn. His wife Phoebe is buried next to him)

(continued on page 3)

However, by far the most interesting part is the history of the people and their locations. I have learned a lot about wars, living conditions, social issues, prisons, poor laws and geography going back to the 16th century. There is a wealth of information available in England and a lot of it is obtainable, having been indexed or catalogued by the Family History Societies. The Family Records Centre in Islington, London, has a lot of records, especially censuses, and the National Archives at Kew have military records – along with a vast amount of other information useful to genealogists. My only warning to people interested in the hobby is that it becomes an addiction very quickly and friends' eyes quickly glaze over when you begin to tell of the most recent discovery! I often wonder what the vicars of our local churches must think when they arrive to see a headstone with a mound of earth removed from the bottom. Are the dead getting out – or is it someone researching their family who brought a spade to be able to read the last couple of lines on the headstone?

My interest in the Eaglesfields is through my maternal grandmother who, due to inbreeding, was an Eaglesfield twice – brother and sister's grandchildren

married, producing my grandmother who became a male impersonator on the music halls--and her father was a female impersonator - just proving that nothing untoward happens when close family members marry.

Wooldridge Eaglesfield's grandfather, Francis, was brother to my line, Thomas. Thomas was a miller, having been left the mill in his father's will. Unfortunately, he burned the mill to the ground one Christmas, after leaving a stove burning. He then moved to the village of Little Casterton, Leicestershire, (now in Rutland), and was the miller at Tolthorpe (today the mill is a house on the grounds of the Shakespeare Theatre in Tolthorpe where open-air dramas are performed). His son, William, was a baker and produced 11 children with two wives. I am of William's son, James, then his son Charles, who produced one daughter and went off to fight at the Battle of Waterloo, where he was severely injured by a sword through his body, nose, hand and the part of his anatomy that ensured he would never produce any more children. Fortunately his daughter lived and I am here to tell this story.

Two other male Eaglesfields moved to the USA ... but that's another tale.

Wooldridge Eaglesfield in Millburn

The following story of Wooldridge Eaglesfield's role in Millburn's history accompanied his picture in the April 1907 Newark Evening News article:

"Millburn obtained its name from a brook in Scotland. When the people began their campaign for a post office, they selected the name Millville, but as there was a Millville in New Jersey already, Wooldridge Eaglesfield, whose descendants still live in the town, was designated to pick a suitable name. Mr. Eaglesfield, because of hatting and paper plants and the fact that power was furnished by brooks, coupled the terms "mill" and "burn," which is Scotch for brook, and recommended the name of Millburn. There were quite a few factories along the Rahway River and its branches at that time, including paper mills, two grist mills and two saw mills. Upwards of \$130,000 was invested in manufacturing plants.

Among the men who were prominent in the upbuilding and betterment of Millburn were Mr. Eaglesfield, C.A. Lighthipe, Israel D. Condit, William Bodwell and members of the Campbell family. Mr. Condit was associated with Mr. Eaglesfield in the manufacture of paper board, and married Mr. Eaglesfield's daughter Caroline. Mrs. Caroline Whittingham and Francis R. Condit, who is assistant postmaster, are children of the couple. Mr. Condit was instrumental in having the Morris and Essex extended to Millburn, and acted as general manager of the road while it was constructed. The town possesses an Episcopal, Baptist, Roman Catholic, a Presbyterian and a Methodist church."



(Late 1800's panoramic view of Millburn, from the Wyoming Avenue area. Photo from the archives of the Millburn-Short Hills Historical Society)

Wooldridge Eaglesfield

by Sandra Morgan

(In addition to her genealogical introduction, Eaglesfield descendant and our foreign correspondent, Sandra Morgan, also sent this story of her ancestor's brother and our early Millburn resident, Wooldridge Eaglesfield)

Wooldridge Eaglesfield was born in Cold Newton, Leicestershire, England in 1777, son of Thomas Eaglesfield and Susanna Wells Eaglesfield. He was named after his grandmother, Hannah Wooldridge, wife of Francis Eaglesfield. Wooldridge had two sisters, Sarah and Harriett, and a brother, Theophilus. The Eaglesfields were people of wealth and land, having descended from Robert de Eglesfeld, Confessor to Queen Philippa, and founder of Queen's College, Oxford. The earlier Eglesfeld's, a pious people, having donated land to God – thereby enabling churches to be built.

When Wooldridge was 14 he was apprenticed for seven years to John Burr, Druggist and Grocer, in the City of Leicester. In 1795 Wooldridge's mother died and despite Susanna's headstone having space for Thomas to join her, two years later he married Sarah Burr, widow of John Burr. They had a daughter, Sarah, who unfortunately died aged two.

In 1801 Thomas and Sarah arrived in Springfield, New Jersey, along with Theophilus and daughter Harriett. Thomas became a mill owner in Essex County and in 1895 his wife died. Two years later he married Mary Webster in Elizabethtown, however Mary died four months later. Thomas never ventured down the aisle again. He died in 1825 aged 77.

Thomas and his sons became successful mill owners and branched out into paper making. Theophilus Eaglesfield married Phoebe Gardner and together they produced seven children.

In 1810 Theophilus was given his inheritance, namely land in Butler County, Ohio. In 1816 together with two others, Theophilus laid out the Township of Miltonville, named after the poet John Milton. Unfortunately Theophilus died in 1819 and his wife in 1823. The seven



Wooldridge Eaglesfield

(This image of Wooldridge Eaglesfield appeared in the April 1907 Newark Evening News)

children were cared for by various members of his wife's family, however the eldest son, Thomas, was adopted by Wooldridge.

Wooldridge was given a share in the mill and worked with his father in Essex County. He married Phoebe Cooper. This union produced three daughters, Caroline, Harriet and Eliza Louisa. Caroline Eaglesfield married Israel Dodd Condit and had eight children. Harriet married Elija Smith and had seven children. Louisa married William Bonnell and had two children.

Wooldridge's sons in law, Israel and Elija, bought the papermill from Wooldridge and became very successful. This enabled the pair to purchase large tracts of land. Through the efforts of Wooldridge they were able to acquire the exclusive ownership of the "Wells" patent, a revolutionary method of manufacturing fur hat bodies by machinery. Hat making was a dangerous occupation involving laying the felt in a solution of mercury, salt and nitric acid. This gave off poisonous mercury fumes which resulted in memory loss, mood swings and tremors - hence the saying "mad as a hatter". Presumably the machine manufacturing of hats alleviated this problem.

Eventually the hat making business became more important than the paper making. More of the mills in Millburn began producing hats. Through the efforts of Israel Condit, by now a very influential man, the railway served Millburn thereby ensuring the future prosperity of the town. Unfortunately, Miltonville, Ohio, was bypassed by the railway and a once successful bustling town went into decline. Had Theophilus Eaglesfield not died young, his success may have been equal to that of his brother, Wooldridge.

Perhaps Wooldridge's greatest epitaph was to have the final decision in the naming of the township of Millburn in 1857. Phoebe Eaglesfield died in 1843 and Wooldridge in 1858 aged 81. The town of Millburn continued its success through the efforts of the extended family of Wooldridge Eaglesfield.



(Wife 'Phebe' Eaglesfield (left) and husband Wooldridge Eaglesfield (right) keep each other company for eternity, in the Springfield Presbyterian Church cemetery at the end of Main Street in Millburn)

Recent Acquisitions

The historical society is very grateful for donations of local artifacts and memorabilia from generous residents and/or society members. We are happy to be able to preserve, share and use for reference these relics of Millburn-Short Hills history.

Because of the increasing number of donations, often made outside of the museum, we may have neglected to recognize every donation here. Please help us maintain accurate records on these donations by alerting us if we neglected to include your donation here. In addition to making sure we don't forget to thank you, we need to confirm that the information is properly recorded in the database. Our sincerest thanks go to the following people for enriching the lives of all residents by their donations:

From Margaret Hornecker, 1926, 1928, 1929, and 1931 MHS Millwheels, Mayflower Laundry Co. receipt, miscellaneous early MHS papers

From Deborah Frank, photos of and real estate documents about 75 Clinton Avenue

From Pat Howard, diary of a Winding Way resident

From Leigh Gifford, 1957 Millburn Centennial book, Spring 2003 Millburn-Short Hills magazine, 1998 Christ Church parish profile, MayFair 1970 calendar, 1975 LWV book This is Millburn Township

From Anonymous, Young's Funeral Home folding fan, 1937 Women's Guild of Wyoming Church cookbook, Lackawanna RR headrest cover, 1938, 1940, 1987-1992 MHS Millwheel yearbooks, TruFit Shoes postcard, hat boxes from local millinery stores, 1917 DL&W train ticket, early metal A&S credit card, 1917 letter from E.N. Todd of Old Short Hills Rd, 1907 St. Stephen's How to Cook book, 1959 Life magazine (article about local resident)

From Betty Cunliffe, 1948 Papermill Playhouse program, copy of "Orders for Uniforms written by General Washington at the post at Short Hills, NJ June 18, 1790."

From Joan McKeown, ca. 1964 photographs of 121 Highland Avenue

From Wilma Clapham, numerous newspaper articles about her father, former mayor Wm. B. Gero, sample ballots from 1968 and 1974

From Anne Smith, postcards of local views, Civil Defense memorabilia from Millburn, WWII ration books from Millburn, Development of a Community 1947 book about Millburn, The Battle of Springfield 1980 book, copy of 1890 map of Short Hills

From Allan Kreutzer, numerous early postcard views of Millburn and Short Hills

From Lois Poinier, over 200 Wodell & Cottrell landscape plans for the former Short Hills business, slides and glass plate negatives for former local gardens

From Louise Gili, vintage clothing items from her grandmother's and mother's wardrobes

Recent Acquisitions, cont'd ...

- From John Murray*, Rose Mary Rice children's record album featuring photo of Glenwood students on the cover, 1957 Centennial envelope, photo of Wittkop house, 50th anniversary souvenir booklet, photos of White Oak Ridge homes, scans of early photos of downtown Millburn, 1921 photos of the Tomakwa campfire girls' visit to the Poor Farm
- From Naneen Levine*, 2001-02 local directory
- From David Siegfried*, 1954 postcard for Millburn business *Boxwood Bend*
- From Elaine Becker*, photos of millstone installation on the green
- From Ruth Southwick*, hats from local stores, slides of 1950's storm, slides of 1957 Centennial parade
- From James Morrison*, 1928 Social Register of New York (with local names)
- From Louise Wenske*, 1957 and 1959 Suburban Life magazines, five Item newspapers from the 1960's
- From Joseph Balbo*, 1907 semi-centennial celebration booklet, flag, pin, Subway Sadie sheet music from the Millburn Theater, Millburn Pharmacy bottle, twenty-three Millburn-Short Hills postcards
- From Steve and Carol Henkel*, 1936 map of Short Hills
- From Naomi Rose*, 1982 MSHVFAS street directory of Millburn-Short Hills
- From Barbara and Craig Wensberg*, ca. 1920 Sani-Kleen cleanser from Millburn Chemical Co
- From Katrina Gredožia*, 1993 MHS Millwheel yearbook
- From Joan and Bob Boiles*, Millburn Feed kibble bag
- From Edward Mazurki*, 1939 MHS Millwheel yearbook
- From Mary Lou Hennebach*, three books about Baltusrol CC: The Course Beautiful, Baltusrol-100 Years, and Baltusrol-90 Years in the Mainstream of American Golf and A History of Canoe Brook Country Club
- From the Tornick Family*, a bottle unearthed in their backyard
- From Gail Engelschjon*, 1965 and 1970 MHS Millburnaires albums, and an early Short Hills telephone
- From James O'Connell*, photos of former Renwick house on Old Short Hills Road
- From Lizette Proud*, wood construction peg from former board of ed building on Hobart Avenue (demolished in 1960's)
- From Mike and Linda Rosenberg*, two early Mazda light bulbs from their Millburn house
- From Linda Hanwacker*, early dress form
- From Pete Vrahmos*, 21976 Erie Lackawanna Newark-NY schedule, 1968 and 1988 Item newspapers

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Note: Museum hours are temporarily changed to:
Wednesdays from 3:30-5:30,
Thursdays from 5:30-7:30,
& the first Sunday of the month,
from 2:00-4:00

Poking Through

the Archives

Would you like to dig through boxes of some of the seldom-seen photos or acquisitions at the museum? Would you like to learn how to care for some of your family heirlooms? Even if you have only a couple of hours free once in a while, the historical society can use your help conserving or accessioning (adding to the collection) items in the museum. Please call the society at 973-564-9519 and leave a message with your name and number and we will call you back.

Some of the areas that desperately need attention are:

- ❖ oral histories
- ❖ conservation of photos
- ❖ conservation of maps
- ❖ conservation of landscape plans
- ❖ list of plans in collection
- ❖ and much more

Please help
AND
please browse!

Local History Through the Internet

Vic Benes of the historical society board built a new Web site for the society and in addition to much-needed general information (such as museum hours and parking), he added exciting features that continue to change and grow. Those features include a slide show of images from the archives and a map room with scans of some of the maps in the society's collection.

Please visit the new site at:

www.MSHHistSoc.org

Researchers, readers, and residents may continue to contact the society through the society's e-mail address at:

MSHHS2002@cs.com

The Millburn Free Public Library's director, Bill Swinson, has devoted valuable energy and resources to bringing the history of Millburn and Short Hills to residents and researchers. New and exciting additions are online and searchable at the library Web site, as the library Web site now features digitized images of a bound volume of *The Budget*, a rare 1886 Millburn newspaper (see excerpts on pages 10-12), the *Township Tattle*, a newsletter that went to local WWII servicemen and their families, the *Item* from the WWII years, and the *Alert*, a local civil defense newsletter. Visitors to the museum seldom see these newsletters because of their fragile condition, but those who do see them are captivated by the news of Millburn Township's servicemen and servicewomen and thanks to the cooperation of the library, these rare artifacts can now be enjoyed by readers around the world.

The most popular local-history feature of the library Web site continues to be Marian Meisner's hefty and exhaustive study on the subject. If you have questions or are just curious about the history of Millburn and Short Hills, you can read Ms. Meisner's complete book at the Millburn library's Web site by going to:

<http://www.millburn.lib.nj.us/about.htm>

Please use the e-mail directory link at the library's Web site ("Department Telephone & E-mail Directory" near the bottom of the page above) to let Mr. Swinson know that you enjoyed or used these new features!

A Rare Look at Millburn in the 1880's

One of the most fragile and rare items in the historical society's collection is a bound volume of the 1886 *Budget*. The newspaper was unknown even to the state archives, which has a collection of microfilms of innumerable NJ newspapers. The society's volume of the *Budget*, however, is so fragile that it cannot be viewed by the public – until now! Thanks to a collaborative effort with the Millburn Public Library, the entire volume of a year's worth of newspapers has been scanned and digitized and can be read and enjoyed by anyone with Internet access. The digitization also enables readers to search for words or phrases.

The *Budget* came out weekly and most of the paper is frivolous national and international news, but each edition featured many ads for local businesses and one or two pages of local news. In the columns below you will find excerpts from those columns of local news. In order to enjoy an entire year's worth of the phenomenon of life in Millburn in 1886, please go to the library's Web site at: <http://www.millburn.lib.nj.us/about.htm> and click on "The Budget" in the Millburn Online section. If you enjoy browsing these new/old resources, please be sure to click on the "Department Telephone and E-mail Directory" and e-mail Bill Swinson your appreciation for the library's having provided this service!

March 24, 1886

Mr. W. F. Holme's Blacksmith shop on Milburn avenue was besieged by a crowd of curious persons on Friday, who wished to witness the shoeing of Mr. S. Hartshorn's yoke of oxen. The animals were placed in a heavy frame and secured by ropes etc., and although strenuously opposed to it, were shod without injury.

April 14, 1886

Accident

Thomas Spencer, the manager of Mr. S. Hartshorn's oxen, while attempting to get in his wagon on Thursday morning, slipped in some manner, and before the oxen could be stopped, he had caught his foot in between the spokes of the wheel and severely strained his ankle, besides other injuries. Dr. Campbell was summoned and after making the injured man

comfortable, he was taken home, where he is rapidly improving.

April 21, 1886

Some dastardly vandals entered the school house at Short Hills one night last week and amused themselves by pouring ink upon the desks and benches and smearing the maps and walls with it, besides breaking or destroying the pencils etc. of the scholars. If caught Milburn climate will prove very unhealthy for them.

James Copleton, a lad employed at the Fandango Mill, had the ends of several fingers crushed, in a machine at the mill mentioned, on Monday morning.

May 5, 1886

Time and again we have heard remarks made about Milburn, in regard to its very unhealthy location, "so much water, all the people shaking with the Chills, suffering with Malaria and other diseases of a similar nature." For the benefit of those whom it may interest, we will give a few points. Admitting that we have water and plenty of it, still it is not in stagnant pools, but clear running streams and again at the census of 1885 we counted 2023 persons, over seven per cent of them were life time residents over sixty years of age, and at the present we have five persons over ninety years of age, fifteen over eighty years, and seventy over seventy years old. We have two old couples, the oldest eighty-three and eighty-one years and the next seventy-eight and seventy-seven years of age and all possessing good health. Now, if any other place in New Jersey can show a better proportion, we shall be pleased to hear of them, and until so we will claim that Milburn is the healthiest town in the State.

May 12, 1886

Capturing an Eagle.

Mr. Voziferi Sayre of Springfield lives on the extreme top of the mountain at that place, and during his residence there has succeeded in capturing five eagles, besides many foxes, and other animals. On Tuesday last Mr. Sayre noticed a large bald-head eagle near his residence, and on Wednesday evening, hearing the crows making a great outcry, he started out, gun in hand, to capture the bird which was the cause of the commotion, When within about two hundred and fifty yards of the spot. Mr. Sayre dropped on his knees and succeeded

in crawling to within twenty-five yards of the bird, and raising his gun, which was loaded with No. 7 shot, fired and brought it down, having broken its left wing. Bringing the bird home was a harder job than shooting it, but Mr. Sayre finally succeeded in controlling it and bringing it in without any injury to himself. The broken wing was set in plaster of paris. Numbers of visitors called to see the bird on Sunday, and it is said to be the largest ever captured in this vicinity, standing as it does about two feet high and measuring seven feet four inches from tip to tip of the wings. Mr. Sayre has also a fine collection of curiosities, among which are watches, clocks, guns, etc. A watch was shown us, having an authentic age of over two hundred years and a remodeled flint lock gun of the same age, beside several of the old fashioned high clocks, and many other curiosities which he will be pleased to show visitors. The eagle has since died. Mr. Sayre intends having it stuffed and mounted.

May 19, 1886

A camp of Gypsies are located at Chatham.

Gov. Abbot has signed the oleomargarine act and it has become thereby a law. It is very stringent in its provisions, and makes it criminal to sell or have for sale oleomargarine, butterine, suine or any other imitation of butter or cheese.

May 26, 1886

Memorial Day Exercises Sunday next.

(May 30th)

The E. H. Wade Post No. 96, G. A. R. will march in a body to Oak Ridge Cemetery and decorate graves of comrades at that place. On Monday morning at 10:00 o'clock the services of the G. A. R. will be held at the First Baptist Church Milburn, after which the graves of comrades in cemeteries, lying on the outskirts of the village, will be decorated by the home Post after which the visiting Post will be met at Milburn Depot and escorted to the Presbyterian Cemetery Springfield, where the special services of the G. A. R. will take place. In this cemetery is the grave of Capt. E. H. Wade, after whom the Posts are named. After the ceremonies a dinner will be served, in Reynold's Woods, after which a visit to the different places of historic interest will close the day's exercises.

June 9, 1886

A Tramp Outrage

On Thursday evening last, as Mr. Minster and family, residing in the upper part of Milburn in the isolated house known as the Johnson house, were preparing to retire, four tramps appeared and breaking in the door, drove the family out and proceeded to enjoy themselves until a very early hour in the morning, while the real house-holders were "out in the cold." Mr. Minster's nearest neighbor being at least a mile away, and the neighborhood being stocked with many more tramps, no outcry was made, and after their "visitors" had departed, the family re-entered the house and finally retired to sleep if possible. About one-eighth mile from Mr. Minster's residence, not less

than twenty of the tramp *genus* were noticed, and a visit to their camp elicited the fact that they had been there for the past three weeks and intended to make it their country residence during the summer. One, an old grizzled veteran who appeared to act as leader of the gang, said that they divided themselves into parties of five each, one party attending to the meals, another getting "drinkables" a third getting "grub," while the remainder took whatever came handy. They had recently paid a visit to Milburn, as one remarked, "I see by the BUDGET you had a big time down there Decoration Day," on being answered in the affirmative, several spoke of witnessing the parade on that day, and one in particular noticed the beautiful station of the D. L. & W. R. R. which he said was the worst one in the Middle States, whether he falsified or not we cannot say, but the fact remains that it is the worst between New York and Dover, and but for the spasmodic attacks of cleanliness, manifested by the managers, would prove one of the filthiest.



(Above: A leisurely horse-and-buggy ride through "Hemlock Valley" on Brookside Drive in South Mountain Reservation. From a ca. 1900 postcard in the historical society's collection.)

An interview with Mrs. Kirk (Polly) McFarlin of 24 Delwick Lane, Short Hills.

In 1983 historical society board member Julie Bohn interviewed Polly McFarlin about her life in the developing community. Mrs. McFarlin's memories of her neighbors was particularly striking and even more so because of the surprises that were recently unearthed on that street, on the property that was once occupied by the Kaufmann estate. See the photos interspersed throughout the interview, for what was recently excavated from the Delwick Lane site across from Mrs. McFarlin's former house.



Assignment was to talk with someone who had personal knowledge of a 'large home in the Nottingham section of town' - a house that was "taken down."

Mrs. McFarlin, the widow of an architect, has lived at 24 Delwick Lane since the summer of 1926 when she moved into the home as a bride. Her home, which is very charming, was designed by her husband and built by Beinhardt Mueller who also built the Robin Hood cottage in Short Hills.

She describes the area as the Delano/Renwick estates - hence the name "Delwick". When she became a householder on Delwick Lane, the only other home was the one we were to talk about, (which) was owned by a Mr. Louis Kaufmann, who was the president of Manufacturers Trust. The house itself was set far back from the street but the garage, which housed the family's two Rolls Royces, was near the street, had quarters for the chauffeur/gardener above, and is still standing and occupied though much changed. She believes that the Kaufmanns built the house (one of 5 they owned) on part of the Delano Estate. They were living there when she came in 1926. A large family - nine children - many servants - the grounds beautifully kept, although not formal. The family was never, she says, really a part of the town. Their friends or guests always seemed to come from NYC or elsewhere and there would be huge parties - bands brought in, etc. Their principal home appeared to be in Michigan. The staff would be augmented when the family was in residence but came from Summit or somewhere else, outside of Millburn. When the family was away, an English couple who served as housekeeper and butler, would be in residence, as well as the chauffeur/gardener.

One time the housekeeper had an emergency and they called upon Mrs. McFarlin for assistance, which she gladly gave. Later, the housekeeper invited her in to see the house and she describes her visit on the tape. (If the tape description is not detailed enough, she did say lots more about it, so please ask for more detail if what is on the tape is insufficient. They had a large wooden platform erected outside for their children to roller skate on. This stood long after the house and was enjoyed for years by neighborhood children. There was also another

house on the property, which is still in use, and was occupied briefly by one of the Kaufmann daughters who married into the Dupont family.

In the '40s, the staff was quite abruptly dismissed and almost immediately the main house was vandalized. The McFarlins, for instance, reported their milk missing from their porch and it was discovered that a hobo was living in the house. Finally, neighbors complained to the town authorities that the buildings were a danger to the children who constantly ventured into them so Mr. Kaufmann was asked to either hire a guard for the property, or tear it down. The garage and smaller house were sold but apparently no one wanted the main structure and it was dismantled.

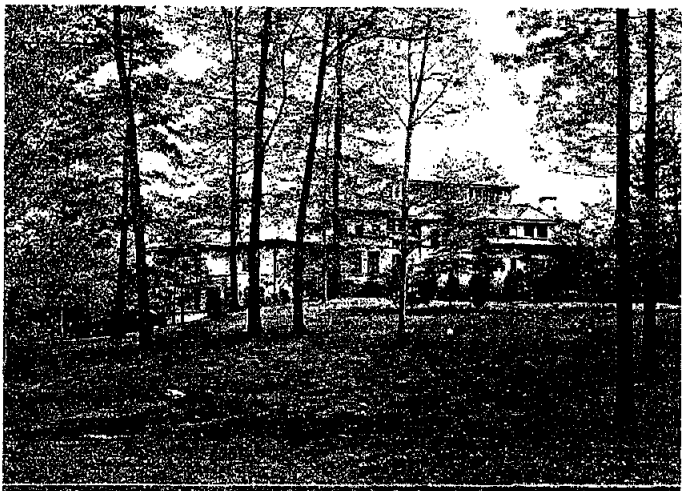
Mrs. McFarlin is a very interesting person herself and suggested two other ladies who might know more about the house: Mrs. John White (Claire) who was of the Faitoute family and Mary Clifford Dunne who now resides at the Memorial Residence for Women.

JULIE: For the sake of the record perhaps we should start with you telling me your name and where in Short Hills you presently live.

Mrs. M.: Well, I'm Polly McFarlin, Mrs. Kirk McFarlin, my married name. My husband and I discovered this lovely little spot while we were horseback riding. At that time we were interested, we were engaged, and we were curious to know who owned this property. At that time it was being negotiated for a developing company and they felt that in a couple of months they would have the report. Delwick Lane is a combination of --

JULIE: I think we had just gotten to the point of the company's negotiating, was the Delano.

Mrs. M.: And on the other side was the Renwick estate. Now the Renwick estate had been extended far beyond the small area of Short Hills Road toward the reservation. Particularly attractive to this little spot were the beautiful pitch pines. There are very few of those and we were especially attracted to these. It wasn't too long before we found that we could purchase the property and the home that was across the way from the property that we purchased was at that time owned by the Kaufmann family. Mr. Kaufmann was the president of the Manufacturers Trust Company in New York. And he had a very large family, some nine children. They spent very little time here. They enjoyed it the Christmas holidays and that was about the only time they came here because they had some five other estates in various parts of the country and particularly in Michigan. That's where the family located when they came here from Germany. The house was a very large house, concrete, and something of a Georgian type but not really characteristic of the older houses in Short Hills. I can't tell just when it was first built but it was very interesting. It had two ... at either end it had a rounded bay and I had the opportunity to go through this house. Not with the family but they had a corps of servants there. They kept a chauffeur and they had a housekeeper and his wife and two other servants.



RESIDENCE OF J. G. RAFFMANN, SHORT HILLS

(Above: Photo scanned from the 1925 supplement to the Summit Herald newspaper)

One day the housekeeper -- the little English woman -- while we were there they had a baby and I used to see her take the youngster out for a walk and we'd have a little chat. One day she had quite an accident there and because I must have been the only one she knew there, outside of the family, they sent for me to come over and see if I could suggest something, which I did. As a result of that, some months later when she was back on her feet, she asked me if I would care to see the house. I said I'd be delighted. I said I don't know the family because I never see them. I see their Rolls Royces going in and out. They keep two old Rolls Royces in the garage and they have a chauffeur who is always on the wing carting something from here to New York to one of their apartments or to Florida to one of their big estates there. About the only time we ever hear them was when they had quite a gathering at Christmas. I did go to see this house and on the lower floor they had a bowling alley and a game room. It was enormous. On

the second floor there were two big rather like bulges on either end. These bulges were like bay windows but they were almost completely round. Those were sitting rooms, of course. But what interested me was the fact that they had a large oriental rug, which was reputed to be one of the largest in the country and it was all rolled out to, supposedly, be cleaned and repaired, but when they examined the rug -- the cleaners -- they found that it was all powdering and pulverizing and they could do nothing with it ... this gorgeous rug just going to dust. In the dining room, very large with baronial chairs all hand carved imported from Italy, and a friend of ours who happened to be in the importing business was one of the ones responsible for bringing this furniture into the country, he said these 15 baronial beautiful chairs were \$1500 a piece. In those days that was quite considerable, even now. Then we went upstairs and Mr. Kaufmann's suite was at one end and Mrs. Kaufmann's was at the other end. In her suite I remember a little dressing room. It had a small basin in one corner of it and the fixtures were gold and they were really gold -- they weren't gold-plated, they were gold. It was just interesting to see.

JULIE: Was there a bathtub in there?

Mrs. M.: No, they had a separate tub and that had beautiful fixtures but they were gold-plated. It was the dear little basin in the one corner that was so sweet. Then on the third floor were the guest's rooms, and there must have been a dozen of them. Along the corridor were original Michelangelo anatomical sketches and they were originals and there were six or eight of them, but they were perfectly beautiful. And here were these guest rooms on either side of them.



JULIE: Were the guest rooms also for the children? You said there was a large family.

Mrs. M.: I can't just remember the bedrooms. The children's rooms were on the same floor as the parents' and there was a large playroom. The playroom was down in the basement with the pool table and bowling alley. As time went on and they were there so very little, the servants had left -- they had let them go -- and (there was) a storm. During one of the storms, water came in and I just remember seeing the ice. Windows were being broken. There was quite a bit of vandalism taking place after they left, let the servants go. The water came in and really ruined things, all those Michelangelo sketches were gone. They just seemed to just abandon the house and it got to be to a point where one morning we missed our milk and that went on several times and we couldn't account for it but come to find

out a hobo was living up there and he was just helping himself to whatever he could find. The place was just going downhill so fast that it was becoming a public nuisance.

JULIE: About what year was this?

Mrs. M.: It was about 1938 when it seemed to be just completely neglected.

JULIE: Was there a long drive or could you see the house?

Mrs. M.: Yes, we could see the house. The garage was right opposite our walk here but it was in quite a way. The grounds were really beautiful. They had a gardener who kept it. They kept it quite natural. It was just a lovely place until they decided, I guess, to let their help go and from then on --



They had tennis courts up there, they had a platform for the children when they came out to roller skate on. They had nine children and there were two young little girls and they would come out from time to time with their governess. One time it might be a German governess and these children would chatter in German. Another time it could be a French governess. And how we happened to eventually meet them was that we were ... we knew that

it would be a wise thing to have a dog, because we were almost alone on this street, and while we were trying to decide what kind of a dog we would get, I heard a scratch on the door one morning. And here was a little wire-haired fox terrier wagging its tail and he seemed to enjoy being here; we put him out at night and next morning back he would come. This went on for quite a while. Finally one night it was raining so hard we just didn't know what to do and we didn't know where he came from. We kept him in for a little while thinking the rain would stop. We had a knock on the door and it was the chauffeur from across the street asking if we had a little dog here. We said yes, we felt very guilty having him, keeping him in, but because of the weather we felt we'd hold him for a little while longer. Well, he said, "I'll take him home but I see that he runs over here every morning." I said, "I can't help that, I enjoy him and

he enjoys being around." Well, he said, "If you would like to keep him during the week, I'll come over for him on Saturday and take him home for his shampoo." So, that was what went on for a while and then suddenly the father and mother came out, they were there.

JULIE: Were they German you said?

Mrs. M.: The father, Mr. Kaufmann, was a German immigrant who went to Michigan and he married an Indian squaw and this was the only son, this Mr. Kaufmann --

JULIE: This was the junior?

Mrs. M.: This was the junior. And he had married the daughter of the Otis Elevator Company and with her millions we understood he had reputedly settled one million dollars on each one of the children as it arrived, her family did that. They became very successful apparently because they had five homes. Michigan was their very favorite. They had a big lodge up there.

But he was very nice. He came over one morning and said he understood that this little dog, Bubbles, was very happy being with us. And, I said, "We're delighted to have him when you're not here," but he said we would like to have it agreed that when the children came out with their governess that they would have him to play with that we would keep him here as a pet for them. He apparently didn't like being in control by the servants.

JULIE: You were telling me about the road in front of your house and between yours and Mr. Kaufmann's.

Mrs. M.: At that time it was like a little gulley really and we felt that we might bump our brains out whenever we went down the road. So, we consulted the town and they said we would before they would take it over, the road would have to be surfaced and put in useable condition before they would accept it ... and in order to do that we would have to get the agreement of the property owners. And of course Mr. Kaufmann, owning 60 percent, was quite an important person in this. When we consulted him he said he would very much like to do it for our sake but he was anxious to keep it quiet and as country as possible because when his children came out with their governess he felt they were safer with having no traffic on this lane. So, he felt that he couldn't give his agreement to it.

JULIE: And apparently the other people hadn't.

Mrs. M.: And the other people were both extremes to the road. They were not as handicapped as we were because they had access to Montview up at the top or Hillside down at the bottom of the lane. So, we were really in quite a predicament because it was rough on the car and it was rough on us. So, we thought we would ask the fire department what they thought about it.

They came up and took one look at it and said they wouldn't risk bringing their apparatus on it. They said, "Boy, this is terrible isn't it?" So the result of that inspection was they condemned the road and then it was important to the town and the residents had to combine and do something about it which was quite an amount but we were able to present it to the town and since then it's been maintained by the town.

JULIE: I thought it was very interesting at this point that you were telling me while you were still engaged in building the house -- your own house at 24 Delwick -- you had a visitor come up in a little Ford one day.

Mrs. M.: Oh, yes. One day in January, it was in the winter, a little Ford stopped out in front of the house and we saw a chauffeur in his full livery step out and open a door and who should step out but Mr. Stewart Hartshorn -- all six feet and five inches, with his long white beard and his broad rimmed hat, just like seeing a butterfly come out about Christmas, coming out of that little Ford.

JULIE: Now, that was about 1920?

Mrs. M.: That was in 19 -- (End Side 1.)

(Mrs. M., cont'd) ... when Mr. Hartshorn said he was interested in knowing who was coming into Short Hills and we could expect him to drop in once in a while and see how things were developing here. And after we'd spend a half hour to three-quarters, he stopped and looked at us and said "I think you young people will be a very happy addition to Short Hills and I wish to welcome you." Well, we had other interesting visitors too from time to time and one day one of them was Dr. Douglas. He was a great walker and he would drop in for a little visit. He always wore his knickers and his argyles. It was very pleasant to have him drop in. This one afternoon I happened to have my rugs out on the stone wall and I said, "Dr.



Douglas. I'm not so sure this is just the day for us to have a cup of tea inside." "Well, great!" he said. "It's about time you should be going in anyway. It's getting late so why don't we take them in." He was the first rector of Christ Church. So we came inside and were able to have our cup of tea and put the rugs down.

The house just after the Kaufmann's left it ... I can't recall the year but it would be in the late 30's, probably about '39. The house was really a public nuisance. We had no morning milk several times and it seems a hobo had decided that would be a good place to live, so he apparently had been there for some time and after that some of the neighbors found it to be a public nuisance and they complained to the town, and the town went to Kaufmann and said the property would either have to have a watchman or it would have to be torn down as it was a hazard to the community. They finally decided to take it down. It took nine months for them, because every bit of that house was concrete with wire through it and the walls were several feet thick. The summer was particularly noisy because they had a drill going all summer long.

JULIE: What about the garage?

Mrs. M.: The garage, yes, the garage was bought by Mr. Ochs who expected to develop it. The garage was left standing and I don't remember whether he did. Mr. Ochs was a realtor, and he bought the property to develop it. He had quite a franchise. They left the garage standing and that was sold as it was because the people who bought it wanted to do their own designing. It had a cellar, it had a full heating system and it was something to start with. Each time it was sold, that house, which is about three times now, each time each buyer has added something to it and it's a very lovely home now. It has a swimming pool and it has the largest acreage of any single house on the street.

JULIE: You said there was another house on the property that the daughter lived in after she was married.

Mrs. M.: Yes, that house was one of the Kaufmann's daughters. She married a Dupont. That house is still standing and is occupied by someone. I don't know who the people are.

JULIE: I thought it was interesting, too, that there was a floor out for the skating, for the Kaufmann children and grandchildren.

Mrs. M.: Yes, and that was a very large area. It was over alongside the tennis court. They had tennis courts and they had a platform for the children to ride their bikes on and skate. Our children used to take their skates up there, but this was after they had left. It really was quite a lovely place for the children but it became quite a hazard for them to play over there.

THE END

Remembering Two Short Hills Estates – and Please Feed the Dog

Anyone who pops into Chatham Road's Station Stop early in the morning, to pick up a newspaper, will most likely have the pleasure of being helped by long-time resident Ed Mazurki. Ed cheerfully shared with the historical society some of his memories of growing up in Millburn and Short Hills ...

Ed Mazurki was born in 1922 in the carriage house at 59 Montview, which belonged to the former Riva property at 40 Highland. Mr. Weathers owned the Riva property when Ed was born.

His father worked for the Marckwalds at 44 Montview, and next door were the Kaufmanns, whose property ran from the top of Delwick to Hillside Avenue and the driveway ran alongside where Mr. Noonan lived (see the story of the Kaufmann house in this issue).



RESIDENCE OF A. H. MARCKWALD, MOUNTVIEW AVENUE, SHORT HILLS

Ed recalled that the Kauffman house had bowling alleys inside, a ballroom, a playroom with pool tables, tennis courts, Roman gardens, and orchards.

Albert Mazurki, Ed's father, worked on the gardens for Mr. Marckwald while Ed's mother, Mary, helped in the kitchen. Marckwald was a banker for the National Newark and Essex Bank in Newark, NJ. (Note: Until recently, when it was removed by the current owner,

the Marckwald house had an indoor pool, but Ed recalled that there was no indoor pool in the house at that time his parents were there.)

The Marckwalds had two daughters, Louise and Mary, and two sons, Andrew and "Hunt". Mrs. Marckwald's name was not remembered, but Ed did recall that the wake for her was in the house.

The Mazurkis were on the Marckwald estate for about 20 years, including during the Depression. They were able to weather the Depression because of the Marckwalds and Ed's father helped by raising chickens and a garden. Most of Short Hills was wooded then and Ed recalled picking blueberries and blackberries at the top of Highland at Hartshorn, an area he called "the end of civilization."

Ed had a brother John and a sister Frances. Their parents lived on Duncan Street and were both born in Poland. His uncle John brought them here and that same Uncle John took care of the Geer estate -- from Washington to Old Short Hills Road.

Memories of Millburn at that time included observations that Ed's father was friendly with Dave Fern, who started a Millburn grocery business called Wakefern, which splintered off to become ShopRite. He also noted that the Millburn Theater used to be run by the ticket-taker/manager, Mrs. Bontempo.

Ed went to grammar school at the Hobart Avenue School. Seventh grade, eighth grade and four years of high school were at what is now the middle school (on Old Short Hills Road). He went to school with the sons of the chauffeurs for the Joseph P. Day estate (at Old Short Hills Park): Wesley Doyle (whose father was James Doyle) and Bob Anderson.

Ed graduated from Millburn High School in 1939 and remembers that in 1940 the Millburn High School football team were state champs and "crushed everybody." A 1940 football player named Ike Flynn was killed in World War II -- 88th Division -- as was Joe Marcantonio. Bill Kaupp was one of the first 'Navals' to be killed. Jane Taplan, of that class, died very young and Sarah Pritchard became a doctor.

Golf was a favorite activity and Ed played at the East Orange course, which was then owned by East Orange and Millburn, until "East Orange put their foot down." He would then play sandlot football at Taylor Park, to which he walked from Short Hills. Another favorite pastime was to "hang on the bridges until the cops chased (them)."

After high school, Ed went to business school, then worked until he went into the Army. When he came out he worked with IBM punchcards, during which time he lived on Duncan Street in Millburn.

For 15 years Ed also worked for the Short Hills Post Office, about 1973-1988, in "Indian country" -- the Seminole and Mohawk area. When asked what unusual memories he had from that postal experience, he recalled seeing a note outside a house that asked him to "Please feed the dog."

Dues Renewals

If you have not yet renewed your membership in the historical society, please use this form to do so and send your check to, and made payable to, the **Millburn-Short Hills Historical Society** at PO Box 243, Short Hills, NJ 07078, with the form below.

If you aren't sure if your dues need to be renewed, you will find the renewal date on your mailing label on this Thistle, or you can call the museum at 973-564-9519 and leave a message. We will look it up for you when we are next there. Don't forget to leave your telephone number or e-mail address if you call.

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