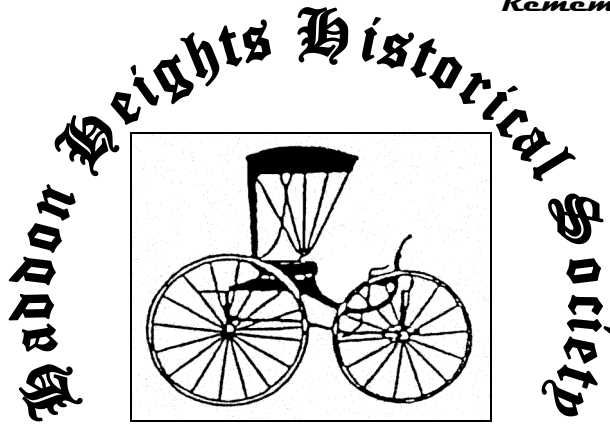


"Remembering Yesterday For The People Of Tomorrow"



Bulletin

P.O. Box 118 • Haddon Heights, NJ 08035

WWW.HHHISTORICAL.ORG

Volume 43 Number 4

October 2018

We meet on the third Monday of January, April, July, and October - at 7:00pm in the Library

"BIG WAR OVER- GERMANY SIGNS ARMISTICE"– Well, that is the way the headline read in the Rockingham Post-Dispatch on November 11, 1918. Newspapers across the country and around the world echoed similar expressions of relief and peace as the "War to end all wars" came to an end. Please join us on Monday October 15th at 7pm as we welcome Mark Molesky, PhD- our Fall meeting speaker. Dr. Molesky is a Professor of History at Seton Hall University. He received his BA from



the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and his MA and PhD in history from Harvard University. He studies a wide range of subjects in modern and early modern European history, which include the Lisbon Earthquake of 1755, the European and American Enlightenment, environmental history, the history of Franco-American relations, the Holocaust, and World War I and II. His most recent book, *This Gulf of Fire: The Destruction of Lisbon, or Apocalypse in the Age of Science and Reason* (Knopf, 2015), was awarded the 2016 Phi Alpha Theta Book Award and was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE– As the weather around us is changing, I am reminded of the following quote from John Burroughs- "How beautifully leaves grow old. How full of light and color are their last days." Fall is a season to enjoy the wonders of the outdoors and to explore the history in Camden County during Camden County History Week sponsored by the Camden County History Alliance. Please visit the Haddon Heights Library, pick up an Event Guide and Passport, and view the display rack of color brochures. We are fortunate to have three events in Haddon Heights beginning October 13. Explore the Revolutionary War encampment and Glover Fulling Mill Park. I hope to see all of you on October 15 at Haddon Heights Library to hear "An Anniversary Celebration of the Great War's Armistice" presented by Mark Molesky, Ph.D. The 100th Anniversary of the Armistice is November 11. I also encourage you to please bring a friend or two!!!!!!!!!!!!!! *Elena Hill*

CAMDEN COUNTY HISTORY WEEK EVENTS– History is being made in Camden County with the first ever Camden County History week from October 13– 21, 2018. Held at 24 sites, this week of local history will feature many history related organizations! History Week is hosted by the Camden County History Alliance and is an

opportunity for the public to visit area historical sites and participate in events and activities for adults and children. The vast majority of events are free! You can pick up a History Week Guide at the Haddon Heights Library. You can also get your own history passport. Just have it stamped at each event you attend and send it to the Camden County Historical Society before November 1st, to be entered into a drawing for prizes. A list of all 36 events is available at WWW.CAMDENCOUNTYHISTORYWEEK.COM.

See some highlighted events below. Three of the History Week events will be in Haddon Heights!

- Wednesday, October 17, 7PM to 9PM, Free- The Esther Raab Holocaust Museum & Goodwin Education Center, located inside the Katz Jewish Community Center in Cherry Hill: Trained docent who will share personal stories of the artifacts at the Holocaust Museum.
- Friday October 19, 7PM to 8PM, Free- Berlin Township Historical Association in West Berlin, NJ is hosting a Genealogical Presentation by professional genealogist, Shemele Jordon, demonstrating her Online Genealogy Quick Start method to find your ancestors online using popular websites, at the Berlin Twp. Municipal Building, 135 Route 73 South, West Berlin, NJ 08091, .
- Friday October 19, Saturday October 20 and Sunday October 21, Free- The Walt Whitman House Historic Site in Camden, will offer a Special Program Guided House Tour where you will explore the great writer's last residence, discuss everyday life in late nineteenth century Camden City and share the thoughts of the many visitors who came to see the aging poet in his final years, on . Tour times all days 1:30PM – 2:15PM, 3:00PM-3:45PM, tours start at 328 Mickle Boulevard (MLK Blvd).
- Saturday October 20, 10AM to 4PM and on Sunday, October 21, Noon to 4PM, Free- Barclay Farmstead Museum in Cherry Hill, will host an event called Sample Quaker Life: churn butter, saw wood, try tinsmithing, play games, see hearth cooking.
- Open every day from October 13 to 21- The Battleship New Jersey Museum and Memorial in Camden, offers visitors a tour of our nation's most decorated battleship – the Battleship New Jersey, berthed on the Camden Waterfront, NJ. Enter at 100 Clinton St., Camden, NJ 08103, from 9:30AM to 3PM, \$21.95 per adult, \$17 for veterans, seniors and children 12 and under. During weekdays of October 15 to 19, guests can get a free tour with the purchase of adult tour.
- Sunday October 21, Free- The Burrough-Dover House of the Pennsauken Historical Society, in Pennsauken is offering a visit by Freedom Center for Wildlife with educational animals 1PM to 3PM.
- Saturday October 20, 1PM to 4PM- The Long-A-Coming Historical Society in Berlin NJ, is hosting the Berlin Cemetery Tour with re-enactors portraying colorful local residents, at 40 Clementon Rd., Berlin, NJ, \$5.00 per person.
- Saturday October 20, 10AM to 4PM, Free- The Mid Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities at Rutgers Camden campus, invites visitors to join MARCH for walking tours, arts and crafts, and pop up exhibits related to historic Cooper Street, , meet at 325 Cooper Street, Camden, NJ.
- Saturday October 20, Noon to 4PM, Sunday October 21, Noon to 4PM, Free- At the Gabreil Daveis Tavern in Glendora, the Gloucester Township Historic & Scenic Preservation Committee is offering Games and Chores of Colonial Children and Tours of the Gabreil Daveis Tavern Museum House .

JANUARY 2019 HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING– Because the Martin Luther King Holiday falls on our usual meeting day in January, we will be moving out first meeting of 2019, back one week to Monday January 28th at 7:00pm. Please note this change on your calendar!

POP QUIZ: WHERE IS PEA PATCH ISLAND AND WHY SHOULD I CARE? – Ok. So..... do you know or do you give up? It is a small island approximately 1 mile long, located mid-channel in the Delaware River near the entrance to Delaware Bay. It is a low marshy island. It might have remained nondescript, but it was noticed by Pierre L'Enfant (Revolutionary War military engineer and planner of Washington, D.C.). He thought it would be a great spot to place a fort to help defend Newcastle, Delaware and Philadelphia. Following his recommendation, the U.S. Government sought to take control of the island. However, there was one obstacle in the way.

It seemed Dr. Henry Gale, a resident of New Jersey claimed ownership of the island under deed from the state of New Jersey. He used the island as a private hunting ground. The military offered him \$30,000 for the

island but he refused. Not willing to go away quietly, the military appealed to the state of Delaware. The state claimed ownership of the entire Delaware River and all islands, within a twelve mile circle around New Castle's Court House. The Delaware state legislature passed an act in May of 1813 which ceded the island to the United States Government. It was not long before the government seized it from Dr. Gale. Because ownership of the island

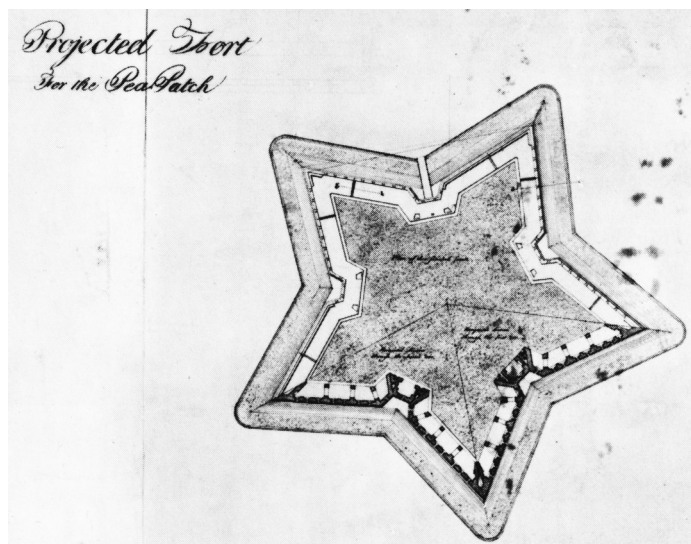


was a matter of dispute going forward, in 1820, Secretary of War John C. Calhoun requested a legal opinion from the Attorney General of the U.S.. After reviewing several reports on the matter, Attorney General William Wirt's conclusion was that the state of Delaware had the valid claim to the island, and so New Jersey could not have properly deeded it to Dr. Gale.

During the War of 1812, the government made efforts to fortify Pea Patch Island. The plan of defense was coordinated by Capt. Samuel Babcock, who was also working on similar defenses up the river in Philadelphia. A seawall and dykes were built around the island, but there is no evidence that an actual fortification was constructed during the war. There is mention of progress on a fort on the "Pea Patch in Delaware River" by Chief Engineer Joseph Gardner Swift on December 8, 1817.

The attack on Fort Mifflin during the Revolutionary War made it evident that a fort was needed further away from Philadelphia in order to delay possible invaders. A fort located closer to the mouth of the river would also provide protection for vital port cities such as Marcus Hook, Wilmington, Chester, and New Castle. In February of 1821, the Board of Engineers reported that the fort on Pea Patch Island and one on the Delaware shore, opposite, "defend the water passage as far below Philadelphia as localities will permit." They noted that these forts will force the enemy to land forty miles below the city to attack it by land. This would allow time for the city to prepare for attack. It is believed that Fort Delaware was erected on the site after the end of the War of 1812. That wooden structure was replaced by another version.

The star fort was designed by army engineer Joseph G. Totten and construction was initially supervised by Capt. Samuel Babcock. Construction was delayed years past the projected date due to uneven settling, improper pile placement, and the island's marshy nature. At one point, an entire section of 43,000 bricks had to be taken down, cleaned and reworked due to massive cracking. Captain Babcock was severely criticized for altering Totten's plans without orders. He was subsequently ordered to appear before a courts martial in late 1824. It was determined that he was not guilty of neglect, but only of poor judgment, and he was acquitted.



In our next installment, we will cover the changes to Fort Delaware and its utilization during the Civil War. This fort still exists and is a hidden gem in the middle of the Delaware River. Stay tuned for more !!

2019 Membership Application / Renewal- Haddon Heights Historical Society

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ E-Mail _____

Type of Membership: _____ Single- \$10.00 _____ Household- \$15.00

I would like to make a tax deductible donation to Haddon Heights Historical Society, in the amount of \$ _____

Coming Events

October , 2018- HHHS General Membership Mtg.
7:00pm in the Haddon Heights Library- Dr. Mark
Molesky: 100 Year Anniversary of the Great War's
Armistice

MEMBERSHIP DUES- Your *"Paid Through
YEAR"* is printed on your Newsletter label. Your
dues help us keep history alive. Only paid-up mem-
bers will continue to receive the HHHS Newsletter!

Those who provide us an e-mail address, will also
receive an electronic full color copy of each edition
of the newsletter in advance of the mailing.

HEIGHTS NOTE CARDS- The Society has
our note cards featuring the four pre-Revolutionary
War homes in town. They are available at the Li-
brary. Only \$4.00 for a pack of 8.

CHECK OUR REVITALIZED WEBSITE-

We have our website operational again! I encour-
age you to press a few keys on your computer and
go have a look! www.hhhistorical.org

Note- October's meeting is our annual general member-
ship meeting and election of Officers

2018 Historical Society Board

<u>President-(2016-2018)</u>	Elena Hill
<u>Vice-President-(2016-2018)</u>	Bob Hunter
<u>Past President-</u>	Margaret Westfield
<u>Treasurer-(2018- 2020)</u>	David Somerville
<u>Secretary- (Ends 2020)</u>	Carolyn Finegar
<u>Trustees-(2016-2019)</u>	Ken Funkhouser
	Anne McAdams
	Peter Hill

COMMITTEES / CHAIRS

<u>Newsletter Ed.-</u>	Ken Funkhouser
<u>Membership Chair-</u>	Joan Rossler
<u>Web Master-</u>	Gianna Hill
<u>Nominating Comm.-</u>	Bob Hunter/ Peter Hill

<u>Borough Council Liaison</u>	Vacant
<u>Affairs-</u>	Vacant
<u>Merch/Fund Raising-</u>	Joan Rossler
<u>Programs/Publicity-</u>	Vacant

<u>Programs/Publicity- Asst.</u>	Vacant
<u>Digital Photographer</u>	Vacant

Contact the Board : WWW.HHHISTORICAL.ORG

Mail correspondence- P.O. Box 118 Haddon Heights, NJ 08035

*The Haddon Heights Historical Society is a 501
(c)3 organization. Please keep us in mind as you plan your charitable donations. Make us
part of Your Legacy...* Happy October of 2018! It doesn't take much to become an active member of the
Historical Society Board. As you can see from the vacancies posted on the Board list above, we are in need of
some fresh ideas and people who want to get involved. Please consider sharing your interest in history by be-
coming a member of the Board, or filling one of the committee posts. "Bored" or BOARD..... It is up to
you. Thanks for listening!

Ken Funkhouser, Editor (24 yrs)

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