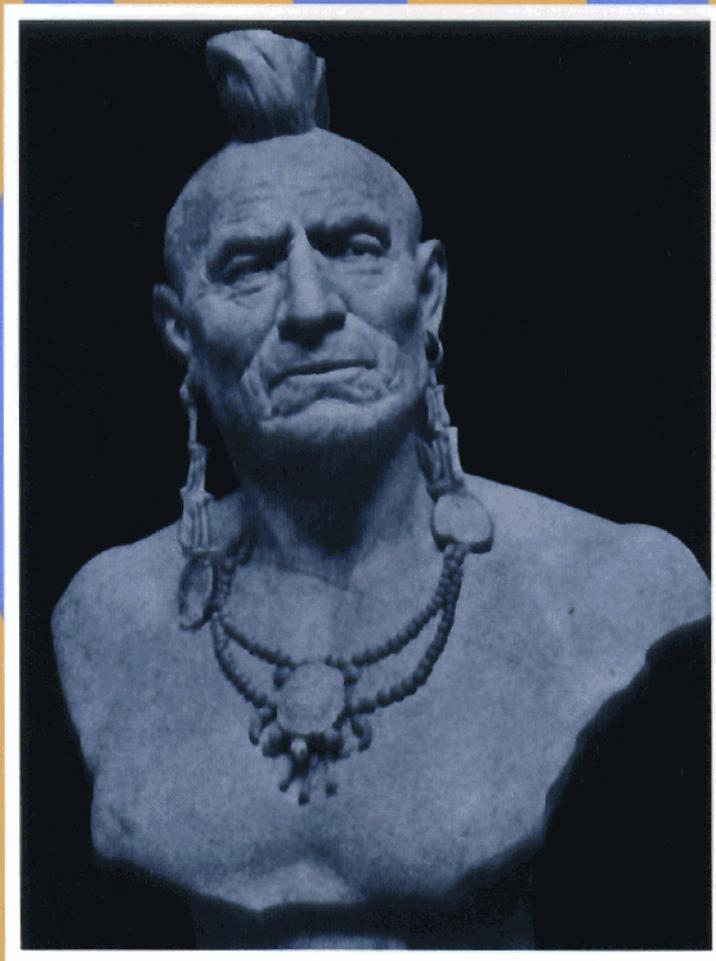


# THE CITY OF HACKENSACK



THREE CENTURIES OF PROSPERITY  
1693  1993

# THE CITY OF HACKENSACK

---

THREE CENTURIES OF PROSPERITY  
1693 ✦ 1993





Producer, author, and editor  
Linda Steuerwald  
L.J. Steuerwald Communications  
Englewood, NJ

Co-author  
Barbara Iozzia  
Old Bridge, NJ

Graphic Designer  
Ellen Fitzpatrick Pinkman  
E. Fitz Art  
Hackensack, NJ

Printer  
Harvard Press, Inc.  
Orange, NJ

Photography  
Allan H. Berenbach

Publisher  
The City of Hackensack  
Hackensack, NJ

Sponsors  
Hackensack Water Company  
Harrington Park, NJ

Alfred Sanzari Enterprises  
Hackensack, NJ

The City of Hackensack, Hackensack, NJ 07601  
© 1994 by the City of Hackensack  
All rights reserved. Published 1994  
Printed in the United States of America  
Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 94-94132

Printed on recycled paper



# **DEDICATION**

---

**TO THE CITIZENS OF HACKENSACK  
PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE**



# CONTENTS

---

<b>FOREWORD</b>	by George M. Scudder	<b>2</b>
<b>PREFACE</b>	by Hackensack Mayor John F. Zisa	<b>3</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGMENTS</b>	by Linda Steuerwald	<b>4</b>
<b>SPONSORS</b>	Hackensack Water Company • Alfred Sanzari Enterprises	<b>5</b>
<b>CHAPTER 1</b>	Hackensack's Proud Heritage	<b>7</b>
<b>CHAPTER 2</b>	For the People, By the People	<b>17</b>
<b>CHAPTER 3</b>	An Epicenter for Business and Industry	<b>29</b>
<b>CHAPTER 4</b>	The People Behind the City	<b>39</b>
<b>CHAPTER 5</b>	Public Services Begin in Hackensack	<b>51</b>
<b>CHAPTER 6</b>	Life in Hackensack	<b>63</b>
<b>A CITY CELEBRATES</b>		<b>73</b>
<b>APPENDIX</b>	Leadership Throughout the Years • References	<b>77</b>

## FOREWORD

---

Early in my life I became aware of the fact that my family had been associated, for several generations, with the history of Hackensack, New Jersey. The family had an accumulation of historic photographs, maps, and books dealing with Hackensack and Bergen County. These created such an interest in me that I delved deeper into the details of my ancestry.

I discovered that my middle name traced back to 1660 when John Mercer bought land in Westchester County, New York, from Indian Chief Wingah. The Mercers were descendants on my father's side of the family.

I began writing short stories and brochures of a historic nature describing what it was like in 1915 when, as a child, we moved to the Fairmount section of Hackensack. Then I began writing details concerning the history of transportation, churches, social groups, financial institutions, newspapers, police and fire departments.

Upon my retirement of 40 years of service in charge of Hackensack's school buildings and grounds, I was asked to write a history of the public schools. This was a five-year project and was followed by a two-year stint writing the 100th anniversary edition of the Reformed Church of River Edge and a 100th anniversary edition of the Oritani Field Club.

As city historian and president of the School Historical Committee of Hackensack, I advised the Hackensack Mayor and City Council in 1989 that 1993 would mark the 300-year anniversary of the forming of New Barbadoes. I was requested to write a manuscript, which later became the basis of this book.

Many of the photographs included in this book have also been made into slides which I use in lectures to interested groups around the county. These are also used at our school museum where approximately 20 classes or about 500 or more students each year visit to learn the history of their schools and their city.

The history of Hackensack has always been my personal love. Through this publication, it can now be shared with and enjoyed by future generations of Hackensack residents.

George Mercer Scudder  
Hackensack City Historian  
President of the School  
Historical Committee

## **PREFACE**

Three centuries of prosperity in a small township established in 1693 are captured in this book. Dedicated to Hackensack citizens of the past, present, and future, it is a community celebration of a city and an acknowledgment of the heritage of its people.

It is the role of government to preserve for future examination the character, spirit, activities, and motives of its evolution. In 1993, our city's 300-year anniversary, this task was an urgent calling. For too long, we have forgotten the necessity of maintaining and communicating our history. This book is an effort to compile vital information about Hackensack and place it squarely in the historical record.

Hackensack is a proud community of outstanding and devoted citizens. Through this commemorative book, we are joined as guardians of past treasures, as enthusiastic cheerleaders of all that is wonderful about our community today, and as loyal dreamers of what the future may hold. With this book comes a warm wish to the citizens of Hackensack, and all our good friends, of peace, joy, and continued prosperity.

Mayor John F. Zisa  
City of Hackensack



## **1994 MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

(Left to Right)  
Councilman Roger B. Mattei  
Councilman Jesus R. Galvis  
Mayor John F. Zisa  
Deputy Mayor Juanita Trammell  
Councilman Mark A. Stein

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It is with absolute gratitude and full heart that the following individuals are acknowledged for their contributions to this work: E. Fitz Art, particularly Ellen Fitzpatrick Pinkman for her design expertise, creative instincts, and often relied upon personal guidance; and Barbara Iozzia for her excellent, on-target writing contributions and cheerful willingness to meet demanding deadlines.

Great appreciation is given to George M. Scudder, whose manuscript and photo collection became the basis of this book, and whose in-depth and loving knowledge of the city is evident in all his words and deeds. Without his personal commitment and his endless cooperation, the final product could never have been achieved.

The assistance and knowledge of all members of Hackensack's government were essential to the completion of this book: Eugene Duffy, Director of Community Affairs, whose 20-year knowledge of city government was particularly instrumental in filling in many missing pieces; Allan H. Berenbach, Bureau of Criminal Identification, Hackensack Police Department, whose photography work was performed always with enthusiasm; Miriam Ferguson, Recreation Department Director, and Charlotte Panny, Administrative Analyst, for their special efforts. A special word of thanks to Mayor Jack Zisa and City Manager James S. Lacava for their confidence.

Linda Steuerwald

# SPONSORS

**The City of Hackensack thanks  
Hackensack Water Company and Alfred Sanzari Enterprises  
for their generous sponsorship of this commemorative book.**



**Donald L. Correll**  
**President**  
**Hackensack Water Company**

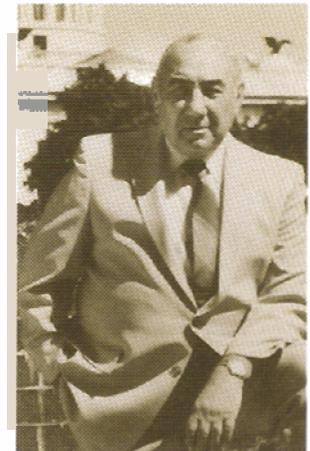
The Hackensack Water Company has been an industry leader in planning and building facilities to quench the thirst of a growing area, and it is constantly seeking new technologies to maintain superior water quality.

Throughout its 125-year history, Hackensack Water has continued to meet or surpass all state or federal requirements for water quality. Today the company serves three quarters of a million people in 60 communities in Bergen and Hudson counties. Its four reservoirs — Oradell, Woodcliff Lake, Lake Tappan, and Lake DeForest — have a combined capacity of 14 billion gallons. The company employs 460 people. Hackensack Water restructured itself in 1983 to form a new parent, United Water Resources, which lists on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the trading symbol UWR. United Water has paid uninterrupted cash dividends on its common stock since 1886, one of the longest dividend payment records on the NYSE.

Alfred Sanzari is the visionary founder of the real estate organization Alfred Sanzari Enterprises of Hackensack. The third of six sons born to parents who worked in a Bogota paper factory and a Paterson silk mill, Sanzari epitomizes the American Dream.

Sanzari has played a leading role in New Jersey's real estate boom. Today, the company that bears his name owns and manages a portfolio of properties in the residential, commercial, industrial, and hospitality fields. Some of the most notable are the Court Plaza Complex across from the Bergen County Courthouse and the Glenpointe Complex in Teaneck, both of which have been developed by the firm.

Sanzari's love for his community is evidenced through the many civic and industry organizations with which he is affiliated in his hometown of Hackensack and in New Jersey, including the Board of Governors of Hackensack Medical Center and the Board of Commissioners of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission.



**Alfred Sanzari**  
**Chairman of the Board**  
**Alfred Sanzari Enterprises**

# CHAPTER 1

The background of the page features a large, faint, golden seal of Hackensack, New Jersey. The seal is circular and contains a central figure of a Native American man in traditional dress. The text "HACKENSACK" is arched across the top, and "NEW JERSEY" is arched across the bottom. Below the figure, the Latin motto "ORATA SIBI MANU SEQUITUR" is visible.

# A ACKENSACK'S PROUD HERITAGE

# R

esidents of Hackensack today view their city as one of modern highways, bustling shopping malls, residential neighborhoods, luxury high-rise apartment buildings, and the county seat of Bergen. But more than 300 years ago, the Hackensack River was a sustaining force for the thriving Lenni Lenape Indian community which lived along its banks. Known as “the original people,” the Lenni Lenapes were made up of roving tribes who built their major northern settlements along the Overpeck Creek, near what is currently Leonia’s Fort Lee Road, and at Communipaw, in what is now Jersey City.

Inhabiting Bergen County was the Achkinheshcky tribe, a name from which “Hackensack” is derived. Peaceful and industrious, the Hackensacks formed villages, each serving as its own government. Foreshadowing what is the cornerstone of American government, the Hackensacks practiced a democracy whereby all tribe members — including women — were given the authority to voice opinions and contribute to decision-making. A chief and several counselors formed the leadership and were responsible for final resolutions.

The first European settlers to arrive in Bergen County were Dutch prospectors under the direction of the Dutch West India Company. After Henry Hudson sailed up the Hudson River and claimed the land west of it for the Netherlands, the Dutch arrived to trade with the Hackensack Indians for furs, which would sell for a high price in Europe. In 1614, the Netherlands claimed exclusive rights to all traffic on the Hudson River, naming this territory New Netherlands.

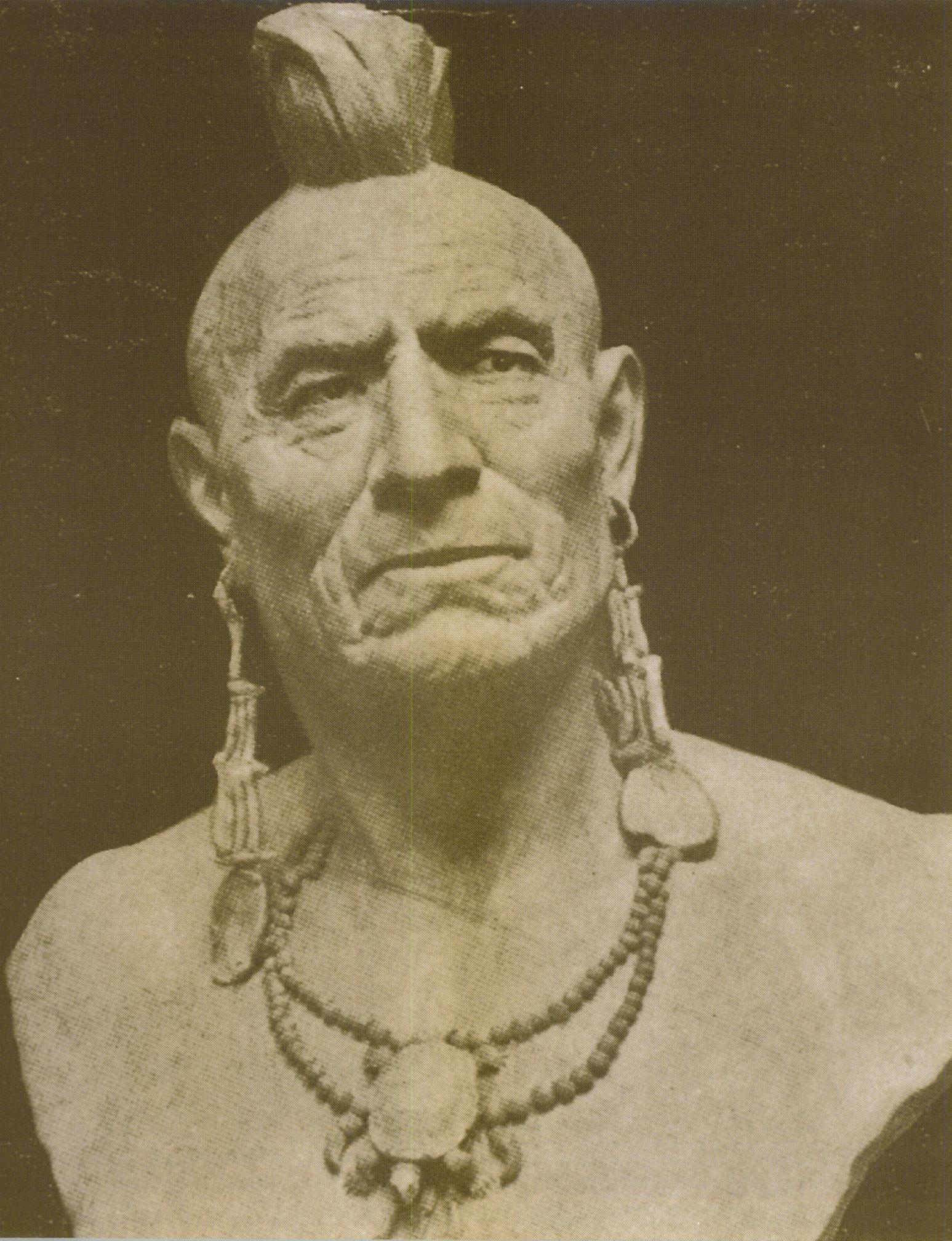
In 1660 the Dutch built their first permanent settlement, a village named Bergen, on lands now known as Jersey City Heights. It is believed that Bergen received its name from Bergen Op Zoom, a town on the River Scheldt in the Netherlands.

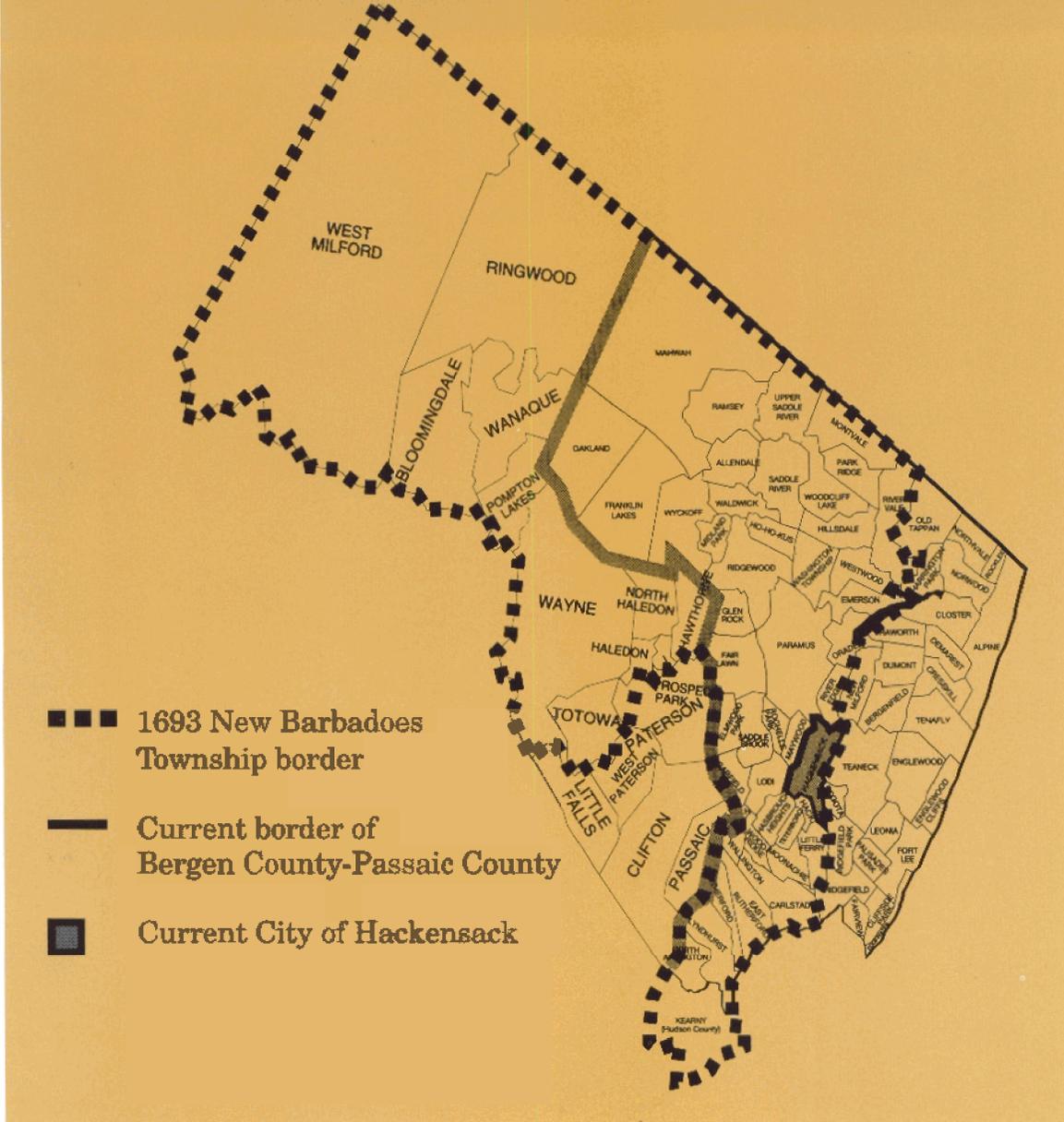
The Dutch settlers were shrewd, industrious traders and businessmen, but able to match them wit-for-wit was Oratam, chief of the Hackensack tribe. A prudent and wise leader, he was esteemed by not only his fellow Indians but by the Dutch leaders as well.

Throughout his 90 years of life, Oratam utilized his considerable influence and was responsible for many astute negotiations, bringing peace among the Hackensacks and the first European settlers in a treaty signed by the Indians, Dutch, and English in 1690. Oratam now appears on the offi-



Chief Oratam, chief of the Hackensack tribe, was Hackensack’s first notable leader. During the 1600s, Oratam was among the first to witness the arrival of the European settlers to Hackensack. The official seal of Hackensack’s government is a rendering of Oratam. In 1921, this bronze bust of Oratam was presented by sculptor John Ettl to the Bergen County Historical Society. Photograph courtesy of George M. Scudder.

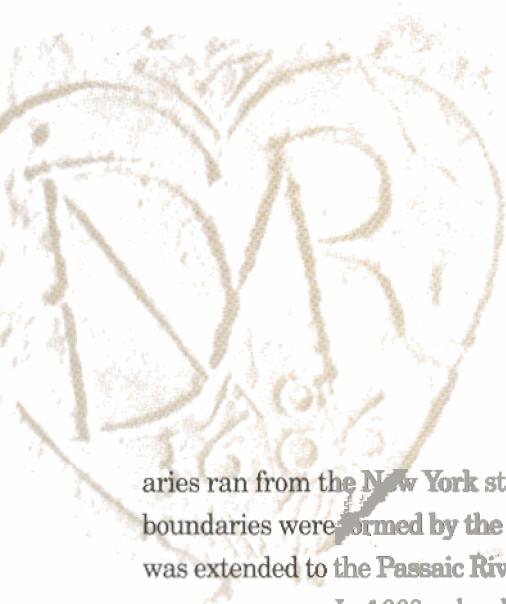




The Township of New Barbadoes, Hackensack's municipal predecessor, was established in 1693. From 1716 to 1871, dozens of new towns were carved from New Barbadoes, leaving only a 4-square-mile tract that today is known as Hackensack. Reprinted with permission of The Record of Hackensack, N.J.

The next major group of Europeans to settle into what was then known as New Netherlands was the British, arriving in the mid-1600s. By 1664, the British began their conquest of New Netherlands, and after a brief struggle, the territory was ceded to Great Britain by the Netherlands. Also in 1664, Great Britain's King Charles II made a generous grant to his brother James, Duke of York, deeding him the large tract of land that is today New Jersey. Following the tradition of the times, the Duke of York granted the land to two Englishmen: Lord John Berkeley and Sir George Carteret. In "Grants and Concessions," — sometimes known as the Magna Carta of New Jersey — Berkeley and Carteret promised religious freedom, land ownership, the right of assembly, and various other civil rights that are still in effect today.

In 1667, the Legislative Council of the Assembly, a form of government established by the British in 1664, divided the land into two sections: East Jersey and West Jersey. In 1682 it created four counties in East Jersey: Bergen, Essex, Middlesex, and Monmouth. Bergen County's bound-



aries ran from the **New York** state line south to Newark and Newark Bay. Its western and eastern boundaries were **formed by the Hackensack and the Hudson Rivers**. In 1709, the western boundary was extended to the **Passaic River**.

In 1668, a land grant of more than 5,000 acres — which included the lands between the Hackensack and Passaic Rivers — was made to planters from the West Indies island of Barbadoes. The legacy they left was to name this territory **New Barbadoes Twnship** in 1693. In the same year, the **Village of Hackensack** was formed within the **Township of New Barbadoes**. At the time of its establishment, the **Village of Hackensack** included all lands between the Hackensack and Hudson Rivers, east of where it is today.

In 1699, Barbadian planter Captain John Berry received the land in which today is located most of Hackensack. One of Captain Berry's most cherished land donations to the people of Hackensack was the area known as **The Green**, which provided the land for the construction in 1696 of the **Dutch Reformed Church**.

By 1775, Hackensack — which in 1709 had become the county seat of Bergen — witnessed sharp conflicts and embittered feelings as members of the **Whig and Tory** parties took decided stands for and against independence from Great Britain.

As early as April 1775, after reports that fighting had broken out at Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts, many Hackensack area residents enlisted in the **Jersey Line** of the Continental Army. The spectacle of the British redcoats shooting American farmers convinced the majority that American arms must answer Great Britain's ministerial arrogance.

In the summer of 1776, the British moved the war south from New England to New York. Between June 29 and July 2, the British sailed into New York Harbor laden with redcoats who disembarked into encampments on Staten Island. By the end of August, Great Britain's General William Howe had opened attack and had taken Long Island from American forces. Within two weeks, the Americans were driven out of lower Manhattan.

The entire Hackensack Valley was exposed to great danger. Threatened by a possible British attack in mid-November, General George Washington and Continental Army troops from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland abandoned their camp at White Plains, New York, and crossed

The First Dutch  
Reformed Church  
building, fondly called  
The Old Church on the  
Green, bears the names  
of many of its founders,  
including the Demarest  
family. Far left: The  
Demarest family stone.  
Left: The Brinkerhoff  
Homestead on Essex  
Street circa 1896, one of  
the more prominent  
houses of the era.  
Demarest stone reprinted  
from the First Reformed  
Church anniversary booklet.  
The Brinkerhoff House  
reprinted from Hackensack  
Illustrated.





the Hudson River, encamping in Hackensack. Washington and his staff established headquarters at the Mansion House, located at the southern corner of Main Street and Washington Place, the home of Peter Zabriskie. Many houses in Hackensack sheltered refugees who had sneaked out of New York City when the British took over.

At Fort Lee, General Nathaniel Greene prevented the British from crossing the Hudson River, aided by the sheer walls of the Palisades, which formed an almost impassable precipice for 10 miles south and 20 miles north. On November 16, the British overtook Fort Washington. General Washington lost 2,000 men, and he sadly returned to Hackensack to plot new defenses and to plan a retreat from northern New Jersey.

Throughout the next several days the Revolutionary War took its toll on Hackensack and other parts of Bergen County. On November 20 at daybreak, the British crossed the Hudson, landing at Closter Dock in what is now Cresskill. They were eventually able to capture an empty Fort Lee after the Americans had retreated. Although Lord Cornwallis and the British appeared to be close to victory, the Continental Army was able to stay one step ahead of them by crossing the Hackensack River at New Bridge in front of the Ackerman-Zabriskie-Von Steuben House, then located in Hackensack (now River Edge).

On November 21, Washington abandoned his headquarters at the Mansion House and crossed the Passaic River at the Acquackanonk Bridge (into what is now Passaic). At noon the next day, the British took possession of Hackensack. Today, one can trace the trail of both British and American troops via markers throughout the area identifying military routes.

During the next several years as the Revolutionary War raged on in points south, the British raided Bergen County on various occasions, burning the Hackensack courthouse in 1780. Patriots of the local militia kept up a stiff resistance, farming during the day and keeping sentinel watch throughout the night.

Far left: The Mansion House, built in 1751, served as the headquarters for General George Washington during the Revolutionary War.

Left: In 1780, when General Washington's friend General Enoch Poor passed away in Hackensack, he was laid to rest at the Westervelt House and later buried at the Old Church on the Green.

Bottom left: General Enoch Poor monument adjacent to The Green.

Mansion House photograph courtesy of Johnson Free Public Library, Hackensack, N.J.; the Westervelt House, George M. Scudder; Poor's monument, The Record of Hackensack, N.J.



# HACKENSACK

The year 1780 also marked the death of the Continental Army's Brigadier General Enoch Poor — a close friend and confidant of General Washington — who died in Hackensack after serving in New Hampshire under the command of the Marquis de Lafayette. He was laid to rest at the Westervelt House on Main and Ward Streets and was buried with honors at the Old Church on the Green, with Washington and Lafayette in attendance. General Poor is memorialized with a monument that still stands adjacent to The Green.

Despite the surrender of Lord Cornwallis and the British Army at Yorktown, Virginia, in 1781, the British still held New York City and some local attacks occurred. Pillaging in Hackensack continued to be launched from parts of the city and Staten Island throughout the next two years.

Finally, in 1783 the Treaty of Paris was signed and the war was declared over. In November of that year, General Washington returned to Hackensack and addressed the militia, thanking them for their cooperation and loyalty.

Now that the war was officially over and peace returned, the people of Hackensack were able to look toward the future and to begin establishing the township's notable history as a desirable place in which to live, work, and establish families and businesses.

Hackensack is home to one of the oldest churches in New Jersey, the First Dutch Reformed Church. The church was dedicated on November 15, 1696, on land located on The Green. Because of its location, it became affectionately known as the Old Church on the Green.

Photograph courtesy of George M. Scudder.



# HACKENSACK VIEWS



*Old Ladies Home, also known as The Residence, was a non-profit home for aging women founded in 1896 by three women from the Christian Reformed Church. The first **Residence** was established in a house located at the corner of State and Passaic Streets. In 1901, it moved to 266 Passaic Street, at the corner of Clarendon Place, a new building which was designed especially for its 28 residents. The building was razed in the early 1990s. Photograph courtesy of the Johnson Free Public Library.*

# CHAPTER 2

The background of the page features a large, faint, golden seal of the State of New Jersey. The seal is circular and contains a central figure of a Native American holding a bow and arrow. The text "HACERE" is visible at the top, "STATUM" at the bottom, and "1776" on the right side. The words "NEW JERSEY" are partially visible at the bottom. The seal is set against a solid blue background.

**F**OR THE PEOPLE,  
BY THE PEOPLE



Left: Hackensack's commitment to quality education dates back to 1769 when the city's first school, the Washington Institute, was established. Right:

The 1896 Hackensack Exempt Firemen's Association officers including, back row left, Irving Waltermire, Hackensack's Fire Chief from 1892 to 1894. In 1904, he became the city's Police Chief and served in that post until 1914. Washington Institute photograph courtesy of

Firemen's Association photo-  
Hackensack Illustrated.

In November 8, 1921, a proud Hackensack citizenry affirmed its independence from the past and approved a referendum to change its name from the Township of New Barbadoes to the City of Hackensack — a highlight in a long history of a government that is conducted for the people and by the people.

The Township of New Barbadoes was established in 1693 and located in what is now known as Essex County. It included lands between the Passaic and Hackensack Rivers that extended north to New York state. In 1709, the Township of New Barbadoes became part of Bergen County, and it was named the county seat.

Townships of that era were not self-governing. Instead, government functions were administered at the state level through the General Assembly, and at the county level through the Board of Justices and Freeholders. Voters elected two citizens from each county to represent their interests in the Assembly, a procedure that foreshadows today's New Jersey Legislature.

In 1856, the General Assembly passed an act that allowed townships to create improvement commissions to repair public properties, and the Township of New Barbadoes formed the Hackensack Improvement Commission. In 1868, legislation was passed expanding the role of improvement commissions and requiring the election of commissioners. All local governing powers were transferred to the commission. The Hackensack Improvement Commission was incorporated in 1868 and was made up of five commissioners from the city's five wards to serve three-year terms; a president and a commissioner were elected at-large.

Throughout this period, Bergen County townships were divided into smaller townships and boroughs. By the mid-1890s, the Township of New Barbadoes, which contained the Village of Hackensack, occupied a fraction of its original space. On March 30, 1896, by state law, the Village of Hackensack and the Township of New Barbadoes became one entity. On November 8, 1921, a township referendum was approved calling for the adoption of the City of Hackensack as the municipality's official name. Although there was this name change, government powers remained with the Hackensack Improvement Commission until 1933 — the year another public referendum altered the course of Hackensack's history.

On May 23, 1933, by a vote of 3,185 to 2,409, Hackensack approved a referendum that



UNION HOSE CO



FIRE DEPT.



Prior to the invention of motor cars, “horse” power was used to transport firefighters to a blaze. Left: Dolly and Daisy in 1916 with a Union Hose Co. No. 4 firefighter. Photograph and Bergen County Courthouse postcard courtesy of George M. Scudder.

changed the form of government to a strong municipal managers plan, and a new city council was elected on June 20, 1933. Those serving on this first council were Robert A. Altschuler, William J. Eck, Ralph F. de Clairmont, Ernst A. Korn, and Charles Orth. At the inaugural meeting of July 18, 1933, Robert A. Altschuler was unanimously selected to serve as the city’s first mayor under this plan.

Hackensack continues to operate under the strong municipal managers plan, one of 47 municipalities in New Jersey to do so. Five city council members are elected at-large to a four-year term, and the newly inaugurated city council selects the mayor. Since it is a nonpartisan form of government, political affiliations are not a matter of public record. A professional city manager is hired to direct the daily operations of government, which further protects the government from political influences. Today, government activities are organized under 15 departments and supported by a dedicated staff of approximately 425 individuals.

Police and fire departments began to form throughout New Jersey after 1871, the year the state Legislature passed a law permitting local governments to organize these services. Hackensack’s first police department formed in 1896. It operated out of borrowed space from the firehouse at 24 Mercer Street. The department consisted of Cornelius Van Blarcom, Michael Breen, Martin O’Shea, and Al Sachtleben.

In 1958, the Police Department moved to newly constructed headquarters at 225 State Street, adjacent to City Hall. Today, the Hackensack Police Department, among the largest in New Jersey, offers a full complement of vital police services. The department is composed of more than 100 police and civilian personnel.

In 1864, after huge fires ravaged the city, a group of citizens formed a volunteer fire company. Hackensack’s first official volunteer fire department, however, was not organized until 1871, and operated until 1914 when it was replaced with a paid fire department which included Joseph Mercier, William Bahlburg, Michael Wygant, and William Henry Jackson.

The fire department moved to its current headquarters at 205 State Street in 1921. Today, it has four stations in the city. One hundred officers and firefighters respond to more than 3,000 fire-related incidents and 2,500 ambulance calls annually.

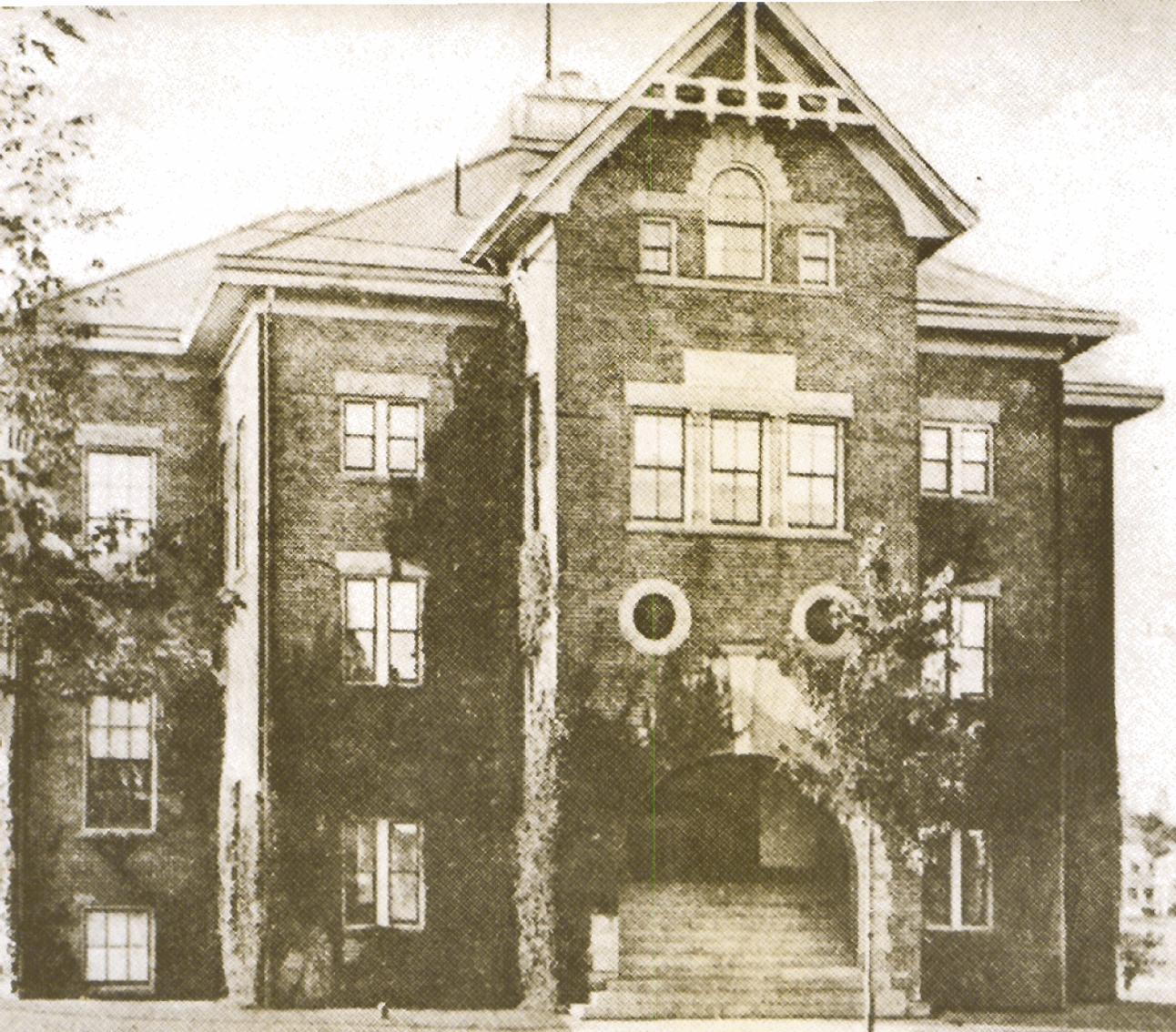
The Hackensack Volunteer Ambulance Corps was established in 1948 to provide the

Inset: When Hackensack's Police Department was established in 1896, law enforcement was a simple matter. The city was divided into two sections, north and south of the Susquehanna Railroad tracks, and the department consisted of two two-member shifts. The four-member department was composed of, left to right, Michael Breen, Cornelius Van Blarcom, Al Sachtleben, and Martin O'Shea. In 1904, an official department was appointed and by 1916, the department grew fivefold.

Photographs courtesy of George M. Scudder.







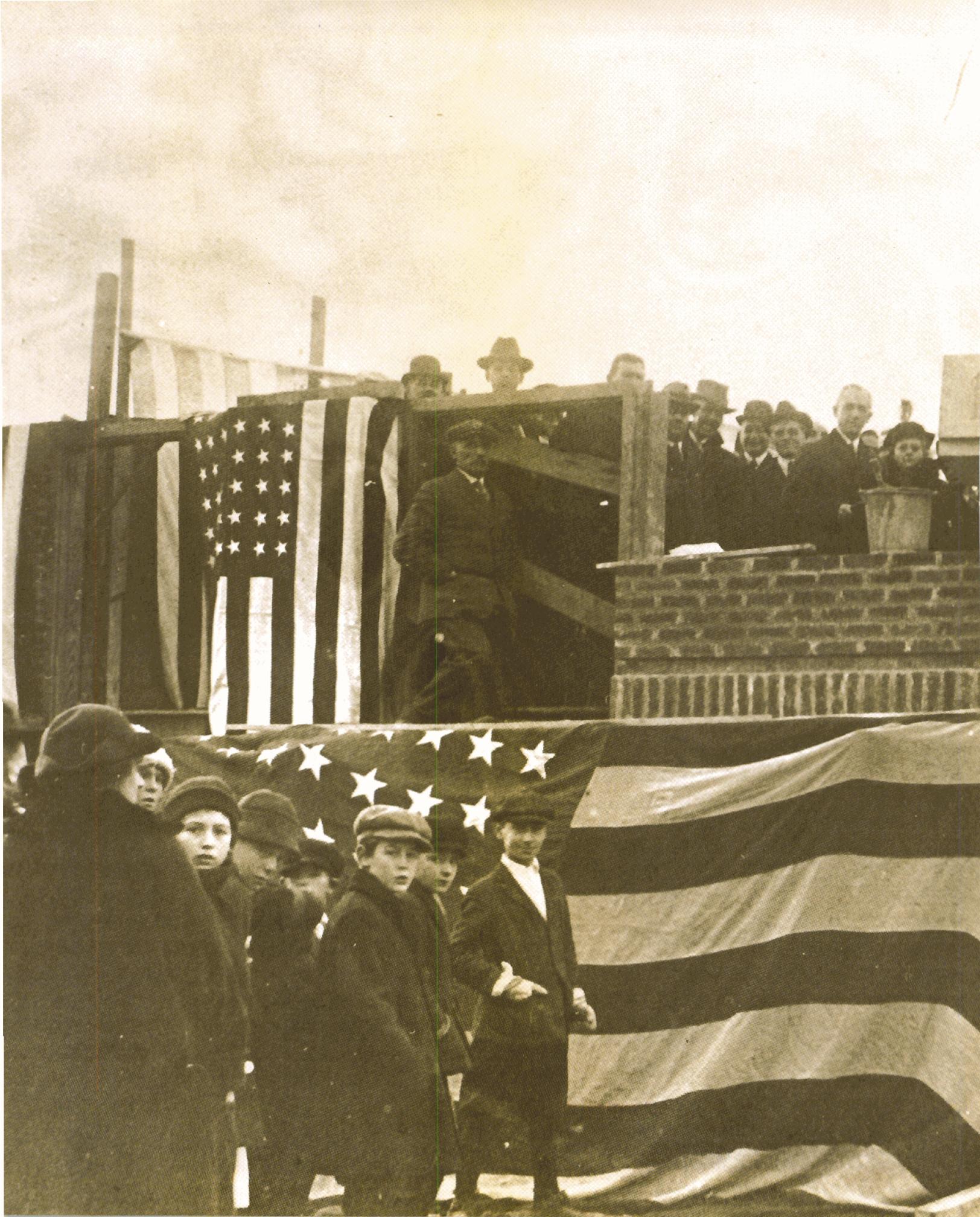
Left: Bergen County's first four-year high school opened in 1897 at First and High Streets in Hackensack. Within a year, the school's enrollment grew to 263 students from throughout Bergen County. To facilitate demand, Hackensack constructed a new, larger high school in 1916 at First and Beech Streets. During the next decade, the school would expand several times to reach its current capacity of 100 classrooms.

Right: The 1916 cornerstone laying of the Hackensack High School. Photographs courtesy of George M. Scudder.

fire department with relief during evening and weekend hours. It is made up of 35 certified emergency medical technicians who volunteer evenings, 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., and weekends round-the-clock to provide expert medical care.

If education is the greatest contribution a community can make to its youth, then Hackensack gets high marks. Hackensack's commitment to quality education dates back to 1769, the year the Washington Academy, later known as the Washington Institute, was opened at the northwest corner of Main and Warren Streets by Peter Wilson, a member of the Assembly of New Jersey. As the city's first school, it was a center for knowledge and intellectual growth. In 1869, the institute was made a public school. Foresight was also exercised when, in 1897, the city opened Bergen County's first four-year high school at First and High Streets. It was attended by students from the entire Bergen County region. Other prominent schools of the era included the Newman School for boys, located at Essex Street and Polifly Road, which was attended by F. Scott Fitzgerald, and the Hackensack Academy, located at the northwest corner of State Street and Central Avenue. Both schools were private.

In 1894, the state government required every municipality to establish a board of edu-



# HACKENSACK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Elementary Schools

Pre-Kindergarten to grade 5

Fairmount School                      circa 1900

Fanny Meyer Hillers School        circa 1927

Jackson Avenue School            circa 1922

Nellie K. Parker School            circa 1975

Hackensack Middle School        circa 1912

Hackensack High School            circa 1918

Carl E. Padovano  
Adult Education Center            circa 1927

The City of Hackensack did not have an official city hall until 1922 when it moved to 346 State Street, the old headquarters of the Liberty Hose and Steamer Co. #1. In 1933, the city purchased the North Jersey Title Insurance Company building at 65 Central Avenue.

Photograph courtesy of the Hackensack Police Department.

ation, and, in the same year, the Hackensack Board of Education was incorporated. George W. Wheeler was the first board president. Until 1991 members of the board of education were appointed by the city's mayor. Once again, the power of democracy surfaced and changed long-standing traditions. In November 1990, city voters approved a referendum by a vote of 3,831 to 1,821 requiring the election of a board of education. The election was conducted on January 15, 1991.

Today, the Hackensack public school system serves more than 4,000 students and is made up of four elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. The city's Adult Education Center, one of the largest in Bergen County, serves an average of 6,000 adults a year. An important offering is the evening school for the foreign-born, established in 1917. The Johnson Free Public Library is another community asset. It is named after a prominent citizen, State Senator William M. Johnson, who donated land for, and funded the construction of, the city's first library. The Johnson Free Public Library was opened on October 5, 1901. Today, it offers more than 150,000 volumes and 450 periodical subscriptions and has a branch library at 39 Broadway.



ST.  
AVE.



# HACKENSACK VIEWS



*O*n October 21, 1874, Hackensack's residents gathered at the fountain on The Green to witness a momentous occasion — the flow of running water from Hackensack Water Company's newly installed pipelines. *Photograph of*

*The Green, circa 1896, reprinted from Hackensack Illustrated.*

# CHAPTER 3

The background of the page features a large, golden seal of the University of New Jersey. The seal is circular and contains a central figure of a Native American holding a bow and arrow. The text "UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY" is written around the perimeter of the seal. The word "HACKENSACK" is written across the top, and "RATON" is written across the bottom. The seal is partially obscured by the large white text.

*UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY*

**AN EPICENTER FOR  
BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY**



Four hundred years ago, long before Hackensack's first streets were planned and established, the Hackensack Indians cleared and carved out their own dirt roads. Many of Bergen County's modern thoroughfares, such as Kinderkamack Road, follow the paths of these ancient Indian routes. The Hackensacks also used the major waterways of their settlements — the Hackensack River, Overpeck Creek, and the Saddle River — for fishing, hunting, and trading with the early European settlers.

Within the Village of Hackensack, the earliest roads were Front and Back Streets (now Main and State, respectively), King's Road (now Essex Street), and Passaic Street. One of the most important was Polifly Road, whose route ran from Newark along the Passaic River in the south to the Hackensack River in the north. The roads were rough and uneven, and residents traveled on horseback or by horsedrawn wagons.

In 1715, a ferry landing was established at a site outside the center of town, enabling small vessels to use the Bergen County waterways to enhance trade. In 1764, the first inter-county public transportation system was established: the Paulus Hook ferry that left from what is now Jersey City and crossed the Hudson River into Manhattan. This advance opened up the entire region to greater commercial efforts.

The opening of a ferry route from Hoboken to New York City shortly afterward created the need for stagecoach lines to bring passengers to the ferries. In 1768, Hackensack resident Andrew Van Buskirk created a stagecoach line that ran from New Bridge to Paulus Hook two times each week. Competition became fierce as many other lines popped up seemingly overnight to transport the region's passengers, mail, and farm produce destined for sale in New York City. Soon, Hackensack's stagecoach lines — which used the inns and taverns as their terminals — included stops at Ridgewood, Englewood, Rutherford, Paterson, Newark, Hoboken, New York City, and points north, such as Goshen and Albany.

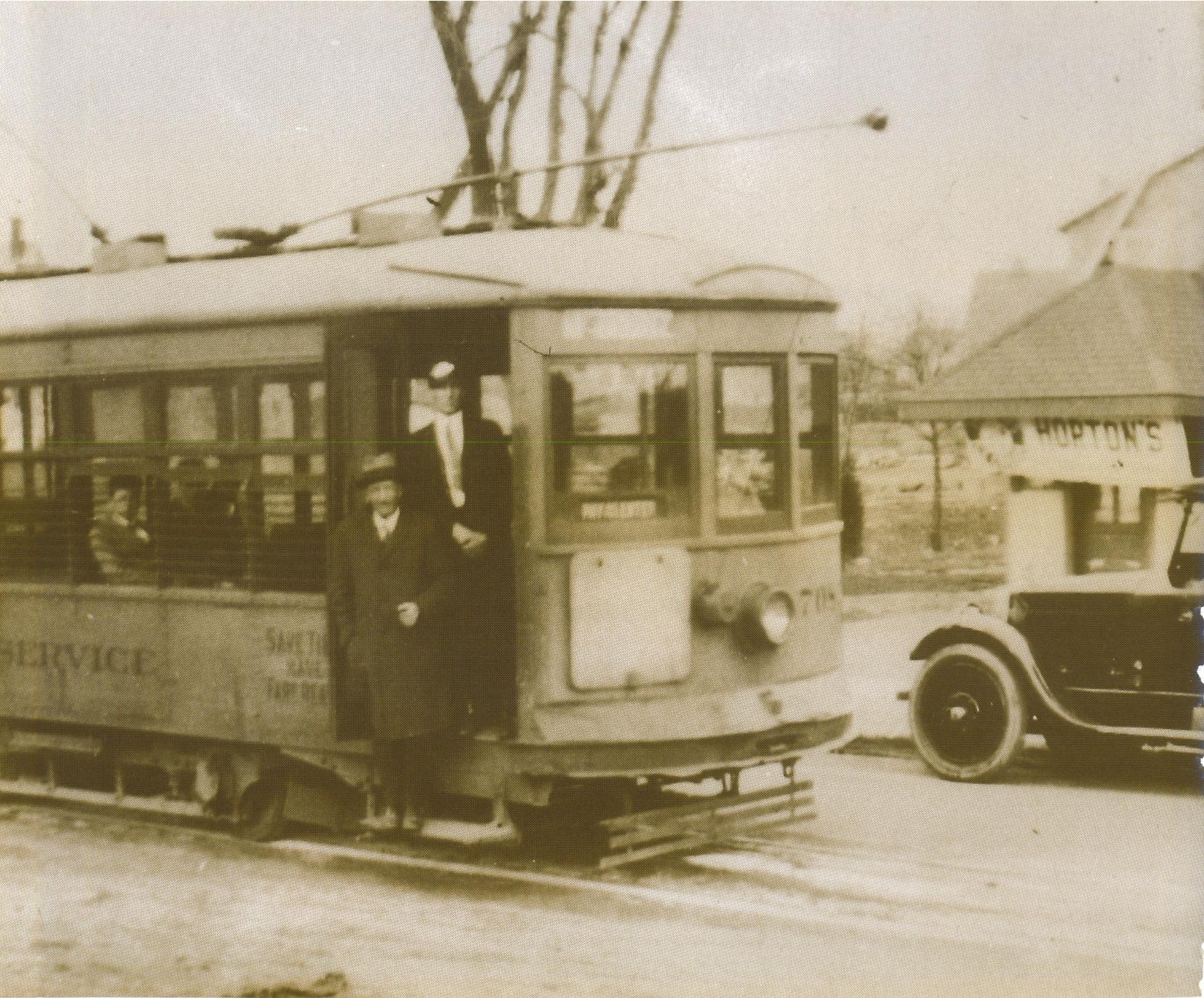
By 1775, trade was flourishing in the Hackensack area. Pettiaugers — two-masted, flat-bottomed schooners — sailed up and down the Hackensack River, carrying farm produce to New York City and merchandise back to the farms and mines of northern New Jersey. Hackensack's agricultural industry bloomed as it soon became famous for its strawberry crops, melons, and celery.

Hackensack's proximity to the Hackensack River, a major transportation link during the 1700s and 1800s, made it an ideal mecca for light industry and manufacturing businesses. The S. Goldberg Co., Inc. slipper factory opened in 1931 at South River Street, where it continues to thrive today producing more than 5 million pairs of slippers each year.

Photograph courtesy of

S. Goldberg Co., Inc.





SERVICE

SMITH  
HART

HOPKINSON'S



The trolley system connected New Jersey's first suburbanites with New York City. Known as the Hudson River line, it ran from the Hudson River through Leonia, Bogota, and Hackensack, and then divided. One branch continued to Newark, the other to Paterson. The railroad system, which first ran through Hackensack in 1872, connected the city with the nation's Northeast region. Left: The Essex Street railroad station was one of four located in Hackensack.

Photographs courtesy of George M. Scudder.

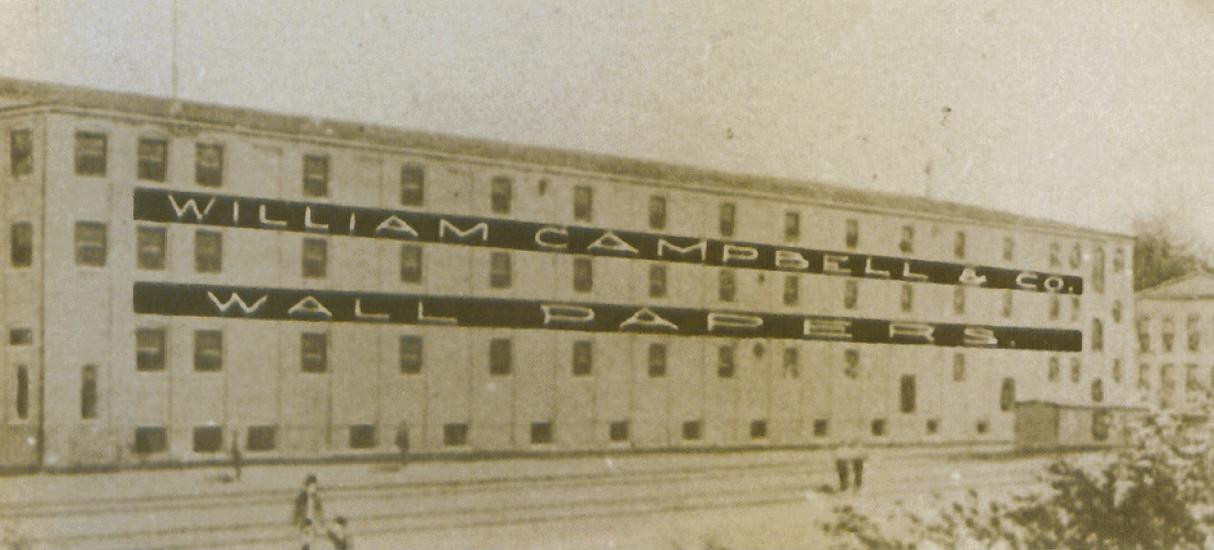
In 1802, the state permitted turnpike companies to become organized and licensed, with the provision that all monies collected be used to build new roads and refurbish old ones. This effort resulted in the construction by the Bergen Turnpike Company of a turnpike from Hackensack to Hoboken that year, and one to Jersey City two years later. Others followed — to Albany in 1805, to Paterson in 1815, and to Fort Lee in 1828 — establishing Hackensack as a terminus of travel throughout northern New Jersey and into New York state. These advances opened up new markets for Hackensack's successful agricultural industry. For more than 100 years the turnpikes flourished, until 1915 when the toll gates were abolished.

Transportation advances in the late 18th century enabled Hackensack to sell and transport the natural resources that were harvested from the Hackensack River. Clay from the river's banks was used to mold pottery, create bricks, and was used in constructing sandstone homes and plaster walls.

In the 1790s, entrepreneur Elizabeth Sutliff, who was born to black slaves, began supplying raw clay to potteries in Newark and Jersey City. In the 1870s, three brothers opened a brickyard in Little Ferry and bought Sutliff's property. By 1882, the Mehrhof Brickmaking Works was producing more than two million bricks each year. One of the most famous companies was the Hackensack Brick Company (HBC) which initialized each brick it produced. Fleets of brick schooners and later steam-powered barges travelled the Hackensack River, facilitating the sale of bricks to all parts of the nation. During the next 50 years, the brick industry along the Hackensack River was the second largest in the nation and a major source of employment for many of the area's residents.

The arrival of the "Iron Horses" and railroads in the mid-1800s changed Hackensack from primarily a farming and manufacturing village to a bustling center of commerce.

In 1850, Thomas Demarest and other local men built the Northern Valley Railroad, connecting points of Bergen County with a line that ran from New York City to Suffern. Twenty years later, the New Jersey Midland Company (which later became the Susquehanna Railroad) opened two stations in Hackensack — at Main and Mercer Streets and Prospect Avenue — which were stops on its east-west line that ran from Jersey City to Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania. At about the same time, the Hackensack and New York Railroad Company extended their north-south rails, opening four



A modern transportation system secured Hackensack's place in history as people from the area discovered its vast resources. Left: The William Campbell and Co. wallpaper

factory (now Packard's) circa 1920. Hackensack's Main Street

flourished with an abundance of fine shops and services.

Right: Henry

Zellweger's inn on upper Main Street circa

1896. Inset: a grocery store at 67 Main Street

circa 1910. Campbell Co.

and grocery store photographs courtesy of George M.

Scudder. Zellweger photo-

graph reprinted from

Hackensack Illustrated.

stations in Hackensack: Essex Street, Central Avenue, Anderson Street, and Fairmount.

Although Hackensack was never a manufacturing giant in the same way other eastern seaboard cities such as Paterson were, dependable rail travel caused several major industries to open in the city in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Some of the most profitable were: the Givernaud Brothers silk-weaving plants, the Thomas Jewelry Manufacturing Company, S. Goldberg Co., Inc. slipper factory, and the William Campbell & Company's wallpaper factory, which later became the site of Packard's.

The opening of the George Washington Bridge in 1931 created numerous business and residential growth opportunities for Bergen County by improving access to New York City. Until the 1950s, Hackensack's Main Street was one of the premier shopping districts in northern New Jersey. Anchored by two major department stores — Sears Roebuck and Co. and Arnold Constable — Main Street offered a shopping variety that rivaled all others and caused traffic jams for miles.

But the construction of the Garden State Plaza and the Bergen Mall in the late 1950s, the opening of Alexander's and Korvette's on Route 4 in the 1960s, and the erection of Paramus Park and the Fashion Center on Route 17 in the 1970s, caused the decline of Hackensack's Main Street. A shopping district set within a city simply could not compete with the hundreds of stores and convenient parking facilities that the suburban malls offered.

Hackensack did profit from the last major shopping mall to be built along Route 4. In 1974, Riverside Square opened on a tract of land at the intersection of Route 4 and Hackensack Avenue, bringing in needed ratables and returning prestigious stores to the city.

In the 1970s, the city's infrastructure was addressed. The widening of Polifly Road and Essex Street was completed, a critical component of future growth plans.

Another major revitalization project involved the Court Street area and occurred between 1976 and the 1980s when the Center City Complex Redevelopment plan was implemented. It brought about the construction of Court Plaza, a 325,000-square-foot building across from the courthouse, the construction and reconstruction of private and public buildings, a road extension to Atlantic Street, and the upgrading of Main Street through the installation of new lights, the planting





The revitalization of Hackensack's Main Street and the erection of new retail and office complexes occurred in the 1980s. Left: Court Plaza, one of Hackensack's most distinguished complexes. But development could not put a stop to a still frequent Main Street event: automobile accidents. Right: A July

25, 1923, car crash on Main Street. Court Plaza photograph courtesy of Alfred Sanzari Enterprises. Car accident photograph courtesy of George M. Scudder.



of trees, and the provision of other amenities. This huge project has revitalized the heart of the city. In 1989, the Atlantic Street parking garage was opened, adding 433 parking spaces to the city's center.

During the 1980s there was a major overhaul of the city's sewer system at two River Street locations. In 1992, a \$4 million flood control project, directed at River Street, was completed. In 1993, the city began a \$1 million parks improvement and expansion project.

All energies are now focused on the revitalization of Hackensack's 65 acres of riverfront properties, once one of Hackensack's most cherished assets. Restoring it to its former state is becoming a reality with the arrival of the Price Club in 1994. Planning studies to determine how to best renew this area are currently being prepared. A central element in the planning process is the construction of a riverfront walkway.

As Hackensack celebrates the 300-year anniversary of its founding, its excellent location in the midst of a comprehensive transportation system allows the city to anticipate a successful comeback. Four major highways provide direct access to Hackensack's 4.6 square miles: routes 4, 17, 46, and 80. It is traversed by the New York-Susquehanna & Western and New Jersey Transit railways. Some 26 bus routes come into Hackensack. The city boasts a population of 37,000, but these numbers swell to 100,000 during the day as people from the region come to Hackensack to work at its many public, nonprofit, and private sector jobs.

# HACKENSACK VIEWS



*The Hackensack House, circa 1896, was among the more prominent inns of the era. It was located on the site of Bergen County's courthouse.*

*Photograph courtesy of Johnson Free Public Library.*

# CHAPTER 4

# *T*HE PEOPLE BEHIND THE CITY



# B



Behind every great city there are great people accomplishing wondrous things, continually reshaping a community in significant ways. To Hackensack, people from all over the world have come. This blending of cultures is the foundation on which Hackensack was formed, and it is the basis on which it will grow and prosper.

Immigration to the City of Hackensack is an ongoing phenomenon. The first settlers who arrived to the area in the 17th century were from England, Scotland, the Netherlands, France, and several Scandinavian countries. The Jersey Dutch, as they were collectively called, were responsible for the early development of the city — their legacy still evident today.

For example, a prominent developer of the period, G.N. Zingsem, was the force behind the establishment of the Fairmount neighborhood. Zingsem was also an architect who designed the Fairmont Park in Philadelphia. He grew trees here in Hackensack and sold them to Philadelphia for planting in the park. Thus, the area was called Fairmount and many of the streets were named after trees.

Records show that free and slave African-Americans lived in Hackensack as far back as the late 1600s. New Jersey, the second largest slave state in the North, allowed the harsh treatment of slaves, including unfair trials with punishments ranging from 100 lashes to hangings.

In 1714, slave courts were set up to try capital crimes. Between 1726 and 1737, Bergen County had the lowest population in East Jersey, but the largest slave population. In 1804, the township records showed the birth of 155 African-American slave children, a law was passed that called for the gradual release of slaves to freedom. But discrimination would continue and many legal freedoms were not granted until the Civil War was won and the 13th amendment was passed in 1865.

The second wave of immigrants to Hackensack occurred between 1890 and 1920 when people arrived from Germany, Italy, Ireland, Poland, Russia, and Greece. Immigrants typically fled harsh times in their native lands in search of a golden future in the United States. This was also the case with Southern African-Americans who arrived in Hackensack in the 1920s to escape the harsh and violence of racism and discrimination that was prevalent throughout the South.

African-Americans came to the region searching for meaningful employment. Most settled in Englewood, Hackensack, and Teaneck. Since these areas were not industrial centers, many

There are many individuals who have contributed to what is today an outstanding Hackensack school system. Dr. Nelson Haas and Nellie K. Morrow Parker are two individuals who stand out.

Left: Dr. Haas, Hackensack's first public school system superintendent, oversaw the expansion of the school system during the late 1800s. Right: Nellie K. Morrow Parker, the first African-American educator in northern New Jersey, opened up the minds and hearts of a community. Haas photograph courtesy of George M. Scudder. Parker photograph courtesy of Nellie K. Parker School.

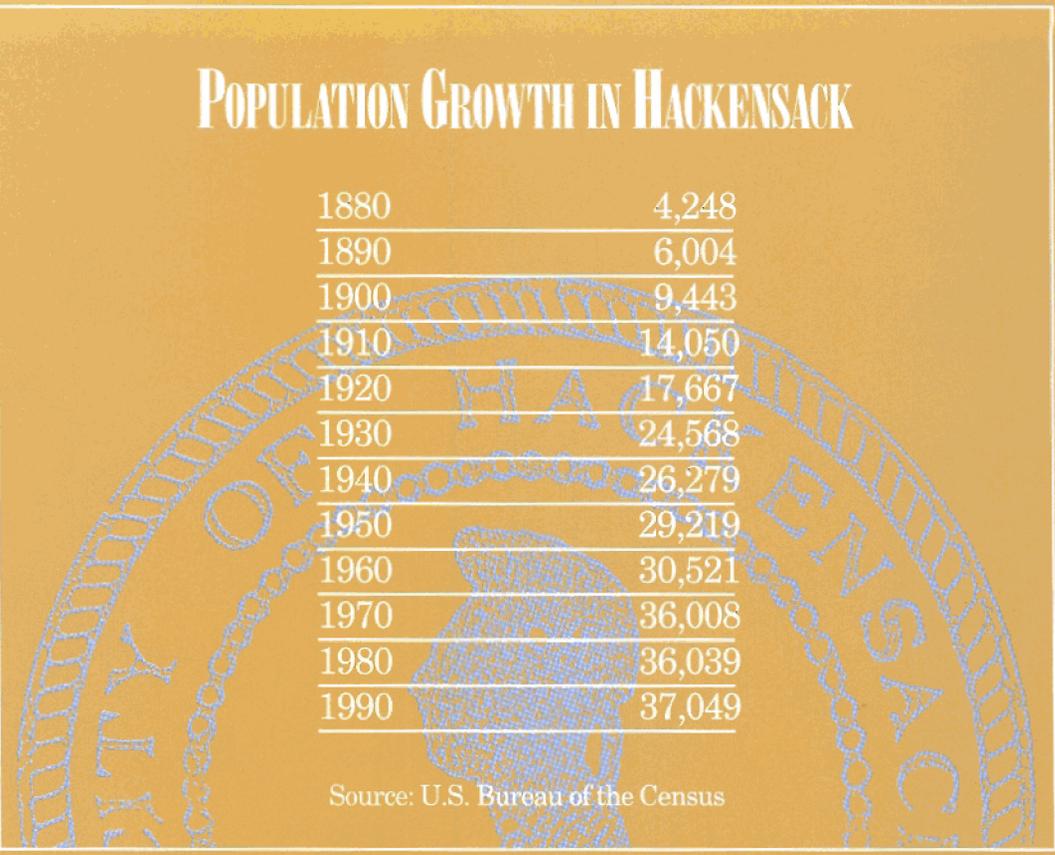






A community of immigrants will weave traditions of the past with present day activities. Such was the case all over America as new citizens organized and celebrated community-wide May Day festivities like this 1925 Broadway School event. Photograph courtesy of George M. Scudder.

## POPULATION GROWTH IN HACKENSACK



1880	4,248
1890	6,004
1900	9,443
1910	14,050
1920	17,667
1930	24,568
1940	26,279
1950	29,219
1960	30,521
1970	36,008
1980	36,039
1990	37,049

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

Hackensack settlers found employment in the homes of the affluent citizens living along Hackensack's Summit and Prospect Avenues, Anderson and upper Union Streets, and Clinton Place. Neighborhoods formed in the valley below Hackensack's west hill, just west of the railroad in the city's center.

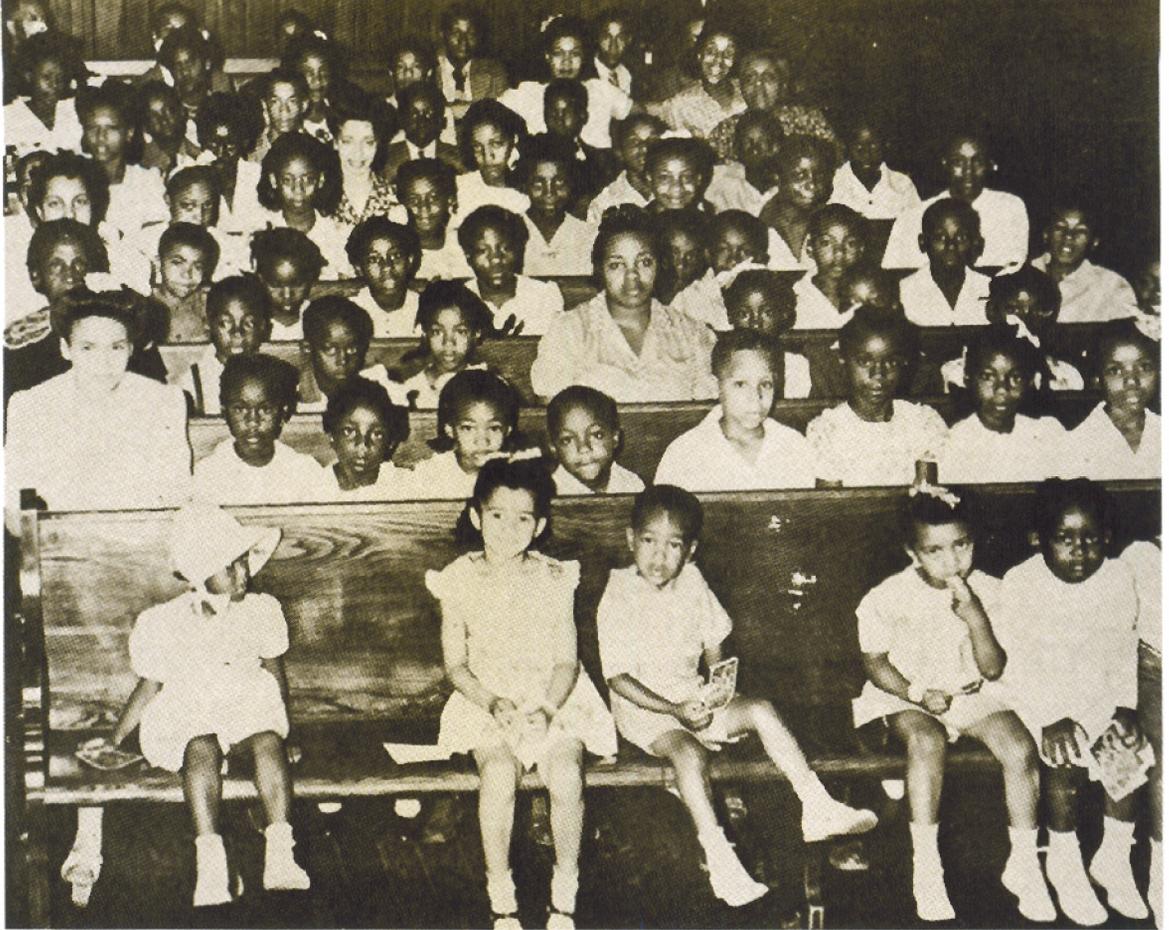
European immigrants established their own neighborhoods. The Germans settled along Hudson Street; the Irish on Union Street between Essex Street and the railroad (an area then known as Little Dublin); the Polish established neighborhoods located in the most southern area of town; and the Italians lived north of Vreeland Avenue to Essex Street. By 1920, one-fifth of Hackensack's population was foreign-born.

The year 1870 was recorded as the beginning of a building boom that continued until World War I, and a thriving, bustling commercial and residential nucleus emerged. The railroads and trolley lines, which began in Hackensack in 1889, opened the township up to a new population: middle-class commuters to New York City and wealthy families who built many of the city's grand homes. Where once it was perceived as a small city, Hackensack was now viewed as affording a suburban lifestyle for those who did not wish to live in Manhattan. The city's population increased more than one-third between 1920 and 1930.

During the two decades that followed the opening of the George Washington Bridge in 1931, Hackensack experienced an outward flight of its wealthy citizens to more spacious parts of Bergen County. But in 1956, city planners called for the renewal and revitalization of some declining areas of Hackensack. Deteriorating homes were replaced with office buildings, and schools and other

Between 1900 and 1950, Hackensack's population more than tripled and to the city arrived people from all over the world. The largest immigration came from Southern African-Americans. Spiritual, social, and political enrichment was typically found in church congregations. Right: Varick Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church school students circa 1948.

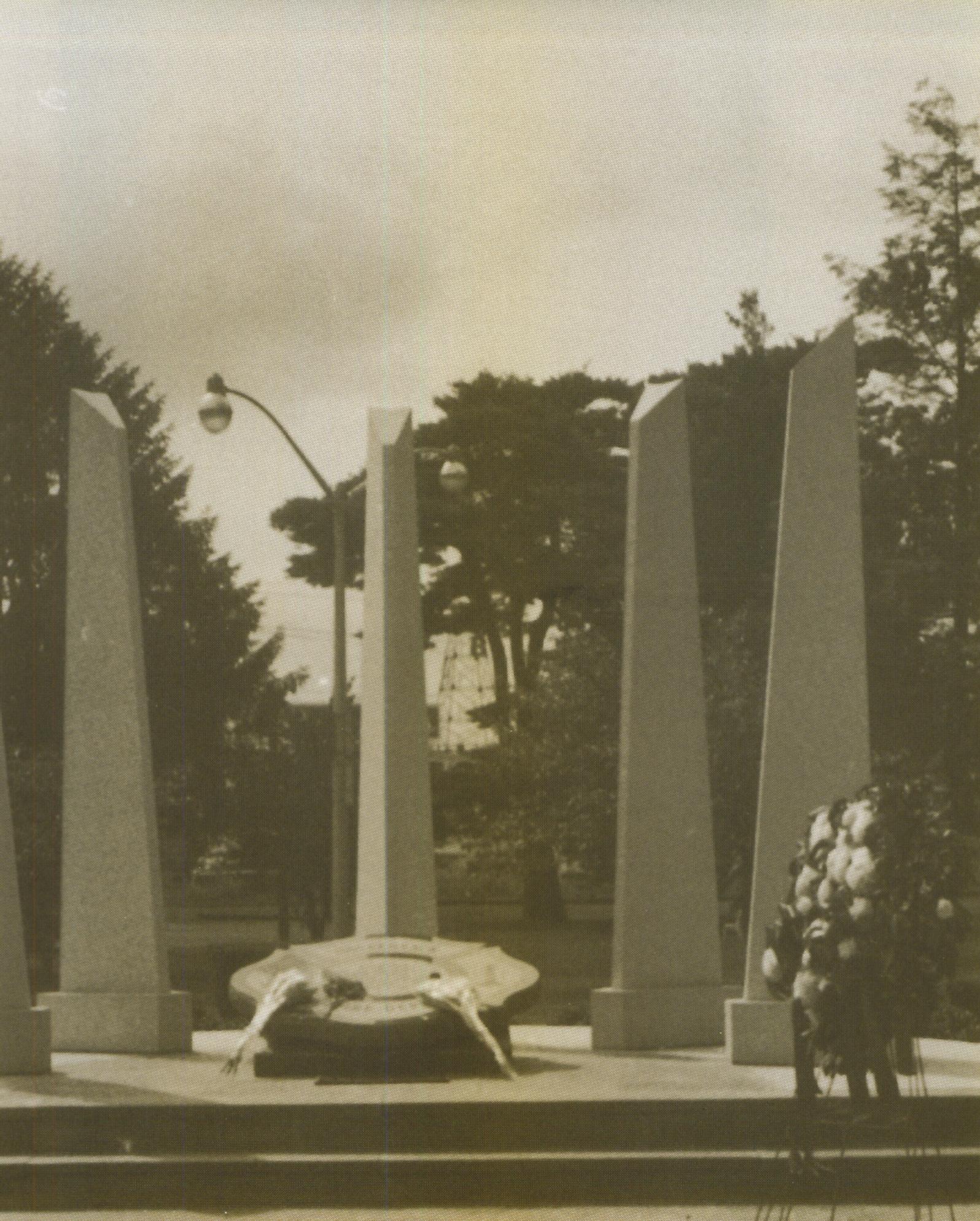
Photograph courtesy of Varick A.M.E. Memorial Zion Church, Hackensack, N.J.



public facilities were modernized. The city rezoned the areas surrounding Prospect Avenue and Summit Avenue to allow the construction of luxury high-rise apartments, offering residents the convenience of city-living coupled with the comfort of suburbia. The Housing Authority introduced assisted-housing programs which were continually expanded to reach its current status of 144 family and 310 senior units.

During this period and up until the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s, Hackensack residents lived in a segregated society. African-Americans were not permitted burial in Hackensack, but were forced to go to the Little Ferry Free Colored Cemetery known today as the Gethsemane Cemetery. Community discord resulted in 1884 when the Hackensack Cemetery trustees refused to bury Hackensack resident Samuel Bass. A state law was passed shortly thereafter prohibiting discrimination against African-Americans by cemetery companies. Schools were also segregated and African-Americans attended School Number 5, an elementary school located in the former high school at First and High Streets.

Segregation forced the African-American community to rely on itself for essential services. Among those contributing greatly to the health and welfare of their people were Dr. George Kingslow and Dr. Powell, among the first African-American physicians of Hackensack, and Dr. Askew, the first African-American dentist. T. B. James was a leading political figure who, because he was self-employed, could risk challenging the establishment. Spiritual guidance and social recreation were provided by the church, a place for community pride and ownership. The ministers offered leadership



Those who have lost their lives in the line of duty are memorialized in Hackensack. The Hackensack Fallen Firefighters monument, located in Fairmount Park, is a tribute to Captain Richard L. Williams, Lieutenant Richard R. Reinlagen, Firefighters William R. Krejsa, Leonard Radumski, and Stephen H. Emis, who lost their lives battling a fire at a car dealership on July 1, 1968. The monument is dedicated to their memory. Photograph courtesy of the Hackensack Fire Department.

that often extended beyond religion to socio-economic causes. In the 1950s and early 1960s, another influx of southern African-Americans came to Hackensack. In 1965, Hackensack residents elected its first African-American councilman, Herbert Leverett.

One public school carries on the memory of a great influential African-American Hackensack family: the Morrrows. The Morrow family came to Hackensack in 1874 and worked to improve life for African-American residents. John Morrow was a prominent African-American minister. His daughter, Nellie K. Morrow Parker, for whom the school is named, became northern New Jersey's first African-American educator in 1922. Although there was great opposition, including a Ku Klux Klan torch parade, she prevailed.

John's eldest son, Eugene, was the second African-American to graduate from Hackensack High School, in the year 1917. Another son, E. Frederick Morrow, was President Eisenhower's executive assistant — the first African-American in the history of the United States to achieve this position. He also wrote a series of autobiographical books. His brother, John Howard, was a renowned linguist and served as the United States Ambassador to Guinea.

Latino individuals dominated immigration in the 1960s and 1970s. Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Dominicans, and South and Central Americans arrived in record numbers. Today, Latino residents represent the third largest group in Hackensack. In 1993, Jesus R. Galvis was elected as the city's first Latino councilman.

The next wave of immigration came from China, India, Hong Kong, and Japan. They were followed by the most recent immigrants from Afghanistan, Armenia, and Syria.

The City of Hackensack continues to offer opportunity to the world's immigrants. Today, Hackensack, the second largest municipality in Bergen County, is a proud city of more than 37,000 residents representing more than 40 nationalities. Sixty-six percent of the population is Caucasian, 25 percent African-American, 15 percent Latino, 2.5 Asian or Pacific Islander, and 2.5 from other countries. As time goes on, new immigrants continue to arrive, assimilating and contributing to the greatness of the City of Hackensack and its promising future.



# NAMES THAT LIVE ON

Those who have contributed to the City of Hackensack are honored in many ways — their names appear on street signs, public buildings, and memorials. The Johnson Free Public Library and the Nellie K. Parker School are leading examples.

Roads are also a way to trace a city's history. The majority of Hackensack streets were named after property owners of the 1700s and 1800s who possessed great influence. Among the many examples are such family names as Ackerson, Banta, Berry, Blauvelt, Campbell, Clarendon, Clinton, Conklin, Demarest, Franklin, Frederick, Hamilton, Hobart, Hopper, Huyler, Johnson, Kipp, Lincoln, McKinley, Moore, Morris, Newman, Poor, Pulaski, Ricardo, Shafer, Taylor, Terhune, Vanderbeck, Van Olst, Van Orden, Voorhis, Vreeland, and Zabriskie. More recent namings are Wysocki Place, after former Mayor Kazmier Wysocki's father who organized Polish immigrants, and Reilly Court after former City Manager Harold V. Reilly, Sr.

The parks are also named after prominent individuals. The Baldwin Park was named after Spencer Baldwin who served as mayor from 1921 to 1924. Hackensack's Foschini Park was named after Mayor Paul J. Foschini, and the Trammell Housing Authority Park after former Councilman James Trammell.

There's also the Joseph J. Squillace Municipal Training Facility, a police pistol range, named after the city's 22-year city manager and the Padovano Adult Education Center, named after the city's longtime school superintendent, Carl E. Padovano.

Public housing communities also don prestigious names. There is Oratam Court, after Chief Oratam, William Widnall Towers, after a 12-term congressman from Hackensack, and Patrick A. DiZenzo Court, after the Hackensack Housing Authority's first chairman. Hillers School was named after an educator who devoted more than 40 years to Hackensack schools. The Mellone-Mariniello Recreation Center honors Joseph Mellone and Joseph Mariniello for their commitment to athletics in the City of Hackensack, particularly their role in starting the Troast Athletic Club.





Between 1833 and 1898, there were several attempts by community groups to establish a library in Hackensack.

On October 5, 1901, their wish came true.

Left: Senator William M. Johnson, who donated land and funded the library's construction. Bottom

left: Senator Johnson's home, circa 1896, at the northeast corner of Main and Anderson

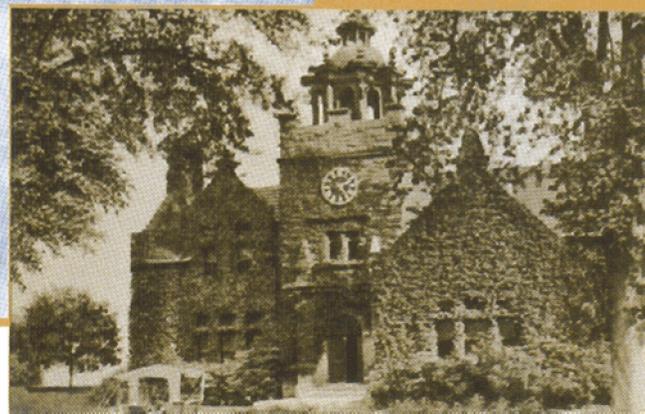
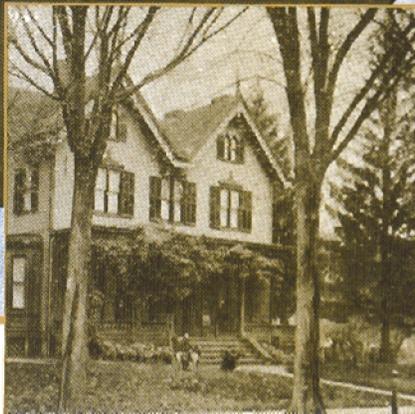
Streets. Johnson Free

Public Library photograph courtesy of George M.

Scudder. Johnson portrait and

residence reprinted from

Hackensack Illustrated.



# HACKENSACK VIEW

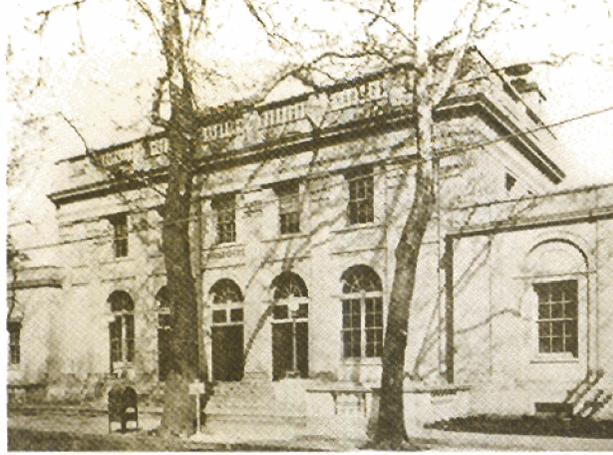


*The Hackensack Golf Club, which operated between 1899 and 1930, was Bergen County's premier golf course. The 18-hole course was situated between Hackensack's Summit Avenue and Passaic Street, and Golf Place in Maywood. The club house was located on Central Avenue. Photograph courtesy of George M. Scudder.*

# CHAPTER 5

The background of the page features a large, golden seal of the State of New Jersey. The seal is circular and contains a central figure of a Native American holding a bow and arrow. The words "HACKENSACK" and "NEW JERSEY" are inscribed around the perimeter of the seal. The text "PUBLIC SERVICES BEGIN IN HACKENSACK" is overlaid on the seal in a white, serif font. The word "PUBLIC" is written in a large, elegant script font, while "SERVICES BEGIN IN HACKENSACK" is in a smaller, all-caps serif font.

## PUBLIC SERVICES BEGIN IN HACKENSACK



The first post office in the Village of Hackensack was established in 1797 and operated out of Campbell's Tavern, a stagecoach stop on the New York City to Goshen to Albany line, which faced The Green. Serving as its postmaster was the tavern's owner, Archibald Campbell, who oversaw the twice-weekly deliveries that were carried by stagecoach to his tavern. From 1798 to 1817, auxiliary postal service was rendered from taverns, living rooms in postmasters' homes, general stores, and three stores on Main Street.

Campbell's Tavern continued to serve as the city's main post office until 1834 when David Demarest became postmaster, moving postal headquarters to the Mansion House. By 1851, Hackensack's was one of only five post offices in Bergen County.

Home delivery was established in Hackensack in 1890 with three carriers. Rural delivery began 11 years later with two carriers. In 1915, a branch post office was established in the north-west corner of Fairmount Park.

Today, the Hackensack Post Office has evolved into a sectional facility serving 45 towns in Bergen and Hudson counties. Mail is processed at the main office on State Street, six branches, and an annex in South Hackensack. Forty-seven carriers provide delivery service to Hackensack residents.

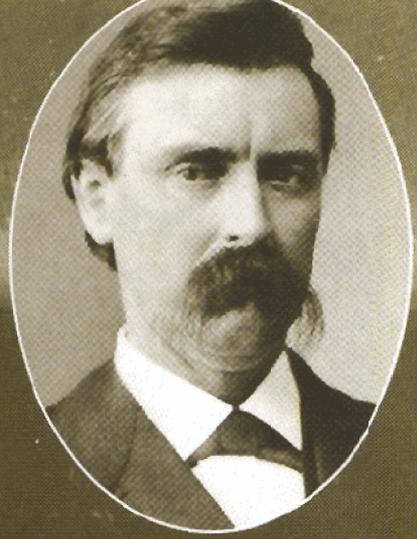
The Hackensack Gas Light Company was formed in 1861, occupying a site in the south end of the city bordering the Hackensack River. Two of the founders were Garret Ackerson, county clerk and wealthy investor, and Eben Winter, publisher of "The Bergen County Democrat."

The manufacturing of gas began around 1867, and the following year it was used to illuminate street lights for the first time on Main Street. Due to the objectionable odor of the gas, the street lights at first were only lit sporadically. Several years later a cleaner, more pleasant smelling gas was produced, paving the way for its usage in homes.

In 1895, the Hackensack Gas Light Company consolidated with the Hackensack Edison Lighting Company to form the Hackensack Gas and Electric Company. Gas street lamps were soon replaced with those powered by electricity. Four years later, the Hackensack Gas and Electric Company was consolidated with other entities to form the Gas and Electric Company of Bergen County. In the early 1900s, it was merged into the Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) of Newark.

In 1841, Hackensack Postmaster Henry Banta sold to the federal government family-owned property located on Banta Place and State Street. In 1917, a post office was erected on the site. Left: Hackensack Post Office circa 1926. Right: Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) was formed in 1861 under the name of Hackensack Gas Light Company. Throughout the next century and beyond, the company would be the force behind the region's growth and expansion. Today, PSE&G serves more than 2 million customers. Photograph courtesy of PSE&G, Newark, N.J. Post Office photograph reprinted from the 1926 Hackensack Realtor's Book.





On October 21, 1874,  
the Hackensack Water  
Company pipelines  
filled with water,  
resource for modern  
living to homes and  
businesses throughout  
the city. Left inset:

a Hackensack Water  
Company founder.

Left: A boiler room  
crew circa 1912. Right:

The Haworth Water  
Treatment Plant, which

drinking water. The  
plant, opened in 1989, is

considered one of the  
most technologically

advanced facilities of  
its kind in the United

States. Photographs

courtesy of Hackensack Water

Company.



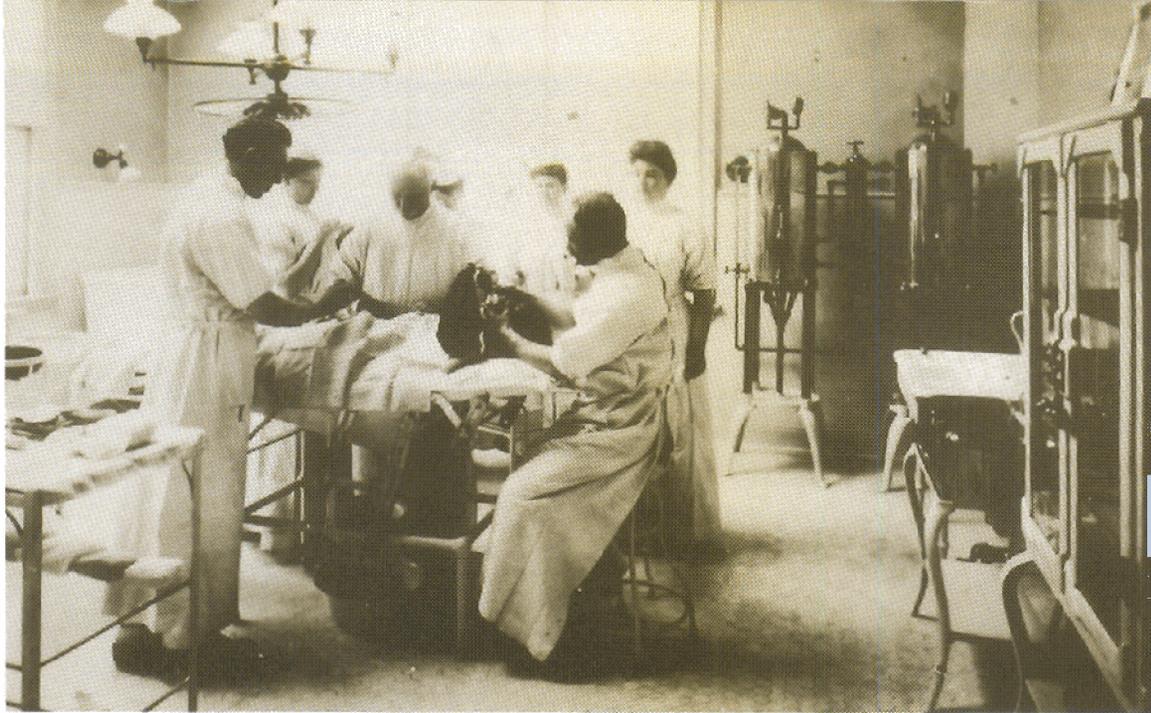
The original River Street site of the Hackensack Gas Light Company is still in operation today, after being used as a holder station until the 1950s and as a gas distribution facility until 1991. PSE&G currently maintains an electric substation facility at the location where 130 years ago one of the first gas companies in New Jersey began.

The Hackensack Water Company traces its roots to the City of Hackensack following the Civil War. As the city grew from a small village to a suburban town, it could no longer rely on backyard wells or cisterns as dependable water sources. Community leaders quickly chose the Hackensack River as their water source, and petitioned the state Legislature for a charter to supply water service. On February 24, 1869, the bill passed the state Senate and it was signed into law by the governor a month later.

The company embarked on its first major expansion in 1881 after signing a contract to supply the City of Hoboken. To fulfill its obligation, Hackensack Water installed a transmission pipeline to the city, built a pump station at New Milford, and constructed a water tower and storage reservoir in Weehawken. The Weehawken site housed the company's headquarters until 1979, when its main offices relocated to Harrington Park.

The early 1900s marked a period of exceptional growth for Hackensack Water. In 1900, it purchased the outstanding stock of the Spring Valley Water Works and Supply Company — now called the Spring Valley Water Company Incorporated — located in Rockland County, New York. It constructed a major reservoir in Oradell in 1902 and dedicated another one in Woodcliff Lake in 1905.

The company also took the first of a never-ending series of important steps to ensure that the water reaching customers' taps was of the highest quality possible, and began construction on the first filter plant at New Milford. Hailed as one of the premier water plants in the nation, the



Hackensack Medical Center is the hub of health care in northern New Jersey, offering sophisticated medical treatment to patients throughout the New Jersey and New York metropolitan area.

Left: the Edward E. Poor Operating Room named for the Hackensack resident who donated funds to equip it. Right: The original hospital as it appeared circa 1900. Right, inset: the medical center's Don Imus/WFAN Pediatric Center for Tomorrows Children.

plant opened on June 25, 1906.

Innovative research by Hackensack Water in the 1920s produced a highly successful water purification process that earned the company industry-wide recognition. More growth occurred in the 1930s and 1940s as the company extended its services to the west, north, and south with acquisitions and new franchises.

In 1957, the company broke ground in Clarkstown, New York, for the Lake DeForest Reservoir, named for former Hackensack Water President Henry L. DeForest. A decade later the company opened its Lake Tappan Reservoir in River Vale, New Jersey.

In the 1980s, Hackensack Water and the North Jersey Wanaque South Supply Project began construction of the Wanaque South Project, a regional water project which is the cornerstone for New Jersey's water supply master plan. It was dedicated in 1987 and ensures Hackensack Water customers a sufficient water supply well into the next century.

During a severe drought in 1981, ground was broken for the Oradell Aqueduct. This first phase of the Wanaque South project is a 17-mile pipeline that crosses nine towns in Bergen County. In 1982, the company took a giant technological step by investigating automatic meter reading. It implemented the technology in 1986 for its residential customers. Again leading the U.S. water industry in achieving heightened water quality, the company in 1984 announced plans to treat its water with ozone.

Hackensack is proud to be recognized as the home of Hackensack Medical Center, a regional teaching hospital that serves as the hub of health care in northern New Jersey and has the largest number of admissions of any hospital in the state.

"The Great Blizzard of 1888" and the subsequent death of a railroad brakeman was the impetus behind the founding of Hackensack Hospital. According to newspaper accounts at the time, in March 1888 a blizzard buried most of the eastern United States including Bergen County. Unable to find secure footing on the ice, a brakeman on the Susquehanna Railroad fell on the Hackensack plat-





The Record

form, severely injuring his head. The death of the man was blamed in part on the delay in reaching the nearest hospital in Paterson. Sympathy for his widow and child was strong, and the public promptly called for the establishment of a hospital in Hackensack. In June of that year, a 10-room residence purchased by an association of 24 civic leaders for \$4,000 officially became known as Hackensack Hospital. It consisted of 12 beds and a horse-drawn ambulance.

Today, Hackensack Medical Center is Bergen County's largest employer, with staff members caring for patients from the New Jersey and New York metropolitan region who come to the medical center for sophisticated medical treatment and comprehensive outpatient services. The Tomorrows Children's Institute for Cancer and Blood Disorders (TCI) at Hackensack Medical Center is one of New Jersey's largest and most comprehensive programs for children. The institute delivers a vast number of services to children and their families ranging from inpatient care and outpatient treatment, to psychosocial support services. When its \$166 million expansion and renovation project is completed in 1994, Hackensack Medical Center will contain 597 licensed beds and will have added new adult acute-care and pediatric facilities to supplement its already specialized and diverse range of services.

Bergen County's first telephone system was installed in nearby Englewood in 1880 at the home of R. E. Cochran by the Domestic Telegraph Company. Two years later, Hackensack's first telephones were installed in the rear of George Hasbrouck's Main Street sewing machine store. The 12 parties who bought telephone service were reached by ringing a machine that utilized a foot pedal similar to that of a sewing machine. The first switchboard had the capacity to hold 25 lines. Within the next 18 years the switchboard was moved to several locations on Main Street to accommodate the growing number of families who sought to use this modern convenience.

In 1900, the Hackensack telephone directory listed about 225 subscribers, and the switchboard was replaced by a larger, more advanced model. John J. Finke, in whose Main Street office the telephone system was located, turned over its management to the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company. By 1915, 3,900 Hackensack customers used the city's exchange. Today, there are more than 20,000 subscribers.

The New York and New Jersey Telephone Company oversaw the growing demands

The first home of the "The Bergen Evening Record" was a Hackensack storefront on Main and Mercer Streets, and the first edition of the newspaper was published June 5, 1895. Growing rapidly, "The Record" moved to several locations until 1951 when it moved to 150 River Street. Photograph courtesy of The Record of Hackensack, N.J.



One of the most notable newspapers in Hackensack was the “The Bergen County Democrat,” which was published for 59 years. Left: The newspaper’s headquarters at 80 and

of Hackensack’s customers throughout various corporate restructurings during the past several decades. Today, the telephone system is owned and managed by the Bell Atlantic Company.

Until the late 1700s newspapers were scarce, with residents of Hackensack depending on verbal communication as their source of information. New Jersey Governor William Livingston, aware that the only printed news about the Revolutionary War was published in the Loyalists’ “New York Gazette,” deemed that inhabitants of the state should be entitled to a more balanced account of the war’s events. He asked the state’s printer, Isaac Collins, to publish a newspaper. “The New Jersey Gazette” made its debut in 1777 and contained proclamations, resolutions, and other information about the war.

The first newspaper to be printed and distributed in Hackensack was “The Hackensack Newsman,” which was established in 1822 but folded the next year. At around the same time, “The Hackensack Star and Bergen County Farmer” debuted. Published by Charles Troxell and H.J. Kingland in a building on Main Street, this paper survived only a few years.

By far the most important newspaper published in Hackensack is “The Record,” which began in 1895 as “The Bergen Evening Record” at a Hackensack storefront on Main and Mercer Streets, located next to a laundry. Growing rapidly, it moved to 131 Main Street in 1901. In 1922, the newspaper moved into the building at 295 Main Street that today is the Adult Learning Center of Bergen Community College.

In 1920, the family name that is synonymous with “The Record” — Borg — began its affiliation with the paper. That year, John Borg and a group of eight Wall Street financiers purchased the newspaper. Since 1951, “The Record” has been located at 150 River Street in a plant that was expanded in 1965 and again in 1982. Today, more than 1,000 people write, produce, and deliver the newspaper. Under the continued stewardship of the Borg family, “The Record” operates from bureaus in Trenton, Washington, D.C., and Wayne, and has a vast printing plant in Rockaway.

1896. But only “The Record” would enjoy long-term success. Right: At a long table in the newspaper’s circulation department, newspapers were tied up by hand in bundles. “Bergen Democrat” photograph reprinted from Hackensack Illustrated. Circulation room photograph courtesy of The Record of Hackensack, N.J.



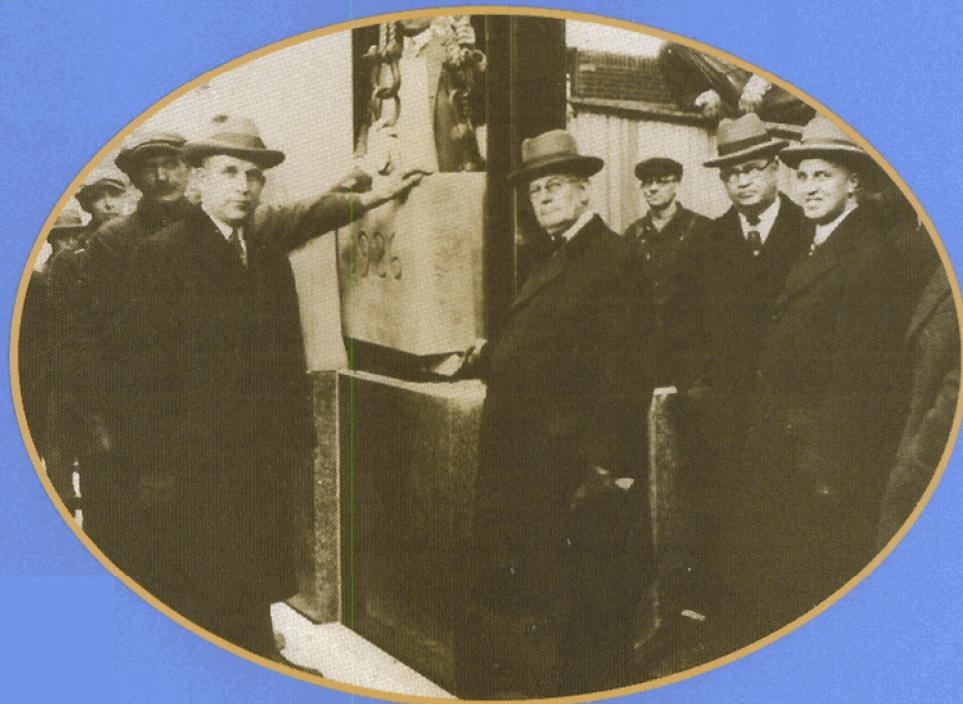


## EXTRA! EXTRA!

Between 1830 and 1980, a number of daily and weekly newspapers covering Hackensack and other Bergen County towns began and died, often the victims of insufficient subscribers and advertisers. "The Record," begun in 1895, continues to publish. Some of the most notable newspapers of the past and their years of publication were:

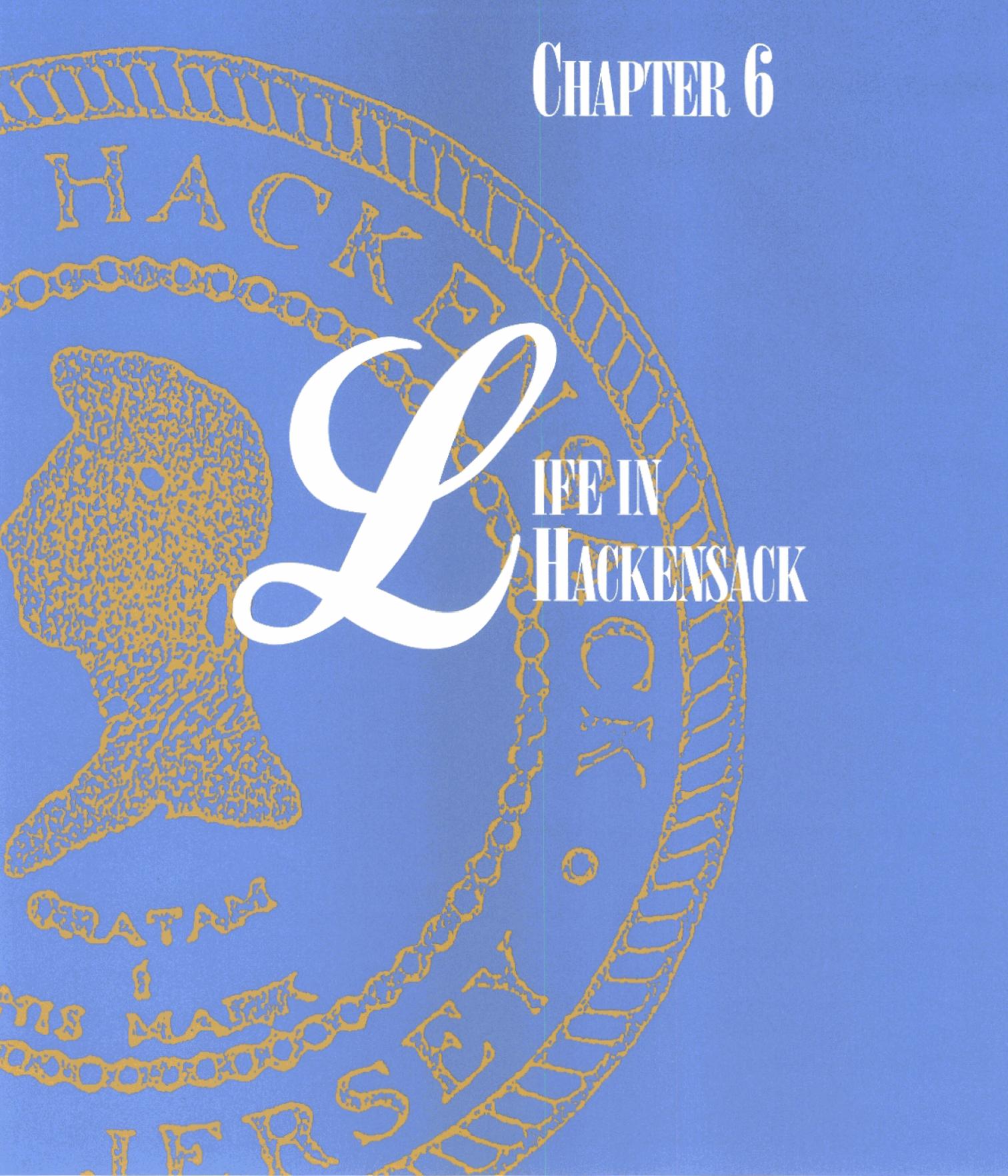
"The Bergen County Courier"	1831–1857
"The Bergen County Journal"	1858–1861
"The Bergen County Patriot"	1861
"The Bergen County Democrat"	1861–1920
"The Hackensack Republican"	1870–mid-1920s
"The New Jersey Citizen"	1872–1877
"The Bergen County Herald"	1873
"The Bergen Index"	1875–1907
"The Record"	1895–present
"The Daily Times"	1905
"The Bergen Daily News"	1912–1921
"The Hornet"	1931–1934
"The Star Telegram"	1946–1948
"Hackensack News, South"	1968–1980

# HACKENSACK VIEWS



*In the early 1900s, Hackensack experienced a tremendous population and business boom, and financial institutions thrived. United Jersey Bank is the current resident of this building on 210 Main Street. Photograph of the 1926 cornerstone ceremony courtesy of The Record of Hackensack, N.J.*

# CHAPTER 6

The background of the page is a blue seal of Hackensack, New Jersey. The seal features a central fish, likely a herring, facing left. The fish is surrounded by a circular border containing the text "HACKENSACK" at the top and "NEW JERSEY" at the bottom. The seal is rendered in a golden-yellow color.

# LIFE IN HACKENSACK



As far back as the mid-1800s, Hackensack was Bergen County's premier metropolis and contained prestigious taverns and inns.

**Right: the Susquehanna Hotel, circa 1896,**

**located on Main Street between Mercer Street and the railroad, was**

**visited by several United States Presidents. Bottom left:**

**The Office Hotel at 160 Main Street. Top left:**

**The Armory, Hackensack's foremost**

**gathering place, located at 174 State Street,**

**offered opera, professional sporting events,**

**and theater productions. Office Hotel and the**

**Armory photographs courtesy of George M. Scudder.**

**Susquehanna Cafe reprinted from Hackensack Illustrated.**

**T**hroughout the United States one can still tour historic inns and taverns that dotted the cities and countrysides of Colonial America and learn about the people who frequented them. More than merely a place to eat or spend the night while traveling, the inns and taverns functioned as the social and political centers of town, serving as meeting sites, as polling places, as stagecoach stops, and even as the first post office in Hackensack.

In 1668 the Legislature of New Jersey required that each township appoint innkeepers and established prices for lodging, food, drink, and for the feeding and stabling of horses.

Among the prominent inns and taverns that once existed in Hackensack were: the Doremus Tavern (a stagecoach terminal for the Hoboken line), the Hackensack House (where stagecoaches departed for the toll road that went to Hoboken, Jersey City, and New York), Wulff's Tavern and the New Bridge Inn (stagecoach stops), and the Hackensack Tavern (site of the start of a stagecoach line into Paterson, Ridgewood, Suffern, and points north).

One of the most famous inns in Hackensack was the Mansion House, the private residence of Peter Zabriskie that occupied a site on Main Street and Washington Place. Built in 1751, it served as the headquarters for General George Washington in 1776, when the Revolutionary War was fought on Hackensack soil. In later years, it was enlarged and became a stop on the stagecoach line from Albany to New York City. The Mansion House also was the birthplace of the Weehawk Bank in 1834 and several fraternal organizations. Over the objections of many, it was demolished in 1945.

Prior to the 1900s, entertainment in Hackensack consisted mainly of lectures, concerts, or other musical and dramatic offerings. One of the most popular entertainment meccas of the time was the Hackensack Armory and Opera House, built in 1872 on the east side of State Street south of Mercer Street. When not used by National Guardsmen for drills, it was home to the Hackensack Dramatic Association, which presented theatrical productions on its imposing stage. The building also hosted prize fights, operas, minstrel shows, singing groups, and graduation ceremonies. In 1901, it burned to the ground. Two years later it was replaced by a new building, which was in use until after World War II when it was razed.

In 1907, Hackensack's first movie theater — the Edisona — opened at 55 Main Street. Advertisements proclaimed it a place of "delightful entertainment," where a 40-minute show could be







Before there were motion pictures, the community depended on local talent for live entertainment. Far left, inset: The Kalamazoo Band organized in 1892. The advent of motion pictures transformed Hackensack into the region's leading entertainment center. Far left: Main Street as it appeared in 1942.

Left: The Oritani Field Club circa 1896.

Photographs of the Oritani Field Club and The Kalamazoo Band reprinted from

Hackensack Illustrated.

Photograph of Main Street,

Hackensack, courtesy of The

Record of Hackensack, N.J.

viewed for 10 cents. Within several years the Hudson, the Royal, the Bijou, and the Crown Theaters sprung up.

In 1913 the Lyric Theater opened on Main Street, hosting some of the most famous vaudeville acts on the circuit. Although it suffered from small audiences during the Depression, it was able to attract dramatic actors to perform plays on its luxurious stage for many years. The invention of talking movies saw the opening of the Eureka, the Oritani, and the Fox Theaters in the 1930s. They were some of the most recognizable landmarks in Hackensack for nearly half a century until declining audiences caused them to close. The Fox Theater, the last of Hackensack's to survive, was closed in 1985.

From the time of the earliest settlements in Hackensack, spiritual enrichment and the activities that surround a religion have played a major role in the lives and development of the community. Churches have served as more than places to worship; they have been the centers of life for townships and their residents.

The Dutch, the first European settlers, brought Calvinism, the religion of their Reformed Church, to the colonies. In 1686, 33 settlers met to form the combined congregations of Hackensack and Acquackanonck (now Passaic/Clifton). During the next 10 years, they worshipped in a private home south of the city limits of New Barbadoes Township and east of the current City of Hackensack. They called their congregation the Dutch Reformed Church of Ackensack.

The congregation began to make plans for the erection of a church after Captain John Berry, one of the Barbadian planters who was granted most of the land making up New Barbadoes, gave two and three-quarter acres of his parcel to the church. The land was located on The Green, and when the congregation moved west to the site, they brought the name Ackensack with them.

On November 15, 1696, the First Reformed Church was dedicated, making it the first church in Hackensack and the second oldest Reformed Church in New Jersey. Because of its location,



it affectionately became known as the Old Church on the Green, a name that is still used today.

In 1728, the First Reformed Church was torn down, and a new one erected using the stones of the original one. In 1791, a new structure — the one that exists today — was completed using Colonial architecture. Throughout the next two centuries the church was modernized and enlarged to its current size.

The first African-American church established in Hackensack was the Varick Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, founded sometime in the mid-1800s. Initially, the congregation worshipped in the Hackensack Meeting House until it acquired its Atlantic Street property in 1864. Two years later the church was incorporated as the Olive Branch Colored Mission Number Three of Hackensack. It became the first A.M.E. Church in Hackensack in 1883, adopting its current name in 1917. The trustees were John R. Dillard, John R. Issac, William A. Floyd, Richard Augustus, Thomas B. James, Jessie H. Porter, John L. Lorick, Bruce Templeton, and James J. Love. The pastor was Rev. I. B. Turner.

Throughout its 300-year history, the people of Hackensack have joined together in a multitude of ways. Two organizations that hold special historical significance are the Oritani Field Club and the Hackensack Yacht Club.

The Oritani Field Club, one of the most endearing and successful organizations in Hackensack, was established in 1877 through the merger of two tennis clubs: the Pastime Lawn Club and the Hackensack Lawn Tennis Club. In 1887, it purchased the Anderson Homestead, property that was located on Main Street and extended down to the Hackensack River. One of its first projects was to build a toboggan slide and ice-skating pond. A baseball field, bowling alleys, four tennis courts, and several billiard rooms followed in the ensuing year.

On July 4, 1888, 5,000 people assembled on the grounds for a grand opening celebration that included baseball and tennis matches, music by Drake's Military Band, a drill by Hackensack's Company C, and a fireworks finale. Over the years, the Oritani Field Club has been the home of sev-

The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) of Hackensack was established in 1880 in a building on State and Warren Streets. Over the next 30 years, the organization moved several times until settling into its current site on Main and Passaic Streets in 1928. In 1964, it was re-incorporated as the YMCA of Greater Bergen County.

Photograph courtesy of

George M. Scudder.

Moored along the Hackensack River at Court and River Streets is the U.S.S. Ling, a World War II Navy submarine. When on active duty, the Ling carried 95 officers and crew. Now, under the stewardship of the Submarine Memorial Association, the Ling is operated as a museum and a memorial site, enjoying thousands of visitors each year.

Photograph courtesy of the Submarine Memorial Association.



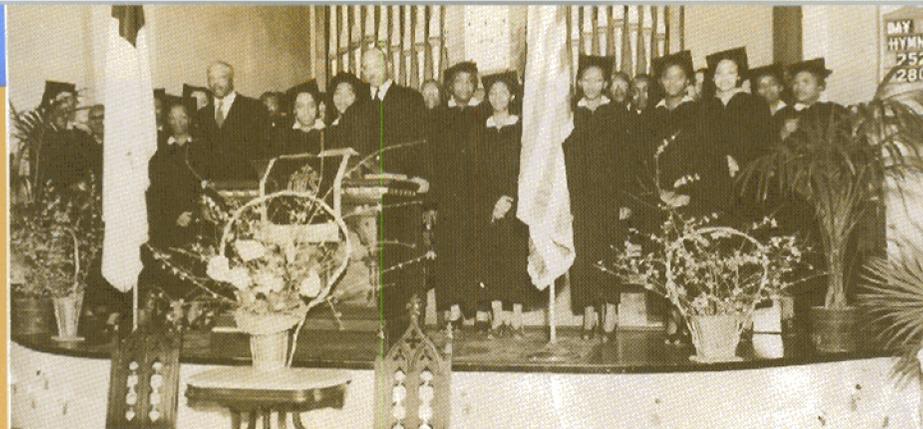
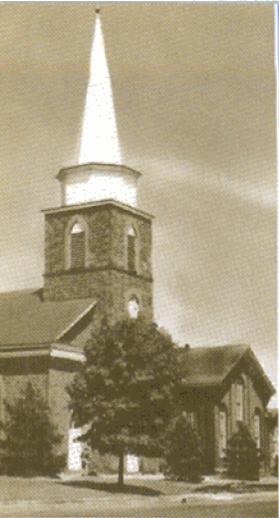
eral championship semi-professional baseball teams and is recognized as a center of Hackensack's athletic activities. Its clubhouse is one of Hackensack's most treasured historic landmarks.

The Hackensack Yacht Club was established in the mid-1900s as the Hackensack Field and Boat Club. It took its current name in 1908, setting up residence at a clubhouse at Shafer Place on the Hackensack River. Incorporated in 1940, the Hackensack Yacht Club's mission has been "to promote and encourage boating and seamanship and to provide a program of social activities for its members."

Although it still occupies its original site on the Hackensack River, the majority of today's Yacht Club members pilot their vessels along the Hudson River, Long Island Sound, and the waterways of the New Jersey Shore. During summer months, the club's flag flies over the Alpine Boat Basin in Palisades Interstate Park.

A city's parks are often the sites of many memorable entertainment and cultural offerings, or they serve as peaceful oases in the midst of a bustling metropolis. The City of Hackensack maintains a 76-acre park and recreational system that includes 15 city parks and the Submarine Ling for the enjoyment of its citizens and their guests. In 1993, Hackensack's Mayor and City Council began a \$1 million project to improve and upgrade the parks.





# HACKENSACK'S HOUSES OF WORSHIP

---

## **African Methodist Episcopal**

Varick Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church, 120 Atlantic Street

---

## **Baptist**

Calvary Baptist, 106 Central Avenue  
First Baptist, 15 Conklin Place  
Mount Olive Baptist, 260 Central Avenue  
New Hope Baptist, First Street and Berdan Place  
Trinity Baptist, 218 Passaic Street

---

## **Church of God**

Bethel Church of God in Christ, 192 High Street  
Bethel Gospel Church of Christ, 204 James Street

---

## **Congregational**

First Congregational Church, 720 Summit Avenue

---

## **Episcopal**

Christ Church Episcopal, 251 State Street  
Saint Anthony of Padua Episcopal, Lodi and South Main Streets  
Saint Cyprian's Church, 269 First Street

---

## **Jehovah's Witnesses**

Kingdom Hall, 506 Hamilton Place

---

## **Jewish**

Temple Beth-El, 280 Summit Avenue

---

## **Lutheran**

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church, Ross and Grand Avenues

---

## **Methodist**

Hackensack Methodist Church, Summit and Passaic Streets

---

*Hackensack*

*is now*

*home to*

*many*

*diverse*

*religions*

*and houses*

*of worship.*

Top, far left: The First  
Reformed Church. Left  
and bottom right:  
Varick Memorial A.M.E.  
Zion Church circa 1940.  
Bottom, far right:  
Holy Trinity Church  
circa 1896.

---

### **Nazarene**

Emmanuel Fellowship Church of the Nazarene, 106 Euclid Avenue

---

### **Pentacostal**

Faith Recovery Center, Inc., 42 Fair Street  
King of Kings Full Gospel Tabernacle, 309 State Street  
Little Bethel Holiness Church, 264 Second Street  
Mount Holiness Temple, 320 Hamilton Place

---

### **Presbyterian**

First Presbyterian Church, 64 Passaic Street  
Korean Hanil Presbyterian Church, 64 Passaic Street

---

### **Reformed Churches in America**

First Reformed Church, 42 Court Street  
Second Reformed Church, Union and Anderson Streets  
Reformed Chapel (La Capilla Reformada), Anderson and Union Streets  
Third Reformed Church, 67 South Prospect Avenue

---

### **Roman Catholic**

Holy Trinity R.C. Church, 34 Maple Avenue  
Church of the Immaculate Conception, 49 Vreeland Avenue  
Saint Francis Church, 50 Lodi Street  
Saint Joseph's Church, 460 Hudson Street

---

### **Salvation Army**

Salvation Army, 89 State Street

---

### **Seventh-Day Adventist**

Seventh-Day Adventist, 106 Euclid Avenue

---

### **Spiritual**

Universal Hager's Spiritual Temple, 180 Clay Street

---

### **Syrian**

Saint Mark's Syrian Orthodox Cathedral, Grand and Fairmount Avenues

---



# HACKENSACK VIEWS



*The Newman School, a Catholic boarding school for boys, was one of the finest preparatory schools in the eastern region of the nation. It was attended by many outstanding citizens of the time including F. Scott Fitzgerald. The school was located on the corner of Essex Street and Polifly Road. Photograph courtesy of the Johnson Free Public Library.*

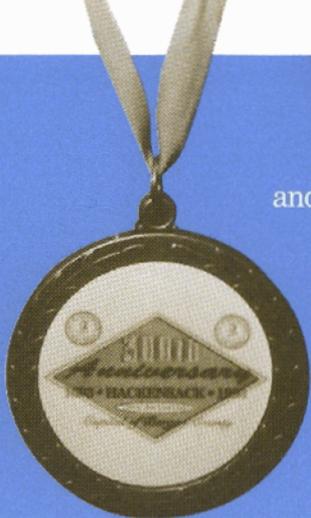


# A CITY CELEBRATES!

**R**esidents and friends of Hackensack joined together throughout its tricentennial year to remember, honor, and celebrate a community and its heritage. Spearheaded by a committee of dedicated citizens, the 300th Anniversary Committee conducted dozens of activities and events, leaving lasting memories in the hearts of all those living in Hackensack.

On April 25, 1993, there was an art exhibit of the works of B. Spencer Newman, a prominent Hackensack artist and architect who depicted life in Hackensack,

## A CITY CELEBRATES!



and other well-known local artists including Maxine Banta and Harry Hubbard.

Another highlight was the 1993 school graduation ceremonies at which all graduating classes received commemorative medallions of the anniversary — something they will treasure for years to come. ■ Fourth of July weekend activities, called “Freedom Festival,” produced excitement for all.

July 3 included a big band concert featuring the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra, a gospel concert by the Garden State Gospel Music and Voice of Hackensack, the comedian Irwin C. Watson, a community softball game, and flea market. Independence Day offerings also included circus acts, an oldies concert by The Duprees and The Dubs, and of course, a spectacular fireworks display reminiscent of years past. ■ Residents also participated in city-wide block parties throughout the month of August. Also in August, the U.S.S. Ling celebrated its 50-year birthday in conjunction with the city by conducting a 24-hour ham radio marathon transmission from the submarine. ■ UNICO’s Columbus Day festivities honored the City of Hackensack’s

300th anniversary. Held at Columbus Park, the event offered a range of family activities including music, a petting zoo, food, and children’s games. ■ On

October 17, 1993, students throughout Hackensack made a wonderful contribution to the educational component of the city’s historical year.

Children from all public schools, three private schools, and the Holley



# 1693 – 1993

Center, a nonprofit shelter for children, made presentations on our city's history to the public. Highlighting the day's activities was the start of the city's special postal cancellation. A United States postal truck was available to cancel envelopes for collectors and the public. ■ On October 3, 1993, local historians from the Hackensack Historical Society made a presentation on the history of the schools, which began with the ringing of the city's old school bells. ■ On

November 13, 1993, African-American churches throughout the city conducted a spectacular gospel concert, a grand event attended by hundreds of people from all cultures and ethnic backgrounds. A community night was conducted December 1, 1993, at the Brendan

Byrne Arena during a New Jersey Nets professional basketball game. ■ The Mayor and City Council devoted an issue of the city-wide newsletter to commemorating the 300-year anniversary of the city.

The newsletter offered a comprehensive chronology of the city's evolution. "The Record" and "North Jersey Newspapers" also published special editions celebrating Hackensack's 300-year anniversary. ■ The City of Hackensack is indebted to many individuals and businesses whose financial contributions made many events possible. Too many to name, please accept our deepest gratitude for all your support.



# 300TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

## CHAIRPERSONS

Michael J. D'Arminio  
Josephine Rubinacci

## CITY COUNCIL

John F. Zisa, Mayor  
Juanita Trammell, Deputy Mayor  
Jesus R. Galvis  
Roger B. Mattei  
Mark A. Stein

## FORMER COUNCIL MEMBERS

Sandra Ann Robinson, Esq.  
Mauro A. Mecca, M.D.

## CITY COORDINATORS

Miriam E. Ferguson  
Charlotte Panny

## COMMITTEE

Peter Banta, Esq.  
Maria Centore  
Jeanne Gigli  
Lynne B. Hurwitz  
Deborah Karlsson  
Juan Lacomba  
Edythe Lazarow  
Diane Lomia  
Kenneth J. Martin  
William Nawrocki  
Judy Neal  
Kevin O'Hara  
John Rogers  
Dock Russell  
Edna Schmidt  
Lisa M. Setticase  
Ruthann Sheer  
Edgar J. Stein  
Cam Toscano  
Peter Zisa

## ADVISORY BOARD

Hackensack Board of Education  
Hackensack Chamber of Commerce  
Hackensack Chapter of UNICO  
Hackensack Lions Club  
Hackensack Medical Center  
Hackensack Water Company  
Johnson Free Public Library  
Mount Olive Baptist Church  
New Jersey Bell Telephone  
Public Service Electric & Gas  
The Record  
Senior Citizens Advisory Board

## MAYORS

Robert A. Altschuler  
July 1933–May 1937

Ralph J. deClairmont  
May 1937–November 1937

Paul J. Foschini  
December 1937–May 1941  
May 1945–May 1949  
May 1953–September 1954

Fredrick V. Ferber  
May 1941–May 1945

A.R. William Granito  
May 1949–May 1953

Edgar P. Deuell  
September 1954–October 1959

Walter E. Nowakowski  
October 1959–May 1960  
February 1961–May 1961  
May 1965–May 1969

Eugene E. Demarest  
May 1960–February 1961

Peter Frapaul  
May 1961–October 1962

Kazmier Wysocki  
November 1962–May 1965  
May 1969–May 1973  
February 1977–May 1977

Michael J. D'Arminio  
May 1973–January 1977

Frank C. Zisa  
May 1977–May 1981

Fred Cerbo  
May 1981–July 1989

John F. Zisa  
July 1989–present

## CITY MANAGERS

Wilder M. Rich July 1933–June 1939

Carl W. Wright July 1939–July 1948

Harold V. Reilly, Sr. September 1948–  
September 1964

Joseph J. Squillace October 1964–May 1986

Wilbur H. Lind June 1986–January 1987

Robert C. Casey March 1987–August 1989

James S. Lacava August 1989–present

## POLICE CHIEFS

C. VanBlarkom 1888–1903 (unofficial)

Irving Waltermire 1904–1914

Jacob Dunn 1914–1919

Martin O'Shea 1919–1930

F. Ripperger 1930–1943

William Munz 1943–1951

William Menke 1951–1956

Westervelt Demarest 1956–1961

Anthony D'Elia 1961–1966

Anthony Iurato 1966–1990

William Iurato 1990–1992

John J. Aletta 1992–present

## FIRE CHIEFS

William Ziegler 1914–1933

Frank Walsh 1933–1946

William Frodsham 1946–1964

Vincent Hoffman 1964–1971

John Bishop 1971–1974

Charles Jones 1974–1980

Anthony Aiello 1980–1989

Ronald Freeman 1989–1994

Richard Johnson 1994–present

## BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESIDENTS

George N. Wheeler	1894	George A. Brown	1957, 1961
John C. Voorhis	1895 - 1900	Edward Szatanski	1958, 1963
Milton Demarest	1901–1907	Alexander McKenzie	1959
J. H. Bennett	1908, 1909	Alfred Abbitt	1960, 1962, 1968
G. G. Ackerson	1910, 1911	Helen DeVincentis	1964
P. C. Staib	1912	Richard C. Thiel	1965, 1970, 1971
C. F. Adams	1913	C. Lewis Johnson	1966
J. W. Loveland	1914–1916	Dr. J. John Kristal	1967
G. H. Richenaher	1917	John Sedlack	1969
H. A. Berry	1918	T. J. Bonica	1972
Thomas A. Stine	1919	Charles E. Parslow	1973, 1974
William W. Montalvo, Jr.	1920	Donald E. Fleming	1975
William G. Brandhurst	1921	Howard Williams	1976, 1977, 1982, 1986
E. P. Bridger	1922	Tina H. Karsian	1978
Charles Rosenberg	1923	Fred Cerbo	1979, 1980
E. W. Stevens	1924, 1925	Dr. Bernard J. Saccaro	1981, 1984, 1985, 1988
John H. Sturge	1926, 1928	Barbara J. Elder	1983
Jacob W. Binder	1927	Karen Papastrat	1987
Fred U. Hillers	1929, 1940–1949, 1954	Frank Gayeski	1987
Henry W. Holman	1930	Rev. Gregory Jackson	1989
Mary E. Smith	1931	Richard A. Kruse	1990, 1991
Herbert H. Bennett	1932–1934	Daniel E. Kirsch	1992–present
Marinus Constant	1935–1939		
William C. Heise	1950		
Lewis R. Harris	1951–1953		
Philip Audino	1955, 1956		

## REFERENCES

- Exempt Firemen's Association. 1896. *Hackensack Illustrated*. H.D. Winton Printing Establishment.
- Karsian, D. and I. Talbot. 1976. *Hackensack Heritage to Horizons*. Unpublished.
- Johnson, S.T., Bogert, F.W., Mitchell, C., Ralph, R.M., Stuart, M.A. 1983. *Bergen County, New Jersey History and Heritage*. The Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders.
- Scudder, George M. 1975. *History of Public Schools*. Hackensack Public Schools.
- . 1992. *A 300-Year History of Hackensack*. Unpublished.
- Walker, A. H. 1876. *Atlas of Bergen County*. Reading Publishing House.
- Westervelt, Frances A. 1923. *History of Bergen County*. Lewis Historical Publishing Co., Inc.