

Arden**Name and General Powers****Section 1**

- (a) The inhabitants of the Village of Arden, in New Castle County, Delaware, and their successors within the limits hereinafter prescribed or hereafter established, are hereby constituted, created and established a municipal corporation and body politic forever, by the name and style of the "Village of Arden", hereinafter "the Village".
- (b) Under that name they shall have perpetual succession; may have and use a corporate seal, which may be altered, changed or renewed at pleasure; may sue and be sued; for any public, municipal educational or charitable purpose, may acquire by gift, grant, purchase, lease, demise, bequest or otherwise hold, real and personal property within and without the limits hereinafter prescribed; for the common benefit may dispose of real and personal property owned or held by it; and shall possess in addition to the powers expressly enumerated or specifically mentioned in this Act, all powers, which under the Constitution of the State of Delaware, it is now or in the future may be, lawful for this Act to enumerate. All powers of the Village, whether expressed or implied, shall be exercised as prescribed by this Act. If no procedure or manner of exercise be prescribed herein the same shall be exercised as prescribed by an appropriate ordinance or resolution of the Town Assembly of Arden.

Territorial Limits**Section 2**

- (a) The corporate limits of the Village are hereby established and declared to be as follows:

BEGINNING at a point on the southeasterly right of way line or Marsh Road (at 60 feet wide), said point of Beginning being in the center line of the West Branch of Naamans Creek and a corner for lands now or formerly of the Trustees of Ardentown; thence from said point of Beginning and along the said center line of the West Branch of Naamans Creek by the various courses thereof in a generally southeasterly direction and along line of said lands now or formerly of the Trustees of Ardentown, lands now or formerly of the Albert T. Hanby Foundation, along the southwesterly boundary line of Highland Woods, along line of lands now or formerly of Stockdale Corp., and along the southwesterly boundary line of Indian Field, 3900±feet to a point; thence along the northwesterly line of Ardentown, South 62°-08'-05" West, 2291.79 feet to a point in the center line of Grubb or Harvey Road, said course crossing over an existing monument set on the southwesterly side of Orchard Road (at 38 feet wide) and crossing Apple Tree Lane and Millers Road (at 38 feet wide) ; thence along the said center line of Grubb or Harvey Road, North 20°-05'-50" West, 5.75 feet to a point; thence along line of lands now or formerly of Alfred Strickler the three following described courses and distances: (1) South 63°-05'-40" West, and passing through a 48 inch tulip poplar tree, 86.89 feet to a point; (2) South 60°-31'-00" West, 127.20 feet to a point; and (3) South 58°-45'-00" West, 131.90 feet to a point, a corner for said lands now or formerly of Alfred Strickler and lands known as Ardencroft; thence along the northwesterly line of said lands known as Ardencroft and lands now or formerly of the Ardencroft Association known as the Mushroom House Lot, South 57°-38'-50" West, 1356.16 feet to an existing pipe in the northeasterly line of lands now or formerly of Benjamin J. Steinbery et ux; thence thereby North 25°-04'-24", West, 1354.00 feet to a point, a corner for lands now or formerly of Samuel B. Eure et ux; thence along the northeasterly line of said lands now or formerly of Samuel B. Eure et ux, North 25°-00'-25" West, 777.10 feet to a monument located on the said southeasterly right of way line of Marsh Road; thence along the said southeasterly right of way line of Marsh Road the three following described courses and distances: (1) North 58°-31'-13" East, 758.02 feet to a point, said course crossing said Grubb or Harvey Road; (2) North 56°-54'-59" East, 1062.84 feet to a point of curvature; and (3) northeasterly along a curve to the left having a radius of 984.93 feet. an arc distance of 317.89 feet to a point in the said center line of the West Branch of Naamans Creek and a corner for said lands now or formerly of the Trustees of Ardentown and the point and place of Beginning, said course being distant by a chord of North 47°-40'-12" East, 316.51 feet from the last described point. CONTAINING within such metes and bounds, and including Grubb or Harvey Road, 159.00 acres of land be the same more or less...

- (b) The Town Assembly may, at any time hereafter, cause a survey and plot of the village to be made, and said plot or any supplement thereto, when so made and approved by the Town Assembly, signed by the Secretary

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of the Town Assembly, who shall affix thereto the municipal corporate seal of the Village, and upon being recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County, shall be the record thereof, and such record, or a duly certified copy thereof, shall be evidence in all Courts of Law and Equity of this State.

Definitions

Section 3

As used in this Act

- (a) Resident shall mean a person, male or female, above the age of eighteen (18) years, who shall have resided in the Village for a period of six consecutive months immediately preceding each referendum or each meeting of the Town Assembly of Arden held pursuant to this Act.
- (b) General referendum shall mean an election or vote of the residents of the Village at which the vote of a majority of the residents of the Village shall be necessary for the passage or approval of any matter or the election of any candidate voted upon thereat, unless otherwise expressly provided in this Act.
- (c) Trustee shall mean a person serving as Trustee under a certain Indenture made the 31st day of January, 1908 wherein the lands described in Section 2 hereof, were conveyed upon certain trusts.
- (d) Leaseholder shall mean a person who leases a portion of the lands described in Section 2 hereof, from the Trustees serving under said Indenture. 58 **Del. Laws**, c. 91

Structure of Government

Section 4

The government of the Village and the exercise of all powers conferred by this Act, except as otherwise provided herein, shall be vested in the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden, referred to herein as the "Town Assembly". The Town Assembly shall consist of all residents of the Village.

Meetings of the Town Assembly

Section 5

- (a) Regular meetings of the Town Assembly shall be held on the fourth Monday of January, March, June and September of each year after the approval of this Act at the Gild Hall in the Village or other suitable public place in the Village. Written notice of the time, date and place of all regular meetings of the Town Assembly shall be mailed by the Secretary of the Town Assembly to all residents of the Village at least 5 days prior thereto.
- (b) Special meetings of the Town Assembly shall be called by the Secretary of the Town Assembly (1) upon the written request of 25 residents, provided that such request shall state the purpose for calling such meeting, which purpose shall be set forth in the notice of such meeting; or (2) upon the affirmative vote of a majority of residents in attendance at a regular or special meeting of the Town Assembly provided that any motion for the calling of a special meeting shall state the purpose therefor, which purpose shall be set forth in the notice thereof. Notice of the time, date and place of any special meeting of the Town Assembly shall be mailed to all residents at least 5 days before the date thereof.
- (c) At all meetings of the Town Assembly thirty-five (35) residents shall constitute a quorum for the enactment of all ordinances, the adoption of all resolutions and motions, and the transaction of all business properly before the Town Assembly.
- (d) Each resident attending a meeting of the Town Assembly shall have one vote on each matter brought before such meeting. The Secretary of the Town Assembly shall take the yeas and nays and, unless otherwise specified in this Act, a majority of the yeas shall be sufficient to pass all ordinances, resolutions and motions at any meeting of the Town Assembly and to transact all business properly brought before the meeting.
- (e) No ordinance of the Village shall be voted upon by the Town Assembly unless submitted to the Town Assembly in writing and read at the two consecutive meetings, whether regular or special, next preceding the meeting at which such ordinance shall be voted upon.

- (f) The Town Assembly shall determine its own rules and order of business and shall keep a journal of its proceedings and the yeas and nays which shall be taken upon the passage of every ordinance and resolution.
- (g) The Town Assembly shall elect a resident to serve as Chairman of the Town Assembly who shall preside at all meetings thereof. The Chairman shall serve for a term of one (1) year or until his successor is duly elected by the Town Assembly in accordance with the provisions hereof. The signature, certifications or attestation of the Chairman of the Town Assembly to any document pertaining to the affairs of the Village called for by any act, statute, rule or regulation of the State of Delaware or any agency thereof shall be good and sufficient compliance therewith, notwithstanding that such act, statute, rule or regulation designates such document to be signed, certified or attested by the Mayor, City Manager, President of Council or like designated chief executive of an incorporated municipality of the State of Delaware.
- (h) The Town Assembly shall elect a resident to serve as Secretary of the Town Assembly for a term of one year or until his successor is duly elected by the Town Assembly in accordance with the provisions hereof. The Secretary shall have charge and custody of the books, journal, records, papers and other effects of the Village and shall keep the same in a safe and secure place. He shall keep a full and complete record of all of the transactions of the Town Assembly. He shall file and keep in a safe place the seal of the Village and all papers and documents arising out of the proceedings of the Town Assembly and relative to the affairs of the Village. He shall deliver the same to his successor in office. He shall attest the seal of the Village when authorized by the Town Assembly and shall perform such duties and have such other powers as may be prescribed by ordinance. All books, records and journals of the Village in the custody of the Secretary may, in the presence of the Secretary, be inspected by any resident, Trustee or leaseholder of the Village desiring legitimate information at any time or times as may be convenient. The compensation of the Secretary for his duties as such, shall be determined by the Town Assembly.

Committees of the Town Assembly

Section 6

- (a) The Town Assembly may elect such officials, including a Treasurer, and such agents, committees and commissioners of the Village which the Town Assembly may deem proper and necessary for the management of the Village and for the operation and enforcement of this Act and of any ordinances and resolutions adopted hereinunder. Any person so elected shall be a resident of the Village and shall serve at the pleasure of the Town Assembly but in no event longer than two years unless re-elected.
- (b) All persons presently serving on committees of the Town Assembly shall continue in office until their successors are duly elected in the manner herein provided.

Board of Assessors

Section 7

- (a) The Board of Assessors shall consist of seven (7) residents elected in the manner herein provided: Candidates for the Board of Assessors shall be nominated by the Town Assembly at its regular September meeting of each year. No later than 45 days after such nomination, the Registration Committee of the Village shall mail ballots containing the names of all nominees to each resident of the Village. The ballots shall be in such form as the Registration Committee shall prescribe and shall contain suitable boxes for marking the choices of the voters. Each resident shall return his marked ballot to the Registration Committee within 30 days after the mailing thereof. The Registration Committee shall tally the votes cast and report the results of the election at the first regular meeting of the Town Assembly following the election. The election and the result thereof shall be governed by the Hare System of Proportional Representation.
- (b) The members of the Board of Assessors shall serve for one year or until their successors are duly elected in accordance with the provisions of this Act.
- (c) The duties of the Board of Assessors shall consist of assessing the full rental value of leased lands in the Village. The Board shall conduct two hearings during May and June of each year which shall be open to all residents, Trustees and leaseholders of the Village. Notice of the time, date and place of each hearing shall be mailed to all residents, leaseholders and Trustees at least five (5) days before such hearing. The Board shall fix rules and regulations for the conduct of the hearings, provided that reasonable opportunity shall be afforded to all persons entitled to notice thereof to be heard at such hearings. The Board shall report its assessment rate to the regular June meeting of the Town Assembly.

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- (d) The Assessors shall, before assuming office, take an oath of office before any person qualified under the Laws of the State of Delaware, to administer oaths, which oath shall be in the following form: "I..... do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully perform and discharge my duties as Assessor of Arden to the best of my ability and that I will as nearly as possible assess the full rental value for Arden lands as required by the Deed of Trust and the Leases of Arden."
- (e) The assessment rate determined by the Board for the assessment of Arden lands shall be final and conclusive, provided that any leaseholder of the Village shall have the right to appeal such determination by submitting a proposed assessment rate to the Town Assembly at its regular September meeting. In the event that such proposed rate shall receive the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the residents voting at such meeting, such proposed rate and the rate determined by the Board shall both be submitted to a general referendum of the residents of the Village. The referendum shall be conducted by the Registration Committee. The rate approved by a majority of residents shall be the rate in effect until redetermined in the manner herein provided.
- (f) The Board of Assessors shall determine the applicability of differential factors to the application of the assessment rate upon leaseholds in the Village. The Board shall afford leaseholders the opportunity to be heard upon any question arising thereunder.
- (g) It shall be the duty of the Board to keep and maintain a full and accurate record of its deliberations and proceedings, including all information and data considered in its determinations. Such record shall be open to the inspection of any Trustee, resident or leaseholder at any time or times as may be convenient. Upon the expiration of their term in office, the assessors shall deliver the same to their successors.

Budget Committee

Section 8

- (a) The Budget Committee shall consist of five residents of the Village elected by the Town Assembly. Three members of the Committee shall be elected by the Town Assembly at its regular March meeting in each odd-numbered year following the approval of this Act. Two members of the Committee shall be elected by the Town Assembly at its regular March meeting in each even-numbered year following the approval of this Act. Each member, so elected, shall serve in office for two years or until his successor is duly elected.
- (b) The Budget Committee shall prepare a budget governing (1) the expenditure of all Village funds, the use and expenditure of which are not specifically governed by Federal, State or County laws, rules and regulations; and (2) the expenditure of all monies derived from the collection of ground rents, the lawful use and expenditure of which are now and hereafter subject to the approval and consent of the residents of the Village.
- (c) The budget prepared by the Committee shall be reported to the Town Assembly at its regular September meeting of each year. The Town Assembly may modify or amend all or any portion of the budget. The budget, with any amendments thereto, shall be approved by the Town Assembly and submitted to a general referendum of the residents of the Village. The referendum shall be conducted by the Registration Committee within 45 days after the regular September meeting of the Town Assembly. The Registration Committee shall mail ballots to all residents of the Village. The ballots shall contain suitable boxes for marking the approval or disapproval of the entire proposed budget and each item therein enumerated. No ballot shall be counted unless received by the Registration Committee on or before a date fixed by the Committee which shall in no event be less than fifteen (15) days from the date the Registration Committee mails the ballots to the residents of the Village. The budget, if approved by a majority of the residents of the Village, shall govern the use and expenditure of the monies therein specified for and during the fiscal year of the Village commencing March 25 next following the referendum.

Registration Committee

Section 9

- (a) The Registration Committee shall consist of: (1) five residents of the Village elected by the Town Assembly. Two members of the Committee shall be elected by the Town Assembly at its regular March meeting in each odd-numbered year. Three members of the Committee shall be elected by the Town Assembly at its regular March meeting in each even-numbered year. Each member, so elected, shall serve in office for two years or until his/her successor is duly elected; and (2) the Senior Trustee of Arden and the Secretary of the Town Assembly. The Clerk of the Trustees shall be an ex-officio member of this committee.

- (b) The Registration Committee shall register all residents of the Village as defined in Section 3 of this Act and shall keep a full and accurate record thereof which shall set forth the date each resident establishes his residence. The registration record shall be conclusive evidence of the entitlement of the persons therein listed to vote at meetings of the Town Assembly and referenda held hereunder.
- (c) The Registration Committee shall supervise all referenda held hereunder and shall fix rules and regulations, not in consistent with the provision of this act, for the proper and orderly conduct thereof. The Registration Committee shall certify in writing to the Town Assembly and to the Trustees the results of all referenda held hereunder. 69 Del. Laws, c. 30

Vacancies

Section 10

In case of vacancy created in any office established under the provisions of this Act and the doings of the Town Assembly by reason of death, resignation, loss of residence in the Village, conviction of a felony or otherwise, the Town Assembly, at the earliest possible meeting, shall elect some suitable person to serve the unexpired term of such office.

Powers and Ordinances

Section 11

The Village shall have all powers possible for the Village to have under the Constitution and laws of Delaware as fully and completely as though they were specifically enumerated by this Act. In furtherance thereof, the Town Assembly is hereby vested with the authority to enact ordinances and adopt resolutions relating to any subject within the powers or functions of the Village, or relating to the government of the Village, its peace and order, its sanitation, beauty, the health, safety, convenience and comfort of its population, and the protection and preservation of property and to fix, impose and enforce the payment of fines and penalties for the violation of such ordinances or resolutions, and no provision of this Charter as to ordinances or resolutions on any particular subject shall be held to be restrictive of the power to enact ordinances or resolutions on any subject not specifically enumerated. Notwithstanding any statute, act or law of the State of Delaware to the contrary, the power to acquire and/or to vacate the use of lands, tenements, personalty, property, easements, rights of way or any interest in property within the limits of the Village, as described in Section 2 hereof, by way of condemnation and eminent domain shall be and is vested exclusively in the Town Assembly; provided, however, that the Town Assembly may, but is not obliged to do so, consent to the exercise of any such power by an agency, commission or department of the State of Delaware for any lawful purpose.

The Village may exercise any of its powers or perform any of its functions and may participate in the financing thereof, jointly or in cooperation, by contract or otherwise with any one or more states or civil divisions or agencies thereof, including the government of New Castle County, or the United States or any agency thereof.

It shall be the duty of the Town Assembly, at a reasonable time or times, to compile the ordinances, codes, orders and rules of the Town Assembly of the Village. The Town Assembly shall have a reasonable number of copies printed for the use of the officials of the Village and for public information. From time to time, upon the enactment of new ordinances, codes, rules and regulations, or upon the enactment of amendments to the same, the Secretary of the Town Assembly shall enroll the same in the journal of the Town Assembly and keep copies of the same in a book to be provided for that purpose so that the same may be readily examined.

Enforcement, Fines and Penalties

Section 12

- (a) The Justices of the Peace sitting (whether regularly, specially or otherwise) in the Justice of the Peace Court located nearest to the Village shall have jurisdiction and cognizance of all offenses against the provisions of this Act or the authorized ordinances of the Village committed within the limits of the Village as far as to arrest and hold to bail or fine and imprison offenders; provided that he shall impose no fine or penalty in excess of that fixed by the ordinance and shall not commit to prison for a longer term than 30 days. The New Castle County Correctional Institution may be used for imprisonment under the provisions of this Act provided that the Town Assembly shall pay for the board of persons committed for breaches of ordinances which are not breaches of the general law.

- (b) No ordinance of the Village shall provide for a fine in excess of \$100 or imprisonment of more than 30 days.
- (c) Any person convicted before such Justice of the Peace for the violation of any Village ordinance may appeal from such conviction to the Superior Court in and for New Castle County upon giving bond to the State with or without surety, as such Justice of the Peace shall determine, binding the person taking the appeal to appear before the Court. Notice of such an appeal shall be given to such Justice of the Peace within five (5) days from the time of conviction, counting the day of conviction as one, and the bond with surety, if any, shall be filed within five (5) days. No bond upon appeal from a conviction for violation of a Village ordinance shall exceed the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100). Such appeal shall be prosecuted and the proceedings shall be had as in an appeal from a conviction before a Justice of the Peace in the case of a violation of the laws relating to the operation of motor vehicles.

Police Force

Section 13

The Town Assembly may appoint a police force consisting of such person or persons as the Town Assembly may deem wise and advisable. The Town Assembly shall from time to time, upon recommendations of its Safety Committee, adopt rules and regulations as may be necessary for the organization, government and control of the police force. The members of the force shall be subject to the direction of the Town Assembly and may be removed by the Town Assembly at any time. They shall preserve peace and order and shall compel obedience within the Village limits to the ordinances of the Village and the laws of the State; and they shall have such other duties as the Town Assembly shall from time to time prescribe.

Each member of the police force shall be vested with all powers and authority of a constable of New Castle County within the Village limits and within one mile outside such limits, and in the case of the pursuit of an offender, his power and authority shall extend to all parts of the State of Delaware.

Every person sentenced to imprisonment by the Justice of the Peace, as provided in Section 12 of this Act, shall be delivered by a member of the police force to the New Castle County Correctional Institution, to be there imprisoned for the term of the sentence.

It shall be the duty of the police to suppress riotous, disorderly or turbulent assemblages of persons in the streets and public places of the Village, or the noisy conduct of any person in the same, and upon view of the above, or upon the view of the violation of any ordinance of the Village relating to the peace and good order thereof, the police shall have the right and power to arrest without warrant and to take the offender before the Justice of the Peace, as aforesaid.

Contracts of the Town Assembly

Section 14

The Town Assembly is vested with authority on behalf of the Village to enter into contracts for the rendering of services to the Village and/or the purchase of supplies and doing of work for any municipal purpose of the Village. All formal contracts shall be signed by the Chairman of the Town Assembly, with the seal of the Village attached and attested by the Secretary of the Town Assembly.

Fire, Zoning and Housing Codes

Section 15

For protection against fire and for the preservation of the beauty of the Village and the health of the inhabitants, the Town Assembly may adopt ordinances to zone or district the Village and to make particular provisions for particular zones or districts with regard to buildings and building materials; to prohibit the use of building materials that may be deemed to create a fire hazard, and this power shall embrace new buildings or additions to or alterations of existing structures of every kind, to condemn and/or vacate buildings or structures, or portions thereof, that constitute a fire and/or health menace and to require or cause the same to be torn down or removed or so altered as to eliminate the menace of fire or danger to health; to prescribe the height and thickness of walls of any building and the kind and grade of materials used in the construction thereof; and to establish a building line for buildings to be erected.

The Town Assembly may adopt zoning ordinances limiting and specifying districts and regulating thereon buildings, structures and uses according to their construction and according to the nature and extent of the use or business to be carried on therein.

The powers to be exercised under and by virtue of this Section shall be deemed to have been exercised under the police power and for the general welfare of the inhabitants of the Village.

The Town Assembly may create a Village Zoning Commission for the development, improvement and beautification of the Village and may prescribe its powers and duties.

The Town Assembly may provide for the issuance of building permits and may forbid the construction of any new building or the addition to, or alteration or repair of any existing building unless a building permit has been obtained therefor.

The Town Assembly may adopt a housing code to regulate and govern the occupancy of residential structures in the Village, the structural requirements of residential and commercial properties for the health, safety, welfare and comfort of occupants thereof, and to appoint a commission to carry out and enforce the provisions of the housing code.

Savings Clause

Section 16

All ordinances, resolutions and motions adopted by the Commissioners of the Village of Arden and in force at the time of the approval, acceptance and going into effect of this Act are continued in force until the same or any of them, shall be repealed, modified or altered by the Town Assembly under the provisions of this Act. All the acts and doings of the Commissioners of the Village of Arden or of any official of the Village of Arden which shall have been lawfully done or performed under the laws of this State, prior to the approval, acceptance and going into effect of this Act are hereby ratified and confirmed unless otherwise provided herein.

Severability

Section 17

If any part of this Act shall be held unconstitutional, such holding shall not in anywise invalidate the remaining provisions of this Act.

Section 18

This Act shall be deemed and taken to be a public Act.

56 **Del. Laws**, c. 125; 58 **Del. Laws**, c. 91; 69 **Del. Laws**, c. 30



ARDEN: ITS HISTORY AND HABITS

PART I

Founded as a summer resort and enclave by single-tax theorists, Arden has achieved a strong community spirit that embraces individual expression

by *Mayda Brandner*

"Ay, now, am I in Arden . . ." — As You Like It, by William Shakespeare.

One community in Delaware which is well supplied with activities, meeting places, parks, theaters, discussions of timely topics, airing of differences and appreciation of individual talents, is Arden.

The enthusiasm and idealism of its founders and early settlers resulted in so many activities and organizations that residents and others who come to join in the fun sometimes complain of near-exhaustion. But, Arden is, and always has been, a place for active people who are seeking to find and express their own individualities — to "do their own thing" — and at the same time enjoy community living.

Wander the narrow, winding roads and paths of the three Ardens and you will not see any two houses alike. Some have a predominantly Tudor appearance, reflecting the artistic tastes of the founders. Others are modern structures situated near small, added-onto former summer cottages, constructed by amateurs.

Gardens may be meticulously manicured, slap-dash or apparently untended. Some of these, however, on closer study, are found to have been carefully worked at to achieve a casual, natural look.

Names of roads deserve inspection, as they exemplify the early settlers' love of nature and of things Elizabethan: Meadow Lane, Hillside Road, Orleans, Sherwood, Walnut Lane, Orchard Road.

Visitors to the Arden area are immediately struck by its uncrowded appearance. Trustees and directors in the three enclaves were foresighted enough to set aside almost 45% of the area for public use: commons, greens, malls, paths, parks, woodland, glens and roads. Included, too, is the Arden Memorial Garden, where people "may be buried or have their ashes interred if they have lived in the Adrens and if they are dead," as one resident put it. The Arden cemetery adjoins the old Grubb family burial ground, which includes a common grave for slaves and the grave of an Indian.

Individual lots, called leaseholds, have a minimum size of 10,000 square feet, a "short" one-quarter acre. Although some lease-

holds contain more than one house, the general effect, enhanced by the careful plantings of individuals and of the Arden Club's Gardeners' Guild, is one of pleasing openness and freedom to enjoy the blessings of nature.

Six miles north of Wilmington and close to the Pennsylvania line, the area which is generally thought of as Arden is actually three villages, with many similarities but with differences. Arden, founded in 1900 and the oldest of the three, recently by legislative action became an incorporated town. Ardentown, established in 1922, and Ardencroft, the most recent, begun in 1950, have not yet sought to have that status.

Sculptor George Frank Stephens was one of Arden's founders and established a permanent home there. Co-founder William Price visited frequently. Bust is of Haines Albright.

When an Ardentown resident protests that the Robin Hood Theater, the Warehouse, the Blue Boar Inn, or the Brandywine YWCA is not in Arden, as it has been listed somewhere, he is absolutely right. All of those attractions are in Ardentown.

Also, Arden Products, previously known as Arden Exports, is not in Arden but in Ardentown; and the Arden Store is not actually on ground included in any of the three Ardens, although it is firmly established as an Arden institution, having begun its existence on Cherry Lane off the Village Green and having been for a time a co-operative by and for Arden residents.

Making up a community which is far more united than divided, the three Ardens have somewhat different legal and economic structures. There is, however, sometimes a feeling that the towns should seek out their own ways, as individuals should, instead of copying each other. If, in a town meeting someone suggests that one of the other villages is contributing to a certain local cause, or has raised its land rent, and that the other Ardens might do likewise, he will surely be firmly, perhaps irately, reminded by another resident that imitation is not the creative way.

From the beginning creativity in social planning and in enterprise in the arts and crafts has been the great value in Arden life. The founders of Arden were artists, idealists, men of many talents: George Frank Stephens, sculptor, and William Price, architect, both of them zealous advocates of the "single-tax" theories of Philadelphia-born Henry George, whose best-known work, *Progress and Poverty*, was published in 1880. Both of the founders were capable speakers, writers and actors, particularly delighting in the works of Shakespeare.

The three Ardens together may be referred to as the Greater Arden Area, if it is not incongruous to refer to a space of about 340 acres with a population of about 420 families, or 1,180 individuals, as "greater." In the amount of attention it has attracted, however, and the stimulus it has provided in both the Philadelphia and Wilmington areas since the beginning of the century, that word might be appropriate.

The delegation of powers between the trustees and leaseholders or residents of the three villages differs from one to the next. Arden and Ardentown are set up as trusts, Ardencroft as a non-profit corporation. Each has three lifetime-serving administrators (called trustees in Arden and Ardentown, directors in Ardencroft), and each has a town meeting at least four times a year.

EARL BROADBENT



The single-tax economist's grandson, the late Dr. Henry George III of Wilmington, was the third director—along with Donald Stephens and Hamilton D. Ware—of Ardencroft when it was founded in 1950. An osteopathic physician, Dr. George resigned after a short period because of the demands of his practice, and was succeeded by William Price, Jr., son of one of the founders of Arden.

“Land rent” is assessed individuals who hold 99-year renewable leases instead of owning their land. The trustees are billed for all taxes and have the responsibility for seeing that remaining income is used for “such communal purposes as are properly public in that they cannot be left to individuals without giving them advantages over others.”

A small leaflet available at The Warehouse in Ardentown, titled “the village of Arden,” unsigned, but written by the late Hamilton D. Ware, describes the basic economic thinking of Henry George:

“That philosophy preached the text that the land, being God-given, should not be the property of any one individual. Those using the land, however, should pay for the use. Thus, if the full earning power of the land was taken, no other taxes would be needed to operate the community. As the leaseholders create the values, they should collect those values for the use of the community.”

Some observers feel that the vitality of the Ardens has been due more to the cultural interests and the social idealism of the founders than to the single-tax “enclave” economic structure itself. At best, it has been difficult to institute and maintain Georgian principles in a small area in which the economics of the “exclave” necessarily impinge.

Donald Stephens, son of the founder, is a zealous supporter of the single-tax theory and has fought throughout the history of the villages to apply its principles as truly as possible within the framework of Delaware statutes and practices. In his booklet, “The



EARL BROOKS

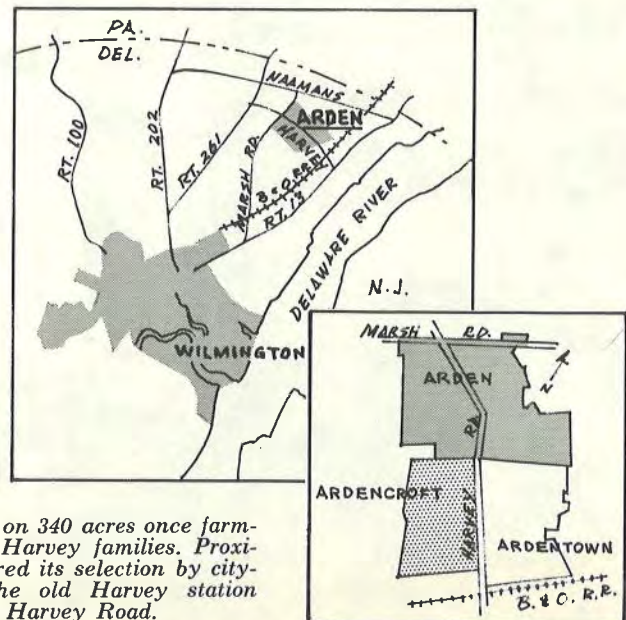
The Homestead of Frank Stephens was one of the first houses to rise. Today it is larger and sheathed with stucco exterior, and its occupants are Donald Stephens, son of the founder, and his wife, Ingeborg.

Story of the Three Ardens,” reprinted from *Land Value Taxation Around the World* (Robert Schalkenback Foundation, 50 E. 69th St., New York, N. Y.), he writes of the social philosophy of the community's founders:

“Upon a sound, democratic base they aimed to realize William Morris' ideals of a healthy and beautiful society wherein handicrafts, music, drama, the dance and other arts would flourish. In a surprisingly large measure, they succeeded.

“Over the entrance stile to

Arden they placed a carved inscription, ‘You Are Welcome Hither,’ and this has been the motto of the Three Ardens ever since. Unlike the founders of almost all other experimental communities, Stephens and Price did not believe in selecting the people who should live there. If Arden was to have any significance for world-wide application, they were convinced that there should be no attempt to determine who were the ‘sheep’ and who the ‘goats.’ So no applicant for land has ever been questioned as to his religion, his



The three Ardens rest on 340 acres once farmed by the Grubb and Harvey families. Proximity to the B&O favored its selection by city-dwellers who used the old Harvey station where the tracks cross Harvey Road.

politics or his race. If there is land to be rented, it is rented to anyone who applies for it, and the same terms prevail for all.

"This same democratic principle has been practiced in the Arden Club since its founding soon after the enclave was established . . .

"These unique policies have given Arden its character. Everyone there feels equal to his neighbor, and no man can say to another, 'You can't come in.' So all kinds of folk, from all walks of life, have been attracted and have come and settled here, and have learned to live together. A strength like that which prevailed in the days of early America has developed—it is part of that 'something' about the place which visitors quickly sense, even though they may not know the cause."

An important part of the single-tax theory is that an individual should not be taxed for the house or any improvements he puts upon the land. In the Ardens, when he sells his property he is selling only those improvements. The trustees or directors transfer to the buyer the lease to the land.



EARL BROADBENT

The Arden Craft Shop on the Village Green was a center for pottery making, woodworking, textile weaving and other crafts. Damaged by fire recently, it is now being restored as an apartment house.

If Arden's founders had been less democratic in their welcoming they might have been spared the constant wrangles over land rent which culminated in a 1935 court decision to the effect that elected committeemen, rather than the

trustees, have the authority to determine the annual land rent, subject to appeal at a town meeting. In Ardentown and in Arden-croft the assessment committees, although elected, are merely advisory to the trustees or directors.

Arden potters work in the Craft Shop. Products of Arden craftsmen were sold in the village to visitors.

EARL BROOKS



Part of the unique terminology of Arden is the talk of people as "low rent" or "high rent," referring not to what they pay but to what they advocate as a proper rental rate. Many of the earlier "low rent" people were active socialists. Single-taxers tend to stress the obligation under the trust to determine and collect "full rental value" and the fact that revenues collected must be used for the common good.

It is hard to find either an avowed socialist or many single-taxers in the Ardens these days. But land rent disputes are eternally a part of the community life.

Land rent when Arden started was about \$6 per acre. In 1967-68 the base land rent in Arden was \$13 per 1,000 square feet; \$11 in Ardentown and \$12.50 in Arden-

upon by the trustees or directors, they may call for arbitration. The arbitration is to be carried out by a representative of the leaseholders, one representing the administrators, and one acceptable to both groups. In the past Ardentown went through that process several times.

In recent years the right of arbitration has not been exercised as it became apparent that the costs involved were consuming town revenue which might have been spent on improvements. Contributing to the decline of petitions for arbitration was the fact that some of the most active, regular protestors died or moved away.

However intense the conflicts within the Ardens may be at times, there are equally intense demonstrations of community sol-

way of 60 feet."

A resolution was passed calling the inter-change unnecessary and the widening of the road a threat to the life of the community. Shortly after the meeting the Grubb-Harvey Road Committee was formed to fight the inter-change. When the matter finally was brought to court, the decision was against the protestors.

Meanwhile, construction of the interchange had continued without let-up. The Harvey Road widening proposal was left unresolved for the time being.

The death of Hamilton D. (Buzz) Ware in January, 1967, rocked the community in several ways. He was the only individual to serve as a trustee or director in all three Ardens. Replacement of Ware in each of those lifetime-serving capacities have involved the town meeting officers and the remaining trustees in frequent special meetings and communications.

By the middle of April the remaining trustees of Arden, I. B. Finkelstein and Philip Cohen, a Wilmington lawyer (not a resident), agreed upon a replacement and their choice, Cy Liberman, Arden resident and Wilmington newspaperman, was approved by referendum of the voters.

In Ardentown and Ardencroft speedy resolution of the problem was not achieved.

Ardentown requires a meeting of the leaseholders to approve the individual proposed by the remaining trustees, who now are Donald Stephens and Charles W. Pettit.

In Ardencroft, the directors, Donald Stephens and Philip Cohen, may appoint the successor to Ware.

A committee of area residents spontaneously formed to seek ways of establishing a permanent Hamilton D. Ware memorial. Solidarity was evident in the feeling for "Mr. Arden," whose life seemed inseparable from that to the community. ●

In Part II, to be published in the October-November issue, the author recounts the early days of Arden and surveys the many activities of the modern-day enclave.



EARL BROOKS

The Arden Inn provided lodging and community meals. A 1907 photograph shows early residents (from left) Fred Whiteside, Frank Stephens, Charles Ervin.

croft for the same amount of land. In each case there are moderate additions to the assessment if the leasehold includes certain desirability "factors," as they are called, such as fronting on a green, adjoining woodlands, being on a corner.

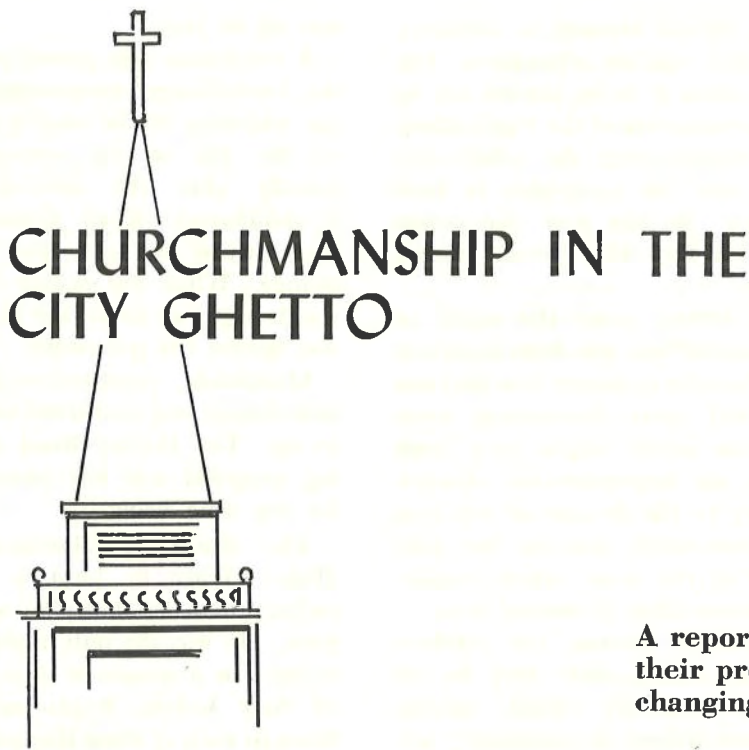
Arden has 184 leaseholds, Ardentown 115 and Ardencroft 100. Only the last has room for further development.

In Ardentown and in Ardencroft, in case leaseholders are dissatisfied with the land rent decided

identity. A recent example was the fight against the proposed widening of Harvey Road and the I-95 interchange immediately southeast of Arden.

The *Wilmington Morning News* of October 6, 1964, described a meeting held the previous evening:

"The Arden Gild Hall was jammed with at least 350 persons . . . They were there to hear officials of the State Highway Department detail the . . . plan to expand the 18-foot tree-lined macadam road to an over-all right-of-



A report on Wilmington's city churches and their programs for ministering to the changing neighborhoods they serve

by Carol Osmon

"A church sometimes tends to become a sort of club which exists only for the benefit of its members."

Probably many churches in Wilmington fit this description, given by the Reverend Dick Stazesky, executive director of the Methodist Action Program. Yet some congregations and denominational organizations feel it is a grave sin of omission to ignore the poverty and social injustice suffered by the urban poor of Wilmington.

These churches feel that if they are responsive to the situation of the urban Negro, their message will reach him more effectively. The clergymen are quick to point out that their efforts are not limited to "doing things for the poor" and that the church has a role as advocate in order to arrest the causes of urban problems. Nevertheless, a great deal of effort is concentrated on programs of direct help.

For example, the five urban churches in the Methodist Action Program and the three urban

churches in the Presbyterian Inner City Committee are offering these services to the residents in their areas: tutoring for school children, reading clinics, pre-kindergarten classes, organized athletic teams for teenagers, Boy and Girl Scout troops, and sewing classes for girls and women. Whenever possible, local residents are recruited to supervise these programs, but suburban volunteers also help.

Practically all of the same services are offered to the 518 members of the Neighborhood House at 1218 B Street. Owned and operated by a group of Methodist church women, its outreach is non-sectarian. The Neighborhood House also offers adult education classes in basic reading, writing and arithmetic and in home nursing and consumer buying. Scholastic achievers and athletic champions are recognized at an annual awards banquet. With events such as record hops, potluck suppers, and thrift sales, the Neighborhood House is contributing something of a community spirit to South Wilmington.

Several of the inner city churches have seen the need for wholesome recreation and provided rooms with pool or ping pong tables for teenagers to come in whenever they like.

Supervised recreation at Old Asbury Methodist Church had a marked effect on a group of boys who had been standing around on street corners because they had nothing to do. They weren't doing anything wrong, but police had begun to question them. The boys developing a hostile attitude toward "the system" before their contact with the church recreation supervisor. Later one said, of the supervisor, "This woman is beginning to affect the fellows' attitudes."

Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Episcopal churches have been jointly planning inner city summer day camp programs through the Wilmington Council of Churches. About 2,000 children, ages 6 to 14, attend the sessions each summer. They are organized into small groups of about six youngsters with a college-student

ARDEN:

AN UNIQUE DELAWARE COMMUNITY

PART II

The Arden resident feels no pressure to conform. But he can pursue a variety of activities from folk-dancing to singing baroque music, and feels a sense of involvement and pride in his town that is remarkable for its intensity.

by *Mayda Brandner*

Having participated in the unsuccessful attempt just before the turn of the century to establish the entire State of Delaware as a single-tax entity, Will Price and Frank Stephens of Philadelphia started Arden to demonstrate the superiority of Henry George's economic principles. Joseph Fels, wealthy soap manufacturer, also a Philadelphian and a single-taxer, helped finance the purchase of the 162 acres of farmland.

The founders were impressed by the possibilities they saw in the gently-sloping land of the old Derickson Farm, almost isolated at the time and partly bounded by creek and woodlands. Transportation facilities to and from Philadelphia and Wilmington were nearby, with a flag stop on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad just east of Arden at Harvey Road.

When the Deed of Trust established the "enclave," another Philadelphian, Frank Martin, was named the third trustee. Will Price never lived in Arden but visited often and maintained a lively interest in its general progress.

In the early 1900s the center of community life was the Village Green.

Bertha Brooks, who first came to Arden as a small child in 1907, describes the settlement as she first approached it:

"After getting off the train at the Harvey Road flag stop, my father and I walked to Arden's

entrance stile. It had two steps up and two steps down. Across the top, in beautiful hand-carved English lettering, were the words: 'ARDEN You Are Welcome Hither.'

"After the stile there was a path but no houses until we came to the Red House, a small building off Cherry Lane just across from the Village Green. At the carpentry shop which had been added onto the Red House, Don Stephens constructed many fine pieces of furniture. Also there we had dances after the Shakespearean plays on Saturday nights.

"Nearby were two tiny log cabins where the 'camp boys,' including my brother, stayed in summer. The boys were looked after by a Miss Darling, who lived in the Red House and did lovely leaded glasswork.

"Farther along that side of the road was the Cherry Lodge and then the Arden Inn, where community meals were served. At the far corner across from the green was the Owl's Nest, where I first stayed. It belonged to the Charles W. Ervin family.

"That cottage was the only structure on that end of the green or up the other side until one came to The Homestead, the original one built by Frank Stephens, where Don and his wife Ingeborg ("Inky") Stephens now live. To the side and in front of it was the Field Theatre, also built

by Frank Stephens. This open-air theatre has also been called the Woodland Theatre and; more recently, the George Frank Stephens' Memorial Theatre. At the corner beyond the theatre was the original town pump."

Describing the social life of those early summers, and some of the developments in the next few years, Mrs. Brooks continues:

"For our Saturday night shows we had Japanese lanterns strung across the columns of the Field Theatre and around its edges. The string of lanterns also continued across the green to light the way to the dance at the carpentry shop.

"On Sunday evenings we held campfires in the woods back of where the Frank Herzogs now live. Frank Stephens often read Uncle Remus stories, Scott Nearing recited poetry and there were musical selections and group singing. We strung the Japanese lanterns for these campfires, too. It's a wonder we didn't start fires in the woods!"

With additions the Red House later became the Craft Shop. The story of Arden can be traced to a large extent in the activities the Craft Shop has housed. Almost completely destroyed by fire early this year, it has been reconstructed into several apartments and a storage area for Frank Stephens' sculpture, which fortunately was not damaged.

In addition to functions already mentioned, the Craft Shop served

as a meeting place, a school, a library, a weaving shop and a photographer's studio. It also housed The Forge.

Interest groups called "gilds" began to form and by the end of the first decade consolidated into the Arden Club. First the Craft Shop, then the barn on the other side of Arden, across Harvey Road on a tiny street called The Highway, became headquarters. When a "floor-laying-bee" was held at the Gild Hall, as the barn came to be called, the workers, young and old, danced on the floor that very night.

Augmenting facilities already available during the first years, a small place next to the Craft Shop on Miller's Road became The Cooler, an ice cream parlor. An ice house was constructed near the creek; ice was cut from farther up the creek and packed inside in sawdust. (The former ice house is now the home of sculptor Marcus Aurelius Renzetti.) A large rooming house, called the Spreading Oak, was built a block east of the Village Green to accommodate visitors.

The Spreading Oak later became Hazel Stephens' Pig and Whistle, popular with summer theatre people. A few years ago this building was razed.

Along Naaman's Creek the Arden swimming pool gradually took shape as the dam and walls were put together. Arden had its own sawmill. At one side of the Village Green a large Weaving Shop kept a number of residents busy. Stores began to appear, even a mushroom house. Robert P. Woolery ("Uncle Bob") for awhile delivered groceries in a wheelbarrow.

Mrs. Brooks' father, Fred W. Whiteside, ran a jitney service to the railroad, where the flagstop had become Harvey Station, later called Arden Station. His son, Bob, had a cart in which he carried — "smashed" was the word actually used — baggage.

In addition to the campfires musical programs were often organized by the Hurlongs (Dr.



EARL BROOKS

Arden's founders loved Shakespearean drama. About 1905 Frank Stephens built the Field Theatre on the Village Green. Each Saturday for many years villagers watched raptly as players performed the work of Shakespeare. Interred here are the ashes of Frank Stephens, his wife, Eleanor, and several others. The remains of many others rest in the Arden Memorial Gardens, where Hamilton D. Ware was buried in January 1968. The ashes of Dr. Henry George III, Wilmington osteopath and grandson of the originator of the single-tax movement, were interred in Arden in May 1968.

This home was built by Frank Stephens and is known as The Second Homestead. Carved in a beam of the second floor dormer window, in Old English lettering, is the inscription "Tomorrow Is a New Day." The home is occupied today by Mr. and Mrs. J. McKee Robertson; only yards away Mr. and Mrs. Donald Stephens reside in The Homestead, also built by Mr. Stephens' father.

EARL BROOKS



Herman Hurlong and his wife, Lena). Vesper services held at the Gild Hall used serious music.

All the houses had names lovingly, sometimes humorously, bestowed. Names included The Lone Pine, The Green Gate, The Wee House, The Monastery, the Rest Cottage, the Barnacle. The White-side cabin became The Bower.

The experimental colony from its beginning attracted attention. There were sensational rumors and news stories about Ardenites, the stories usually being greatly

some of the women in the village started wearing "bloomers":

"These were not the pleated bloomers used in women's gym classes," she reports, "but they were fairly full. One of the women had bright yellow ones. Mine were dark, made of corduroy.

"Because some of the women wore them to the B.&O. when they met their menfolk, some Wilmingtonians and others may have been startled.

"At any rate," she continues, "one time when my husband,

This was the same George Brown who was arrested on a "disturbing the peace" charge initiated by some of his neighbors who did not appreciate his taking up time at meetings with details of his attitudes on sex. Shortly after that he caused the arrest of nine baseball players and two tennis players, including Upton Sinclair, one Sunday on the Village Green. The charge, made under an ancient Blue Law against "gaming" on the Sabbath, was upheld by the magistrate and the men were jailed overnight.

Ardenites were always strong on communicating with one another and with anyone else who was interested. Village periodicals, titled "Arden Club Talk," the "Town Crier," "Arden Leaves," "The Calendar," have been published at various times from early in the century and have carried everything from the Arden Club schedule of events to poetry and articles on the virtues of the single-tax movement. The Arden Printery, established by Frederick J. Steinlein after the first few years of the community's history, operated for a number of years. Later Arden had the Roberts Studio Press and the Roberts Press, operated by people who were not related.

The Raiffeisen Gild, not part of the Arden Club, was formed in 1911 to lend money to residents without requiring collateral. It was reported in 1932 that the organization had never met with any loss. Again in 1913 some of the members of the community organized the Arden Water Company, a private corporation whose facilities are now leased to the Wilmington Suburban Water Corporation. These facilities include a treatment plant, not used at the present time but available for emergency use, at the old Grubb Mill on Marsh Road.

In 1918 the Arden Building and Loan Association, which is still active, was organized for two purposes: to help leaseholders by granting mortgages and to serve as a savings institution. Leasehold-



EARL BROOKS

The cultural life is important to the Ardenite, and his role is decidedly more active than passive. In a performance a few years ago, the Arden Baroque Concert included (left to right) Ginny Wynn, Mirian Gerstine, Ann Williams, Myles Edwards, Milton Gerstine and Mark Gerstine.

exaggerated if not completely unfounded.

Bertha Brooks tells about the time a Philadelphia paper carried a caption to the effect that Ardenites were living in trees:

"There was certainly only one tree house in Arden at the time," she says, "and that was at our place. My father and uncle built it to have a siesta place when the cottage was noisy. It also provided extra sleeping space when we had company. It was really a fine substantial structure!"

Retired school teacher Margaret Broadbent, who came to Arden in 1913, recalls that a few years later

Earl, and I were walking along Harvey Road and I happened to be wearing those bloomers, a car full of people came along and I heard a voice call out, 'Oh! Look! There's one of them now!'

Some of the stories of early Arden have to do with the town's only avowed philosophical anarchist, a shoemaker named George Brown, who added something not on the schedule during a Merrie English festival by going about in burlap and extra layers of dirt, crying, "Alms? Alms for the poor?" It was reported that he got a rather large take from the many visiting Philadelphians present.



EARL BROOKS

The Arden Fair annually draws throngs of residents, former residents returning for a nostalgic visit and hundreds of visitors from nearby communities. Pete Renzetti, son of sculptor Marcus Aurelius Renzetti, demonstrates his skill with hand-wrought iron.

ers used to find that banks and other building and loan companies shied away from involvement in the Arden 99-year lease situation.

Being one of the old towns in the state, Arden is almost sedate these days. Sensational news

stories about it have simmered down to an occasional item about vandalism or indulgences of the young, similar to notes about communities elsewhere. But the Ardens have never let up activity in drama, music, folk dancing, art and

The Arden Players' Guild gives a One-Act Play Festival every February and longer plays at other times. Last June it was "The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window," by Lorraine Hansberry. From left are John Grimaldi, Bill Casey and Paul Thompson.

EARL BROOKS



craft work and discussion-holding.

Although the Village Green is still used for children's play and certain special events, the center of activity in Arden after the first few years shifted to the Arden Gild Hall. Across the street from it the Arden School also became a focal point in 1924.

At the Gild Hall are indoor and outdoor stages, the latter called The Moonlight Theatre. The 4-classroom, 6-grade school also has its own stage.

Works by Gilbert and Sullivan early in Arden's history became favorites, perhaps because they livened up the regular fare of Shakespeare, Esperanto classes, economics study and town meetings.

In 1932 Frank Stephens' "colonial operetta," "Grubb's Corner," or "The Dutch on the Delaware," used Gilbert and Sullivan melodies, which were arranged by another Arden resident, Estella Hillersohn Frankel, to fit his original script. There was a true Savoyard spirit about the show, poking fun as it did at the Dutch, Swedes, English, pirates, Quakers and Indians, all competing for Delaware's prize land ("Something for nothing is all we claim"). Peter Grubb finally put them all down with lines such as:

Take notice all, these fields you think you've spotted

Are mine because I got here first and squatted.

The Arden School building and grounds, called Sherwood Green, have always been used for community purposes such as forums, fairs, rehearsals. The Ardencroft Association holds its meetings there. In the summertime the facilities are used by the Arden Community Recreation Association.

ACRA, now in its 20th year, is financed by contributions and is run almost entirely by unpaid volunteers. Family night special events and classes for adults are provided as well as sports, crafts, folk dancing, swimming and other activities for children.

(continued on page 28)



andrew wyeth

The Chadds Ford artist is the most popular and best-paid of our time. Will future generations view his work with the same enthusiasm as art-lovers of today?

by Kent Stoddard

(Author Kent Stoddard is a nephew of famed illustrator Rockwell Kent and portrait painter Alice Kent Stoddard.)

There is no doubt that Andrew Wyeth will have his own niche in the pantheon of American artists. How could he escape recognition by savants of the future?

Surely he will be as well remembered as James McNeil Whistler or Benjamin West, for each was an object of adulation or near adulation in his own day, just as the Brandywine Valley's beloved "Andy" is in his. If there had been railroad rambles through fashionable London in West's day there surely would have been a commentator to point out that the train was approaching "Ben" West's home and then exclaim: "There's Ben waving to us from the approach to that ruined bridge"!

But such contemporary veneration did not mean that good old Ben was truly a great artist, in spite of the fact that many of his enormous canvasses are now on permanent display at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. It just happened that Benjamin West was the first colonial American to become the vogue in Lon-

don, the most influential national capital of his day.

Whistler, whose vapid sentimentalization of his mother appealed to the vapid sentiments of the Victorians, is also remarkable only as a landmark in the history of American art. By comparison, Whistler's art pales before the work of his great contemporary, Winslow Homer. West was to be overshadowed by Thomas Sully, Gilbert Stuart, the Peale family and John Singleton Copley.

Thinking in this vein, it is inevitable to ask, where will Andrew Wyeth stand in the ranks of American art a hundred or two hundred years from now?

The chances are that he will be remembered for at least two things, first, that he was once the highest paid living American artist and, second, that he learned the art of painting with egg tempera from his brother-in-law, Peter Hurd, whose "official portrait" of President Johnson was rejected as ugly and was made a laughingstock by newspaper contests for artists' por-

trays of the Johnsonian "majesty."

There is perhaps a third reason why Wyeth may be remembered gratefully by future generations. Somehow with his gift for seemingly photographic representation, his ease at attaining eminence and his influence upon the trend of national tastes, he may be venerated as the man who saved art from the abstractionists and the devotees (or exploiters?) of such fads as the paintings of Jackson Pollock, Kandinsky and others.

If that were Andrew Wyeth's only contribution to American art, he should be devoutly enshrined in art's annals, if not represented in permanent collections of two or three centuries hence.

That he will be represented, however, cannot be doubted, for he has elected to paint in durable media with the finest of pigments. Tempera, unless the wrong ingredients are used, is among the most durable of painters' media. Good watercolors on good paper have also had remarkable durability if



By Henry Wiencek

Laying out the idyllic life in a latter-day Arden

Frank Stephens saw a vision of Utopia in the single-tax theory of Henry George and set out to make it come true in rural Delaware

The name rings like a merry little bell for all who know their Shakespeare—"Arden." It was the name of the enchanted forest in *As You Like It*—the forest that resounded with music and song, the murmurs of lovers and the jests of Touchstone—where a jolly band of young gentlemen went willingly into exile with the banished duke, there to "fleet the time carelessly, as they did in the golden world." It is a joyous spot on literature's map, and in the early 1900s a merry band of American dreamers put an Arden on the map of Delaware. It is there today, tucked among the suburbs of Wilmington, an oasis of idiosyncrasy.

Its citizens have been people of ideas—poets, novelists, playwrights and actors; painters, sculptors, metal-smiths and potters; Socialists, Communists, pacifists and anarchists; promoters of Esperanto, advocates of free love, and in the words of one early resident, "conservatives who had no ideas at all." In their enchanted forest they built a forge and craft shops in order to earn their livings by making and selling useful and beautiful things; they built an intimate open-air theater for performances of the works of the Bard; they staged elaborate medieval pageants, in costumes of their own design, to re-create the spirit of a simpler age; in the twilight, they gathered by a bonfire to sing

Naaman's Creek, site of Arden aquatic pageants, is bordered by beech and poplar, with paths for strolling.



Stephens' reverence for Shakespeare was carried into design of his half-timbered stucco home, built in 1909

with leaded-glass windows. He even carved a favorite motto, "Tomorrow is a New Day," into one crossbeam.

songs and tell stories, cherishing their sense of community. Valuing cooperation above competition, they strove to be happy rather than rich. Delawareans thought they were nuts.

I wish I could say that I discovered Arden in some appropriately romantic fashion—that my Land Rover was stopped by hooded archers in a bosky byway; that I was kidnapped by free-love agitators on a dark and stormy night; or that I tracked a fugitive Soviet coup meister to a secret Stalinist camp in the Delaware woods. Alas, I found it in a book. Browsing through the 1938 Works Progress Administration (WPA) guide to Delaware, I discovered a long description of Arden and decided to find out if this wonderful settlement could possibly have survived the intervening decades.

I found, first of all, that it is not easy to collect information about Arden in the usual ways. I called Directory Assistance to ask for the number of the Arden town hall.

"No listing."

"Office of the mayor or village supervisor?"

"No listing."

"All right, the chamber of commerce, then?"

"No listing."

"Historical society? Rotary? Kiwanis? Elks?"

"No listing."

"Is there a listing of any kind for any town offices?"

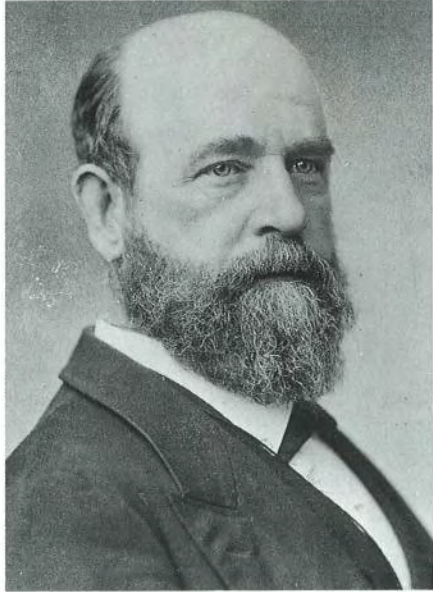
"None. But there is an Arden Club."

"I'll take that."

A few phone calls later I was talking with the granddaughter of Ella Reeve (Mother) Bloor, the famous Communist labor agitator, and she invited me to visit the next Sunday afternoon.

Arden had apparently not changed all that much: I was able to navigate through it quite well by the 54-year-old WPA map. The whole place had a relaxed and congenial atmosphere. The obsessive orderliness of the typical American suburb is absent here. Arden's houses seem to lounge haphazardly under their leafy canopy of trees. That lawn could use a trim; that house, a dose of paint. The street signs are not the standard-issue green rectangles with glow-in-the-dark white letters; they are wooden, with the names carved into them. Surrounding the village green are stuccoed cottages and half-timbered Tudor fantasies, one of them displaying the motto "Tomorrow is a New Day" in Gothic letters (above). That's Arden for you—the future in Gothic script.

Mother Bloor's granddaughter, Joan Ware Colgan, told me about children learning modern dance on the



Henry George, single-tax father, almost won New York mayoralty race in 1886.

green from a member of Isadora Duncan's troupe; about Upton Sinclair living here for a while and losing his wife to some wandering poet; about a pacifist who went to jail during World War I and then went to Russia to teach the Communists how to drive a tractor. She talked about William Morris' idea that artists could live together and make the things they need, and about something called the single tax, which is not a special levy on the unmarried. Listening to Joan, I realized that, by some strange alchemy, the theories and philosophies and crazy hopes of a hundred years ago remain very much alive in this place.

Arden was founded in 1900 by a 40-year-old sculptor and businessman named Frank Stephens. He was slim and good-looking, with a rugged, chiseled face and short, sandy hair. By nature he was autocratic, and he could be hot-tempered in the defense of his beliefs. As an amateur Shakespearean actor, his favorite tragedy was *Julius Caesar*, in which he liked

The author is a freelance writer whose new book, Old Houses, is a series of essays on venerable American homes.

to play the title role, savoring the sweet pain of imagining himself the betrayed, misunderstood dictator. His character was a curious, contradictory mixture of idealism and practicality, of the progressive and the reactionary, of the puritan and the libertine—all of which, in time, would come to be a good description of Arden itself.

All across America there are dead utopias—Brook Farm, Oneida, Kaweah, Modern Times, Memnonia—places where dreamers pledged to plow and thresh together, to share equally in the sweat and fruits of labor, to yield their individuality or their spouses to the commune. Stephens made no such demands for socialist communality on his fellow citizens; indeed, Arden has always been a crazy quilt of ideologies and an arena of spectacular personality clashes. Stephens did, however, found the village upon a set of economic and social principles. For years he had been a foot soldier in a reformist crusade that is virtually forgotten today, but which fired the world with hope a century ago—the single-tax movement led by the maverick, self-taught economist Henry George. Arden is a living vestige of George's ideals.

The first 40 years of Henry George's life were like a Horatio Alger story without the payoff. Born in Philadelphia in 1839, he went to work at age 13 as an office boy; at 16 he went to sea on a freighter. Back in Philadelphia, and then in Boston and San Francisco, he worked hard at a variety of occupations, mainly journalism. But his efforts to start a news service ran smack dab into an unbreakable monopoly. Meanwhile he sank deeper into debt and degradation. Everywhere he looked he saw poverty growing worse and worse as America's wealth increased, and he wondered why. The answer, he decided, was land. At home in San Francisco, he poured his ideas into a book called *Progress and Poverty*, which for a time threatened to turn the country on its ear.

Henry George's ideas require something larger than a nutshell, but fundamentally he believed that it was a mistake to have private ownership of land. Landowners were nothing but parasites, feeding off the productivity of others through their extraction of rent and high selling prices for land. Whenever productivity improved, bringing increases in wages and business profits, landowners raised their rents or selling prices for the ground beneath homes, stores, businesses and factories, even though they themselves had contributed nothing to the increased productivity. "Rent," George reasoned, "is thus an invisible tax on enterprise. . . . a tax on capital as well as on wages."

His remedy? Ideally, the federal government should nationalize the land, but that was not practical. "*It is not necessary to confiscate land,*" George wrote, "*it is only necessary to confiscate rent.*" Taxing land at its full rental value would effectively turn all the profits of landholding to the common use. The revenue from such a tax would be so great that all other



Tricked out in "tax" armbands, Frank invaded Delaware and landed in prison.



Joan Ware Colgan, granddaughter of Mother Bloor, is an Arden trustee.

levies could be abolished, replaced by the single tax.

The idea captured the imagination of people from every social and economic class. *Progress and Poverty* sold two million copies in the United States and was translated into a dozen languages. Both George Bernard Shaw and Sun Yat-sen said their ideas were shaped by Henry George. John Dewey declared that George was one of the ten greatest philosophers since Plato. Leo Tolstoy wrote an introduction to a Russian edition of George's works and approached the Romanovs about converting Russia to the single tax. (Interestingly, Karl Marx hated *Progress and Poverty*, dismissing it as the "capitalists' last ditch.")

Throughout this country, enthusiasts joined single-tax clubs to discuss and promote George's ideas. Among the more fervent from the economist's hometown of Philadelphia was Frank Stephens. In the early 1890s Stephens went to New York to place himself at George's service, becoming one of his valued lieutenants. With other Philadelphia single-taxers, Stephens plotted strategy for a blitzkrieg during the 1896 elections. They needed to capture an entire political entity where

they could install the single-tax system and prove that it worked. They decided to take over Delaware.

In preparation for the campaign, scores of single-taxers went into training as public speakers. It is said that Demosthenes put pebbles in his mouth and orated to the waves; the single-taxers formed a Shakespeare Club and honed their skills on "Friends, Romans, countrymen!" Brown uniforms, emblazoned with a symbol of the Earth, were stitched up, and thus attired, the single-taxers commenced the invasion of Delaware to promote their slate of candidates.

But Delaware resisted being made the test tube for the millennium. Denounced in the press as "depraved and irresponsible vagabonds," the invaders were arrested one by one for violating the public-speaking and public-assembly regulations; Stephens was the second to be hauled in. In the face of diligent police work, the campaign was in danger of faltering, but Stephens believed he had a trump card. The master himself, Henry George, was monitoring the campaign with his chief strategists. If the author-

ities arrested him, there would be an immense public outcry. In high excitement, the single-taxers wired George: "Do you wish to personally test the law? Sentence for 30 days certain." But George drew the line at civil disobedience and refused to come. The single-tax slate was resoundingly defeated.

It was just as well that George stayed out of jail. Although he was only 58 years old, his health was failing rapidly. He suffered a fatal stroke in October 1897.

It would be difficult to exaggerate the scope of the grief felt at George's sudden death. An elderly abolitionist said that in his memory only Lincoln's assassination had touched the nation more deeply. George's son, touring Russia about a decade later, paid a call on Tolstoy, who offered to carry a personal message to George in the afterlife: "I shall see your father before you do. What shall I tell him?" "Tell him," said the son, "I kept the faith."

So did Frank Stephens. With another single-taxer from Philadelphia, an architect named Will Price, Stephens made plans for Arden. It would



The colony was a rustic summer retreat for city folk, but in its first decade many of Arden's residents also chose to live in tents.



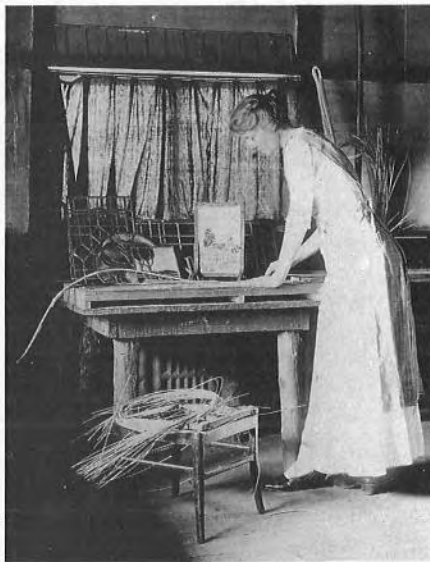
In heyday, Arden Forge made fine ironwork, such as andirons, sconces.



Turning out jewelry and silver occupied this young woman in the early days.



Patrons bought, and residents bartered for, Weave Shop's fine linens, wools.



Caning and basket weaving were other crafts for which Arden was noted.

be right under the noses of his old enemies in Delaware. With his own money and some of Price's, and a loan from millionaire soap manufacturer Joseph Fels, who had a deep interest in the single-tax movement, Stephens purchased a 162-acre farm north of Wilmington.

Stephens drew up a deed of trust that established Arden as a single-tax enclave along the lines that George

had proposed: there would be no private ownership of land; the land would be held in trust by three trustees, who would grant 99-year leases to residents. The trustees would determine the value of each parcel and set the land rent—the single tax—to be paid annually. (This duty was soon to be taken over by elected assessors.) No other local levies would be assessed. As time went on and land values rose,

rents would increase—so the wealth created by the community, reflected in the rising value of the land, would be shared by the community. Residents could sell their houses but not the land. Upon the sale of a house, the land lease would be transferred to the new owner.

It was one thing to draw up a document governing a patch of empty acres; it was quite another to fill those acres with a living population. Turning to the ideas of the English reformers John Ruskin and William Morris, Stephens envisioned a community of artists and artisans who would support themselves in modest comfort, producing fine objects. In this village of tidy cottages and shops and forges, of genial fraternity and sorority, the true coin of the realm would be art. Accordingly, Stephens drew up a manifesto of principles: "The Arden craftsmen are a company of men and women who believe with the great English craftsman and prophet William Morris that 'all men should have work to do which shall be worth doing and be of itself pleasant to do' and which should be done under such conditions as would make it neither overwearing nor overanxious. They believe also with Ruskin that men need not be baited into a shop like moths into a candle and that there are those who will buy what is useful without being ill-designed and dishonestly made even though its cost is more than that of factory goods."

The program required the proper setting. Will Price laid out the village, devoting nearly half of the land to greens, forests, paths and roads. He arranged house lots and roads to follow the contours of the land rather than the grid of a draftsman, and knitted the town together by a network of paths in an early example of separating vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Price's carefully groomed rustic setting and half-timbered cottages brought to life the medievalist spirit of William Morris. The spirit of Shakespeare hovered over the enter-

prise as well. One of the first communal building projects was an open-air theater for Shakespearean productions.

After a slow start, Arden took off. Some people were merely summer residents, living in tents; others, more permanent, commuted by rail to jobs in Philadelphia or Wilmington. But true to Stephens' vision, a cadre of stay-at-home artists and artisans went at their happy toil. The forest rang with the music of hammers. In the medieval fashion advocated by Morris, most of the artisans were organized into guilds. There were potters, stained-glass craftsmen, silversmiths, woodworkers, printers and furniture makers. The Weave Shop was begun with one employee who made wool and other sturdy fabrics. Eventually it had about 30 weavers who made fine linens. Stephens devoted his attention



Arden's swimming hole was created by damming a creek in a leafy glade. Upstream pollution and development destroyed it 30 years ago.

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to the Arden Forge, which produced lamps, lanterns, door latches and hinges, fireplace tools, and other works of iron. Cash-poor Ardenites could not afford to buy their own products, so the guilds depended on the New York, Philadelphia and Wilmington carriage trade. Members of the duPont family were occasional customers, and it is said that stage and screen stars Lillian and Dorothy Gish visited Arden to buy wool.

Stephens welcomed all comers; one did not have to declare allegiance to the thoughts of Henry George to take up residence. As a practical matter, putting down roots in Arden was cheap because you could *not* buy land. Most of the residents did their own construction and other work, a self-sufficiency that pleased Stephens.

Fred Whiteside, later well known

in Delaware as the perennial Socialist candidate for governor and State Senator, inadvertently created one of the enduring myths about Arden when he built a tree house as a retreat for Sunday-morning reflection. The Delaware press expanded this single tree house into headlines and stories proclaiming that Ardenites lived in trees.

The tree house affair was nothing compared with the cyclone of publicity generated by the presence in Arden of America's most famous Socialist, Upton Sinclair. The muckraking author arrived in the spring of 1910, three years after Helicon Hall, his own experimental colony in New Jersey, had mysteriously gone up in flames. Although widely celebrated as author of *The Jungle*, Sinclair had an aversion to spending. Arden seemed a perfect place to live cheaply and write.

He settled into a humble compound of three tents with his wife, Meta, their son, David, a secretary (with whom Will Price fell in love) and Mary Craig Kimbrough, who would become Sinclair's second wife. "How many of the so-called necessities can men dispense with when they have to!" he exulted in his autobiography. "I bathed every morning of that winter in Arden with water in a tin washbasin and a newspaper spread upon a tent floor." In 1911, with funds from the sale of a novel, he hired Stephens to build him a two-story cottage, which still stands.

Into his Eden, Sinclair invited the serpent in the form of Harry Kemp, the "Tramp Poet," who traveled with hoboes and worked the Great Lakes ore boats. In his memoir *Tramping on Life*, Kemp describes finding "toy



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companions who aren't companions constantly.

houses picturesquely set under trees that fringed the Common," occupied by "folk of every shade of radical opinion . . . who here strove to escape the galling mockeries of civilisation and win back again to pastoral simplicity." Simplicity included not washing the dishes—Sinclair and his family ate from wooden plates and tossed them into the fire at the end of a meal.

Kemp moved into a tent provided by Sinclair and quickly adapted to the rhythm of life in Arden. He was awakened by the birds, and spent his days writing and in literary conversations with Meta. He attended a "circus" in which all the animals were Ardenites in costume, and passed many a pleasant twilight at the communal sing-alongs in the woods: "the music softened our hearts and fused us into one harmony of feeling."

It would be gratifying to say that Arden enjoyed a long era of good

feeling, but that was not the case. Stephens' open-door policy created problems because many of the settlers were Socialists (a few were anarchists) who regarded the single-taxers as politically suspect and had little use for their theories. In the summer of 1911, an anarchist shoemaker named George Brown, who thought the village was getting a bit too respectable, decided to stir things up: he used a public committee meeting as a forum for his theories of sexuality, prompting the committee to have him arrested for disrupting the proceedings. Noting that the committee members habitually played baseball on the town green on Sundays, Brown went into Wilmington to have *them* arrested for "gaming on the Sabbath" in violation of an ancient state law. Upton Sinclair was caught in this net, as he had played tennis on the Sunday in question, and spent a night in the county

workhouse with the other violators. A crowd of reporters descended upon New Castle County to get the story, giving Sinclair the opportunity to denounce conditions in the jail to a national audience.

Sinclair soon made headlines again, in a scandal that helped create Arden's reputation as a free-love nest. The marriage of Upton to Meta had been unraveling before they got to Arden, and the arrival of Harry Kemp made for a triangle. During a chat with Meta, Kemp's eye had caught "the white gleam of one of her pretty legs where the elastic on one side of her bloomers had slipped up." Several weeks later Meta was slipping her bloomers completely off, as she and a naked Kemp played nymph and satyr, chasing each other through the Arden woods. One afternoon there was a moment of panic when they couldn't recall where they had stashed their

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clothes. Harry and Meta left Arden for New York, and Upton filed suit for divorce to the accompaniment of trumpet blasts of publicity.

Free love was not part of the single-tax program, but it might as well have been. The story is still told of a beautiful young model who fell in love, simultaneously, with two artists who were painting her. She told them to flip a coin to see who would claim fatherhood of her son, and they did. At some point in his life Stephens became a believer in free love. In the 1880s he had been married to Caroline Eakins, the youngest sister of the painter Thomas Eakins (SMITHSONIAN, November 1991). She died in 1889, not long after giving birth to her third child. In a strange controversy that took place in 1886, Stephens had been the prime mover in the ouster of Eakins from his post as director of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, supposedly because of liberties Eakins had taken with his female students. But in the 1890s Stephens was living in sin quite openly with a woman named Elenor Getty. She never liked the free-love arrangement and finally persuaded him to go through with the

formality of marriage—to his dismay.

One of today's Ardenites whose memories stretch back to the early years is Amy Potter Cook. Ask her about the romantic scandals that swirled around Arden, and she responds, "Free love—we had that all over the place." But joshing an outsider, especially on the subject of sex, is an old Arden sport. As Amy relates, "Frank Stephens used to tell people, with a straight face, 'On very hot nights we take off our clothes and go into the creek to sleep.'"

Amy has vivid memories of Stephens working at his forge and of Will Price acting in Arden's Shakespeare productions. "Their whole idea," she says, "was to reenact Merrie Olde England." Her recollection is borne out by photographs of elaborate pageants, with knights and maidens (but no Godivas) riding through the town. Few onlookers appear because just about everyone in Arden was *in* these pageants. "The costumes were magnificent," Amy recalls. A brief memoir by Marjory Poinsett Jobson describes the Venetian Water Carnivals. During the day there were diving contests, races, games and music. When night

fell, the revelers walked down a path illuminated by candles to the creek for a waterborne pageant: "a queen and her court . . . came floating downstream on a barge with torches glowing and music playing as the pretty girls in long flowing dresses smiled and threw flowers to the crowd."

With the coming of World War I, Arden and the whole single-tax movement were split on the issue of pacifism. Daniel Kiefer sr., an Arden resident and pacifist, was removed from the chairmanship of the national single-tax organization. Stephens' son Donald spent nine months in jail for refusing to serve. He was nearly joined by his father.

In 1918 a certain Mabel P. Van Trump called upon Ardenites to buy Liberty Bonds. Stephens fell upon her like a tiger: "You are a murderer and everybody who sells Liberty Bonds!" he thundered. "You are sending our soldiers abroad to be murdered!" Van Trump duly reported this outburst to the authorities, and Stephens found himself in federal court, charged with "making a certain false statement with intent to interfere with the operation and success of the military and naval forces of the United States." A jury refused to believe that calling Mabel Van Trump a murderer in Arden put the doughboys in jeopardy in France. Stephens was acquitted. One of the jurors sent him the \$9 he had received for sitting on the panel.

In 1922 the single-tax experiment expanded with the creation of Ardentown on 110 acres adjacent to Arden. A few years later, Stephens helped found Gilpin's Point, another single-tax community near Denton, Maryland. Visiting there with his two sons in 1935, he merrily organized an Arden-style campfire and, according to Donald, was "the life of the evening. He sang, recited and read Uncle Remus stories to us." The next day, Stephens, who had a history of heart trouble, was dead of a heart attack.

By that time Arden had been dealt heavy blows by the Depression, which



In 1928 Donald Stephens put on a Russian Night to benefit the village. It included this scene in a fourth-class Russian train.



Writer Upton Sinclair by tree house: it sparked rumor Ardenites lived in trees.

wiped out much of the market for expensive, high-quality crafts and forced the closure of the Craft Shop. But the Ardenites hung on. Joan Colgan remembers that there was a lot of bartering during the Depression, and "a lot of cooperation." The townspeople grew their own food and had communal canning sessions at the Gild Hall. Arden managed to survive, but no one knows how. As Amy Potter Cook says, "Everybody in Arden always wondered about that themselves."

Then, in 1950, there was a further expansion. Donald Stephens was instrumental in the purchase of another section of adjacent land to form the town of Ardencroft. This time the planners reached out to one group that had previously been left out of the Arden experiment—African-Americans. Village leaders went into Wilmington to recruit them. The presence of these families brought Ardenites face-to-face with the question of inte-

grating their grammar school. They did so, becoming the first locality in Delaware to integrate voluntarily.

In the early 1950s Arden was still a place apart, a forest surrounded by farms. Then came the suburbs. The growth of the DuPont company spawned huge housing developments around Wilmington. Arden was protected from unwanted development by its deed, which set aside the forests and other common lands as forever untouchable. Isolated within its bastion of greenery, with its private holidays and pageants and its peculiar history, Arden was viewed with wariness by the new neighbors. The old stories of free love, anarchism and Communism floated up again.

Alan and Maria Burslem, who grew up in Arden in the 1950s and '60s, recall the culture shock that occurred when Arden kids graduated from the town's grammar school and ventured into the regional junior high school.

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Maria says, "I had some friends in junior high who were not allowed to come to Arden. Their parents had heard rumors about that crazy little town, that it was a nudist camp."

Alan thinks that the outsiders' fears arose partly because Arden just looked so different: "We had trees and dense growth. Arden was a scary place to go into from the land of a thousand brand-new houses and no trees."

The Burslems and their two sons live in a house Maria's great-grandfather built as a summer place in 1919 (it has been greatly enlarged since then). She has the deed fixing the original annual rent of \$10.65 for the land. Also on the property are Alan's pottery workshop and showroom. "It's a great place to be an artist," he says. "We wander around to each other's studios. I drag people into mine when I'm excited about new work."

Maria finds that the old Arden spirit is still alive: "There is a deep caring among those who live here. We treasure that closeness. You're in contact with all different generations. It's inspiring to see Rae Gerstine dancing away at the folk dance every Wednesday, at age 91 or whatever."

Rae can indeed be found at the regular Wednesday folk dancing at the Gild Hall, a meeting place that had been the barn of the farmer who sold the land to Frank Stephens. Under the lofty ceiling, people of all ages square dance to recorded music and a live caller. After a few numbers, the caller steps down from the stage, and a folk-dance instructor puts on recordings of Polish, Armenian, Israeli and other dances. When Rae finally decides to sit out, she talks animatedly of her life in Arden. "I was 93 last November, but I still function. I do so much I can't keep pace with everything. I dance and I go swimming." She is also one of the financial pillars of the town, serving as the secretary-treasurer of the Arden Building & Loan, which she operates out



Woodland *Midsummer Night's Dream* typified early plays and pageants; almost everyone was an eager participant.

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BRIEF SUMMARY

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

This drug product has been conditionally approved by the FDA for the prevention of angina pectoris due to coronary artery disease. Tolerance to the anti-anginal effects of nitrates (measured by exercise stress testing) has been shown to be a major factor limiting efficacy when transdermal nitrates are used continuously for longer than 12 hours each day. The development of tolerance can be altered (prevented or attenuated) by use of a noncontinuous (intermittent) dosing schedule with a nitrate-free interval of 10–12 hours.

Controlled clinical trial data suggest that the intermittent use of nitrates is associated with decreased exercise tolerance, in comparison to placebo, during the last part of the nitrate-free interval; the clinical relevance of this observation is unknown, but the possibility of increased frequency or severity of angina during the nitrate-free interval should be considered. Further investigations of the tolerance phenomenon and best regimen are ongoing. A final evaluation of the effectiveness of the product will be announced by the FDA.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Allergic reactions to organic nitrates are extremely rare, but they do occur. Nitroglycerin is contraindicated in patients who are allergic to it. Allergy to the adhesives used in nitroglycerin patches has also been reported, and it similarly constitutes a contraindication to the use of this product. **WARNINGS:** The benefits of transdermal nitroglycerin in patients with acute myocardial infarction or congestive heart failure have not been established. If one elects to use nitroglycerin in these conditions, careful clinical or hemodynamic monitoring must be used to avoid the hazards of hypotension and tachycardia. A cardioverter/defibrillator should not be discharged through a paddle electrode that overlies a MINITRAN patch. The arcing that may be seen in this situation is harmless in itself, but it may be associated with local current concentration that can cause damage to the paddles and burns to the patient. **PRECAUTIONS:** General: Severe hypotension, particularly with upright posture, may occur with even small doses of nitroglycerin. This drug should therefore be used with caution in patients who may be volume depleted or who, for whatever reason, are already hypotensive. Hypotension induced by nitroglycerin may be accompanied by paradoxical bradycardia and increased angina pectoris. Nitrate therapy may aggravate the angina caused by hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. As tolerance to other forms of nitroglycerin develops, the effect of sublingual nitroglycerin on exercise tolerance, although still observable, is somewhat blunted. In industrial workers who have had long-term exposure to unknown (presumably high) doses of organic nitrates, tolerance clearly occurs. Chest pain, acute myocardial infarction, and even sudden death have occurred during temporary withdrawal of nitrates from these workers, demonstrating the existence of true physical dependence. Several clinical trials in patients with angina pectoris have evaluated nitroglycerin regimens which incorporated a 10–12 hour nitrate-free interval. In some of these trials, an increase in the frequency of anginal attacks during the nitrate-free interval was observed in a small number of patients. In one trial, patients demonstrated decreased exercise tolerance at the end of the nitrate-free interval. Hemodynamic rebound has been observed only rarely; on the other hand, few studies were so designed that rebound, if it had occurred, would have been detected. The importance of these observations to the routine, clinical use of transdermal nitroglycerin is unknown. **Information for Patients:** Daily headaches sometimes accompany treatment with nitroglycerin. In patients who get these headaches, the headache may be a marker of the activity of the drug. Patients should resist the temptation to avoid headaches by altering the schedule of their treatment with nitroglycerin, since loss of headache may be associated with simultaneous loss of anti-anginal efficacy. Treatment with nitroglycerin may be associated with lightheadedness on standing, especially just after rising from a recumbent or seated position. This effect may be more frequent in patients who have also consumed alcohol. After normal use, there is enough residual nitroglycerin in discarded patches that they are a potential hazard to children and pets. A patient leaflet is supplied with the systems. **Drug Interactions:** The vasodilating effects of nitroglycerin may be additive with those of other vasodilators. Alcohol, in particular, has been found to exhibit additive effects of this variety. **Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility:** No long-term animal studies have examined the carcinogenic or mutagenic potential of nitroglycerin. Nitroglycerin's effect upon reproductive capacity is similarly unknown. **Pregnancy Category C:** Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted on nitroglycerin. It is also not known whether nitroglycerin can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or whether it can affect reproductive capacity. Nitroglycerin should be given to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed. **Nursing Mothers:** It is not known whether nitroglycerin is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when nitroglycerin is administered to a nursing woman. **Pediatric Use:** Safety and effectiveness in children have not been established. **ADVERSE REACTIONS:** Adverse reactions to nitroglycerin are generally dose-related, and almost all of these reactions are the result of nitroglycerin's activity as a vasodilator. Headache, which may be severe, is the most commonly reported side effect. Headache may be recurrent with each daily dose, especially at higher doses. Transient episodes of lightheadedness, occasionally related to blood pressure changes, may also occur. Hypotension occurs infrequently, but in some patients it may be severe enough to warrant discontinuation of therapy. Syncope, crescendo angina, and rebound hypertension have been reported but are uncommon. Extremely rarely, ordinary doses of organic nitrates have caused methemoglobinemia in normal-seeming patients. Methemoglobinemia is so infrequent at these doses that further discussion of its diagnosis and treatment is deferred (see **Overdosage**). Application-site irritation may occur but is rarely severe. In two placebo-controlled trials of intermittent therapy with nitroglycerin patches at 0.2 to 0.8 mg/hr, the most frequent adverse reactions among 307 subjects were as follows:

	placebo	patch		placebo	patch
headache	18%	63%	hypotension and/or syncope	0%	4%
lightheadedness	4%	6%	increased angina	2%	2%

OVERDOSAGE: Hemodynamic Effects: The ill effects of nitroglycerin overdose are generally the results of nitroglycerin's capacity to induce vasodilatation, venous pooling, reduced cardiac output, and hypotension. These hemodynamic changes may have protean manifestations, including increased intracranial pressure, with any or all of persistent throbbing headache, confusion, and moderate fever; vertigo; palpitations; visual disturbances; nausea and vomiting (possibly with colic and even bloody diarrhea); syncope (especially in the upright posture); air hunger and dyspnea, later followed by reduced ventilatory effort; diaphoresis, with the skin either flushed or cold and clammy; heart block and bradycardia; paralysis; coma; seizures; and death. Laboratory determinations of serum levels of nitroglycerin and its metabolites are not widely available, and such determinations have, in any event, no established role in the management of nitroglycerin overdose. No data are available to suggest physiological maneuvers (e.g., maneuvers to change the pH of the urine) that might accelerate elimination of nitroglycerin and its active metabolites. Similarly, it is not known which—if any—of these substances can usefully be removed from the body by hemodialysis. No specific antagonist to the vasodilator effects of nitroglycerin is known, and no intervention has been subject to controlled study as a therapy of nitroglycerin overdose. Because the hypotension associated with nitroglycerin overdose is the result of venodilatation and arterial hypovolemia, prudent therapy in this situation should be directed toward increase in central fluid volume. Passive elevation of the patient's legs may be sufficient, but intravenous infusion of normal saline or similar fluid may also be necessary. The use of epinephrine or other arterial vasoconstrictors in this setting is likely to do more harm than good. In patients with renal disease or congestive heart failure, therapy resulting in central volume expansion is not without hazard. Treatment of nitroglycerin overdose in these patients may be subtle and difficult, and invasive monitoring may be required. **Methemoglobinemia:** Nitrate ions liberated during metabolism of nitroglycerin can oxidize hemoglobin into methemoglobin. Even in patients totally without cytochrome *b₅* reductase activity, however, and even assuming that nitrate moieties of nitroglycerin are quantitatively applied to oxidation of hemoglobin, about 1 mg/kg of nitroglycerin should be required before any of these patients manifests clinically significant (>10%) methemoglobinemia. In patients with normal reductase function, significant production of methemoglobin should require even larger doses of nitroglycerin. In one study in which 36 patients received 2–4 weeks of continuous nitroglycerin therapy at 3.1 to 4.4 mg/hr, the average methemoglobin level measured was 0.2%; in which was comparable to that observed in parallel patients who received placebo. Notwithstanding these observations, there are case reports of significant methemoglobinemia in association with moderate overdoses of organic nitrates. None of the affected patients had been thought to be unusually susceptible. Methemoglobin levels are available from most clinical laboratories. The diagnosis should be suspected in patients who exhibit signs of impaired oxygen delivery despite adequate cardiac output and adequate arterial *pO₂*. Classically, methemoglobinemic blood is described as chocolate brown, without color change on exposure to air. When methemoglobinemia is diagnosed, the treatment of choice is methylene blue, 1–2 mg/kg intravenously. **DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION:** The suggested starting dose is between 0.2 mg/hr* and 0.4 mg/hr*. Doses between 0.4 mg/hr* and 0.8 mg/hr* have shown continued effectiveness for 10–12 hours daily for at least one month (the longest period studied) of intermittent administration. Although the minimum nitrate-free interval has not been defined, data show that a nitrate-free interval of 10–12 hours is sufficient. Thus, an appropriate dosing schedule for nitroglycerin patches would include a daily patch-on period of 12–14 hours and a daily patch-off period of 10–12 hours. Although some well-controlled clinical trials using exercise tolerance testing have shown maintenance of effectiveness when patches are worn continuously, the large majority of such controlled trials have shown the development of tolerance (i.e., complete loss of effect) within the first 24 hours after therapy was initiated. Dose adjustment, even to levels much higher than generally used, did not restore efficacy. **STORAGE CONDITIONS:** Store at controlled room temperature 15°–30°C (59°–86°F). Extremes of temperature and/or humidity should be avoided. **CAUTION:** Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

*Release rates were formerly described in terms of drug delivered per 24 hours. In these terms, the supplied MINITRAN systems would be rated at 2.5 mg/24 hours (0.1 mg/hr), 5 mg/24 hours (0.2 mg/hr), 10 mg/24 hours (0.4 mg/hr), and 15 mg/24 hours (0.6 mg/hr).

3M Pharmaceuticals
Northridge, CA 91324

NTR-6BS

JUNE 1991

REFERENCES: 1. Hougham AJ, Hawkinson RW, Crowley JK, et al. *Clin Ther.* 1989;11(1):15–31. 2. Pharmaceutical Data Services; Scottsdale, AZ: Jan 1992. Retail pricing may vary from community to community and may affect cost savings to the patient. Transderm-Nitro is a registered trademark of Ciba Pharmaceutical Co; Nitro-Dur, of Key Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Minitran is not available in Canada and Mexico.

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3M Pharmaceuticals
3M Health Care
St. Paul, Minnesota 55144-1000

3M



Sculptor was but one of Stephens' roles; some others: scholar, actor, economist.

of her home to keep the overhead low. "We charge no points," she says proudly. "When someone asks for a loan, I tell them the fee is \$5, payable in singles." The B & L takes two singles to cover processing costs (it makes loans only in the three Arden communities), and the appraisal committee gets the remainder.

Two beneficiaries of the Building & Loan's lending program are Susan and Edward Rohrbach, who are putting an addition on their house facing the Arden Green. Called Rest Cottage, the half-timbered house is one of the oldest in town. It was designed by Will Price himself. Both Rohrbachs are painters, and Edward is an architect as well. He is designing and building the addition himself, to harmonize with the original architecture. The interior is cozy, and crowded with books and artworks. A large wood-burning stove takes up a good part of the living room; there is no other heat. In the yard, the Rohrbach children, ages 10 and 13, have a ramshackle playhouse built of scraps, harmonizing with no particular style but entirely in the spirit of Arden.

Susan grew up near Arden and al-

ways yearned to get in, especially after she had children. "I wanted them to experience the freedom and involvement of living in a community like this. They can be themselves here, and they also feel a real responsibility to the town. It's like an extended family."

With a population of about 500, Arden still operates under the single-tax system, which has an unusual effect on homeowners, an effect that is not to everyone's liking. Because Arden collects taxes based on land alone, regardless of what stands upon it, a small house on a half-acre is taxed at the same rate as a large house on a half-acre. As Henry George intended, the single-tax system rewards someone who gets maximum economic use from the smallest amount of land.

In a film history of Arden, Mike Curtis, an Arden resident who is the director of the Henry George School in Philadelphia, defends the peculiar results of the single-tax system: "What is a man getting from the community? He's getting . . . land. Well, he should pay the community for that. Through his own efforts he's built a big house. Why should he owe other people money for that? Why should

he pay a fine for his industry? To me, it makes all the sense in the world." (Single-tax fervor runs deep in Mike's family: at a raucous town meeting in 1954, his grandmother literally dropped dead arguing about someone trying to sell—sell!—land.)

Since 1967, when the village was incorporated, the controlling government body has been the Town Assembly, which meets four times a year. Budgets must be approved by a majority of eligible voters—age 18 or older—attending. The town's 1992 budget is about \$220,000, which Arden collects from its citizens through land rent. Of that amount, roughly \$150,000 will go to New Castle County for schools, police protection and property taxes (the town is *not* exempt from county property taxes). Arden pays for its own trash collection and road maintenance, and is covered by a nearby volunteer fire department.

The tax payment, or land rent, for a quarter-acre lot is about \$720, subject to adjustments according to the desirability of a lot's location. No bureaucracy exists; indeed, there are only two paid employees, both part-time: the secretary and the treasurer. Well-

organized committees staffed by volunteers do just about all of the work. In the words of one resident, "It's the purest democracy you can get."

With very little effort, Arden could have transformed itself into a tourist stop—a faux art colony with weekend studio tours and troubadours on the Green, or a Colonial Williamsburg of socialism and free love. But Ardenites have never aspired to make their community a living museum. Visitors who wander into it looking for entertainment will come away disappointed. It is quiet and picturesque, but there's no place to buy ice cream or HENRY GEORGE T-shirts. Nor is Arden an architectural theme park—mingling with the half-timbered cottages are ranch houses and split-levels. Despite the architectural impurities, Frank Stephens and Will Price would recognize much of their town if they stopped by today. They would also find the old spirit of Arden intact, a spirit described by a visitor in 1915: "Arden is the capital of the state of Uncritical Friendliness; it belongs to the federation of Mutual Helpfulness, under a constitution of Equal Opportunity. It is far removed from the world we know."

Busy Ardenites (from left): Rae Gerstine keeps Building & Loan solvent; Susan and Ed Rohrbach, with sons Alex (in cap) and Sian, are remodeling home; Amy Potter Cook holds a magazine cover she designed.





ARDEN DAY
HISTORIC MARKER
UNVEILING

May 21, 1994
The Sweep Green, Arden

Marker text:

The Village of Arden

Arden is an intentional community, founded in 1900 by social reformers Frank Stephen, sculptor, and Will Price, architect, to create a society based on Henry George's Single Tax economics and William Morris's arts and crafts philosophy. Incorporated in 1967, the village continues to be governed by these taxation and community ideals. All residential land is held in a trust. Leaseholders own their homes and pay one property tax (land rent) determined by elected assessors. Town Meetings reflect an enduring model of direct democracy. Almost half of the 162 acres is in greens, roads, paths, and buffering forests. Arts and crafts continue to flourish in Arden.

Program

William Press *"You are welcome hither"*
Chairman of Town Assembly

Representative Wayne A. Smith *History*

Thomas Summers *Unveiling of Historic Marker*
Delaware State Archives

Sally Hamburger *Thank you*
Chairman, Arden Archives

Closing *Arden Song*

Music by Diamond State Band, Joseph Naff, Director

•

Reception immediately following the ceremony
at the Arden Archive, Buzz Ware Village Center

First showing of the
JoanWare Colgan Memorial Collection

Music by Russ McKinney

Sponsored by the
Arden Archives Committee, Village of Arden

Arden Song

Words by Frank Stephens

German air: "Abschied vom Dirndl"

Arranged by Edith Ware

- 1 -

When crickets sing and kine are homing
And lanterned stars come seek the sun
The village lights aslant the gloaming
Come twinkling, twinkling one by one,
O! Night and sunset glow and starry splendor
And cloud-wreathed eve beneath thy silv'ry crown,
Ye give to me no guide so sure and tender
As are the lights of Arden Town.

- 2 -

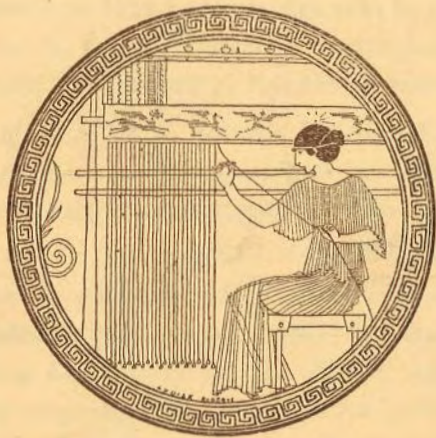
When wayward winds come back from straying
The wide world o'er, afar and long,
The woodland breezes cease from playing
To catch their reed and steal their song.
O! Winds that woo the flowers and roam at pleasure,
Though far ye fare by dale and grassy down,
Ye learn no song beside of that sweet measure
Ye taught the leaves by Arden Town.

- 3 -

When days are drear and ways are weary
And sad at heart we wanderers roam,
Light, tiny town, thy beacons cheery.
O! Whispering woodlands call us home
For stars will shine again and days will brighten
And rough roads smooth and Love shall tread adown
And even-song ring brave and sad hearts lighten
As hope leads home to Arden Town.

#1 e Arden

The CRAFT
of the
HAND LOOM



ARDEN WEAVERS
ARDEN, DELAWARE
HOLLY OAK 454-J



IN ARDEN, a little country village—
a colony founded by followers of
William Morris, peopled by
Craftsmen, Artists, Musicians—in a set-
ting of rare natural beauty, of interesting
atmosphere, the skilled Weavers of Arden
express their craft in unusual fabrics.

Each piece of weaving is an example of
individual craftsmanship, painstakingly
woven of soft, delicate wools or pure hand-
spun Linens.

The handiwork of the Weavers is made
into lovely Table Linens, Baby Blankets,
Bags, Things for the Home, and added
to their art is the art of the designer and
tailor in the making of Ardenweave
Sportswear, Handwoven, Hand-Tailored
Sportswear that *is distinctive*.



DRESSES

SUITS

COATS

BAGS

SCARFS

SHAWLS



Things for the Home — LINENS — WOOLS

CURTAINS

DRAPERIES

TABLE RUNNERS

TABLE SETS

BLANKETS

TROWS

RUNNERS

COVERLETS

BEDSPREADS IN DESIGNS

BABY BLANKETS

*We will weave special designs to harmonize
with your color schemes*

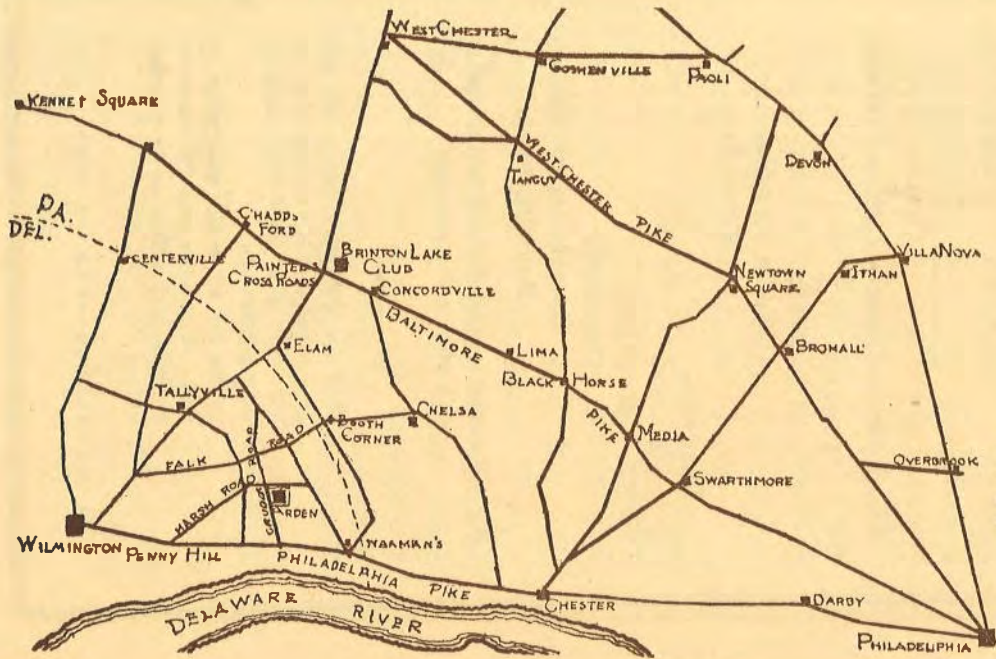


Send for General Folder. We will
gladly send sketches and samples. It
will assist us if you will give us your
color preferences.

Orders for all models also taken by
mail. The same careful attention
given to mail orders as to personal
fittings.

OUR MATERIALS SOLD BY THE YARD

How to Find Us



ARDEN is twenty miles south of Philadelphia and five miles north of Wilmington. From Wilmington—Out Market Street to Penny Hill and turn left at Marsh Road, top of the hill.

From Philadelphia—Out Philadelphia-Wilmington Pike to Naaman's; turn right at Naaman's and left at Marsh Road into Arden.

We are located in the center of the village, opposite the Arden Forge.

On the main line of the B. and O. Railroad.

[C. 1925]

#12
Arden

BY-LAWS OF THE TOWN ASSEMBLY OF ARDEN

We the residents and trustees of Arden, organized under the name of "Town Assembly", adopt for the administration of the affairs of Arden the following By-Laws in conformity with the Deed of Trust and the leases to take effect upon the approval thereof by a majority of the residents of Arden through a referendum vote hereinafter provided for.

ARTICLE I - Suffrage

Section 1. A resident shall be deemed to be any person over twenty-one years of age who maintains consecutively for a period of six months or more in the twelve months prior to qualification, a residence in Arden subject to or available for his or her occupancy.

Section 2. Only residents shall be qualified voters.

Section 3. (a) A referendum vote shall consist of a vote or election by secret ballot under the supervision and direction of the Registration Committee which shall have power to make rules governing such referendum voting.

(b) All issues submitted to a referendum vote shall be determined by a majority of the voters registered with the Registration Committee, unless otherwise provided for in these By-Laws.

(c) The following measures shall be subject to a referendum vote:

1. Approval of a nominee to fill vacancy occurring among the Trustees.
2. Election of the Board of Assessors.
3. Approval of the Annual Budget.
4. Approval of and Amendment to the By-Laws.
5. Vote on assessment of land as provided for in Article IV, Section 3, Subsection (d) of these By-Laws.
6. All other matters which the Town Assembly by a majority vote may request.

ARTICLE II - Meetings

Section 1. The regular meetings of the Town Assembly shall be held at 8:30 P.M. on the fourth Monday of June, July and August and on the fourth Tuesday of October, January and March, said meetings to be held at Guild Hall, Arden, unless otherwise designated.

Section 2. Special meetings of the Town Assembly shall be called by the Assembly Secretary upon request in writing signed by at least twenty-five voters, stating the specific purpose for which the meeting is to be called.

Section 3. Notice of special meetings shall be given by the Assembly Secretary to all registered voters at least five days prior to such meeting, stating the time and specific object.

Section 4. At all meetings of the Town Assembly a quorum shall consist of thirty-five registered voters.

ARTICLE III - Officers

- Section 1. The officers of the Town Assembly shall consist of a Chairman who shall be the Senior Trustee and an Assembly Secretary who shall be elected by the March meeting and who shall serve for the term of one year beginning March 25.
- Section 2. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Town Assembly, provided that in his absence or inability or failure to serve, the meeting shall be presided over by the next ranking Junior Trustee present. In case of the absence of all the Trustees, or in case of their inability or failure to preside, the Chairman of that particular Assembly Meeting shall be selected by a majority vote of the residents present.
- Section 3. The Assembly Secretary shall conduct all the general correspondence of the Town Assembly and have charge of same. He shall keep minutes of all meetings and submit them for approval or correction at the next meeting. He shall also serve as a member of and as Secretary to the Registration Committee and act as Secretary for the Civic Committee. Upon the election of his successor, he shall turn over to him all the records and effects of the Town Assembly in his possession.

ARTICLE IV - Committees

- Section 1. The Standing Committees of the Town Assembly shall consist of the Civic Committee, the Board of Assessors, the Budget Committee, the Community Planning Committee, the Registration Committee and the Advisory Committee. All actions of Committees shall be by majority vote and each Committee shall select its own Chairman.
- Section 2. (a) The Civic Committee shall consist of five residents of Arden, elected by a majority of those voting at the regular March meeting. The term shall be two years, three members to be elected on odd numbered years and two on even numbered years.
- (b) It shall be the duty of the Civic Committee to exercise general supervision over communal rights, property, repairs, construction, and expenditures concerning same; it shall approve all bills for monies so expended, such bills to be submitted to the Trustees for payment; and it shall expend no funds beyond the limitations of the authorized budget.
- Section 3. (a) The Board of Assessors shall consist of seven residents of Arden, who shall be the Assessors of leased lands of Arden. Nominations for this Board shall be made at the regular meeting of the Town Assembly in August, and their election shall immediately thereafter be conducted by means of a referendum vote as provided for in Article 1, Section 3 of these By-Laws. The Board of Assessors shall be elected according to the Hare system of proportional representation and shall hold office for a period of one year or until their successors are elected and qualified.
- (b) It shall be the duty of the Board of Assessors to make assessments of the full rental value of lands in Arden, and to report such assessment at the July meeting of the Town Assembly.

The Board of Assessors shall conduct two open hearings during the months of June and July by giving notice of the time and place to the Trustees, residents and leaseholders at least five days before such hearings are to be held. The hearings shall be open to the residents and leaseholders and an opportunity afforded to any interested person or persons, group or groups to fully present data concerning assessments.

- (c) The Assessors shall, before assuming office, take an oath of office before any person qualified under the Laws of the State of Delaware, to administer oaths, which oath shall be in the following form:
"I, _____ do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully perform and discharge my duties as Assessor of Arden to the best of my ability and that I will as nearly as possible assess the full rental value for Arden lands as required by the Deed of Trust and the Leases of Arden."
- (d) The base rate set by the Board of Assessors shall be final unless an appeal by any leaseholder shall be made at the August Town Assembly Meeting. If such an appeal is upheld by a two-thirds vote of the Meeting, the report of the Assessors together with a recommendation of the Assembly Meeting shall be submitted for final decision to the residents of Arden by means of a referendum vote provided for in Article 1, Section 3 of these By-Laws.
All questions of differential factors arising out of the application of the base rate to individual leaseholds shall be referred to the Board of Assessors for final decision.
- (e) The Board of Assessors shall keep records of their deliberations and shall retain for inspection by any interested leaseholder, resident or Trustee, all of the data and records employed by the Board of Assessors in support of their determination of the full rental value of the Arden lands. When the term of office of the Board of Assessors shall have expired the books, records and other data shall be turned over to their successors in office.

- Section 4. (a) The Budget Committee shall consist of five residents of Arden elected by a majority of those voting at the regular October meeting. The term shall be two years, three members to be elected on odd numbered years and two on even numbered years.
- (b) It shall be the duty of the Budget Committee to prepare a budget for each fiscal year beginning March 25th, and present its report at the regular August meeting. Upon its approval by a majority of those voting, the report will immediately be submitted, with changes if any, for approval by a majority of the residents of Arden by means of a referendum vote as provided for in Article 1, Section 3 hereof.

- Section 5. (a) The Community Planning Committee shall consist of five residents of Arden, elected by a majority of those voting at the regular July meeting. The term shall be two years, three members to be elected on odd numbered years and two on even numbered years.
- (b) It shall be the duty of the Community Planning Committee to plan the physical and cultural future of the Community, and to advise with the Town Assembly and Trustees on all matters relating to the betterment and development of Arden.

- (c) Vacancies occurring in the Community Planning Committee shall be filled at the next ensuing meeting of the Town Assembly after such vacancies shall have occurred, notice of the meeting to call attention to such election.

- Section 6.
- (a) The Registration Committee shall consist of five residents of Arden, three to be elected by a majority of those voting at the regular June meeting, the other two members to consist of the Assembly Secretary and the Senior Trustee, and shall serve for a period of one year or until their successors are elected and qualified. The Clerk of the Trustees shall be ex-officio a member of this Committee.
 - (b) It shall be the duty of the Registration Committee to register as voters all qualified residents as defined in Article 1, Section 1 of these By-Laws, and in furtherance of such duty, it shall keep a complete up-to-date record of all the residents of Arden, including the date of the establishment of residence, and shall strike from said record the names of such persons who have ceased to qualify as residents.
 - (c) The Registration Committee shall have complete supervision of all referendum voting and shall certify in writing the results of such elections or referendum voting to the Assembly Meeting and to the Trustees.
 - (d) The Registration Committee shall make no changes in the voting list after a referendum vote has been initiated, until said vote has been taken.

Section 7. In June of each year the Town Assembly shall elect an Auditing Committee of three residents to examine the Trust Account and submit its report at or before the August Assembly Meeting. Residents may examine the Trust Account on request.

Section 8. All other Committees may be appointed by the Chairman of the Town Assembly unless otherwise desired by the Meeting, in which case such Committees shall be elected by a majority of those voting.

- Section 9.
- (a) The Advisory Committee shall consist of the Chairmen of all the standing committees and the Trustees. The Town Assembly Secretary shall act as Secretary. The Chairman of this committee shall be elected by a majority of those voting at the regular August meeting of the Town Assembly and shall serve for the term of one year.
 - (b) It shall be the duty of the Advisory Committee to be advisory in character and to meet at least once a month to correlate and review the committee activities of the town.

Section 10. Nominations for the Civic, Budget, Community-Planning, and Registration Committee shall be made from the floor at the meeting preceding their respective election dates. Nomination may also be made on or before such election dates by a petition presented to the Registration Committee and signed by ten registered voters of Arden.

Section 11. To implement the changes in the By-Laws, in the year 1950 two members of the Civic, Budget, and Community-Planning committees receiving the largest number of votes shall serve for two years. The other three elected members shall serve for one year.

Section 12. Vacancies in all standing committees, excepting the Board of Assessors, shall be filled at the next regular Town Assembly meeting by a majority vote of those present, and shall serve for the balance of the unexpired term.

ARTICLE V - Rules of Order

All meetings shall be governed by the rules of parliamentary practice according to Robert's Manual.

No person shall speak twice on the same motion while another who has not spoken desires to be heard.

Upon request, any question shall be decided by rising vote.

A vote by secret ballot shall be taken on any question if requested by ten qualified voters except that, upon such a request being made, this rule may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of the registered voters present and voting.

Business of special meetings shall be confined to the subjects mentioned in the call.

ARTICLE VI - Order of Business

1. Appeals on or revisions of Voting List of Residents.
2. Reading of Minutes.
3. Reading of Communications.
4. Report of Trustees.
5. Report of Standing Committees.
6. Report of Special Committees.
7. Unfinished Business.
8. New Business.
9. Good and Welfare of Arden.
10. Adjournment.

ARTICLE VII - Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended or added to by a majority vote of the registered voters of Arden by referendum vote as provided for in Article 1, Section 3 of these By-Laws, providing however that the said amendment shall have been approved by a majority of those voting at a regular or special meeting of which written notice shall have been given.



EDUCATION IN THE ARDENS

Arden, Delaware

May 1969

Published by the Board of Trustees
of Arden School District #3

Prepared and written by Mrs. Mayda Brandner

We ask the forbearance of the reader for any omissions or inaccuracies. Written records prior to the year 1945 are largely unavailable or non-existent.

The picture on the front cover is an artist's conception of the Arden School taken from the original plans. It includes an alcove at the end of the building that was later deleted from the plans.

EDUCATION IN THE ARDENS

Arden School history is worth recalling for several reasons. One is the fact that the school developed in an unusual community, alive with cultural and esthetic interests. In more general ways, events in the Arden School District reflected trends over the years in Delaware education and conflicts in educational policies which rise to the surface everywhere.

One such trend is consolidation. Some of the disagreements relate to basics—the three R's—in the curriculum as contrasted with so-called “frills,” and the relative merits of discipline and individual freedom, or self-expression.

Arguments regarding consolidation were with the district from the beginning of its history in the early 1920's. Some of the earliest residents thought it was a mistake to have a small community school. In fact, there were hopes after the district was established that it would be enlarged and take in some of the developments nearby, such as the areas between Arden and Silverside and Foulk Roads. But the district remained inclusive only of Arden and Ardentown, with certain variations through the years regarding Ardencroft's status.

Although proponents of consolidation increased through the years, supporters of the Arden School District, devoted to the ideals they envisioned, and often realized, in their small neighborhood school, held out for survival until legislation requiring consolidation of small school districts was enacted.

In the 1920's, when the first bond issue for a school building in Arden was proposed, opponents included more than the individuals who favored larger districts. Some of Arden's single-taxers, followers of the economic theories of Henry George, were against the school, on the basis that taxation for education would be socialistic and against the principles they were attempting to demonstrate in this community. Education, they believed, should be handled privately. And as a matter of fact, there were and continued to be private educational enterprises in the Ardens.

But certain other residents were so eager to have a local school that they offered to put up \$1,000 each toward it. In those days, and in this place, \$1,000 was hard to come by. They were saved the necessity of raising the money when the 1924 referendum for a school bond issue received a favorable vote.

And so the Arden School District #3 started with controversy. Some Arden residents never sent their children to the local school, because they felt schools in nearby larger districts, or in Wilmington or Philadelphia, were better. On the other hand, when it was allowed, many families outside Arden and Ardentown were happy to have their children attend Arden's eight-grade, and later six-grade school.

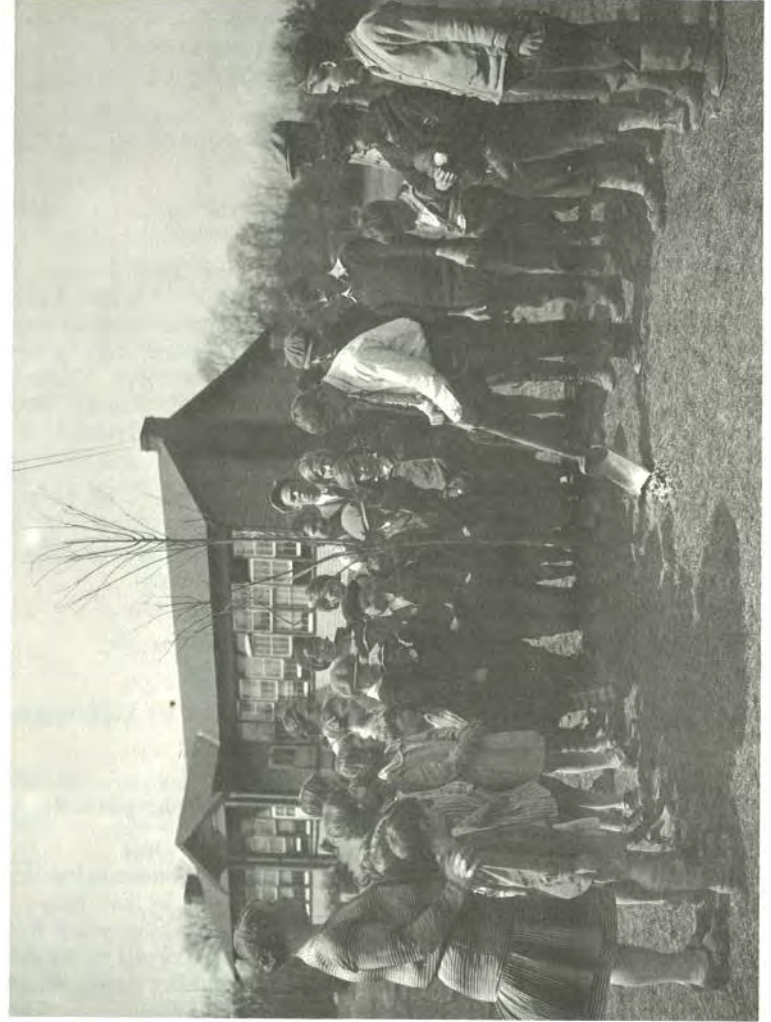
The Arden School program was always enhanced by the artistic and cultural life of the community. Children who saw and participated in the weekly Shakespearean productions, the many musicales and campfires with their poetry readings and music, and even the town meetings and forums with heated discussions of social theories and problems, brought appreciations which enriched the school life. Many of their parents, and other residents, voluntarily contributed their talents to the school program.

Over the years disputes over personnel and policies were plentiful. Most of the arguments which are heard in connection with any school or school system raged intensely here, since the intimacy of community life and the vital concern of many people with educational matters magnified all views. Yet some matters distressing in other areas were handled quite peacefully, such as racial integration in advance of the Supreme Court decision requiring desegregation and in spite of state policy against it at the time.

There were always dedicated staff members, school trustees and others in the community convinced of the advantages of our small neighborhood school for elementary pupils. During the years 1924-45 when the old school building presented innumerable problems, PTA members struggled persistently to provide the repairs, clean-up details and supplies needed. The town meetings cooperated by paying for custodians' services.

With the completion of the new building in 1946, some of the struggles abated. But the towns continued to assist with contributions. The PTA continued to be exceptionally active, providing speakers, study groups and special services. And Arden School graduates went forth to make, many of them, outstanding records in their later schooling and fields of work, and all of them, we believe, enriched by the enthusiasms and democratic ideals which the school as well as the community nurtured.

We have had a vigorous educational history in the Ardens. As part of the Mount Pleasant School District, residents of this district will certainly continue to work actively for the best in education for all the children in the area. We know the community has an educational future, as well as a past, in which to take pride.



Mrs. Kerr and pupils planting tree in front of the Arden School about 1929.

— Photograph by Earl Brooks

PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Early 1900's** Mr. & Mrs. E. S. Potter's Arden Summer Camp School of Organic Education at the Highway and Sherwood Road. This was patterned after the School of Organic Education at Fairhope, Alabama. Potter's camp was later called the Corner-of-the-Woods Summer School.
- Before 1920** Mrs. Emma Dewees' pre-school at 1911 Sherwood Road.
Mrs. Rachel Shanklin's kindergarten at the Red House and on the large lot of Millers Road between Hillside and Little Lane.
Mrs. Margaret Spicer's home tutoring.
- Early 1920's** Mothers' Cooperative School at the Red House, the Strawberry Box (small house in front of 2308 Walnut Lane) and Mrs. Hadassah Roberts' home on Millers Road. This was both pre-school and early elementary grades. Teachers included Mrs. Frances Pyle, Mrs. Hadassah Roberts, Mrs. Margaret Broadbent, Mrs. Jimmie Ware, Mrs. Elizabeth Gray and Mrs. Adelaide Criswell. Mrs. Broadbent introduced Montessori equipment and methods. Pre-school and elementary grades at Mrs. Cora Potter's house, the Bluebird, on Cherry Lane. Mrs. Potter taught pre-school downstairs and Mrs. Broadbent taught elementary school children upstairs.
- 1929-30** Mrs. Ian Wolff's kindergarten at 2201 Milky Way.
- 1930-31** Mrs. Hadassah Roberts' summer and winter kindergartens at her home on Millers Road.
- During 1930's** Mrs. Amy Smolens' kindergarten at 1900 Sherwood Road.
- 1930-60** Mrs. Dora Gordon Johnson's Playschool at various locations and times. With Mrs. Charlotte Curtis at her home on Harvey Road. At the Gordon home on Sherwood Road and later at 2123 Meadow Lane. For two years in the early 50's with Mrs. Ethel Gordon Monfort at the Arden School. Later for several years at 1517 Woodland Road.
- Late 1940's** Delaware Pre-School Association conducted a kindergarten in the Arden School for one year.
- Middle 1960's** Mrs. Joan Ware Colgan and Mrs. Rose Schein conducted a pre-school at The School on the Green.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF ARDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT #3

- 1900** Arden founded as a single-tax colony.
- 1910-24** Several Arden school-age children attended the old Forwood School on Silverside Road while some went to the old Hanby School on Marsh Road. A summer camp school and various private schools were offered in Arden, which pre-school and some elementary school children attended. Such schools were held at the Red House (Craft Shop), the Strawberry Box and the Bluebird. Other Arden children were privately tutored; some attended school in Philadelphia and in Wilmington.
- 1919** New state school code passed; gave authority to the State over the 425 existing school districts.
- 1920** Arden School District #3 was formed from the Arden portions of District #4 (Hanby School) and District #5 (Forwood School). In March, classes under the new District were begun in the Craft Shop.
- 1920-24** Elementary grades were taught in the lower Gild Hall. Arden Leaves issue of June 1924 reported that "there are 19 families outside of Arden who are sending children to school here (31 children in these families), whereas only 11 Arden families contribute 29 children to the list."
- 1922** Ardentown founded and included in the Arden School District.
- 1924** First bond issue floated for Arden School building consisting of two surplus war structures put together on a stone foundation. Grades 1-8 were housed there between 1924 and 1931; thereafter grades 1-6 were held in the school.
- 1944** Arden School PTA voted to join the national parent-teacher organization.
- 1945** Arden School building burned to the ground. Bond issue for new school building approved.
- 1945-46** Arden School classes again held in Arden Gild Hall.
- 1946** Arden School opened in new building praised for its modern features, such as radiant heating, abundance of windows, direct access to outside from each room.
Local PTA began to have programs of general interest; no longer having to occupy itself strictly with details of upkeep, repair, etc., of old building.
- 1950** Ardencroft established.
Addition of fourth classroom to Arden School completed.
- 1952** Arden School became racially integrated two years prior to Supreme Court decision barring segregation in schools.
- 1956-57** Arden area parents secured over 200 signatures on petitions to have a public kindergarten at the Arden School or in the Gild Hall. Kindergarten was not secured because the State, while prepared to furnish supervision, did not have funds for pre-school teachers.

- 1959** Arden School graduates were given a choice of attending the Alfred I. du Pont or the Claymont School Districts for secondary schooling.
- East Ardencroft declared by the State Board of Education to be part of the Arden School District, after years of requests from the Ardencroft Association, and agreement of the Arden and the Mt. Pleasant School Boards. (The Alfred I. du Pont School District Board refused to cede to Arden School District the part of Ardencroft which lies west of Veale Road.)
- 1960** Arden School graduates now required to begin junior high in Alfred I. du Pont District.
- Arden School District held election for a school board member for the first time. (Previous school trustees had been appointed by judges.)
- 1961** Arden School District required to begin making annual tuition payments for secondary pupils; therefore the Arden school tax rate more than tripled (50¢ tuition charge was added to the 22¢ charge for Arden School costs).
- 1962** Legislation passed to permit Ardencroft residents in the Alfred I. du Pont District a choice of sending their elementary children to either Arden School or to the Alfred I. du Pont District school.
- 1964** Last payment made on Arden School District's bonded indebtedness.
- 1964-65** Evaluation of the Arden School program conducted by Dr. Berj Harootunian, assisted by other staff members of the Department of Education, University of Delaware.
- 1966-67** Census of the three Ardens undertaken by the Division of Urban Affairs, University of Delaware, arranged for by the Arden School Board and paid for partly by Federal funds, partly by the school funds and partly by the three towns.
- 1967-68** As a result of a ruling by the Attorney General that the 1959 decision was not based on legal procedures, the State Board of Education declared East Ardencroft should return to Mount Pleasant Special School District.
- The Arden School Board expressed preference for merger with Mount Pleasant Special School District in the event of mandatory district consolidation.
- 1968** Passage of Educational Advancement Act, requiring consolidation of school districts not offering education for grades 1 through 12, within the district schools.
- 1969** July 1 – Arden School District consolidates with Mount Pleasant School District. State of Delaware now has 22 school districts.
- September – Arden School building to be used for public kindergarten, under control of Silverside School of the Mount Pleasant School District.



Mrs. Danby, Miss Gavotos, George Newcombe and pupils in front of the Arden School about 1926.
 — Photograph by Earl Brooks

OTHER ARDEN SCHOOL EVENTS OF INTEREST THROUGH THE YEARS

ACRA use of building and grounds for summer program for children. (some activities for adults also)

PTA sponsorship of Boy and Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Brownie troops.

PTA-sponsored annual Book Fairs

Great Books Program monthly for several years for the upper grades (5 and 6).

Basketball court on school grounds, lighted at night for use of local young people.

Use of the school building for numerous regular events, such as Ardencroft Association meetings, discussions of current topics, show rehearsals, classes in arts, crafts, dance, etc.

Participation of many members of the community in school activities, adding enrichment in art, music, drama, dancing, etc.

Exceptionally active PTA and close home-school cooperation.

Outstanding school productions of shows such as "Cowboy on the Moon", "The Wizard of Oz", and "Pooh and His Friends"; also annual mid-year and year-end musical programs.

Since 1962 Thanksgiving dinners have been provided by the Arden School children for the Layton Home for Aged Persons.

Annual sixth grade graduation services with presentation of inscribed loose-leaf binder to each graduate from the school board. Also at these exercises, the present first graders have introduced the next year first graders to the community.

THE ARDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL TAX STORY

Year	Tax Rate per \$100 Assessed Valuation of Real Estate	
pre 1957	\$0.07	— current expenses only
1957-59	\$0.17	— current expenses only
1960-63	\$0.72	— \$0.22 current expenses plus \$0.50 tuition
1963-64	\$0.87	— \$0.22 current expenses plus \$0.65 tuition
1964-65	\$0.82	— \$0.32 current expenses plus \$0.60 tuition
1965-66	\$0.84	— \$0.34 current expenses plus \$0.50 tuition
1966-67	\$1.007	— \$0.407 current expenses plus \$0.60 tuition
1967-68	\$1.22	— \$0.62 current expenses plus \$0.60 tuition
1968-69	\$1.282	— \$0.682 current expenses plus \$0.60 tuition
1969-70	\$1.62	— \$1.319 current expense and tuition plus \$0.301 debt service



Miss Scanlon, Miss Morley, Mrs. Cavanaugh and Mr. Devlin with Arden School pupils in May 1969.

—Photograph by Margaret Kazan

TEACHING STAFF

THESE ARE THE TEACHERS WHOSE KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND ENTHUSIASMS HELPED SHAPE THOSE OF ARDEN YOUNG PEOPLE:

The first teacher authorized and paid by the State in Arden School District #3 was:

March – June, 1920 – Mrs. Marguerite Woodward Nearing, whose schoolhouse was the Red House (Craft Shop)

The first district teacher to serve for a year was:

1920-21 – Mrs. Jeanne Young, who taught all the grades in the lower Gild Hall.

Teachers since then (1921-24 in the Gild Hall, 1924-45 in the first Arden School building on Sherwood Green, 1945-46 in the Gild Hall again, and 1946-69 in the present school building) include:

Mrs. Emma Dewees	Miss Jane Hoch
Miss Alice Apple	Mrs. Madeline Pfeiffer
Miss McAllister	Mrs. Helen Wilson Scone
Mrs. Madeline Kenworthy Souder	Miss Helen Reed
Mrs. Thelma Gray	* Pete Hallberg
Mrs. Florence Evans	Miss Mary Scanlon
Mrs. Danby	Mrs. Adele Arnold
Miss Frances Gavatos	* Walter W. Hosler
Mrs. Margaret Broadbent	Mrs. Rosalia H. Schorr
Mrs. Elva Kerr	Mrs. Mary Burslem
Miss Helen Levy	* Patrick Devlin
Mrs. Mildred Gee	Mrs. Nancy Gay Carson Payne
* Mrs. Miriam Howell	Mrs. Mary Ann Cavanaugh
Mrs. Rachel Dickerson	Miss Cosette L. Morley
Mrs. Jayne Simpson Huntington	

* Chief school officers (teaching principals)

OUR STATE SUPERVISORS HAVE INCLUDED:

Most recently,
Mrs. Virginia Mason Neave

And in previous years,
Miss Ella Holly
Mrs. Felicia Beverly

PART TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT HAVE INCLUDED:

As nurse: Mrs. Elizabeth Pione (also secretary)
Mrs. Dorothy Houes
Mrs. Minnie Johnson

As secretary:	Mrs. Ann C. Solway Mrs. Barbara Fenske
As teacher's aide:	Mrs. Doris Davis
For physical education:	Miss Barbara Washam Mrs. William D. Hjalmer George Poe
Music Teacher:	Mrs. Marilyn DeMarski
Languages:	Mrs. Lena Hurlong Mrs. Cecily Trehu Mrs. Colette Isakoff
Custodian:	Alfred Bratten Nikolaas VanderLek Karlis Ostups
Crossing Guards:	Mrs. Pat Press Mrs. Charlotte Curtis Glen Streevey Mrs. Janet Sutton Mrs. Tika VanderLek Mrs. Jean Ginn Mrs. Helen Chase Mrs. Leona Oakes

In addition to all the above mentioned teachers and part time staff members, others who have served frequently as substitutes or volunteer assistants in special areas such as art, music, folk dancing, library, nature study, etc. include:

Mrs. Bunni Hurlong	Mrs. Charlotte Curtis	Mrs. Kay Ringer
Mrs. Dottie Goldich	Mrs. June Kleban	Mrs. Marjory Jobson
Marcus Aurelius Renzetti	Mrs. Pat Liberman	Mrs. Gladys Morris
Ross Santee	Mrs. Lil Downing	Mrs. Bluma Goldberg
Miss Grace Kuschan	Mrs. Anne Smock	Mrs. Jimmie Ware
Mrs. Elizabeth Eberlin	Mrs. Lorraine Cook	Mrs. Jane Aughey
Mrs. Vera Berk	Mrs. Pat Press	Mrs. Viola Hanby
Mrs. Joan Ware Colgan	Mrs. Dora Johnson	Mrs. Kay Furman
Mrs. Betty Hahn		Mrs. Lillian Balick

And for assisting in many ways, the following should also be mentioned:

George Newcombe	Charles Till	Mrs. Alice Beacham
Earl Brooks	Woodrow Vandever	Mrs. Margaret Kazan
Andrew Gallagher	Dr. John H. Bengé	Mrs. Ruth Estes
James McKee Robertson	Frank Starr	Robert Solway

AND MANY, MANY OTHERS – We wish we could mention all who have helped to give the Arden School its special community-relatedness and spirit including the organizations such as The Arden Community Recreation Association, The Arden Club and the Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups who have given benefits and carried out projects for the School.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

School Board members are among those who grapple with matters such as referenda for school bonds and for increased operating expense taxes, boundary disputes, legal complications and long-range planning. In addition, small school district trustees often find themselves involved in details which in larger districts would be handled by special departments, such as business or public relations.

The following are among those who have, as trustees, worked to help the district meet its challenges:

George C. Morley	George Newcombe	Mrs. Elizabeth B. Ritter
Mrs. Katherine F. Ross	Sylvan Levy	William A. Morley
Earl Broadbent	Henry Aughey	Harold Monfort
Captain R. W. Wood	Mrs. Frances Harrison	Dr. J. Ambrose McAlevy
A. N. Andrews	Robert Bloodwell	Charles Zunser
Dr. George Hallett	Fritz Giessler	Edmond F. Hurlong
Mrs. Marguerite Nearing	Mrs. Dorothy MacCorquodale	Lloyd E. Estes
Russell Ramsey	Clement Wood	Mrs. Mayda Brandner
Walter Sweeting	Herman Kumme	Larry L. Lipstein
Robert Woolery	Mrs. Gladys Frank	Dr. Erhard F. Hoegger
Mrs. Frances Pyle	William May	Mrs. Joan Ware Colgan
Mrs. Maude Holcomb	Mrs. Helen McClure	Reese P. Davis
	Dr. Esther Vik	

Dr. Hoegger was selected by the Arden School Trustees to serve on the Interim Mount Pleasant — Arden School Board from February through June 1969. He was uncontested for reelection as an Arden School Trustee in 1969, and as such will serve a full term on the Board of the consolidated District.

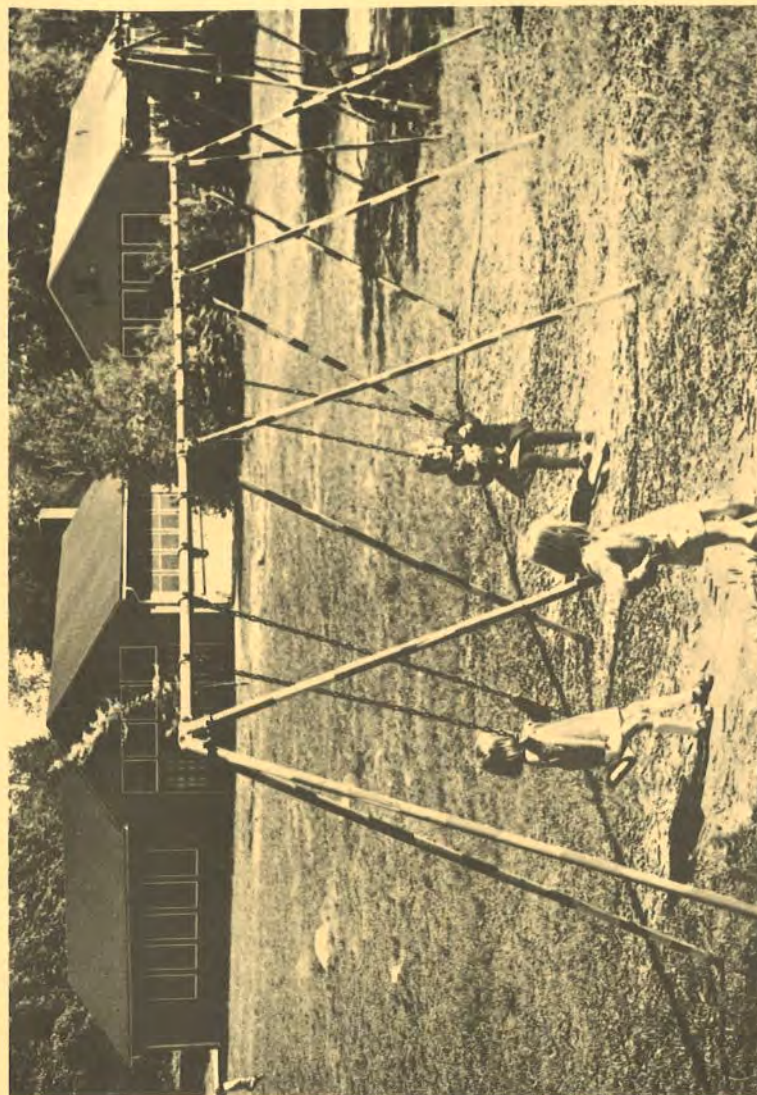
PARENT-TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

We can't begin to name the hundreds of members of the Arden Parent-Teachers' Association who have devotedly worked through the years on fund raising, equipment for the school, transportation for school trips, clean-up and painting projects, adult education, hospitality, getting out the votes, etc. ——— and in the case of our small school, especially in the early days, the PTA members who often performed regularly the most menial jobs of upkeep and repair.

We can name the individuals who have been president of this organization from 1943 to 1969. Earlier records have not been located, except that we know that Miss Amy Wood in the early twenties was head of what was then called the Arden School Association, and Hamilton D. Ware at one time also was PTA president.

Since 1943, presidents of the PTA have included:

Edward Downs, Jr.	Joseph S. Patterson	William Press
Alan Oemler	Mrs. Mayda Brandner	Mrs. Marti Berger
Mrs. Alice Beacham	William Pasfield	Charles R. Conner
Mrs. Lou Tarkenton	Bates McClean	Mrs. Elizabeth Pione
Robert W. Smock	Richard Dolmetsch	Mrs. Ruth F. Bean
Paul Smith	Dr. Yoh Han Pao	Reese P. Davis
David Coglan	Francis Furman	Mrs. Marcia Hoopes
Morris Rosin		



The Arden School in 1969
— Photograph by Margaret Kazan



"You are welcome hither"

The Three Ardens

**The Story of
THE THREE ARDENS**

By
Donald Stephens

Price 5¢ — six copies 25¢.

Reprinted from *Land Value Taxation Around the World*
(Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, 50 E. 69th Street, New
York, N. Y. \$3.)

"For we welcome him"

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THE THREE ARDENS
BY

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Robert Schattschneck Foundation, 20 E. 60th Street, New
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Gift of Dr. H. Clay Reed, Newark
Del. Feb. 1964
F.L.B. 2.0.1964

The Three Ardens

by DONALD STEPHENS

THE IMPORTANCE OF "SINGLE TAX COLONIES," OR "ENCLAVES of economic rent," as they were more aptly rechristened by Fiske Warren of Boston, is greater than is generally recognized by those interested in the progress of land-value taxation. They are working models—better still, laboratories—wherein the basic theory underlying this policy may be demonstrated and techniques for its application tested and perfected.

Among these enclaves, the Three Ardens are particularly important. To their founders, an enlightened fiscal policy was not simply an end in itself, but the essential foundation upon which, alone, real democracy could be built.

ARDEN

Arden was the first of the three now-existing villages to be established. Frank Stephens, sculptor, and Will Price, architect, two Philadelphians, successful in business but more interested in social justice than in worldly gain, were its founders. Both were followers of Henry George and both had as their goal the setting up of a working demonstration of his system as far as state laws would permit.

So in 1900 they purchased for their purpose an old farm consisting of 162 acres of beautifully wooded, rolling land in northern Delaware, and, both being lovers of Shakespeare and amateur actors of no mean ability, they named it "Arden," after the Forest of Arden in *As You Like It*.

It was situated six miles north of Wilmington, 20 miles south of Philadelphia and three miles west of the Delaware River, and the price was \$9,000. A down payment of \$2,500 was made and a mortgage of \$6,500 given. This mortgage was later taken over by Joseph Fels, wealthy soap manufacturer, who also was a follower of George. It was to be amortized over a term of years by annual payments by the village. Price and Stephens took personal title to the old dwelling house and barn in exchange for the money they had advanced to purchase the farm.

They created a Deed of Trust and appointed themselves and another Philadelphian, Frank Martin, as trustees to administer it. The land was deeded to these three, to be held in perpetuity for anyone who cared to live upon it and to pay the full rental value annually assessed against each plot. Ninety-nine-year leases (the longest term allowable under the law), with right of renewal, were to be given to those who came to live there. The trustees were obligated to pay all local taxes levied against the land and improvements—the Trustees are billed by the Collector of Taxes of New Castle County for all taxes levied against the land and improvements thereon, and for all road, school and other county taxes—and to see that the balance from the annual gross rentals was

used for "such communal purposes as are properly public in that they cannot be left to individuals without giving them advantages over others."

A town-meeting form of government was established to conduct the affairs of the community, and gradually by-laws were evolved to administer the village. Today three Townsmen, a Town Clerk, and an Assessment Committee are elected annually, the latter by proportional representation. Thus developed an experiment in fundamental democracy founded on the idea of conserving for the people themselves their socially created wealth.

Progress was at first slow, even though the annual rental for an acre of land was originally only \$6. But after 1908 growth went on apace, and by 1909 every foot of leasable land had a leaseholder and many applications for leases could not be filled. In 1911 the annual gross rentals were \$908, and by 1920 they had risen to \$3,164. The 1953 assessment list shows the gross rentals to be \$12,639.19 for the 175 plots. There are 191 homes and a population of about 615 men, women and children. The present trustees are Hamilton D. Ware, Philip Cohne and I. B. Finkelstein.

Frank Stephens and Will Price were both unusually gifted men with widely diversified talents, and they gave the enclave a distinctive, artistic character that attracted many other creative folk. Upon a sound, democratic base they aimed to realize William Morris's ideals of a healthy and beautiful society wherein handicrafts, music, drama, the dance and other arts would flourish. And, in a surprisingly large measure, they succeeded.

Over the entrance stile to Arden they placed a carved inscription, "You Are Welcome Hither," and this has been the motto of the Three Ardens ever since. Unlike the founders of almost all other experimental communities, Stephens and Price did not believe in selecting the people who should live there. If Arden was to have any significance for world-wide application, they were convinced that there should be no attempt to determine who were the "sheep" and who the "goats." So no applicant for land has ever been questioned as to his beliefs, who his forebears were, or what is his religion, his politics, or his race. If there is land to be rented, it is rented to anyone who applies for it, and the same terms prevail for all.

This same democratic principle has been practiced in the Arden Club since its founding soon after the enclave was established. Any resident of Arden (and, later, of Ardentown and Ardencroft) becomes a member of the club upon payment of the modest annual dues of \$5; there is no election and, consequently, no opportunity for "blackballing."

These unique policies have given Arden its character. Everyone there feels equal to his neighbor, and no man can say to another, "You can't come in." So all kinds of folk, from all walks of life, have been attracted and have come and settled here, and have learned to live together. A strength like that which prevailed in the days of early America has developed—it is part of that "something" about the place which visitors quickly sense, even though they may not know the cause. Consequently, there is a steady demand for houses. When

a leaseholder is obliged to leave Arden for business or other reasons, he can sell his improvements to anyone who chooses to purchase them; the village trustees simply transfer to the newcomer the lease of the land upon which these improvements stand.

ARDENTOWN

By 1922, with all available land in Arden long since leased and a steady demand existing for any lots which might be given up, the necessity of acquiring additional land became increasingly important. The death of a neighbor put an adjoining farm of 110 acres upon the market. This farm, lying largely east of Arden and extending up to the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, was purchased by a Committee of Eight headed by Frank Stephens; and so Ardentown came into being. Seventy leaseholds were applied for even before the plotting and surveying of the new enclave had been completed, and, as with Arden, in a few years all lots were taken.

With a few improvements which experience had shown to be wise, Ardentown's fundamental documents—the Deed of Trust and the leases—followed the pattern so successfully used in Arden. The financing of the new project was made possible by Fiske Warren, wealthy Bostonian, who had long admired Arden and had founded several somewhat similar enclaves in New England¹ and one small one in the tiny Republic of Andorra.² He lent approximately \$30,000 to the Committee

¹See pp. 128-32.

²Sant Jordi was founded as an experimental enclave by Fiske Warren of Boston on January 19, 1916, and was re-formed legally on September 27, 1918.

Situated in the Republic of Andorra, high in the Pyrenees, midway

of Eight, which, following the example set by Stephens and Price, created a Deed of Trust and appointed three trustees to administer it.

Fiske Warren worked out an ingenious plan to secure the loan and yet not militate against the rapid growth of the new project as would an ordinary mortgage. He devised a "rent charge," which, in effect, is a mortgage, not on the land, but upon the annual gross rentals of the enclave. The loan was to be amortized by equal payments covering both principal and interest over a term of 50 years. This plan proved so sound in the eyes of conservative financiers that in 1949 it was possible to refinance Ardentown through a Wilmington bank on the same general basis, but with a much lower interest rate and other better terms.

Although Arden and Ardentown are legally separate entities so far as the social life of both is concerned, they are simply different sections of the same unit, and both have grown steadily stronger with the years.

The great barn of the Harvey Farm, which became Ardentown, has been transformed into an attractive summer theatre—the Robin Hood Theatre—and is rented to

between France and Spain, the enclave consisted at first of five and two thirds acres. This was added to in 1933 by A. D. Waldauer of Memphis, who purchased a small tract of adjacent land and presented it to the enclave in honor of his fellow townsman, Judge A. B. Pittman.

The Deed of Trust specified that the land of Sant Jordi could never be sold but was to be rented for use at a sum to be determined by the trustees. All buildings and other improvements made upon the land were to be free from tax. The trustees were Fiske Warren and Joseph Alemany y Borrás, a resident of Andorra.

The enclave was used largely for gardening and grazing. One house is known to have been built there and a second may have been erected. Because of its isolated position the enclave had but limited opportunity to expand, and after Fiske Warren's death in 1938 it was abandoned.

one of the finest summer-stock companies in the country. Here a dozen Broadway successes are produced each year by actors of high professional standards, to the delight of theatre lovers throughout the surrounding countryside.

Ardentown has approximately 115 homes and its population is roughly 275. In 1953 the rental list showed a total gross rental of \$9,754.71. Its trustees are Donald Stephens, Charles W. Pettit and Hamilton D. Ware.

ARDENCROFT

The third Arden, christened "Ardencroft," came into being in June 1950 on 60 acres of farmland adjoining Arden on the east and Ardentown on the south. It is a tribute to the proven soundness of the system on which the older communities had been established that two thirds of the purchase price of \$55,000, plus \$5,000 required for initial expenses, was obtained from a Wilmington bank on agreement that although a temporary mortgage was required, this would be changed to a rent-charge agreement similar to that of Ardentown as soon as the conversion from farm to enclave had been effected, each lot, as it was built upon, being released from the mortgage. This change was effected within a year. Most of the 97 lots were taken on the two "selection days" appointed and all were taken a few days later. Now there is a waiting list of thirty-odd applicants, all hopeful that some lots may be given up and that they may be able to lease them.

To make this third Arden more readily understandable to legal and banking circles, it was set up not as a

charitable trust, as were its older sisters, but as a non-profit corporation. However, it embodies the same fundamental tax principles as the others, with only a few improvements, growing out of experience, as to administration. Its affairs are administered by a town-meeting form of government, and its present directors are Donald Stephens, Hamilton D. Ware and Henry George III.

Today there are 20 houses built or in the process of construction, including a four-family apartment house, and it is estimated that by the time these buildings are completed there will be a population in the new village of between 60 and 70 persons. The gross land-lease rentals for 1953 were \$5,982.24. However, Ardencroft's annual income is fortunately increased by another \$3,000 a year from the leasing of a large mushroom farm that was already operating when the land was purchased.

Like Arden and Ardentown, Ardencroft adhered to the principles laid down by Stephens and Price that the only qualification for admittance as a leaseholder should be that the applicant wanted a lot and agreed to abide by the simple requirements of the lease. Newspapers in the vicinity immediately dubbed this "interracial" because among its early leaseholders were a number of Negroes. But the directors welcomed this as evidence of the fundamental democratic character of this promising new enclave.

How important are the three Ardens? Time alone can give the final answer. But to those who grasp the importance of experimental communities that have sought to solve the problem of evolving a saner and sounder

civilization it is suggested that there is a source of profitable study in the nature of these many and varied communities and particularly why, by and large, they have been so short-lived.

Why did Brook Farm of the Transcendentalists in Massachusetts, the Llano socialist colony in Louisiana, the anarchist colony in Stelton, New Jersey, the communist experiment at April Farm in Pennsylvania, the cultural community of Elbert Hubbard in East Aurora, New York, shrivel up within a comparatively few years? Why did the several "enclaves of economic rent," founded by Fiske Warren (with lavish funds behind them), have so short a term? And why is Arden still going strong, and with two healthy offspring?

We who have been close to the three Ardens are, admittedly, partial. But we are convinced that the communities owe their vitality and their charm to the fact that their fundamental documents have established a just and sound relationship between those who live there and the source of their living, the earth. And by confining as much as possible the functions of the State to those few things which cannot be left to individuals without giving some an advantage over others, we believe that a sound relationship has been established among the residents. Under such a system, democracy sends down deep roots, and a strong and healthy community life naturally flowers.



History • Government • Laws • Organizations

Arden Child

*When I was young
And it was necessary
For my world to be
Small and safe and beautiful,
Here it lay, outside my door.
The greens became enchanted land;
The woods, an endless trail,
The sound of creek and rocks
My symphony.
Barefoot and free, I ran
Along the wild paths.
Fruit from a hundred trees
Fell to my hand.
Above the hedgerows were the sky and stars,
Remembered blue as blue.
A proper soil for a growing soul
Where love, a circle round,
Assured me of my place on earth.*

Marjory Poinsett Jobson

Marjory Poinsett Jobson (1916-85) grew up in Arden and lived at the house on Cherry Lane known as the "Vista" or "Bluebird." She belonged to the Poetry Society of Wilmington.

MS 9503

The Arden Book



*Arden Community Planning Committee
1992*

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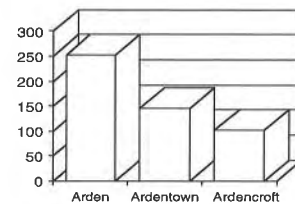
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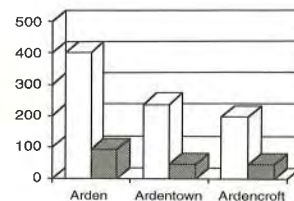
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Arden Census Information March 1992



Number of households
(approx.)

Arden	252
Ardentown	145
Ardencroft	102
Total	500



Number of residents
(approx.)

Arden	402	90
Ardentown	235	45
Ardencroft	195	46
Total	1013	



"You Are Welcome Hither"

ARDEN'S TRADITIONAL WILLINGNESS to accept anyone who wishes to join the community is reflected in the above phrase from Shakespeare's *King Lear* (V,iii). The words are carved at the top of the stile at the entrance to the village at Harvey Road and Lower Lane, and the sentiment is equally true in Ardentown and Ardencroft. This book broadens the welcome to newcomers to the three Ardens by acquainting them with the history and community organizations of the villages and the system of self-government in Arden.

The heart of the Arden communities has always been the participation of their residents. The members of the Arden Community Planning Committee and the many volunteers who prepared this book all hope its pages will help you to find ways you can contribute to — and receive from — Arden's creative dimensions in living.

You will often hear, "Arden isn't what it used to be." That is surely true. Anything living must change, and the three Ardens are very much alive. No longer rurally remote, nor self-contained as they were when transportation was primitive and housing developments had not closed in around us, the Ardens are verdant islands in a sea of suburban sprawl.

We think that, in many ways, Arden keeps being reborn, as newcomers make their homes here and share their talents and energies with earlier residents, and as children who grew up here return to raise *their* children in Arden, the community of their choice. Perhaps that is the essence of Arden — that it is choice, not only of a convenient location, but of a way of life.

What part the Ardens play in your life, and how much of you goes into the enrichment of life in our "intentional communities" will be your decision. We hope you find in this book enough of the spirit, the flavor, the history and the possibilities of life in our villages to lead you to enjoy active participation in community life.

Note to New Residents

WE HOPE YOU FIND the entire *Arden Book* interesting, but the most important sections for new residents to read are "Government" and "Laws & Courtesies." These sections will inform you about how the government works and your part in it. They contain information on elections, ordinances and taxes, and practical matters such as trash collection.

When you have further questions about anything in the three Ardens, ask a neighbor or talk to one of the town officials. The three villages are incorporated separately and town governments vary.

Read the *Arden Page* (our monthly newsletter) and the *Arden Club Calendar* for the news of what's going on around the three villages. The *Arden Page* is free and distributed by volunteers to all residents of the Ardens; the *Arden Club Calendar* is mailed to members of the Arden Club (which is easy and inexpensive to join).

Scan the contents of this book. Explore a few activities. There's a niche for you and a need for your participation in village life.

History

How the Ardens Came to Be



"The tax upon land values is the most just and equal of all taxes. It falls only upon those who receive from society a peculiar and valuable benefit, and upon them in proportion to the benefit they receive. It is the taking by the community for the use of the community of that value which is the creation of the community. It is the application of the common property to common uses. When all rent is taken by taxation for the needs of the community, then will the equality ordained by nature be attained."

— Henry George
Progress and Poverty

For further reading:
article on Henry George in the *International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*, vol. 5-6, available at the Concord Pike Library

Henry George and the Single Tax

ARDEN WAS FIRST. The story begins in 1895, when disciples of philosopher-economist Henry George (1839-97) agreed on a strategy for spreading George's ideas on land value taxation, popularly known as the Single Tax. They believed that if they could get one state to adopt the Single Tax, the result would be a demonstration of the virtues of George's ideas so compelling that the other states and the federal government would follow. They selected Delaware for their concentrated effort.

In 1895-96 Georgists from Philadelphia and elsewhere "invaded" Delaware (as they described their crusade) and tried to elect a governor and a legislature pledged to apply the Single Tax as the method of raising the state's revenue. The legislature was to enact a law requiring that all land be assessed at its "just and true rental value in money" and making willful underassessment of the rental value a misdemeanor.

The campaigners met tremendous resistance and many were jailed. The Georgists managed to garner only a little over 3 percent of the vote in the 1896 election. One result of their campaign was a section inserted in the 1897 Delaware Constitution to prevent the legislature from adopting "a system of taxation the object of which is the confiscation of land."

"Confiscation of land" is, of course, a deliberate perversion of Henry George's ideas. The essence of George's theory, as expounded in his greatest book, *Progress and Poverty*, is the abolition of all taxes except a single tax, levied on the value of the land, irrespective of the value of the improvements on it.

If the full rental value were to be collected, George maintained, speculative profits would be eliminated. As land prices rose, the resulting increased value would be taxed and returned to the community, which had itself created the value, rather than enriching speculators. It would become impractical to hold land out of use, waiting to make a "killing," because the land would be taxed at its full value anyway.

Georgists believed the overall effect of operating the entire economy under the Single Tax system would be a more just distribution of wealth. Individuals would earn wealth as the result of their labor, rather than their ability to monopolize land and other natural resources.

The Founders: Stephens, Price and Fels

AMONG THOSE HARDY, IDEALISTIC CAMPAIGNERS of 1896 were Frank Stephens, sculptor, and Will Price, architect, both of Philadelphia. When the idea of setting up a statewide demonstration of the Single Tax failed, they set out to show that a town could be operated under the Georgist system of land taxation. They were aided financially by Joseph Fels, wealthy Philadelphia soap manufacturer and active Georgist. In 1900, with the purchase of the Derrickson farm, Arden was born.

This is Frank Stephens' own description of how Arden came to be, taken from his

address to the International Conference on the Taxation of Land (the second international Georgist conference), held at Oxford University in 1923:

"In the practice of the art for which I was trained, sculpture, I met a gifted and famous architect, Will Price, one of the wisest and finest of men, and had the good fortune to convert him to the religion of Henry George. We were both successful, speaking after the manner of men, in the practice of our arts, and both bitterly disappointed that the more success made that practice possible, the further we were from it, being merely employers of more and more people to do what we wanted to do ourselves.

"We had learned William Morris' truth that nothing can be done for Art until we have bridged the terrible gulf between the rich and the poor. We were so disgusted with civilization that we determined then and there to go out into the open and make a better one, in which the land theory of Henry George should make the social basis for the industrial theory of Kropotkin and the art theory of William Morris.

"So my wife and I searched out in northern Delaware an abandoned farm containing about 162 acres of rolling hill country, like that of Warwickshire, beautiful woodlands and the ugliest house in the United States. There the village was founded, and there my son and I sat for seven or eight years trying to coax the farm labourers of the countryside to take the land in perpetual leases, for which was to be paid the full economic rent, reassessed yearly, from which land value tax, we, as trustees holding the land as the communal property of all who should live there, would pay all taxes levied on the people by the state, county and hundred, turning the balance of the land rent over to the Town Meeting to be spent for community improvements and upkeep."

Early Ardenites

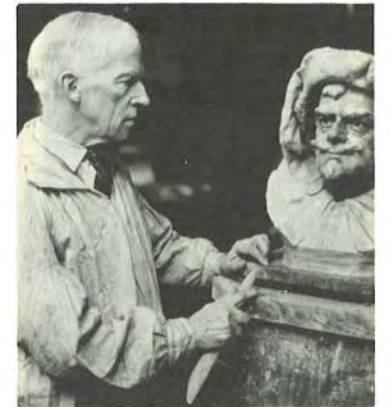
IF STEPHENS WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL in arousing the interest of Arden's farm neighbors in joining the colony, he drew many future Ardenites from Philadelphia and some from Wilmington. It was natural that nearby believers in the land value theory of Henry George would be attracted here (as well as some who had lived in other Single Tax colonies). More unexpectedly, many of the early Arden settlers were not only *not* Georgists, they were vociferous opponents of Stephens and his ideas.

Searching for the common background of those who came to Arden in its first 15 or 20 years leads to the Philadelphia Ethical Culture Society. There Utopians of all sorts, with various theories on ways to reform society, met and debated. What they all shared was a fascination with ideas and concern for making a better world. To them, being in on the development of an experimental colony was an inviting challenge.

Artists, musicians, craftspeople, builders and dreamers were enchanted with the new rural village. And it *was* rural — Arden was ringed not only by its own woodlands, but by the fields and woods of the adjoining farms. Weekending and commuting was easy for Philadelphia-based workers; a station of the B&O Railroad was "just down the road apiece." Village life was what the people who came here made it, with little intrusion from "outside" civilization.

Most of all there was land — land for building one's house, available for payment of only the annual land rent (\$153 average payment in 1911). That brought families eager to find a place in the country to raise their children. Many built their own houses; among the colonists were carpenters and masons who built their own and others' houses. Houses were placed on their lots to give them privacy and room for gardens. Most had fireplaces. Each house was different from the others.

Even so, Arden's colonization was delayed because of the extreme, arbitrary



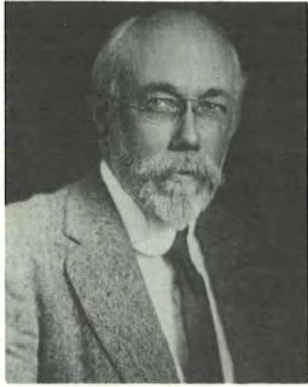
G. Frank Stephens (1859-1935) with his bust of Haines D. Albright in a Shakespearean role

Kropotkin, Peter, 1842-1921 — Russian revolutionary, geographer and theorist of the anarchist movement. Kropotkin "... argued that, despite the Darwinist concept of survival of the fittest, cooperation rather than conflict is the chief factor in the evolution of the species. ... envisioned a society in which men would do both manual and mental work, both in industry and in agriculture. ... Members of each cooperative society would work from their 20s to their 40s ... sufficing for a comfortable life, and the division of labor would yield to a variety of pleasant jobs, resulting in the sort of integrated, organic existence that had prevailed in the medieval city."

— *Encyclopedia Britannica*



Frank Stephens' original house, the Homestead, built around 1900, now 2313 Woodland Lane



Architect Will Price (1861-1916) also designed Rose Valley, Pa., prior to Arden.

powers that the original Deed of Trust gave to the three trustees, and by the lack of any provision in either the deed or the leases for the rights of leaseholders and residents. People were reluctant to join the new colony with no guarantee of rights.

To remedy this, new leases were drawn, providing that the land should be assessed annually by assessors elected by the people, and in 1908 the Deed of Trust was changed, limiting the powers of the trustees and recognizing the rights of the residents of the village.

A Living Community

THE FOUNDERS OF ARDEN WERE THOUGHTFUL ACTIVISTS of their time: the uplifting era at the turn of the century. Social reforms of all kinds were challenging the political order. While the Georgist movement was in the forefront of ideas to rectify injustice and abuse in the economic order, the most advanced thinking on city planning was propounded by Ebenezer Howard, of England. His writings urged the creation of garden cities, with the land held in community ownership through trustees who would collect land rent to be used for the community. It was Howard's idea to preserve the maximum possible open space for farming, woodland and parks, and to build varied residences together with industry and commerce in a convenient and beautiful arrangement.

Although it was many decades before these concepts were used elsewhere in America, they were incorporated in the layout of Arden in 1900 and Ardentown in 1922, and the original plans have not been changed over the years.

The design for conversion of a bare farm into a lovely village incorporating public spaces is a tribute to the vision of Will Price and Frank Stephens. Besides the series of footpaths they created to separate vehicular from pedestrian traffic, the founders set aside almost half of Arden's acreage for the use of all residents in greens, forests and roads. In addition to giving us pleasant parkland, the woodland perimeter of our villages insulates us from the adjoining suburbs.

The excellence of the founders' physical planning is matched by their triumph in social planning. Following ideas advocated in the 19th century by William Morris, the founders fostered arts and crafts activities to be pursued in a beautiful environment. With the influence of William Morris and Henry George still very much in evidence, Arden is one of the few Utopian colonies to survive with the essence of its original ideas still functioning.

More importantly, the founders created a living community. Unlike the founders of almost all other intentional colonies, Stephens and Price did not believe in selecting the people who would live here. Applicants for Arden leaseholds were never questioned as to their beliefs, origins or religion. Based on ideas and on respect for difference and individuality, Arden has kept alive its tradition of free-thinking, creative, outspoken people and continues to demonstrate self-renewing vitality as a village. In fact, Arden has become a magnet for people who are themselves creative, who want more than "just a house," and who are eager to be part of the continuing growth and change of a village that is determinedly different.

Arts and Crafts

ALTHOUGH HIS NAME IS HEARD LESS FREQUENTLY when the founding of Arden is discussed, William Morris, 19th-century Pre-Raphaelite, writer, craftsman, artist and Socialist reformer, exerted a potent influence on Frank Stephens and Will Price as they laid out their Utopian village. It was from Morris and the Arts and Crafts movement that the founders derived the concept of a community of craftsmen who would work with their hands, creating beautiful things, while living in an atmosphere

of music, drama and other arts as an inherent part of their lives.

To make this a reality, the Craft Shop (now an apartment house at 2300 Cherry Lane) was built at one corner of the Arden Green. There Frank Stephens had his studio, his son and others created hand-crafted furniture, and a forge thrived, producing hand-wrought iron lamps, sconces, andirons, latches and other useful and ornamental items.

To house the artisans, small English-type cottages were built in what was known as "Little Arden" (1802-1806 Millers Road, 2212 The Sweep, 2207 Lower Lane). These cottages were built on small lots and were rented to young artisans; the leaseholds were held by the trustees. Most of these houses have been refurbished or rebuilt, but each is still distinguished by hinges and latches from the Arden Forge.

Around 1924 Herbert and Mildred Noyes Mason built the Weaving Shop across the street (now an apartment house at 1812 Millers Road). Mrs. Mason operated the shop for many years, hiring many local women as loom operators. The weavers produced fine cloth for garments and custom-designed table linen. The Weaving Shop continued as a successful business until the late 1930s.

Although neither the Craft Shop nor the Weaving Shop operates today as it did originally, artists and craftspeople are still attracted to Arden, and there are more living and working in the three villages today than ever before. Morris' insistence on an atmosphere of beauty survives.

Shakespeare

ANOTHER WHO CONTRIBUTED GREATLY to the Arden's cultural life was William Shakespeare. Before there was an Arden, Stephens and other Georgists met and studied the Bard of Avon as practice for their oratorical campaigning in behalf of the Single Tax. And when they started their experimental village, they called it Arden, for the Forest of Arden in *As You Like It*. With a huge granite boulder as a backdrop, Stephens built an open-air theater even before he built his home adjoining the site. The theater, at the west side of the Village Green, was known as the Field Theater, and the presentation of Shakespeare's plays was a vital part of Arden life. Later renamed the Frank Stephens Memorial Theater, it is still used.

On this stage, and later at the outdoor Moonlight Theater at Gild Hall, a deep tradition of classical theater developed. Shakespearean plays were given weekly, with Arden residents transformed into Shakespearean actors. Even the youngest children became familiar with Shakespeare. Through the 1950s at least one Shakespeare production was given each summer. Occasionally there is still a Shakespeare play here, and the theatrical tradition is still alive.

Arden was also the first home of the Curtis String Quartet, whose members spent their summers in Arden. Many musicians from Philadelphia came to visit, some to live, and all to make music an integral part of early village life. Vespers were held each Sunday evening through the early 1940s.

The Arden School

ARDEN HAD ITS OWN PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL from 1920, when the Arden School District 3 was formed, until 1969. Classes started in March 1920 in the Craft Shop and moved to the lower Gild Hall later that year. Bonds for the first Arden School building were sold in 1924, and the structure, consisting of two surplus wooden World War I buildings, was established on a masonry foundation and dedicated in 1925. Eight grades were housed there from 1924 to 1931; then the grades were reduced to six — all in two rooms. The building was destroyed by fire in 1945.

Classes were again held in Gild Hall until a new masonry building with three classrooms was opened in 1947. The new building incorporated many innovations in



Miriam Hetzel Donovan at the Arden Pottery, Meadow Lane and Harvey Road (now 1800 Harvey), ca. 1938



Twelfth Night at the Moonlight Theatre at the Gild Hall in 1953



The New Homestead, also called the Founder's House, built by Frank Stephens in 1909, now 2311 Woodland Lane

school design such as radiant heating, an abundance of windows, and direct access to the outside from each room. Six grades were taught there, and a fourth classroom was added in 1950. In 1952, the Arden School became racially integrated, two years before the U.S. Supreme Court decision barring segregation in the schools and in spite of state policy against integration at the time.

In 1968 state law forced Arden to give up its autonomy as a school district; Arden chose to join the Mt. Pleasant School District, and in 1969 Arden elementary school children began attending other district schools. By 1972 all Arden public school students were in Mt. Pleasant schools. The Arden School building was used for public kindergarten classes from September 1969 until June 1973.

In 1973 the Mt. Pleasant School District declared it no longer needed the Arden School, and the Delaware General Assembly enacted legislation to turn the property over to the trustees of Arden. They, in turn, deeded it to the Village of Arden, and the building was renamed the Buzz Ware Village Center to honor the memory of Hamilton D. "Buzz" Ware, longtime trustee of Arden and Ardentown, Ardencroft director, and community leader. Buzz died in 1968.

When the building became Arden's, the Buzz Ware Village Center Committee was created to operate the building. The committee arranged to share the building with the Wilmington Montessori Association under a cooperative agreement through which the association pays rent to cover major repairs, maintenance and operating expenses. Arden retains the use of the building for community activities in the evening, on weekends and during the summer. The most important community use of the building is during the summer, when the Arden Community Recreation Association holds a free summer camp for the children of the Ardens.

In 1987 the Montessori Association bought the former YMCA property near I-95 and Harvey Road, and in 1988 they moved most of their classes to their new school at the site. They continue to use the Buzz Ware Village Center for preschool classes. The current arrangement expires in 1995. The Buzz Ware Village Center Committee has polled residents on their thoughts on the future use of the building and expects to make new arrangements when the Montessori School leaves.

Arden on the National Register

THE VILLAGE OF ARDEN WAS ADDED to the National Register of Historic Places in February 1973, becoming the only village in the nation on the Register in its entirety. (Certain other towns, notably Williamsburg, Va., have historic areas on the Register.) Arden was placed on the National Register on the basis of a nomination that cited as reasons for its preservation:

- It is one of the few experimental Utopian communities to succeed and survive to the present in a reasonable approximation of the original intent.
- Arden is a pioneering example of successful town planning, embodying garden city design concepts long before they gained acceptance elsewhere.
- It has a highly developed participatory democracy, based on a functioning town meeting.
- The village has always been a center of art, music, drama and craftsmanship for its townspeople and the surrounding countryside.
- Arden has preserved a true village feeling with a deep sense of community among residents highly diverse in age, political, ethnic, economic and educational characteristics.

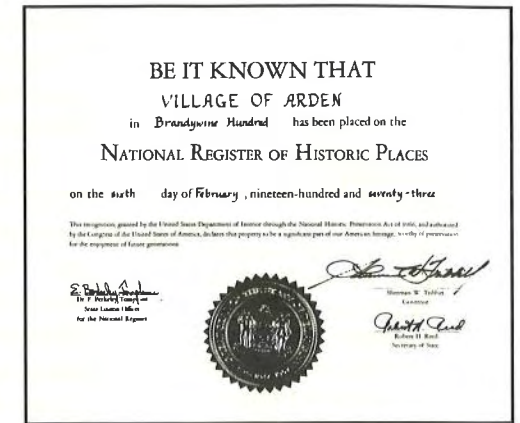
For further reading:
"Education in the Ardens"
by Mayda Brandner, available in the
Arden library



The Lodge, designed by Will Price,
now 2209 The Sweep

The National Register is an official list of the nation's cultural property deemed to be worth saving. The list is maintained by the National Park Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior, under the Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The State of Delaware nominated Arden for inclusion in the Register. Places on the National Register are protected from federally financed highway and other projects through a section in the 1966 law that gives the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation the power to review any undertaking that would use federal funds and would have an effect on those places.

In 1988 the Arden Archives Committee was formed with the long-range goal of establishing an Arden museum. The committee has presented exhibits of photographs, books, sculpture, paintings, weaving, ironwork, pottery and furniture of the Ardens. Their programs show Arden as a living community and include current life in the village, as well as our past.



The Arden Page

FROM ITS EARLIEST DAYS Arden has had a town paper, starting with *The Advocate* (1902-10) and followed by *Arden Leaves* (1910-37) and the *Town Crier* (1938-46). Since 1975 the *Arden Page* has been our monthly newspaper. It is financed by the three villages and private donations and is distributed free to residents by volunteers.

Ardentown

THE IDEA OF AN EXPERIMENTAL COMMUNITY based on the Single Tax was extended in 1922 with the purchase of 97 acres of the Harvey farm and 12 acres of the Hanby farm to found Ardentown. Fiske Warren, of Boston, a friend of Frank Stephens, advanced \$30,000 of the \$39,000 capital needed. The papers creating Ardentown's Deed of Trust were signed on December 23, 1922. This Deed of Trust reasserted the right of the trustees to set land rent (a power that had been transferred to the elected Board of Assessors in Arden's 1908 Deed of Trust). The original Ardentown trustees were Stephens, his son Donald and William Worthington Jr.

Most of the Ardentown land is north of Harvey Road and east of Arden. Ardentown also has some land on the north side of Naamans Creek and some along Marsh Road, including the original mill that formed the old Arden Water Company (now a private residence at 2234 Marsh Road). The Harvey barn was converted into a theater. For many years it was the Robin Hood Theatre, which attracted as resident actors such names as Barbara Bel Geddes, Jack Klugman and Anthony Perkins. In 1964 it became the Candlelight Music Dinner Theatre, one of the first on the East Coast to offer meals and musical theater. Adjacent to the theater is the Ardentown Inn restaurant. Across the street is a stately Revolutionary-era home, today part of Kamin, an assisted-living residence for the elderly.

Ardentown's physical plan is similar to Arden's, featuring greens, malls, footpaths and a large woodland section belonging to the entire community and administered by the trustees. All the land is held in trust through the Deed of Trust. The three trustees, who must be residents, serve until they choose to resign.

Ardentown Government

To visitors, and even to many residents, the boundaries between Arden and Ardentown are hazy; indeed some lots straddle the line! Physically the two enclaves flow into each other. In governmental structure, however, they are quite different.

The village of Ardentown was incorporated on June 30, 1975. The Act of Incorporation spells out the function of the town meeting. The act calls for the election

What Happened to the Single Tax?

By 1930 there were 13 Single Tax communities, or Enclaves of Economic Rent, as they were called. As in Arden, the land was owned in common and leased to individuals, with the rent being used for public revenue. They ranged in size from less than five acres to nearly 4,000 acres in the case of Fairhope, Alabama.

Canberra, the capital of Australia, was set up as a single tax enclave in 1910 with over 900 square miles.

Of the original 13 enclaves, only Fairhope, Arden, Ardentown and Canberra remain. However, in several countries around the world there have been conscious applications of the land value tax. The most notable examples are in Denmark, Australia, the Union of South Africa and New Zealand. Most recently Russia and Estonia have enacted small measures of the land value tax for the support of national and municipal revenues. In the U.S., Pennsylvania now has 17 cities, including Pittsburgh and Harrisburg, that consciously tax the value of land.

of a town chairman, secretary and treasurer and sets up the Budget Committee, which advises the trustees, and the Registration Committee, responsible for keeping lists of voters and residents. The Budget Committee has five members, Registration has three members; all serve for two years.

The town's bylaws establish other committees. Current committees are: Audit (three members; one-year term); Assessment (five members; two-year term); Civic (seven members; two-year term); Memorial Garden (five members; four-year term); plus several ad hoc committees. Their functions are similar to those in Arden, with the exception that the Assessment Committee is advisory to the trustees, who annually set the land rent. All land rent is paid to the trustees, who administer the funds for the community. The incorporated village receives money from the state's Municipal Street Aid Fund and federal revenue sharing when available.

Town meetings are held on the second Monday of February, May, September and November at the Ardentown Inn. All residents, after six months residency, are eligible to vote at town meetings. The town meeting may pass ordinances and has done so in such areas as parking and alcoholic beverage sales. The village has turned over to the county responsibility in such areas as zoning, police protection and sewage disposal.

Leaseholders meetings are called to confirm a new trustee, to amend bylaws or the Deed of Trust, and in other situations where the town meeting is not empowered to act. A leaseholders meeting may also be called upon the petition of 15 leaseholders. At leaseholders meetings only leaseholders are eligible to vote. (Renters may *not* vote; landlords who do not live in the village *may* vote, in contrast to Arden.)

The First "Ardencroft"

IN AUGUST 1930 Stephens and the other Arden trustees acquired 120 acres of farmland that was being sold for back taxes, located between Darley Road and Chestnut Street (then called Featherbed Lane). In January, a dozen pioneers founded what they called "Ardencroft" and began clearing land for gardens. They hoped to support themselves by intensive farming and wait out the Depression. The colony failed in its second year, largely because the Arden residents refused to share the cost of building a bridge over Naamans Creek between the two colonies. Ardenites were annoyed with Stephens' ways of appropriating their land rent, and the Ardencrofters' bootleg liquor parties probably didn't help their case. Today the communities of Indian Field and Highland Woods occupy the site; the 18th-century farmhouse where the colonists lived (and occasionally partied) has been renovated and enlarged into the home at 14 Ravine Road.

Ardencroft

THE THIRD CONTIGUOUS SINGLE TAX COMMUNITY, Ardencroft, was founded in 1950 largely through the efforts of Donald Stephens, son of Frank Stephens, assisted by Philip Cohen, the attorney who gave devoted service to all three Ardens and was a trustee of Arden. Stephens mortgaged his real estate holdings in Arden to borrow the capital to purchase 63 acres of farmland on the both sides of Veale Road. Cohen arranged the financing and purchase.

The original three directors of Ardencroft were Stephens; Hamilton D. "Buzz" Ware, long-time trustee of both Arden and Ardentown; and Henry George III of Wilmington, grandson of the author of *Progress and Poverty*.

While Arden and Ardentown were open to anyone who cared to apply for a lease, only a few African Americans settled in either community. Don Stephens started Ardencroft with the idea of creating an integrated community, and there was a successful effort to attract blacks and other minorities.

Ardencroft Government

Ardencroft is organized as a corporation instead of a charitable trust. The three directors of the Ardencroft Association Inc. hold positions similar to the trustees of Ardentown. They set the land rent rate, collect the land rents, and pay the taxes. Directors serve for life. When there is a vacancy, it is filled by the remaining directors. While no confirmation is required, in recent years the directors have sought recommendations to fill a vacancy and have asked the town meeting for approval of their choice. The directors are aided by the association clerk, a part-time employee.

The elected committees are: Assessors, Finance, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Registration and Safety committees. The Assessors Committee (five members, elected annually) recommends land rent rates and reports to the directors and the town meeting, serving in an advisory capacity only. All other committees consist of five members each, who serve two-year terms. Half of each committee is elected each year. At the March meeting the village also elects a chairman, treasurer and secretary, who serve one-year terms. The secretary is a paid position.

Town meetings are held on the third Thursday of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Buzz Ware Village Center.

Arden Today

THE EVERYDAY LIFE OF THE VILLAGE still echoes with staunchly held, divergent ideas on all areas of Arden activities. There aren't many Single Tax disciples in our village today, but they crusade conscientiously, prodding us all to remember that Henry George's land value taxation is the basis of the town's economic structure. Periodically, classes in Georgist economics are offered. Henry George Day is celebrated on Labor Day weekend, usually with a meeting at the Frank Stephens Memorial Theater. "As nearly as possible" Henry George's ideas are practiced, and the greater part of the village income is from the land rent we pay to the trust.

In 1973, with the approval of the Town Assembly, the trustees transferred to the incorporated Village of Arden all lands of the trust except the land rented in leaseholds and the old Grubb burying ground. The village lands, which include the roads, paths, greens and forests, then became tax-exempt municipal lands. Since incorporation, Arden has received a share of the state Municipal Street Aid Fund.

IN MANY WAYS the life of the Ardens has been changed by outside pressures — by surrounding suburbia; by an ever-growing county government, which the villages must help to support; and by an increasing number of non-residents who join the Arden Club to sing, dance, swim, perform and take part in a community life that is non-existent in the suburban developments. And the TV and VCR, here as elsewhere, have made people less dependent on each other for recreation.

We are not a totally independent community, as Arden's founders believed their village would be, but we are still a very lively community.



The tug-of-war at the annual Fourth of July celebration on the Arden Green, 1991

Government

Governing Documents

THE BASIC GOVERNING DOCUMENTS of Arden are the Deed of Trust, the Arden lease, the Act to Reincorporate the Village of Arden, and three court decisions. Similar documents are in effect in Ardentown and Ardencroft.

The **Deed of Trust** is the legal document establishing the charitable trust that owns all the residential land in Arden. The Deed of Trust specifies three trustees. It requires the trustees to “apply all sums of money received as rents, in excess of the amounts needed for the purpose of paying the taxes, to such common uses desired by the majority of the residents . . .” The importance of that phrase: “common uses desired by a majority of the residents” was confirmed in the 1942 Chancery Court case known as *Broeker v. Ware*. The desires of the majority are determined in the annual budget referendum, conducted by mail. Since both the charter and the Deed of Trust specify “a majority of the *residents*” and not merely a majority of those voting, it is essential that residents vote. Failure to vote is the same as a negative vote on the budget.

The **lease** is the contract each homeowner signs when buying an Arden house. It provides a 99-year renewable lease on the Arden lot that the house occupies. It establishes the relationship of the individual leaseholder and the trustees of Arden and specifies that the leaseholder must pay the trust annually the “full rental value of the land.” Under Delaware law a lease over 10 years is virtually equivalent to private ownership as security for a loan, clearing the way to mortgage financing in the Ardens.

The **Act to Reincorporate**, or **charter**, granted to Arden by the Delaware General Assembly in 1967, gives legal standing to the town meeting form of government and makes Arden an incorporated municipality. Under the charter, the Town Assembly has the same legislative power as the city councils of other municipal governments. However, Arden has assigned certain functions to the New Castle County government such as sewage services and administration of building codes. County police patrol in the Ardens; state police have jurisdiction on Harvey Road.

Trustees

THE TRUSTEES COLLECT THE LAND RENT, invest the funds to earn interest, pay the county and school taxes and any administration costs, and see that the money remaining is spent in accordance with the budget approved by Arden residents. Trustees approve the lease transfer when a house is sold, provided the land rent is paid and the property is up to code and covered by required mortgages. They also make decisions on requests to divide lots or adjust boundaries, give authorization to cut trees on leaseholds, and otherwise tend the welfare of Arden by communicating with leaseholders on encroachment problems, housing code violations and other matters, and by communicating with other government agencies outside Arden. When a vacancy occurs, a new trustee is nominated by the remaining trustees, usually with the consultation of the Advisory Committee or a search committee. The nominee is then approved or disapproved by a referendum of all eligible voters. Election is for life.

While the three Ardens have many distinctive and rare traits, one that is very likely unique is that the county and school taxes of the three villages are paid in full and on

The Deed of Trust

Amended January 31, 1908

And whereas the said conveyance of said lands was made upon certain trusts which it is desired by the parties aforesaid (Stephens, Price, Martin) to restate and amend the said lands are hereby declared to be held by the said William L. Price, Frank Martin and George F. [Frank] Stephens, upon the following trusts and upon them only viz: in trust to lease such portions of said land as may seem good to the said trustees and their successors, to such persons and for such terms as they the said trustees shall determine, the lease in each case to reserve, as rent, the full rental value of the premises demised by said lease, to pay all State and local taxes out of and from the rents received so far as these suffice to suffer all persons to whom land shall be leased as aforesaid, who constitute a community so long as they continue such leases, to enjoy and use for common purposes such of the lands which are the subject of this deed as the trustees aforesaid shall not have demised to individuals devoted to purposes other than common: to apply all sums of money received as rents, in excess of the amount needed for the purposes of paying the taxes, to such common uses, desired by a majority of the residents as in the judgment of the trustees, are

properly public, in that they cannot be left to individuals without giving one and advantage over others; and in further trust if at any time in the judgment of a majority of the residents agreeing with a majority of the trustees the community shall not warrant its continuance to declare the dissolution thereof, and thereupon to sell the land aforesaid and, after repaying to William L. Price, George F. Stephens and Joseph Fels the amount originally advanced by them for the purchase of the said land from David F. Derrickson, who made the title therefor to George F. Stephens by deed dated June 12, A.D. 1900, and recorded in the Recorder's office at Wilmington in the State of Delaware in Deed Record G., Vol. 18, page 345, etc. to devote the purchase money to such purpose as shall be approved by said trustees. And the said trustees shall have power subject to the approval of a majority of the residents to supply all vacancies which may occur in their number, which it is intended shall always be and continue to be three; it being expressly hereby provided that upon all questions requiring the exercise of discretion on the part of the trustees, the action of a majority, after an opportunity has been given to all to express their opinion, shall be valid and binding upon all.

Don't pay your taxes twice

Residents should know two essential facts about the land rent:

1. Land rent is due March 25 in Arden and Ardentown; March 31 in Ardencroft.
2. If you have a mortgage, your mortgage company or bank includes the land rent in your monthly payments; that company or bank will pay the land rent on time to the town treasurer (the association clerk in Ardencroft). The town treasurer in turn pays the county taxes in one lump sum for the entire village. Paying land rent bills to bank mortgage holders or directly to New Castle County results in delay and confusion — and possibly overpayment. Also, double payment of taxes sometimes happens when a local lender sells a mortgage to an out-of-state lender. If you think you have paid your land rent twice, contact a trustee or a director for assistance.

time every year. Even if the leaseholders have not paid in full, the trustees of Arden and Ardentown and the directors of Ardencroft are prompt and thorough. Pursuing delinquent leaseholders is one of the most onerous tasks within the responsibilities of the trustees and directors of the three Ardens. Penalties are charged for late payment.

Town Assembly: Where the Action Is

ARDEN HAS HAD A TOWN MEETING since its earliest days, when, according to village folklore, even babes in arms were considered voters. Oratory flourished, tempers exploded — sometimes to fisticuffs — and land value was argued endlessly. But the early Arden town meetings had no legal standing, no real power. Years of exasperating, growing bitterness, devastating court fights and, eventually, incorporation produced the present Town Assembly.

Still a town meeting, the Assembly is the legally constituted government of the Village of Arden; its committees report to the Assembly any problems or concerns they have discovered in their areas of responsibility and execute Assembly instructions after discussion and decisions of the voters who attend. Today, the town meeting is a direct democracy that Ardenites of long ago would marvel at.

Every resident of Arden who is at least 18 years old and has lived in the village for six consecutive months immediately preceding a referendum or town meeting is eligible to vote in town elections. Prior to 1967 leaseholders who lived outside of Arden were sometimes allowed to vote as well, but the charter removed any ambiguity and established that only *residents* are eligible to vote.

Town meetings are held at the Gild Hall on the fourth Monday evening of January, March, June and September, and special meetings may be held. Notification of each meeting is mailed to every resident family, including the agenda.

Democracy requires participation or it ceases to be democratic. In Arden participation means going to town meetings and voting in elections. At town meetings decisions are made that affect all residents. If you don't go, or don't vote in elections, you can't help make the decisions.

MANY OF THE DAY-TO-DAY TASKS of running the village are handled by elected committees of residents. They check the roads for potholes, prepare the budget, keep the playgrounds in shape, and serve the community in many ways. At the January town meeting, candidates are nominated to serve on the standing committees; two names must be nominated for each position open. Elections are held at the March meeting. New residents are welcome and encouraged to serve on committees. Contact the town secretary for current committees and officers.

Archives Committee

5 members; 2-year term

The duty of the Archives Committee is to preserve and perpetuate the history of Arden as an intentional community. Its three main tasks are: to collect and preserve documents, photos, etc.; to present displays and programs about Arden's past, its people and its arts; and ultimately to create an Arden museum. In 1991 the committee started the museum in the Red House, that part of the Craft Shop that was the office of Frank Stephens and the first meeting place for the village. In 1992 the committee moved its headquarters to the Buzz Ware Village Center. Since Arden is a living community, the committee is not only documenting past history, but is also recording current life in the village.

Auditing Committee

3 members; 2-year term

Auditing examines the accounts of the village and of the trustees to assure they are in agreement with the audit done by professional accountants. The committee submits its report to the Town Assembly in June.

Budget Committee

5 members; 2-year term

The Budget Committee consults with other committees on anticipated needs and prepares an annual budget, proposing how the proceeds from the land rent (after payment of county and school taxes) and any other revenue shall be used. The recommended budget is presented to the September Town Assembly, which may amend it. The budget is then submitted to referendum. To be adopted, the budget must be approved by a majority of residents. The budget covers expenditures for the next fiscal year, starting March 25.

In traditional municipalities, the tax rate is set after the budget is adopted. Arden is different; the budget is adopted independently. Instead of a "tax rate" we have "land rent." The Board of Assessors considers the most recent budget as an indication of the "community standard of living," one of the factors it uses in determining the land rent for the next fiscal year. (For more on the assessors, see page 17.)

Buzz Ware Village Center Committee

5 members; 2-year term

This committee operates the Buzz Ware Village Center, the former Arden School. The committee supervises the building's maintenance and security, establishes rules for use of the center by individuals and groups, and negotiates leases for part-time use of the center to make it largely self-supporting. Scheduling use of the building for meetings and activities is an added assignment for this committee. In addition, the BWVC Committee hosts and encourages cultural, recreational and civic activities at the center.

Civic Committee

5 members; 2-year term

A descendant of the early Arden Board of Townsmen, this committee serves as the village Department of Public Works. It supervises the maintenance of Arden's roads, which are owned and repaired by the village. It also plans and oversees off-street drainage facilities and arranges for snow and trash removal, after approval by the Town Assembly. Mowing of the greens, upkeep of the woodlands, and supervision of the use of all other land belonging to the Village of Arden are also part of the Civic Committee's work. The committee issues permits for special use of the woods, greens and the Frank Stephens Memorial Theater.

Community Planning Committee

5 members; 2-year term

The Community Planning Committee plans the "physical and cultural future of the community." In the early days, it was more of a community *planting* committee, busy with landscaping and beautification. Today, the Community Planning Committee may consult with other committees on projects that have a major impact on the town. As representatives of the Town Assembly, the committee sometimes becomes involved in county and state issues (such as re-zoning hearings). The committee also has a few non-planning responsibilities that have historically fallen to it: overseeing the Memorial Garden (the cemetery) and organizing an annual woods cleanup.

Legislative Reference Committee

3 members; 2-year term

This committee keeps Arden's basic documents available for quick reference at town meetings and also serves as the Assembly's parliamentarian when there are questions about procedure under *Robert's Rules of Order*. The committee is also responsible for codifying new governing documents as they are created.

Playground Committee

5 members; 2-year term

The Playground Committee makes sure that playground equipment on the Arden and Sherwood greens is kept in good repair and safe condition. The group tours the greens every other month in the winter and every month in the summer, inspecting each piece of equipment. When needed, they replenish mulch around the swings, slides and other installations in play areas and recommend purchase of new equipment for Town Assembly consideration and approval.

Registration Committee

4 members; 1-year term

The Registration Committee is composed of the four committee members, elected annually; one alternate member; the Town Assembly secretary; the chairperson of the Arden trustees; and the clerk to the trustees. The committee conducts Arden's elections and the annual referendum on the budget. Its most interesting assignment is counting the ballots for the election of the Board of Assessors, using the Hare system of proportional representation. (See page 17.) The continual responsibility of this committee is keeping track of the current residents of Arden and maintaining a list of eligible voters.

Safety Committee

5 members; 2-year term

The Safety Committee is responsible for suggesting rules to promote the general safety of residents. They erect and maintain parking and traffic control signs. The committee also issues notices periodically to remind residents of Arden's parking ordinance. It maintains relations with the county police and alerts them to problem areas in regard to safety. In 1992 the committee worked with the county police to re-establish Town Watch, a community crime-prevention program. Anyone with a safety problem is welcome to contact a member of the Safety Committee. In the case of an emergency or a criminal situation, residents should call the police directly at **911**.

IN ADDITION to the standing committees, the official groups in the village include the trustees and Board of Assessors (described on page 12 and 17); the Advisory Committee; and four elected officers: the Advisory Committee chairperson, Town Assembly chairperson, Town Assembly secretary, and village treasurer. Officers are elected for one-year terms at the March meeting.

Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee consists of the chairpersons of all standing committees, the town officers, the chairperson of the trustees, the chairperson of the Board of Assessors, plus an Advisory Committee chairperson, who is elected each year. This coordinating group meets before each session of the Town Assembly to discuss and set the agenda. It also handles communication between committees, advises committees that report problems, and makes suggestions on Town Assembly procedure.

Advisory Committee chairperson

See "Advisory Committee," above.

Town Assembly chairperson

The main responsibility of the chairperson of the Town Assembly is to preside at town meetings, maintaining order and making sure everyone has an opportunity to speak. In addition, the chairperson may handle mail addressed to the village and, if so instructed by the Town Assembly, may represent the village at meetings of county and state agencies (although other committees or residents may also be instructed by the Assembly to represent the village). The chairperson also serves from time to time as the head of special committees.

Town Assembly secretary

The secretary of the Town Assembly takes the minutes of the town meetings, keeps town records, and also serves as secretary to the Civic, Registration and Advisory committees. This is a part-time salaried position, as well as an elected office.

Village treasurer

The treasurer pays the town's bills and prepares the annual financial statements comparing actual expenditures with budgeted amounts. This is a part-time salaried position, as well as an elected office.

Elections

IN GRADE SCHOOL WE GET THE IDEA that democracy means “majority rules,” but it is more complex than that. At issue are the many ways of achieving “government of the people, by the people, and for the people” — questions of who can vote and how many *must* vote for a decision to be valid. In Arden residents who are at least 18 years old and have lived in the village for six consecutive months are eligible to vote. We have several types of elections:

Simple majority vote:

used at town meetings

A quorum of 35 residents must be present for business to be conducted. A simple voice vote, occasionally a show of hands, is used to pass motions. New ordinances and amendments require readings at three town meetings before approval. Standing committees and town officers are elected by ballot at the March meeting.

Referendum:

used to confirm trustees, approve the annual budget

A referendum is a direct vote of the people; ballots are mailed to each eligible resident. In Arden a new trustee or the budget must be approved by a majority of all *residents*, not just a majority of those voting. Unreturned ballots count as “no” votes.

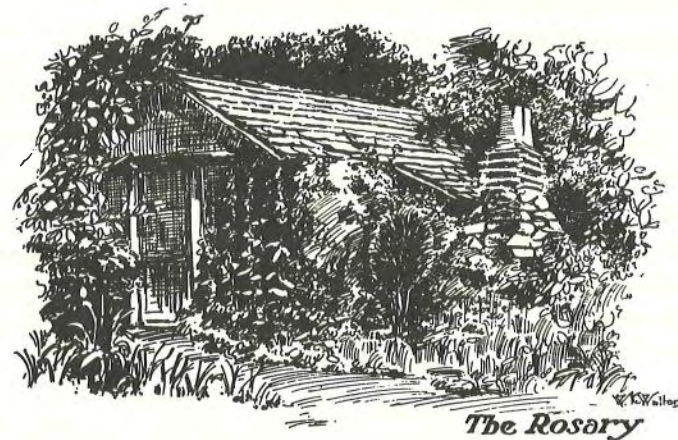
In the budget referendum it is critical that residents vote. If you don't vote, and enough other people also fail to vote, there may be enough resulting “no” votes to defeat the entire budget, leaving the town without funds. On the budget referendum, voters can approve or disapprove line items, and items do get defeated. At the town meeting and in the referendum there is ample opportunity for residents to control how our money is spent.

Proportional representation:

used to elect the Board of Assessors

Ballots are mailed to all eligible residents for the election of the Board of Assessors. All returned ballots are counted using the Hare system of proportional representation. This type of democratic election is designed to give any organized minority representation. It is much more complex than simply counting up who got the most votes, but it does ensure that minorities can get elected. Proportional representation is used in other places, notably in Israel for elections to parliament.

Actually, the “Roserie.” Early settlers enjoyed little jokes and puns when naming their houses. Four women lived in the cottage, two of them named “Rose.” The house was also covered with climbing roses. The house is behind the Field Theater, now 2307 Woodland Lane.



Board of Assessors

ARDEN LEASES AND THE DEED OF TRUST require that leaseholders pay the “full rental value of the land.” This is the “Single Tax,” and it is the sworn duty of the seven-member Board of Assessors to determine each year what the full rental value of Arden leaseholds is. That phrase is the heart of the land value taxation of Henry George. Unfortunately, Henry George never explained how to determine that value.

Nonetheless, each year the Board of Assessors determines the full rental value of all the residential land owned by the Arden trust and then specifies how to figure the land rent for each lot. The rent is expressed in rates per 1,000 square feet of land, with adjustments for certain factors deemed to increase or decrease the value of specific leaseholds because of their location. (There has often been a plus factor for lots adjacent to forests or greens; a minus factor for those on Harvey or Marsh roads.)

Candidates for the Board of Assessors are nominated at the September town meeting, and their names are submitted by mail to all eligible voters along with the budget referendum. Assessors are elected using the Hare system of proportional representation (explained below).

The Board of Assessors holds public hearings in January or February, May and June to receive suggestions from leaseholders. At the end of June they present their report to the Town Assembly. This report sets the land rent, unless it is appealed at the September town meeting and an alternate assessment is approved by a two-thirds majority of the Assembly. In that case, the two assessments are put to referendum and the one approved by a majority of residents goes into effect.

What is “full rental value”?

Defining full rental value was a point of contention among early Georgists. The movement was split between advocates of “single tax, limited,” who wanted to collect only as much land rent as necessary for ordinary public services, and those arguing for “single tax, unlimited,” whereby all land rent would be taken, based on the land's *full* value. (Source: *International Encyclopedia of Social Sciences*)

Recent Arden assessors have defined full rental value as the amount needed to pay local taxes, provide public services, support a quality of life as expressed by the residents in the budget, and maintain a prudent reserve. This is similar to the early “single tax, limited” interpretation. However, the debate continues.

A Step-by-Step Guide to the Hare System of Proportional Representation

There are seven positions to be filled on the Board of Assessors, and there are usually at least 14 candidates, plus room to write in another.

- IN THE BALLOTING, each voter shows his or her preference among the candidates by marking a “1” beside the first choice, a “2” beside the second choice, and so on.
- IN COUNTING THE BALLOTS, the total number of ballots cast is divided by 8 (the number to be elected plus 1). To this result, 1 is added. The final number is the “quota,” the number of votes a candidate needs to be elected.
- CANDIDATES ARE ELECTED ONE AT A TIME. The ballots are sorted according to the #1 choices and placed in piles. The number of #1 choices for each candidate is tabulated. From the candidates who meet the quota, the candidate with the highest number of #1 choices is declared elected.
- THE NUMBER OF BALLOTS NEEDED FOR THE QUOTA is removed from the pile of the first elected candidate. Those ballots are put aside. Any additional #1 ballots from the pile are then distributed to other nominees who are the #2 choices on these ballots. The transfers are recorded on each ballot being transferred and on a summary sheet.
- THE BALLOTS OF THE CANDIDATE with the highest sum of #1 ballots plus #2 ballots are counted. If that person has reached the quota, he or she is declared elected and any surplus ballots are transferred to the remaining candidates. The transfers are again recorded and tabulated.
- WHEN NO CANDIDATE REACHES THE QUOTA with #1 choices or the combination of #1 choices and transfers, the nominee with the least number of #1 choices is declared defeated and his or her ballots are transferred to their #2 choices. When, on any transfer, the #2 choice has already been either elected or defeated, the ballot goes to the #3 choice. Eventually, the #4, #5, even #12 or #13 choices are often needed to reach the quota.

Many transfers, tabulations, counts of ballot piles, and hours later, seven assessors are elected and surely represent a cross section of those the voters of Arden prefer. Speedy? No. Democratic? Yes!

Laws & Courtesies

YOU SHOULD BECOME FAMILIAR with town ordinances and your responsibilities as a leaseholder. Arden ordinances are summarized below; ordinances of the other two villages can be obtained from the town secretaries. Ignorance of local laws and common courtesies can cause a lot of ill feelings between neighbors. In this section of the *Arden Book*, we have tried to provide information that will help you get along in the small-town setting of Arden.

Common Gripes

Dogs: Arden Ordinance 8, New Castle County and Delaware state law all require that dogs be on a leash or under the control of their owners at all times when outdoors. Dogs may not legally run at large at any time. Delaware law requires that all dogs and cats have current vaccinations against rabies.

Dog owners who do not clean up after their animals, or who allow their pets to run free, knocking over garbage cans, destroying property and occasionally even threatening pedestrians, are probably the biggest source of complaints in the Ardens. To report dog problems, call the SPCA.

Cutting down trees: On residential land, you may not remove a living tree without the permission of the trustees, who will investigate the particular situation before they give approval. Contact a trustee or the town secretary to request permission to cut down a tree.

Burning leaves: You can't do it. In Delaware burning leaves or household trash is prohibited. You may burn woody materials (tree limbs) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., October to March and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., April to September. (Rules may change.) Please do not burn on windy days or leave a fire unattended or smoldering. To report illegal burning, call DNREC at 1-800-662-8802 and ask for the Air Resources Section.

Observing building codes: County building codes apply in the Ardens, including required setbacks and building permits for structures over a certain size. Problems arise when people build additions or erect large storage sheds without building permits, place new construction too close to their neighbors' yards, or put up fences that encroach on public land.

Parking: Today's profusion of automobiles was one phenomenon that Arden's founders could not have foreseen. In an effort to meld the need for vehicles with aesthetics, safety and environment, the Town Assembly has developed ordinances that govern parking within village boundaries. Specifically:

1. The Arden Safety Code stipulates that, on roads where parking is permitted, cars must be left with the curb-side wheels off the pavement. (This applies mainly to visitors, since residents must park their cars completely off the street, as outlined in the next item.)
2. All leaseholders, unless granted an exemption, are required to provide off-street parking on the leasehold for each vehicle associated with that leasehold.
3. Parking is not permitted on the Arden Green, except by special permission from the Civic Committee.

While these rules help preserve the character of our village, they are not the whole answer to the parking problem. The grassy shoulders of Arden roads are rutted frequently during wet weather and repairing them is an expensive and time-consuming job for the Civic Committee. Leaseholders are asked to help keep these areas looking nice and to repair damage their guests may do when the ground is soft.

Speed Limits: Within the Ardens, on the narrow village roads, the speed limit is 20 miles per hour. On Harvey Road, which is owned by the state, the limit is 25 through Arden and increases to 30 and 35 between Ardentown and Ardencroft. Please make it a habit to drive slowly on Harvey Road in the interest of safety for both motorists and pedestrians trying to cross the road.

Garbage Collection

IN ARDEN GARBAGE COLLECTION is a village service, arranged by the Civic Committee. In Ardentown, starting in 1992, it will also be a village service. In both villages, garbage collection is included in land rent; do not contract for a service yourself. In Ardencroft, at this time, leaseholders contract individually with trash disposal companies. Please remember to replace your trash can after collection.

Once a year (depending on need), usually in the spring, each village arranges a special collection of difficult-to-dispose-of trash, such as mattresses and refrigerators. Residents are informed of the date of the collection and restrictions ahead of time.

Pedestrian Paths

ALL THREE ARDENS HAVE PEDESTRIAN PATHS. Included in the original design of the villages, they are an even more valuable asset today, providing safe and pleasant ways to get around the villages. The most frequently used paths are maintained, and a few have been paved. Some others that appear on the official plans of the Ardens are sometimes neglected and encroached upon by adjacent leaseholds, until reclaimed by village officials. Residents who live next to a path can perform a service by trimming hedges, removing poison ivy, and helping to keep the paths open.

Residents can also help the village by mowing the grass along their road boundaries, even though they don't lease this land. Residents can see the need for trimming and mowing before the Civic Committee can. Attention to trees and shrubs on corner properties and along Harvey Road is especially needed for safety.

Woodlands

WHEN ARDEN INCORPORATED, the Arden and Sherwood forests became tax-exempt municipal lands instead of private forests. The price for tax exemption is that the woods and greens are technically parks open to public use. However, Arden controls the use of those lands through ordinances enacted by the Town Assembly.

Trees may not be felled in Arden woodland, but leaseholders needing firewood can request permission from the Civic Committee to remove fallen trees if the wood can be reached with a wheelbarrow. *Motor vehicles are prohibited.*

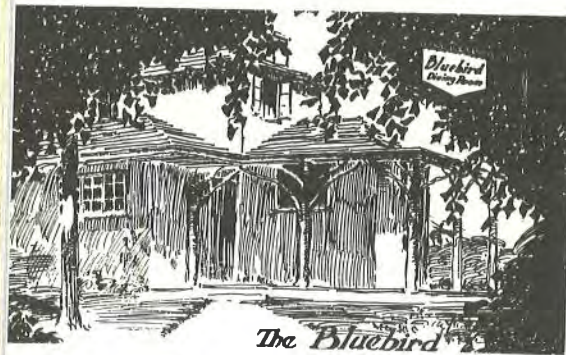
Leaseholders and residents whose lots adjoin woodlands are reminded that the forests are for the enjoyment of *all* residents; the woods are not a convenient brush-dumping location. Dumping of even organic material is prohibited under Ordinance 4 since it spoils the natural quality of the woods and attracts more trash. Please compost your grass, hedge cuttings and leaves on your own property and do not encroach on the commons by stretching your boundaries for either planting or dumping debris.

Each spring the Arden Community Planning Committee organizes a cleanup of the woods and creeks. A group from Ardentown usually joins in. In recent years the woods cleanup has become one of our most popular events, with volunteers of all ages.

Recycling & Composting

The three Ardens are fortunate in having recycling centers close by: at the Montessori school at Harvey Road and I-95; and the F&N Shopping Center, Foulk and Naamans roads. Instructions on material that can be recycled are posted there.

Another type of recycling is composting. Leaves are part of earth's bounty, not waste matter to be hauled away, and it's easy to start giving back the earth's riches by returning organic matter to the soil. A simple compost pile can be started on flat ground within a circle of wire fencing (about 6 feet in diameter) to keep leaves from blowing about. Every time you rake, put the leaves in the circle; add grass cuttings, vegetable and fruit peelings, egg shells and small branches pruned from small trees and shrubs, and cover with earth and leaves. Keep the pile flat so rain water can filter through; the top should be damp, not wet. Keep a pitchfork handy to cover the kitchen material and turn the pile often.



The Vista, later called the Bluebird when it was operated as an inn and tea room, now 2320 Cherry Lane

Arden Laws

THE TOWN ASSEMBLY is empowered to enact ordinances just as is the City Council in Wilmington. Proposed ordinances must be read at three town meetings before being adopted. Adoption is by majority vote of the Town Assembly.

The Town Assembly has avoided enacting ordinances until a clear need arises. At the start of 1992 only 13 ordinances had been enacted. Copies of these ordinances are available from the town secretary or the Legislative Reference Committee.

The *subjects* (not the full text) of the ordinances are as follows:

1. **Safety Code.** Speed limit is 20 m.p.h. in Arden. Rules of the road.
2. **Amendments** to the Safety Code.
3. **New Castle County** administers county zoning, building, housing and other codes in Arden.
4. **Use of commons.** Various abuses are prohibited, including alcoholic beverages and fires on the greens and in the woods.
5. **Noise.** Persistent, unnecessary noise is illegal.
6. **Requires permits** for excavation on Arden roads (applies to utilities).
7. **Discharging firearms** and explosives is forbidden (includes B-B guns and projecting, as well as exploding, firearms).
8. **Dog control.** All dogs must be licensed and under control. Dogs are not allowed to roam at large.
9. **Prohibits the operation of mini-bikes** on the greens, in forests and on pedestrian paths.
10. **Public utilities** shall provide proper protection of their facilities. Tampering with a facility is a misdemeanor.
11. **Encroachment on right-of-way.** Leaseholders must maintain a clear right-of-way adjacent to the leasehold. (The right-of-way is the shoulder of the road; widths vary, but most are at least 3 feet from the edge of the pavement. Contact the Civic Committee for specific measurements.)
12. **The forests of Arden** are closed from dusk to dawn except with written permission from the Civic Committee.
13. **Off-street parking.** See article on page 18.

To initiate enforcing action

Different problems call for different solutions. Some of the above ordinances are "enforced" by committees, who simply send residents friendly reminders. In other cases (drinking parties on the greens, firearms in the woods), it is best to report the incident to the county police, who will enforce town ordinances. For some recurring problems, the Safety Committee can suggest solutions. When all else fails, you can go to a state Justice of the Peace and swear out a warrant for the arrest of the offender.

Call 911 for emergencies

The Ardens are in the area served by Claymont Volunteer Fire Co., which has its main station on Philadelphia Pike in Claymont. In the event of fire, dial 911 to reach the county's central dispatching system. State and county police may be summoned by calling the same number, which is also used to call for an ambulance or paramedics.

Town Watch: Neighbors in the three Ardens try to protect each other by being on watch for acts of housebreaking, vandalism, etc. If you see or hear something suspicious, please call 911. For more information on the current Town Watch program, or to volunteer, contact the current Town Watch coordinator, listed in the *Arden Page*.

The Arden Holly

The Arden holly is a particularly choice variety of holly originally propagated by Edith (Jimmie) Ware and by Guy Nearing, a horticulturist and early Arden resident. It is now generally available from nurseries in the area. Dogwood, laurel and Arden holly are good choices for small leaseholds because they are handsome throughout the year, grow slowly, are native to this soil and climate, and require little maintenance.

Organizations & Facilities



Arden Community Recreation Association

THE ARDEN COMMUNITY RECREATION ASSOCIATION was founded in 1948 to provide summer activities for the children of the Ardens. Since that time, ACRA has evolved into an organization for all ages, sponsoring activities throughout the year. Some of the most popular events are the spring House and Garden Tour, the old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration on the Arden Green (complete with sack races and watermelon), and the pancake breakfast in the Arden Woods, held each fall. ACRA also publishes a Residents Directory — a small phone book for the Ardens, which is updated about every two years and is free for residents. (To get a copy of the directory, contact the ACRA secretary or the editor of the *Arden Page*.)

The ACRA summer program is held at the Buzz Ware Village Center, and information and registration forms are distributed to all residents in the spring. The program is free for children of Arden, Ardentown and Ardencroft from 3 years old through eighth grade. Like most summer camps, it includes sports, art, crafts, music, nature activities and swimming. But what makes it unique is its involvement with the community. The staff members are adults from the Ardens, and many neighbors have taught folk dancing, birdwatching, rowing, calligraphy, taken the children on hayrides, and volunteered their talents to enrich the program. For many years, a highlight of the summer has been the children's play. Residents pitch in to paint scenery, sew costumes and apply makeup, making this a real community event.

The Arden Community Recreation Association is a non-profit organization, supported by the voluntary contributions of residents and contributions from the three villages. Each spring ACRA has a door-to-door fund drive, the source of most of its income. ACRA is run by a board of directors of women and men from the Ardens.

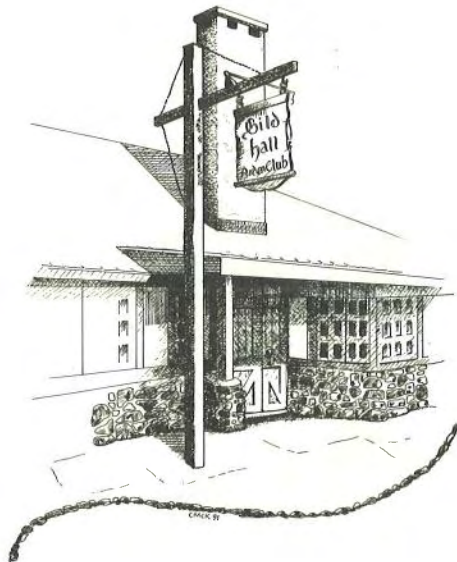
The Arden Club, Gild Hall, Swimming Pool

THE GILD HALL, owned and operated by the Arden Club, began life as an old, well-built barn on the original farm property that became Arden in 1900. It was remodeled as a clubhouse in 1908-09 by a volunteer crew and has been expanded and refurbished many times since. The most recent addition was in 1972.

The Arden Club is governed by its officers and a board of directors made up of the head of each gild (the "gildmaster" or "gildmistress"), the chairperson of each club committee (Membership, Finance, Scheduling, etc.), and five directors-at-large, all elected annually. The retiring club president sits as an ex-officio member of the board.

Membership

The Arden Club is a private corporation, but you would never suspect it. Membership in the Arden Club is open to residents of the three Ardens upon payment



Arden Club Gilds



Ardensingers

Dedicated to the production of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas; presents six or more performances of an operetta each year.



Dinner Guild

Schedules volunteer crews to cook town dinners on Saturday evenings for members and non-members upon reservation. Dinners are served at 6 p.m. in the lower Gild Hall from October through June.



Folk Guild

Operates weekly folk and square dance sessions, year round, Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m.; contra dancing on the first Sunday afternoon of each month; plus other special events.



Gardeners Guild

Hosts guest speakers; members share plants and information about gardening.



Library Guild

Operates the public library in the Gild Hall, Monday and Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9 and Sunday afternoons from 2 to 4.



Swim Guild

Operates the swimming pool for pool members. The pool is also available for rental for private parties.

of annual dues and to non-residents by nomination. Annual dues are inexpensive (\$14 in 1992, \$8 for seniors, \$5 for children, family maximum of \$35). To join the Arden Club contact the current treasurer.

Membership in the Arden Club offers these advantages:

- Reduced admission to all club and gild functions
- Reduced rental fees for Gild Hall facilities
- Privilege to hold office in the club or gilds, participation as a voting member
- Monthly calendar of events

The Arden Pool

Membership in the swimming pool requires purchase of a bond and an additional annual fee, as well as Arden Club membership. There are several payment plans. Both the pool and the Gild Hall can be rented for private parties.

The Gilds

Varied activities are carried on by branches of the club, called gilds, to which any member may belong. New gilds may be formed for specific interest groups if there are 15 resident members who wish to band together to create a program.

Among the active gilds at this time are the Ardensingers, Dinner Guild, Folk Guild, Gardeners Guild, Library Guild and Swim Guild. Gilds operating in the past, such as the Scholars Guild, Teen Guild, and gilds for theater, modern dance, table tennis and music, may be reactivated by a show of interest on the part of the membership.

The Arden Fair

Since 1909 the Arden Club has staged the biggest, most gala social event of Arden's year — the Arden Fair — on the Saturday before Labor Day. The fair is the club's largest fund-raising project.

Originally conceived as a farewell to summer, in the days when Arden's population shrank perceptibly after Labor Day, the fair attracts thousands of visitors. Above all, it is Arden's homecoming day. Because of its fixed schedule, Ardenites from then to now know when Arden Fair Day is, and each year many come back. Reunions of old friends and neighbors are the most special part of this special day.

There are always craft booths, demonstrations of craftwork, the garden booth, the book stall, folk dancing demonstrations, an art exhibit, music, toys, games, rides — a myriad of things to see, do, buy, eat and drink. Most remarkable of all is the army of volunteers who erect the wooden booths, fencing and other facilities the day before the fair and take it all down and store it away the day after the fair.

The Arden Library

AS FAR BACK AS 1908 Arden had a library. First housed in the Red House (part of the Craft Shop), later in a private home, the library was then, as it is now, a gild of the Arden Club, staffed by its members, who are all volunteers. The library receives its financial support from the three villages and from individual residents. It is housed in the Gild Hall and is open on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9 and Sunday afternoons from 2 to 4.

The Arden Library is a current reading library. In addition to fiction and non-fiction, the library stocks the current reading lists for the local school system. The library has a collection of books purchased in memory of deceased Ardenites and a variety of books that have been contributed by Arden readers. Its "Arden collection" includes books by Arden authors and about the village. There is also a sizeable collection of children's books. Residents of the Ardens are invited to join the library as readers, browsers and volunteer librarians. Readers are also encouraged to contribute books they no longer want, to be used for circulation or for sale at the book stall the Library Guild operates at the Arden Fair.

Arden Building and Loan Association

EARLY SETTLERS IN ARDEN were able to borrow money for home construction from an Arden organization called the Raffeisen Gild. The gild helped many early Ardenites and continued to function for a time after the Arden Building and Loan Association was formed in 1917 to finance construction and additions.

For many years these groups were the principal sources of home financing in Arden because the Wilmington banks were reluctant to grant mortgage loans on houses built on leased land, since they feared the trustees could foreclose on properties. An act of the Delaware General Assembly, passed at the request of the Arden trustees and local banks, cleared away the reluctance. But the Arden B&L continues to serve the three Arden communities with first mortgage loans and also with opportunities for saving and earning interest.

The Arden B&L makes its loans at interest rates similar to those of other lenders in the Wilmington area, but strives to keep accompanying charges low. For example, no "points" are charged. The association operates with very low overhead — it has one part-time employee; its officers and directors are volunteers. Residents of the three Ardens are eligible to apply for loans for the purpose of repairing, refurbishing or remodeling their homes.

Merry-Go-Rounders

WHAT BEGAN IN THE 1920s as a kind of sewing circle of friends among Arden's matrons has become an Arden institution, kept alive by the daughters, granddaughters and friends of the original menders and embroiderers.

The Merry-Go-Rounders ("We go 'round and 'round doing good and having a merry time of it.") became a comforting link with their hometown for all Arden men and women in service in World War II. The Merry-Go-Rounders sent packages regularly and wrote letters to all service people. From this they branched out to become a service group visiting or sending cards or flowers to patients in hospitals.

Among the group's other activities are awarding a "college helper" scholarship each year to a public high school graduate from the Ardens. Over the years the Merry-Go-Rounders have also planted many flowering shrubs on Arden commons in memory of deceased Ardenites and for the enjoyment all.

Buzz Ware Village Center

THE FORMER ARDEN SCHOOL is owned by the Village of Arden. During the day it is currently used by a private school, but meeting rooms are available on weekends, evenings and during the summer. The BWVC Committee and other groups host many community events at the center. In 1992 the Village Center also became home to the Arden Archives.

Arden Archives

THE ARDEN ARCHIVES MUSEUM is located in the Buzz Ware Village Center. Here members of the Archives Committee catalog and preserve documents, letters, publications and other materials from Arden's past and present. They also hold exhibits and special events, and currently they offer a few items for sale, such as Arden notecards. Contributions of Arden artifacts are appreciated.

Frank Stephens Memorial Theater

NEXT TO FRANK STEPHENS' HOME (now 2311 Woodland Lane), at the west side of the Arden Green, is Arden's first open air theater. Many residents still refer to it by its original name, the Field Theater, although it has been renamed the Frank



Stephens Memorial Theater. By the large rock on the stage, with its memories of long-ago Shakespearean productions, are the ashes of several early Ardenfolk.

The theater is a popular place for weddings, memorial services, children's plays and other outdoor events. Use of the theater is granted by the Arden Civic Committee. It is also a lovely place for sitting; we are all welcome to enjoy its quiet shade.

Cemeteries

Arden Memorial Garden

The Memorial Garden, started in 1937, is Arden's private cemetery, located on the south side of Harvey Road next to the old Grubb burying ground. The Community Planning Committee administers the Memorial Garden through a volunteer Memorial Garden representative. The current garden representative can be reached by contacting the secretary of the trustees. The Civic Committee performs routine maintenance.

Residents of the Ardens are eligible for burial in the garden, and, under special circumstances, former residents may be accepted for interment of ashes. If permission is granted, the Memorial Garden representative meets with the family to choose a site, which must be appropriate to the planned use of the garden. Rules for use of the garden are distributed to families of decedents. There are no maintenance charges, but an occasional donation is requested from families of decedents to replenish a fund for non-routine maintenance. Unsolicited contributions are accepted.

Ardentown Memorial Garden

In 1990 the Ardentown Memorial Garden was established at Swiss Lane and Harvey Road. Burial in the garden is limited to residents of Ardentown, and, because of the limited space available, burial is also limited to interment of ashes. The Ardentown Memorial Garden is administered by a Memorial Garden Committee. The names of current committee members can be obtained from the town secretary.

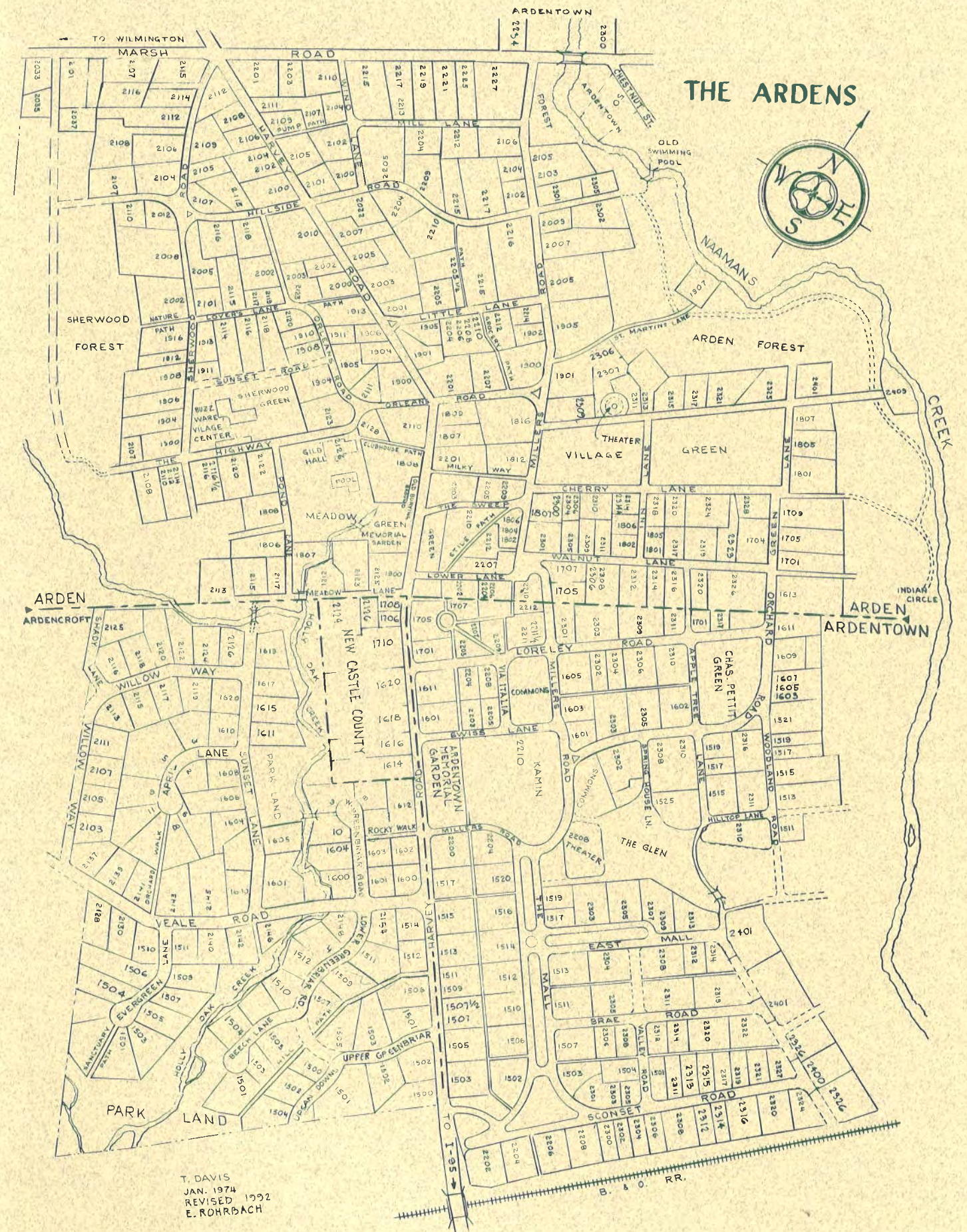
Old Burying Ground

Adjoining the Arden Memorial Garden on its west border and next to Harvey Road is a small area of land that belongs not to Arden, but to the history of this part of Brandywine Hundred. It is the old Grubb family burying ground, and the Arden trustees are responsible for its maintenance and preservation. Behind a stone wall in this little patch from the past are worn markers indicating the graves of pre-Arden residents, including a Native American and a slave.

Credits

Original researchers: Frank Akutowicz and Robert Wynn.

Photos and illustrations: cover art by Ken Mabrey; page 1 art by Russ McKimney; page 3 inset of the Craft Shop and Red House, artist unknown; page 4 photo from Robert Schalkenbach Foundation; page 8, 16, 18 art by William Walton; page 11 photo by Cookie Kelly; page 21 ACRA logo by Buzz Ware, Gild Hall art by Comee McKinney; all other photos from the Arden Archives collection; Arden map by Ted Davis, revised by Edward Rohrbach; "Arden Song" calligraphy by David Adkins.



The Arden Song

Words by Frank Stephens (1909) Arr. by Edith Ware
German air: "Abschied vom Dirndl"



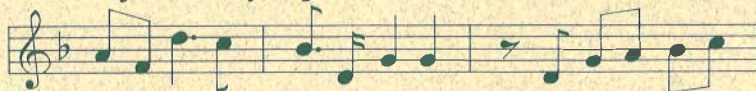
When crickets sing and kine are homing And lanterned
When wayward winds come back from straying The wide world
When days are drear and ways are weary And sad at



stars come seek the sun The village lights aslant the
o'er, a-far and long, The woodland breezes cease from
heart we wanderers roam Light, tiny town, thy beacons



gloaming come twinkling, twinkling one by one. Oh, night and
playing to catch their rede and steal their song. Oh, winds that
cheery. Oh, whispering woodlands call us home For stars will



sunset glow and, starry splendor And cloud-wreathed eve be-
woo the flowers and roam at pleasure Though far ye fare by
shine again and days will brighten And rough roads smooth that



neath thy silvery crown Ye give to me no guide so
dale and grassy down Ye learn no song beside of
love shall tread adown And even—song ring brave and



true and tender As are the lights of Arden Town.
that sweet measure Ye taught the leaves by Arden Town.
sad hearts lighten As hope leads home to Arden Town.

"The Arden Song" annotated by Jerry Millstein

Note on the Third Edition

The Arden Book was first published in 1974 by the Arden Community Planning Committee at the request of the Arden Town Assembly, which financed the printing. A second edition, with a new cover, but no changes in the text, was published as part of the celebration of Arden's 75th birthday in 1975. The book was rewritten, updated and enlarged in 1991-92.

Many people contributed to the 1992 edition. The Community Planning Committee charged Ruth Bean, committee chair, to form a subcommittee for this revision. Members were: Frank Akutowicz, Maria Burslem, Joan Colgan, Sally Hamburger, Ethel and Harold Monfort, Bill Press, and Cy and Pat Liberman. The Libermans were the principal editors and writers. Many of the committee were also contributors, as were Shaul Gladstone, Connee McKinney, Pat Press, Gail Rinehart, Cecilia Vore and many other residents of the three Ardens. The design is by Connee McKinney and Cecilia Vore; they also handled production.

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June 1970

Towns

The Philadelphia Inquirer

TODAY

**Man in the Shadow
of the Hangman's Noose:
Did He or Didn't He? — Page 26**

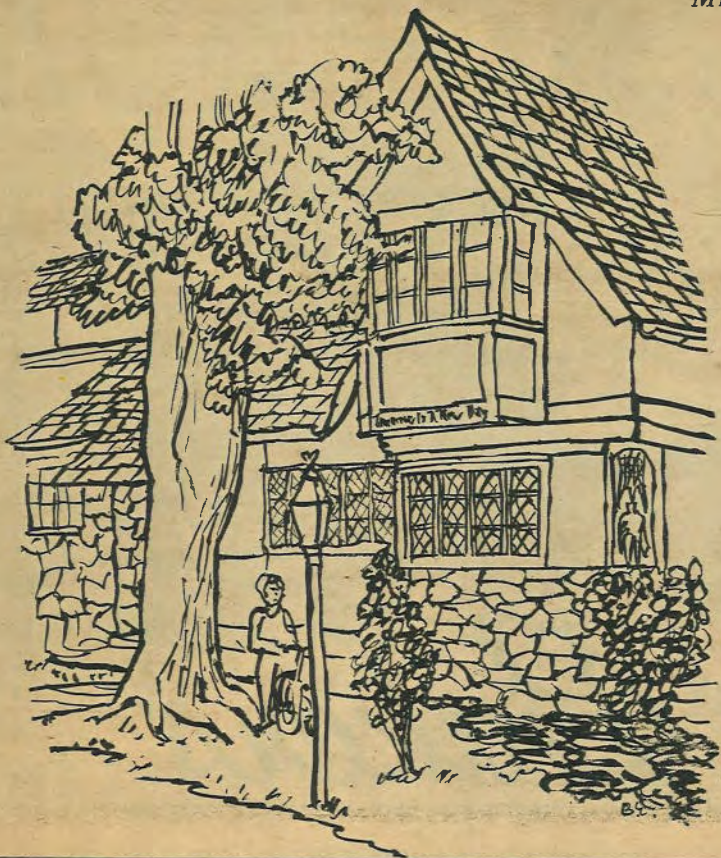
Sunday, May 31, 1970



The Village Called Arden . . . Page 6

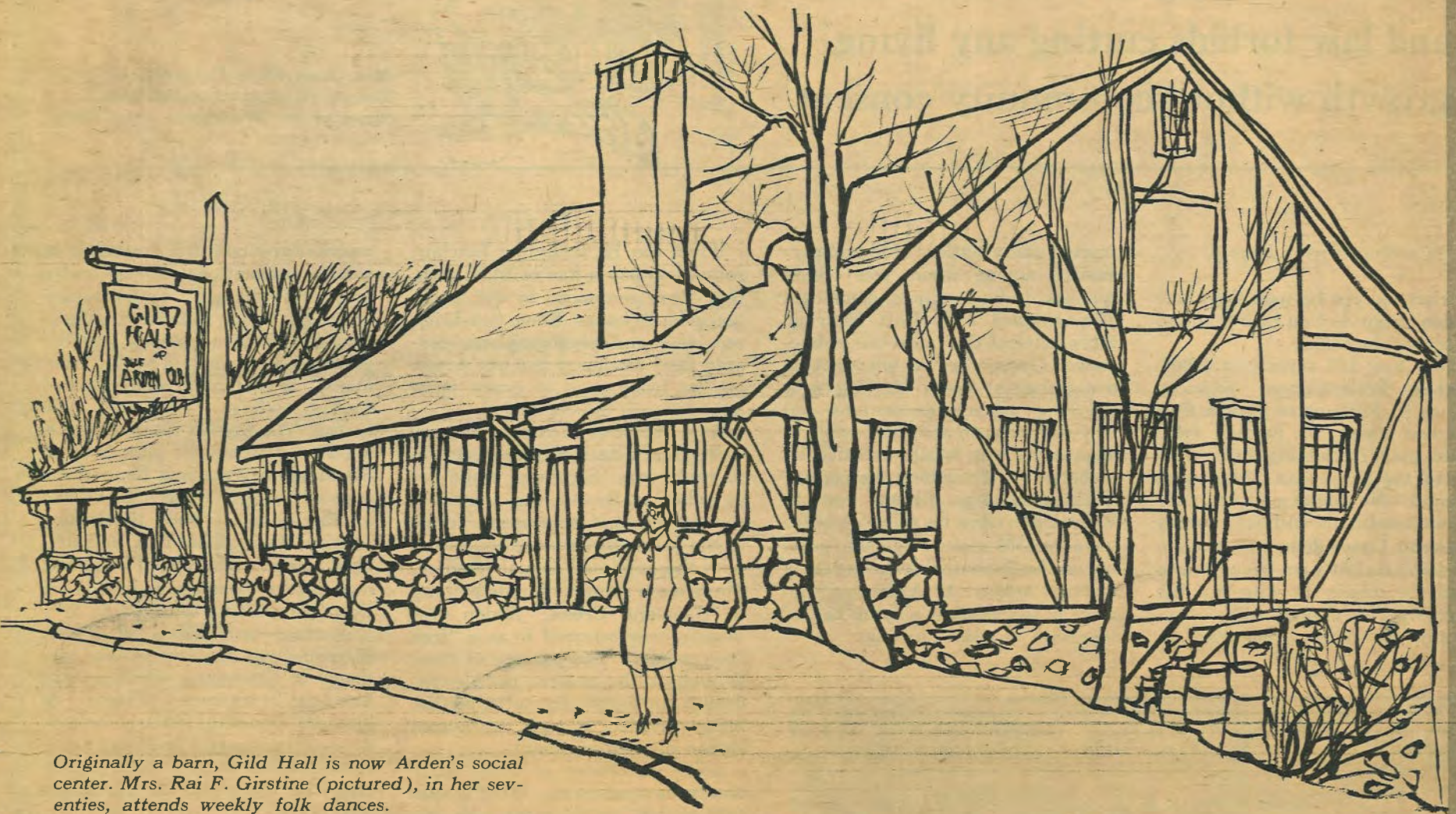


Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cichelli leave their home, the third-floor apartment of typical Arden structure, above. Below, is the home of one of Arden's founders. Known as the "Second Homestead," the house bears on its beams the inscription "Tomorrow Is a New Day."



A bit of beauty and serenity
 in a huge and frightening world
 exists in Delaware, a short
 drive from Philadelphia.

■ *Text and Illustrations*



Originally a barn, Gild Hall is now Arden's social center. Mrs. Rai F. Girstine (pictured), in her seventies, attends weekly folk dances.

The Village Called Arden

By BEN EISENSTAT

BUT where can you go?" That's a big question in these troubled times. Many Americans yearning for tranquility may dream of a farm in Australia, a small village in Mexico or a remote island off the coast of Scotland. One does not have to go that far, however. Some 15 miles south of Philadelphia is the small community of Arden, Del., a village where the bird song obscures the hum of the adjacent expressways and where the scent of woodlands overcomes the acrid megalopolis atmosphere.

"We were just talking about that," a pretty 19-year-old Ardenite volunteered. "We don't want to go away at all. It would be just great if we could pull a large plastic bowl over Arden and block out the rest of the world." The satisfaction of its residents is one of the community's most outstanding characteristics—justifiably so, for they or their ancestors have made Arden what it is.

Seventy years ago this month, 163 acres of isolated woodland and gentle fields six miles north of Wilmington were purchased by Frank Stephens, a Philadelphia sculptor, and Will Price, a Philadelphia architect. They wanted to start a community where the single tax theories of Henry George could be applied. George had written "But who made the earth that any man can claim ownership of it . . . or the right to . . . sell or bequeath it? The rights of all men to land must be equal . . . Where we tax ground values we take from individuals what does not belong to them but belongs to the community." And so this acreage was divided into plots of at least one-quarter acre, with the rentals supporting community services and projects. Since Stephens was a confirmed Anglophile and was devoted as much to William Shakespeare as

(Continued on Page 8)

A third of Arden is communal land, and law forbids cutting any living growth without community consent.



Mrs. Joan Ware Colgan is a lifelong resident of Arden and owner of the Warehouse shop there.

(Continued from Page 7)

to Henry George he took the name "Arden" from *As You Like It* and so christened the colony.

Those first 163 acres cost \$9000. Another Philadelphian financed most of it: Millionaire Joseph Fels who had made his fortune from naphtha soap. Explaining his conversion to the single tax philosophy, Fels said, "We cannot get rich under present conditions without robbing somebody. I have done it . . . and am still doing it, but I am proposing to spend the money to wipe out the system by which I made it."

Within 10 years Arden had at-

tracted many settlers of liberal persuasion among whom was Upton Sinclair (who had just completed *The Jungle*) and Scott Nearing. More extreme than most was a shoemaker, George Brown, who became a nuisance at Town Meeting with his long explicit expositions and way-out ideas on sex. Impossible to silence, he was finally arrested on a charge of "disturbing the peace." Seeking revenge, Brown went to Wilmington upon his release and invoked a 1793 statute against "gaming on the Sabbath," swearing out a warrant against 11 Ardenites who were in the habit of playing ball or tennis on Sunday morning.

When the 11, including Sinclair, refused to pay a fine of \$4.00 each, they were sentenced to the workhouse for 24 hours. Some two dozen reporters and photographers covered their discharge and put Arden on the front page of every large newspaper in the country.

As a result of such shenanigans, Arden had a decidedly bad press in its early days. Stephens, while not as radical as Brown, was a critic of the institution of marriage and most of the news stories were concerned with the supposed sexual freedom. There were rumors of nude bathing in Naamans Creek. Arden frequently was referred to as a "free love colony." The passage of time, as well as the present permissiveness in our society, has softened that image. Arden is now considered sedate and rather quaint.

Some mellowing of those early ideas was predictable. But it is surprising that, unlike most such colonies, Arden has done more than endured. It has grown. Ardentown and Ardencroft have been added, comprising a present total of 336 acres with 1500 population. Even more astonishing has been the preservation of the community's original rustic character despite encirclement by Delaware Valley's creeping suburbia.

What most distinguishes Arden from its suburban neighbors is that one-third of the land has been set aside for communal use: The "Village Green," "Sherwood Green," "Sherwood Forest," "Arden Forest," "The Glen" and other bits of parkland and commons. Written into the rent agreements is a law forbidding residents from cutting down any living growth on their own property without community permission. The streets are winding and narrow, there are no sidewalks, stiffly manicured lawns or look-alike houses.

If the homes of Arden have any similarity it is in their consistent individuality. Originally the community was a summer colony of small cottages and shanties. Much of the present architecture is composed of those original places with random additions. Scattered and half-hidden throughout the thickly

wooded grounds are a number of solidly conventional homes and a few well-planned contemporary ones. But again, founder Stephens' British influence persists and the general aspect, abetted by the "commons," is that of a small wooded English village. Stephens' own house, "The Second Homestead," is a Tudor structure he built in 1909. Standing on Woodland Lane at the edge of Village Green it looks like an English story book illustration with its sloping slate roof, half timbers, leaded windows and Stephens' own motto "Tomorrow Is A New Day" carved on a crossbeam.

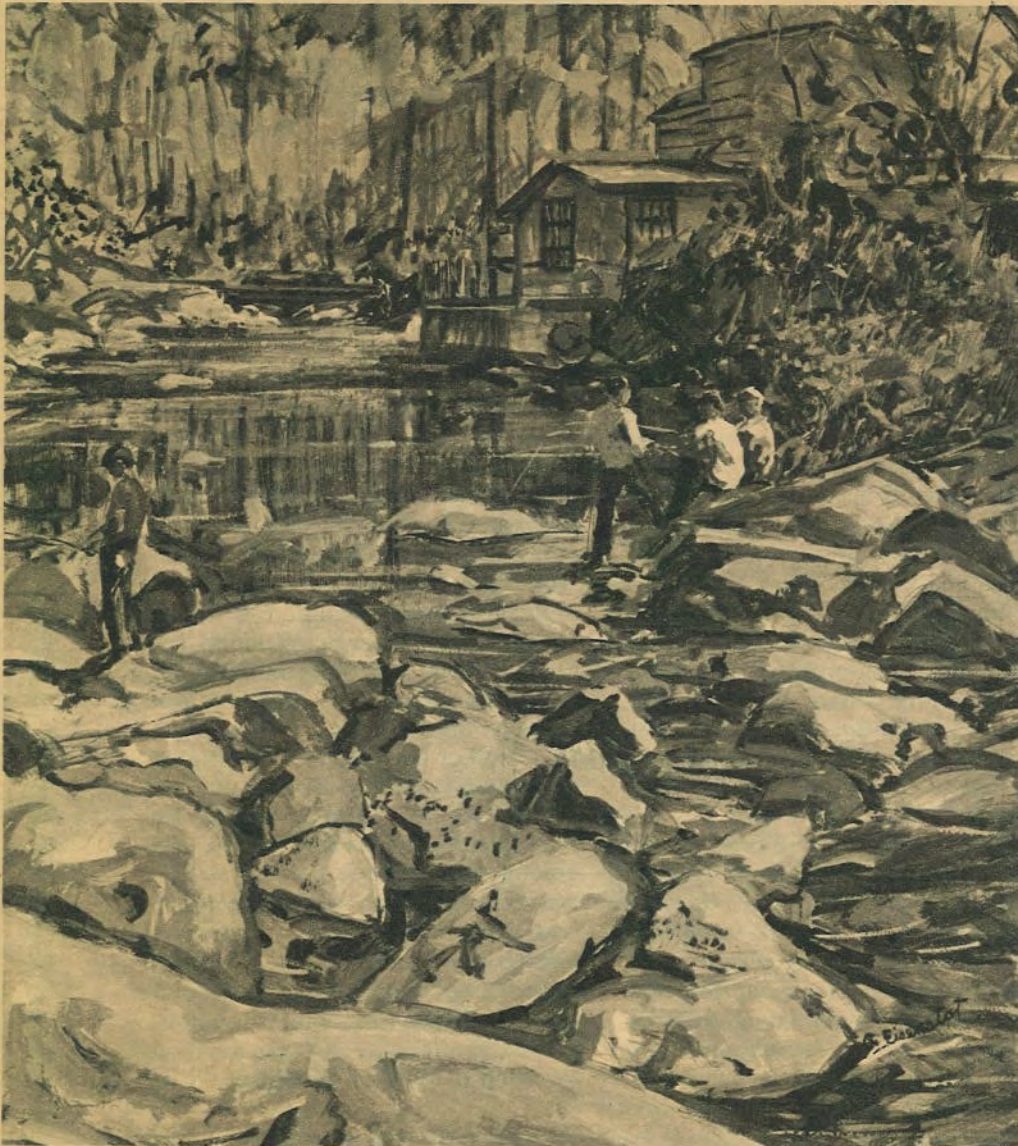
Another enthusiasm of Frank Stephens was the international language of Esperanto, which earned him the nickname "Patro," or "father." One of his fatherly endeavors was teaching the language to the local children so they could go caroling in Esperanto at Christmas time.

Stephens' theatrical interests led him to direct Shakespearean production in an outdoor theater he built next to his home. A rustic circle of three rows of wooden benches surrounding a natural stage still stands. When Stephens died in 1935, his ashes were buried next to the big rock behind the stage.

As a sculptor, Stephens' primary emphasis for his colony was on handwork and crafts. These interests still prevail in the form of sculpting, wood carving, iron forging, pottery making and weaving. (Will there ever be an altruistic colony of dentists or T.V. servicemen?) The "Candlelight Theatre" (formerly the "Robin Hood") on Millers rd. houses the Warehouse Gallery and gift shop where some local arts and crafts are available.

Mrs. Joan Colgan is proprietress of the gift shop. Her father, "Buzz" Ware, succeeded Frank Stephens as Arden's leading figure, remained such until his death in 1967. He, too, was an artist. He taught at the Philadelphia College of Art and founded the Warehouse enterprises. It was his mother, however, who was the best known member of the family. She was Ella Reeve Bloor, or

(Continued on Page 10)



Former ice house of Naamans Creek, Arden Forest, is now sculptor's home.

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“Here we are pressured to do exactly what we wish.”

(Continued from Page 8)

“Mother Bloor,” America’s original militant female leftist, regarded as “the first lady of American Communism.” She lived to be 89, having had eight children, 17 grandchildren and a record of one arrest per year during a half-century of social protest. When “Mother Bloor” first considered living in Arden she declared, “I don’t believe in the single tax as a remedy for anything but I do think it would be a nice place to take the children.”

“Arden is a great place for children,” Mrs. Colgan reiterated. “Young people really are a part of this community. The same applies to the older people. The young and the old get together. Take my own mother. She is 82, is still active and has any number of young friends.”

Mrs. Colgan’s own special interest is ACRA—the Arden Community Recreation Association, free to all children, which provides a variety of classes including “Exploring Your Woods,” “Astronomy,” “Beginning French” and “Yoga.”

If the children are kept busy, the adults are even more active. Along with the Town Meeting and the varied committees there is the Arden Club at Gild Hall. (Ardenites have no hang-ups about conventional spelling). Mrs. Rae Gerstine is the most active member of the Arden Club. Although in her seventies, she looks and sounds 20 years younger. “Let’s see. How many gilds are there?” she mused. “Well, I might miss one or two. First, there’s the Folk Gild. That’s my favorite. We have dances every Wednesday. Then there’s the Ardensingers. They put on wonderful Gilbert and Sullivan every year.

everything now. Right wing, left wing, middle of the road. Mostly we are individuals not trying to keep up with anyone. Professions?” He shrugged. “Just about everything, too. Take this house. We live on the second floor. I’m an architectural draftsman but at the moment I am studying civil engineering at the University of Delaware. My wife is a computer programmer. Joe Downing who owns this place lives below us. He’s a physical chemist for Dupont. He is also a Ph.D. Mrs. Downing—Sandy—teaches sociology at Ursinus and is working for her doctorate, too. Joe De Angelis lives downstairs and I suppose you would call him a construction worker. That’s how he earns his living. Off and on he also goes to the Univer-

lege of Art for the past 40 years. Renzetti came to Arden in 1916 and lives in a former icehouse on the bank of Naamans Creek. He paid \$150 for the building and has expanded it in typical Arden style. The interior has the fascination of a museum with drawings, paintings, sculpture, pottery, antiques, house plants and seedlings for his garden. The artist’s sense of organization under this seeming conglomeration is apparent as the hospitable Renzetti easily clears space for his many visitors.

At this time of year, however, he will usually be found outdoors where he has been involved for almost 50 years in building a tremendous hand-hewn stone wall along the bank of the creek. How long



Three members of Arden’s younger set spend a restful morning.

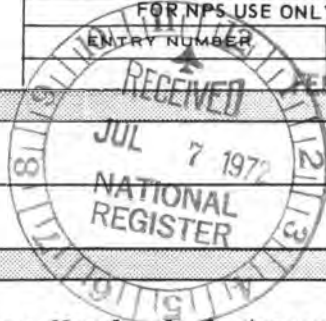
sity and is getting his degree in elementary education. He’s an actor too. But to me, the great thing Joe is doing is building his own home in his spare time in Ardencroft. That

will it take to complete? “I’ll never finish it,” Renzetti said. “I am rearranging nature. The bank was eroding. It used to flood, so I am taking some of the rocks out of the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Delaware
COUNTY:	New Castle
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 6 1973



1. NAME

COMMON:
Village of Arden, Arden, Delaware

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Village of Arden, Arden, Delaware

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Six miles north of Wilmington, in Brandywine Hundred, between

CITY OR TOWN:
Marsh Road, Naaman's Creek, Ardentown and unincorporated areas

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Delaware	10	New Castle	003

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>Economic &</u>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<u>social demonstration</u>	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Trustees of Arden

STREET AND NUMBER:
2111 Orleans Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Arden

STATE:	CODE
Delaware	19810

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Recorder of Deeds Office, County Building

STREET AND NUMBER:
Rodney Square

CITY OR TOWN:
Wilmington

STATE	CODE
Delaware	19810

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
No

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
STATE:

CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FEB 6 1973

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present district, roughly square, coincides with the town boundaries and covers about 163 acres. Of these, 79 are devoted to public use; the other 84 acres are leased for homesites. On the eastern and western borders of the townsite is forest land several hundred yards deep, serving for recreation, conservation, and as a buffer against neighboring developments. Two large village greens, each forming a neighborhood focus, other open spaces and a network of community roadways and pedestrian paths occupy the remaining public land. The town is unequally bisected by Harvey Road (Del. 209).

Clustered between the two forests are 190 leaseholds of from about 10,000 to over 60,000 square feet each (total 84 acres). Buildings, placed randomly on their lots, and built principally in the period 1900-1950, are notably varied in material, style, size and value. Natural growths of trees and shrubs having been protected and plantings fostered since 1900, the entire town tract now has a parklike appearance.

Of especial interest is the Grubb family burying-ground, with gravestones dating back to the mid-18th century. This is cared for by the Trustees of Arden, as stipulated in the Trust Deed.

The Gild [sic] Hall, the clubhouse of the Arden Club (all residents are welcomed as members), is the refurbished barn found on the property when Arden was founded. It is, in fact, the focus of community affairs, both civic and recreational. The original farmhouse also is still standing, but has been rebuilt.

Among the early Arden houses are the "Homestead", an Elizabethan-style building which was the late Frank Stephens' home; "Rest Cottage"; the "Lodge"; and several other English-cottage-type half-timbered buildings, with interesting carving. The carving and the stained glass found in the earliest Arden houses were the work of Arden artisans.

The Craft Shop, which formerly housed a forge and furniture shop, as well as the studio of sculptor Stephens, is still preserved at a corner of the Arden Green. Also structurally intact is the Arden Weaving Shop, where craftsmen wove until the late 1940's.

Boundaries: Bounded on the north by Marsh Road (Del. 3), on the east by Naaman's Creek, on the south by Ardentown, Meadow Lane and the courses of About (Cochran's) Creek, and on the west by a straight line with land formerly of James Cochran, all more fully described in a deed dated January 21, 1901, filed in the office of the Recorder of Deeds, New Castle County.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

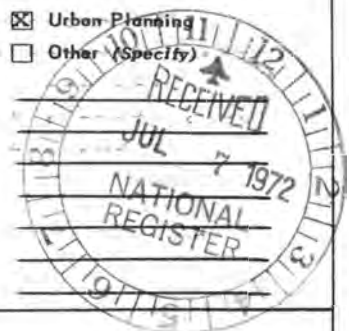
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-
losophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-
itarian | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Music | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Arden deserves preservation for several reasons:

1. Founded in 1900, in the tradition of Utopian communities, it is one of the few such experimental colonies to succeed and survive to the present in a reasonable approximation of the original intent. In Arden, that intent was to demonstrate the workability of the land value theory, popularly known as "the Single Tax", of the political economist Henry George (1839-1897). Arden is the only example in the United States of an entire village still operating on a Single Tax basis. (See Note A: Arden and the Single Tax)
2. Arden is a pioneering example of successful town planning. Although it was planned at the beginning of this century, it embodies urban design concepts that are gaining wide acceptance 70 years later. The town's planners, Frank Stephens, sculptor, and Will Price, architect, employed cluster development, conservation of woodlands, generous use of open space and separation of vehicular and pedestrian traffic by the use of pedestrian paths.
3. Arden is unique for its highly developed participatory democracy, based on a functioning town meeting form of government. The original village used a town meeting, which has been formalized and strengthened in recent years. The town has been incorporated by the state and the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden has every power any municipality may have in Delaware.
4. Arden has been from its inception and still is a center of art, music, drama and craftsmanship both for its townspeople and the surrounding area. As admirers of Pre-Raphaelite writer-artist William Morris (1834-1896), Arden's founders saw their village as a place of great freedom and beauty where creative and performing arts would be part of daily life. Because the performance of Shakespeare's plays was considered by them to be the best way to become persuasive orators in spreading the Georgist land value theory, the founders built an open air theatre before any permanent houses were constructed. That theatre, where Shakespearean plays were performed weekly, is preserved in memory of Frank Stephens and is still used for outdoor drama productions and for community events.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Eckmann, Jeannette, and other, Delaware: A Guide to the First State New York, 1955.
 Arden Archives in custody of Historical Society of Delaware.
 Congressional Research Service, A Study of Property Taxation For United States Senate Committee on Government Operations, Washington, D.C. 1971.
 Rue, Anita Wilson, Arden Revels Unmasked, unpublished Master's thesis, University of Delaware, Newark, 1961.
 Wynn, Robert, The Full Rental Value: A Study of the Tax Rate in Arden, Using Single Tax Theory; Master's thesis, U. of D., Newark, 1965.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	39° 48' 56"	75° 29' 40"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	39° 48' 56"	75° 28' 47"				
SE	39° 48' 25"	75° 28' 47"				
SW	39° 48' 25"	75° 29' 40"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 163

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Delaware	10	New Castle	003
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Community Planning Committee, Village of Arden

ORGANIZATION: 2110 Wind Lane
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 Arden

CITY OR TOWN: Arden STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

DATE: 3/20/72

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name E. Berkeley Tompkins
 Dr. E. Berkeley Tompkins
 Title State Liaison Officer

Date 6-30-72

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert H. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 2/6/73

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 1-29-73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Delaware	
COUNTY	
New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 8 1973

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

5. Arden has preserved a true village with a deep sense of community among residents who are highly diverse in age, political, economic, educational and ethnic characteristics. This community, moreover, has maintained its identity although surrounded by typical developments of an urban sprawl, and despite normal population fluidity from the time of its founding. It is significant that many children and grandchildren of Arden's early "colonists" return to Arden to live, as do many former residents. There is always a waiting list for houses in the village. There is no more land to be leased.

The community is a unique physical and social entity to be protected. The fundamental significance of the Single Tax village of Arden is that a community founded on ideas attracts diverse people interested in ideas, and such people--even though the individuals and families change over the years--continue to build and maintain a living community of self-renewing vitality.

Arden's ability to continue its historic, cultural, educational, civic, economic and social functions for its own residents and for the neighboring area depends on preserving its physical integrity. This is potentially threatened by increasing traffic on Harvey Road, and by population pressures in the adjacent neighborhood.



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Delaware	
COUNTY New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 6 1973

(Number all entries)

NOTE A: ARDEN AND THE SINGLE TAX

Arden was founded in 1900 as an experimental community to carry out the land value theory of Henry George, the influential 19th century American political economist (1839-1897). This theory, as advocated by George in his popular book, Progress and Poverty (1879), is based on the belief that the source of all wealth is the land; that if the land is owned by the community and the "full economic rent" is charged for its use, the accruing funds will provide enough money to operate the government, with no need for other taxes. The land tax would theoretically force the best possible use of the land and eliminate the type of unproductive speculator who lets land stand idle to increase in value. To the present, Arden operates under the Single Tax land valuation system, serving as a working model of Henry George's ideas.

The legal document which provides for Arden's tax system is the Deed of Trust, established by the founders of the town, Frank Stephens and Will Price. All Arden land is owned by the Trustees of Arden, who administer the trust for the beneficiaries, the individuals who lease the land. There are three trustees, who serve for life. The approval of a majority of all the residents is required to select a new trustee. The trustees issue 99-year leases to individuals who pay an annual tax or land rent, based on the total square feet of land leased. In turn, the trustees use the land rent money to pay county and school taxes and other outside obligations of the community. The surplus is available to the Town Assembly, the local governing body, whose budget, set by the elected Budget Committee, must be approved by a majority of all the residents, to benefit the entire community.

The annual land rent is set by a seven-man Board of Assessors, elected annually by the Hare system of proportional representation. It is the sworn duty of the assessors to determine the "full rental value" of Arden land, using Georgist principles, and thereby to calculate the yearly base rental rate for the land.

Because of Arden's small population, the government is close to the people and a relatively large number of residents are active in Town Assembly affairs.



PROPERTY <u>Village of ARDEN</u>		STATE <u>Del.</u>	73000550
Working number <u>7.7.72.994</u>			5/1/73
TECH REVIEW	Photos <u>5</u>		NEW Castle
	Maps <u>1</u>		
REVIEW			neg 10-16 72 Tech Review OK
HISTORIAN			1- 4- 73 2 O.K. Shull
ARCHEOLOGIST			
ARCHITECT			over means 1/17/73
BRANCH CHIEF			O R R 1/29/73
EDITORIAL REVIEW			
KEEPER			... G... 1/28
National Register write-up	<u>3/6</u>	Acknowledge	<u>7/7/72</u>
Federal Register entry	<u>3/6</u>	Send-back	
		Re-submit	
		Register no.	FEB 6 1973



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Delaware	
COUNTY New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
10	FEB 6 1973



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

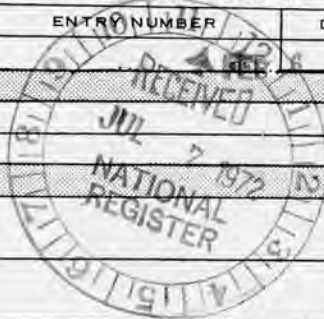
1. NAME			
COMMON: Arden--the Arden Green			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Between Miller Rd, Woodland Lane, Cherry Lane & Green Lane			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Arden			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Delaware	10	New Castle	003
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: David A. McClintock			
DATE OF PHOTO: March 1972			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: 1601 Harvey Road, Ardentown, Del. 19810			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
View of Arden Green from Miller Road, looking northeast.			



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE DELAWARE	
COUNTY NEW CASTLE	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 24 1973



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: ARDEN--Gild Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC: VILLAGE OF ARDEN

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

2126 The Highway, Arden

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

DELAWARE

CODE

10

COUNTY:

New Castle

CODE

003

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: David A. McClintock

DATE OF PHOTO: March, 1972

NEGATIVE FILED AT: 1601 Harvey Road, Ardentown, Del, 19810

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Club house made from barn serves as center of community activities. Looking south.

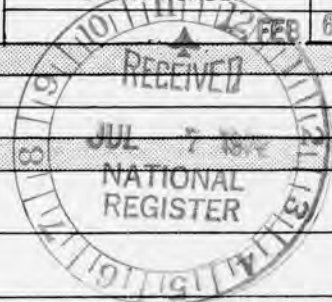


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Delaware	
COUNTY New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 6 1973



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Arden--The Craft Shop
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Cherry Lane & Millers Road,
CITY OR TOWN:
Arden

STATE: Delaware	CODE 10	COUNTY: New Castle	CODE 003
--------------------	------------	-----------------------	-------------

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: David A. McClintock
DATE OF PHOTO: March, 1972
NEGATIVE FILED AT: 1601 Harvey Road, Ardentown, Del. 19810

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Cherry Lane side of The Craft Shop, former site of
forge and woodworking shop, now an apartment house, facing
the Arden Green. View from west of the structure.
Looking east.



1909

Tomorrow is a New Day.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE DELAWARE	
COUNTY	
NEW CASTLE	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER FEB 6 1973	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: ARDEN -- Founder's House
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: early Arden house in Elizabethan style
"The Homestead"
CITY OR TOWN: 2311 Woodland Lane, Arden Delaware 19810
STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE
10 003

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: DAVID A. McCLINTOCK
DATE OF PHOTO: March, 1972
NEGATIVE FILED AT: 1601 Harvey Road, Ardentown, Delaware 19810



4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
Front view of Elizabethan-style home, built 1909, by Frank Stephens, co-founder of Arden. On Woodland Lane, facing Arden Green. Looking north. Hand carving and stained glass products of Arden craftsmen



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE DELAWARE	
COUNTY NEW CASTLE	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 6 1973

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: ARDEN --Woodland Theatre
AND/OR HISTORIC: VILLAGE OF ARDEN

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Woodland Theater

CITY OR TOWN:
Arden

STATE: Delaware	CODE 10	COUNTY: New Castle	CODE 003
--------------------	------------	-----------------------	-------------



3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: DAVID A. MCCLINTOCK
DATE OF PHOTO: MARCH, 1972
NEGATIVE FILED AT: 1601 Harvey Road, Ardentown, Delaware 19810

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

WOODLAND THEATRE; also known as FRANK STEPHENS MEMORIAL THEATRE

On Woodland Lane, next to founder's house, facing Arden Green.
Open air theatre used for plays and ceremonies.
Looking north.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Delaware	
COUNTY New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER FEB 6 1973	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Village of Arden, Arden, Delaware
AND/OR HISTORIC: Village of Arden, Arden, Delaware

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Six miles north of Wilmington, in Brandywine Hundred, between Marsh
CITY OR TOWN:
Road, Naaman's Creek, Ardentown and unincorporated areas

STATE: Delaware	CODE 10	COUNTY: New Castle	CODE 003
--------------------	------------	-----------------------	-------------

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
USGS Marcus Hook Quadrangle, 7.5 minute series
SCALE: 1:24,000
DATE: 1967

4. REQUIREMENTS

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
 2. North arrow.
 3. Latitude and longitude reference.



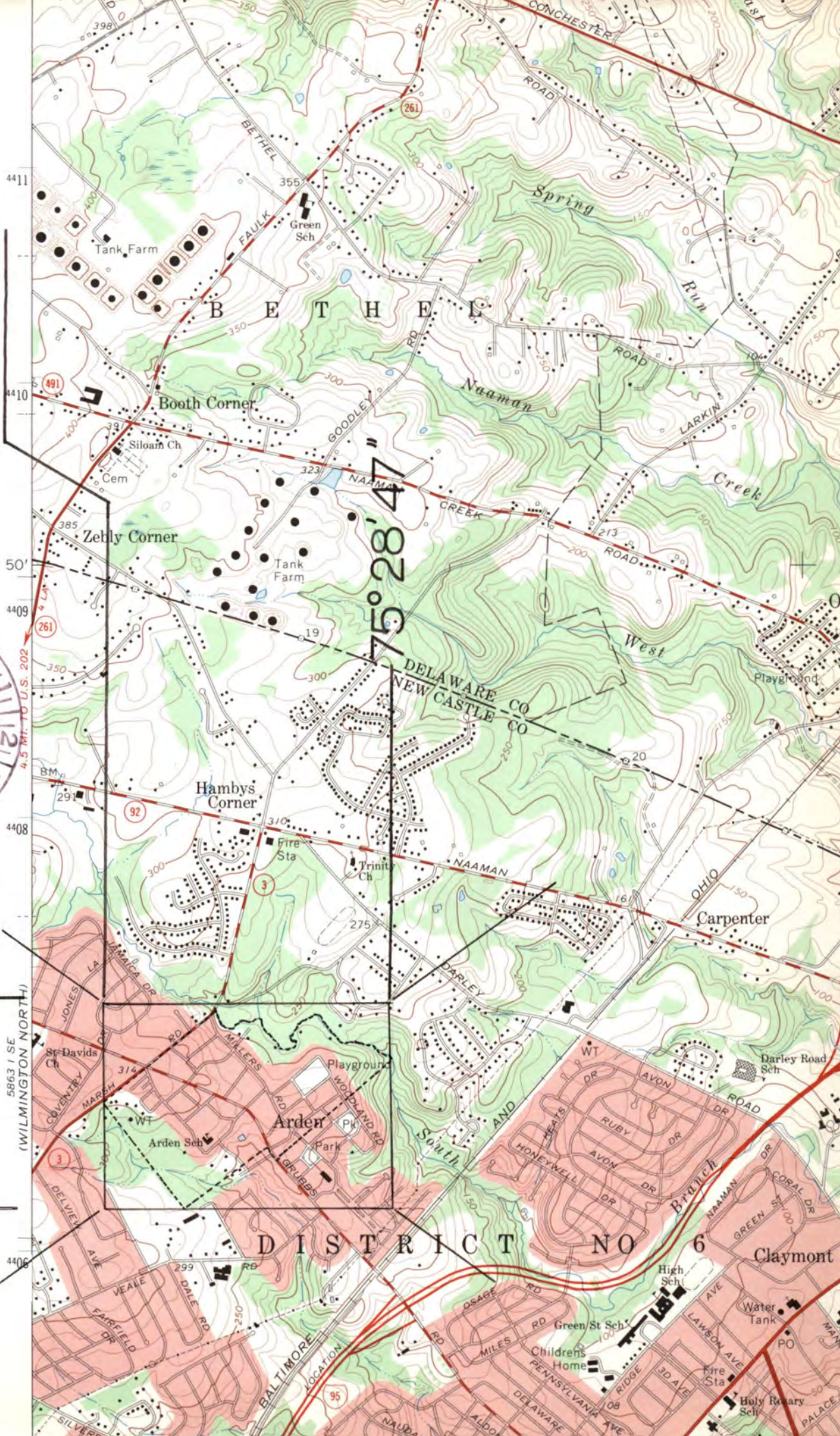
75°29'40"

75°28'47"



39°48'56"

39°48'25"



5863 1 SE
(WILMINGTON NORTH)

D I S T R I C T N O 6

300 100 USGS Marcus Hook Del. 7.5' series 1967



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs
Hall of Records
Dover, Delaware 19901

DR. E. BERKELEY TOMPKINS
DIRECTOR

June 30, 1972

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Room 3209
1100 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005



Dear Bill:

I enclose herewith the nomination form, map, and photographs for Arden. This nomination was passed by our Review Board at its last meeting.

Sincerely,

E. Berkeley Tompkins, Director
Division of Historical and
Cultural Affairs
State Liaison Officer for the
National Register

EBT:pfl

Enclosures

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE DELAWARE

Date Entered FEB 6 1973

Name

Location

Village of Arden

Wilmington vicinity
New Castle County

Old Drawyers Church

Odessa
New Castle County

Also Notified

Hon. J. R. Biden

Hon. William V. Roth, Jr.

Hon. Pierre S. du Pont, IV

Director, Northeast Region

PHR NRowland:mm 2/8/73

State Liaison Officer

Dr. E. Berkeley Tompkins

Director of the Division of Historical
& Cultural Affairs

Department of State

Dever, Delaware 19901

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

1. TYPE OF ACTION

PREAPPLICATION

APPLICATION

(Mark appropriate box)

NOTIFICATION OF INTENT (Opt.)

REPORT OF FEDERAL ACTION

2. APPLICANT'S APPLICATION

3. STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER

a. NUMBER

b. DATE Year month day
19 77 07 14

Leave Blank

a. NUMBER 76061503

b. DATE Year month day
ASSIGNED 19 76 08 11

4. LEGAL APPLICANT/RECIPIENT

a. Applicant Name : State of DE., Dept. of State

b. Organization Unit : Div. of Hist. & Cultural Affairs

c. Street/P.O. Box : Hall of Records

d. City : Dover e. County : Kent

f. State : Delaware g. ZIP Code: 19901

h. Contact Person (Name & telephone No.) : Lawrence C. Henry (302) 678-5314

5. FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NO. 516-000-279

6. PROGRAM (From Federal Catalog)

a. NUMBER | 1 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 4 |

b. TITLE
Historic Preservation

7. TITLE AND DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT

Matching Grant-in-Aid for Broadbent property development project; stream bank stabilization. Letter of initiation; specifications Village of Arden (10-77-00063)

New Castle Co.

8. TYPE OF APPLICANT/RECIPIENT

A-State H-Community Action Agency
B-Interstate I-Higher Educational Institution
C-Substate J-Indian Tribe
D-District K-Other (Specify):
E-County
F-School District
G-Special Purpose District

Enter appropriate letter A

9. TYPE OF ASSISTANCE

A-Basic Grant D-Insurance
B-Supplemental Grant E-Other
C-Loan

Enter appropriate letter(s) A

10. AREA OF PROJECT IMPACT (Names of cities, counties, States, etc.)

Arden, Wilmington, Delaware

11. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PERSONS BENEFITING

555

12. TYPE OF APPLICATION

A-New C-Revision E-Augmentation
B-Renewal D-Continuation

Enter appropriate letter A

13. PROPOSED FUNDING

a. FEDERAL	\$ 600 .00
b. APPLICANT	600 .00
c. STATE	.00
d. LOCAL	.00
e. OTHER	.00
f. TOTAL	\$ 1200 .00

14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF:

a. APPLICANT	b. PROJECT
One	One
16. PROJECT START DATE Year month day 19 77 07 14	17. PROJECT DURATION 36 Months
18. ESTIMATED DATE TO BE SUBMITTED TO FEDERAL AGENCY	Year month day 19 77 07 14

15. TYPE OF CHANGE (For 12c or 12e)

A-Increase Dollars F-Other (Specify):
B-Decrease Dollars
C-Increase Duration
D-Decrease Duration
E-Cancellation

Enter appropriate letter(s)

19. EXISTING FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER
10-77-00063-00

20. FEDERAL AGENCY TO RECEIVE REQUEST (Name, City, State, ZIP code)

National Park Service, O.A.H.P, Washington, D.C. 20240

21. REMARKS ADDED

Yes No

22. THE APPLICANT CERTIFIES THAT

a. To the best of my knowledge and belief, data in this preapplication/application are true and correct, the document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant and the applicant will comply with the attached assurances if the assistance is approved.

b. If required by OMB Circular A-95 this application was submitted, pursuant to instructions therein, to appropriate clearinghouses and all responses are attached:

(1) Delaware State Clearinghouse

(2) WILMAPCO

(3)

No response attached

23. CERTIFYING REPRESENTATIVE

a. TYPED NAME AND TITLE
Lawrence C. Henry
State Historic Preservation Officer

b. SIGNATURE
Lawrence C. Henry

c. DATE SIGNED
Year month day
19 77 07 15

24. AGENCY NAME
Department of the Interior

25. APPLICATION RECEIVED
Year month day
19 77 08 11

26. ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT
National Park Service

27. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
Grants Administration Division

28. FEDERAL APPLICATION IDENTIFICATION

29. ADDRESS
18th & C Streets NW., Washington, D.C. 20240

30. FEDERAL GRANT IDENTIFICATION
10-8067

35. ACTION TAKEN

a. AWARDED

b. REJECTED

c. RETURNED FOR AMENDMENT

d. DEFERRED

e. WITHDRAWN

32. FUNDING

a. FEDERAL	\$ 600 .00
b. APPLICANT	600 .00
c. STATE	.00
d. LOCAL	.00
e. OTHER	.00
f. TOTAL	\$ 1,200 .00

33. ACTION DATE Year month day
19 77 10 01

34. STARTING DATE Year month day
19 77 10 01

35. CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Name and telephone number)

Stephen Newman
(202) 523-5472

36. ENDING DATE Year month day
19 80 09 30

37. REMARKS ADDED

Yes No

38. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 ACTION

a. In taking above action, any comments received from clearinghouses were considered. If agency response is due under provisions of Part 1, OMB Circular A-95, it has been or is being made.

b. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 OFFICIAL (Name and telephone no.)
same as #35

SECTION I - APPLICANT/RECIPIENT DATA

SECTION II - CERTIFICATION

SECTION III - FEDERAL AGENCY ACTION

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE		2. APPLICANT'S APPLICATION		3. STAT. APPLICATION IDENTIFIER		a. NUMBER 77070301	
1. TYPE OF ACTION <input type="checkbox"/> PREAPPLICATION <input type="checkbox"/> APPLICATION (Mark appropriate box) <input type="checkbox"/> NOTIFICATION OF INTENT (Opt.) <input type="checkbox"/> REPORT OF FEDERAL ACTION		b. DATE Year month day 19 78 7 10		b. DATE ASSIGNED Year month day 19 77 9 13		Leave Blank	
4. LEGAL APPLICANT/RECIPIENT				5. FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NO. 516-000-279			
a. Applicant Name : State of Delaware b. Organization Unit : Div. of Historical & Cultural Affairs c. Street/P.O. Box : Hall of Records, P. O. Box 1401 d. City : Dover e. County : Kent f. State : Delaware g. ZIP Code : 19901 h. Contact Person (Name & telephone No.) : Lawrence C. Henry (302) 678-5314				6. PROGRAM (From Federal Catalog)		a. NUMBER 150904 b. TITLE Historic Preservation	
7. TITLE AND DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT				8. TYPE OF APPLICANT/RECIPIENT			
Village of Arden: 2324 Cherry Lane, Wilmington, New Castle County: Development Project.				A-State H-Community Action Agency B-Interstate I-Higher Educational Institution C-Substate District J-Indian Tribe D-County K-Other (Specify): E-City F-School District G-Special Purpose District Enter appropriate letter <input type="checkbox"/>			
10. AREA OF PROJECT IMPACT (Names of cities, counties, States, etc.)				11. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PERSONS BENEFITING		12. TYPE OF APPLICATION	
Arden, Wilmington, New Castle County Delaware				555		A-New C-Revision E-Augmentation D-Renewal D-Continuation Enter appropriate letter <input type="checkbox"/>	
13. PROPOSED FUNDING		14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF:		15. TYPE OF CHANGE (For 12c or 12e)			
a. FEDERAL \$ 2152 .00 b. APPLICANT 2153 .00 c. STATE XXXX .00 d. LOCAL XXXX .00 e. OTHER XXXX .00 f. TOTAL \$ 4305 .00		a. APPLICANT One b. PROJECT One		A-Increase Dollars F-Other (Specify): B-Decrease Dollars C-Increase Duration D-Decrease Duration E-Cancellation N/A Enter appropriate letter(s) <input type="checkbox"/>			
		16. PROJECT START DATE Year month day 19 See #34		17. PROJECT DURATION 27 Months		18. ESTIMATED DATE TO BE SUBMITTED TO FEDERAL AGENCY 19 78 7 10	
20. FEDERAL AGENCY TO RECEIVE REQUEST (Name, City, State, ZIP code) Heritage Conservation Recreation Service, Dept. of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240				21. REMARKS ADDED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
22. THE APPLICANT CERTIFIES THAT		a. To the best of my knowledge and belief, data in this preapplication/application are true and correct, the document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant and the applicant will comply with the attached assurance, if the assistance is approved. b. If required by OMB Circular A-95 this application was submitted, pursuant to instructions therein, to appropriate clearinghouses and all responses are attached: (1) Delaware State Planning Office <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2) WILMAPCO <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		23. CERTIFYING REPRESENTATIVE Lawrence C. Henry, State Historic Preservation Officer		24. AGENCY NAME Department of the Interior	
		25. APPLICANT RECEIVED 19 78 7 19		26. ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT Service Heritage Conservation & Recreation		27. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE Grants Administration Div.	
		28. FEDERAL APPLICATION IDENTIFICATION		29. ADDRESS 18th and C Streets NW, Washington, D.C. 20240		30. FEDERAL GRANT IDENTIFICATION 10-8952	
31. ACTION TAKEN		32. FUNDING		33. ACTION DATE 19 78 8 17		34. STARTING DATE 19 78 8 1	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. AWARDED <input type="checkbox"/> b. REJECTED <input type="checkbox"/> c. RETURNED FOR AMENDMENT <input type="checkbox"/> d. DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> e. WITHDRAWN		a. FEDERAL \$ 2,152 .00 b. APPLICANT 2,153 .00 c. STATE .00 d. LOCAL .00 e. OTHER .00 f. TOTAL \$ 4,305 .00		35. CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Name and telephone number) Stephen D. Newman 202 523-5472		36. ENDING DATE 19 80 9 30 37. REMARKS ADDED <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
38. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 ACTION				39. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 OFFICIAL (Name and telephone no.) Same as #35			

SECTION I - APPLICANT/RECIPIENT DATA

SECTION II - CERTIFICATION

SECTION III - FEDERAL AGENCY ACTION

Arden Song

Words by Frank Stephens

German air: "Abschied vom Dirndl"

Arranged by Edith Ware

- 1 -

When crickets sing and kine are homing
And lanterned stars come seek the sun
The village lights aslant the gloaming
Come twinkling, twinkling one by one,
O! Night and sunset glow and starry splendor
And cloud-wreathed eve beneath thy silv'ry crown,
Ye give to me no guide so sure and tender
As are the lights of Arden Town.

- 2 -

When wayward winds come back from straying
The wide world o'er, afar and long,
The woodland breezes cease from playing
To catch their reed and steal their song.
O! Winds that woo the flowers and roam at pleasure,
Though far ye fare by dale and grassy down,
Ye learn no song beside of that sweet measure
Ye taught the leaves by Arden Town.

- 3 -

When days are drear and ways are weary
And sad at heart we wanderers roam,
Light, tiny town, thy beacons cheery.
O! Whispering woodlands call us home
For stars will shine again and days will brighten
And rough roads smooth and Love shall tread adown
And even-song ring brave and sad hearts lighten
As hope leads home to Arden Town.



ARDEN DAY HISTORIC MARKER UNVEILING

May 21, 1994
The Sweep Green, Arden

Marker text:

The Village of Arden

Arden is an intentional community, founded in 1900 by social reformers Frank Stephen, sculptor, and Will Price, architect, to create a society based on Henry George's Single Tax economics and William Morris's arts and crafts philosophy. Incorporated in 1967, the village continues to be governed by these taxation and community ideals. All residential land is held in a trust. Leaseholders own their homes and pay one property tax (land rent) determined by elected assessors. Town Meetings reflect an enduring model of direct democracy. Almost half of the 162 acres is in greens, roads, paths, and buffering forests. Arts and crafts continue to flourish in Arden.

Program

William Press "You are welcome hither"
Chairman of Town Assembly

Representative Wayne A. Smith History

Thomas Summers Unveiling of Historic Marker
Delaware State Archives

Sally Hamburger Thank you
Chairman, Arden Archives

Closing *Arden Song*

Music by Diamond State Band, Joseph Naff, Director

•

*Reception immediately following the ceremony
at the Arden Atchive, Buzz Ware Village Center*

*First showing of the
JoanWare Colgan Memorial Collection*

Music by Russ McKinney

*Sponsored by the
Arden Archives Committee, Village of Arden*

Prose vs. sonnet: State rule puts bee in Arden's bonnet

By JIM PARKS

Special to The News Journal

ARDEN — Prose out-polluted poetry at the Arden town meeting last week, but that was more a reflection of the power of state bureaucracy than an expression of literary taste.

The issue involved wording for a state historical marker to be erected along Harvey Road for the single-tax village.

Arden is on the National Register of Historic Places as one of only a few surviving "intentional communities" — that is, communities that still hold to their original purpose. In Arden's case, that was to put into practice the teachings of 19th-century social reformer Henry George. The village was established in 1900.

The 67 residents at the Jan. 24 meeting voted, after 40 minutes of discussion, to conform to the state's requirement that the blue-and-gold plaque carry 13 lines of text about 50 characters long — and no rhymes.

After accepting an amendment to smooth out a grammatical irregularity — "A dangling phrase would go in many places, but not in Arden," said Cy Liberman, the amendment's proposer — residents voted to accept a text produced by the village's archives committee. Committee chairman Sally Hamburger said the wording had been repeatedly revised.

The committee dropped plans to present the option of a poem by Brooke Bovard after getting a letter from the state Bureau of Archives reiterating the rigid editorial requirements for markers.

An earlier straw vote had shown a narrow preference for a prose sign. Still, the state's letter became a burr under the saddle for some speakers at the town meeting. Several said, in effect, that Arden (known as much for its individualism as for its tax-

The prose

This is the proposed text for the Arden historical marker:

Arden is an intentional community founded in 1900 by social reformers Frank Stephens, sculptor, and Will Price, architect, to create a society based on Henry George's Single Tax economics and William Morris' arts and crafts philosophy. Their taxation and community ideals persist today. The Village was incorporated in 1967. All residential land is held in trust. Leaseholders own their homes but pay a land rent tax proposed by elected assessors and approved by residents. Almost half of the 162 acres remains as greens, roads, paths and natural woodlands.

Town meetings reflect an enduring model of direct democracy. Arts and crafts continue to flourish.

tion) should tell the state where to stash its requirements.

"I don't like the idea of the state telling us what we can do and what we can't do with our marker," said Peter Renzetti. "If they don't like it and won't put [a marker] up, I'll buy one for the town to put up." Several others offered to chip in, too.

Having already compromised in producing a 13-line "sonnet" — the established poetic form calls for 14 lines — Bovard would go no further. She threatened to turn the matter into a *cause celebre* on a network television talk show.

"The state of Delaware couldn't stand the ridicule they'd get from denying the opportunity to put a little culture on an historic

The poem

Here is the text of Brooke Bovard's poem, rejected for use.

In nineteen-ought, Frank Stephens and Will Price embracing Arts and Georgist Single Tax founded this village and, by this device, created a legacy which transcends facts.

Their dream was free to all — land held in trust leased by homeowners, land rent the one price.

Town meetings set all rules, to make them just and half the land is woods, paths, commons, nice.

Democracy endures, as do the Arts.

And as, intentional, we till our garden, the dream persists, new residents take parts

on this small stage that's named for Shakespeare's Arden. You are welcome hither.

marker," she said.

But Hamburger tipped the balance toward prose when she explained that an "official historical marker," not one erected by the village, was the longstanding wish of the late Joan Ware Colgan, daughter of an Arden pioneer. Colgan had finally succeeded last year in getting money for the marker included in the state budget.

If the sign is to be ready for dedication on Arden Day, May 21, the wording had to be approved last week, Hamburger said. And if the marker isn't ordered now, there's no guarantee the money would be included in the state budget for the fiscal year that starts July 1.

and cotton of MOIRÉ, much used for curtains and upholstery in the c18.

Morel-Ladeuil, Léonard. *see* ELKINGTON, GEORGE RICHARD.

Morelli, Alessio. *see* GREENE, JOHN.

Mores, Jacob, the elder (1578–c.1609). Hamburg goldsmiths at one time in the service of the Danish Court, famous for his *Kleinodienbuch des Jacob Mores* (Staatsbibliothek, Hamburg), the most important compendium of jewellery designs of around 1600. Little of his work in gold or silver survives.

Moresque, *see* MAURESQUE.

Morgan, William De, *see* DE MORGAN, WILLIAM.

Morley, James, *see* NOTTINGHAM POTTERIES.

Morocco Originally a goatskin leather from Morocco but later the term often signifies imitations made in sheepskin or lambskin. Morocco was frequently used in bookbinding from the early c17 onwards, at first usually coloured brown or green, later red, black or blue. By the c17 red Morocco had largely superseded brown calf in bookbinding.

Morratxa, *see* ALMORRATXA.

Morris, George Anthony, *see* BONNIN AND MORRIS PORCELAIN FACTORY.

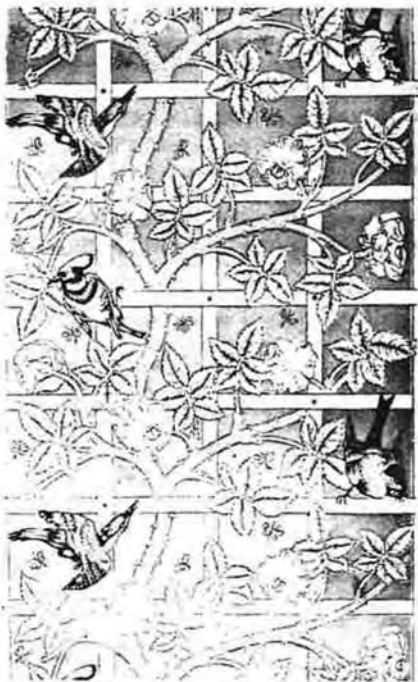
Morris, Joshua (fl.1720–30). English tapestry weaver and the proprietor of a workshop in Soho, London, 1720–28, which produced some very appealing silk and wool tapestries depicting huge Rococo vases overflowing with full-blown naturalistic flowers, probably after designs by the French flower-painter Adrien de Clermont. He also produced some CHINOISERIE hangings and commissioned Hogarth to make a tapestry design which provoked a lawsuit. He went bankrupt in 1729.

H. C. Mariller. *English Tapestries of the Eighteenth Century*, London 1930; M. A. Havinden in *Survey of London (The Parish of St Anne, Soho)*, App. I, London 1966.

Morris, William (1834–96). English designer, craftsman, poet and political (socialist) theorist, the leading figure in late Victorian decorative arts. After a good middle-class education (Marlborough and Oxford) he began as an architect in the office

of G. E. Street, where he met Philip WEBB, but took up painting, 1856. Attempts to furnish the house he shared with BURNE-JONES in London (1857–9) and The Red House which Webb built for him (1860) revealed that 'all the minor arts were in a state of complete degradation', as he later wrote, 'and accordingly in 1861 with the conceited courage of a young man I set myself to reforming all that and started a sort of firm for producing decorative articles'. This firm was **Morris, Marshall, Faulkner & Co.**, which proved an immediate financial success, moved from modest to large workshops in London, was reorganized as **Morris & Co.** in 1875 and moved out to Merton Abbey in 1881. It survived until 1940. He began with embroideries (which he sometimes executed himself), then turned to wallpapers (1862), stained glass, printed and woven textiles, carpets, rugs, tapestries and furniture (*see* colour plate 32a). The wallpapers were printed by Jeffrey & Co. and the earliest designs for textiles by various firms, but he established a workshop at Hammersmith for hand-knotted carpets in 1880: at Merton Abbey he set up looms for tapestries and woven textiles in 1881 and produced printed textiles from 1883. His final venture was the Kelmscott Press, founded

W. Morris: trellis pattern wallpaper, 1862 (Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester)



in 1890 for the production of exquisitely printed books. In each field he mastered the technique of production, studying such matters as the use of vegetable dyes, before proceeding to design. With a genius for flat pattern, a rare understanding of natural forms – the curl of a leaf, the relationship between a flower and its stalk – and an inexhaustible fecundity of imagination, he evolved numerous floral and foliage patterns which seem none the less natural for being carefully balanced and closely integrated. After his first essays with lightly coloured airy designs in the 1860s he gradually adopted the much richer, denser style of his maturity. On papers and fabrics and the backgrounds of tapestries (designed with Burne-Jones) dark paeonies, roses, pimpernels and fritillaries of a mid-summer luxuriance are intertwined with branches of willow and tendrils of honeysuckle. He was inspired to some extent by c16 and c17

W. Morris: *Compton wallpaper, 1896* (Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester)



fabrics, just as he turned to oriental models for his carpet designs but he impressed the stamp of his forceful personality on everything he touched, with the result that his works are never aridly imitative of natural forms or of historical styles. He designed no furniture apart from a few pieces for his own use, though his influence may be felt in that designed for Morris & Co. by Webb and George JACK. (The famous 'Morris chair' was designed by William Watt in 1883 and made by Morris & Co.) His influence also marks the pottery of William DE MORGAN.

In much of his theory he was a prophet of the c20, rather like Ruskin, to whom he was indebted. Preaching the gospel of art for the masses, he asked, 'What business have we with art at all unless all can share it?' It was largely due to his teaching that greater care was given to the design of ordinary houses and their contents. But his hostility to machinery combined with the belief that 'real art' can only be made 'by the people and for the people as a happiness for the maker and user' led him to an untenable position. The beautiful hand-made products of his firm were far too expensive for ordinary people and inevitably went to satisfy 'the swinish luxury of the rich'. To resolve the conflict he retreated into poetic dreams of a future in which machinery would be abandoned and the medieval guild system restored. To this unreal haven he was followed by the members of the ARTS AND CRAFTS MOVEMENT. But the essentials of his message were taken up on the Continent, notably by VAN DE VELDE, through whom he exerted a vital influence on the early development of c20 INDUSTRIAL DESIGN.

P. Thompson, *The Work of William Morris*, London 1967; A. C. Sewter, *The Stained Glass of William Morris*, New Haven and London 1974; L. Parry, *William Morris Textiles*, London 1982; W. Stansky, *Redesigning the World. William Morris, the 1880s and the Arts and Crafts*, Princeton 1984.

Morris chair, see CHAIR (Morris).

Morse The metal clasp for fastening a COPE across the chest, often richly wrought and jewelled.

Morse ivory Walrus horn, used in North Europe as a medium for small decorative and devotional carvings. It is similar to ivory in texture and colour.

Mortar A vessel in which ingredients can be pounded with a pestle, hence it is usually cup-shaped and of a hard material such as marble, brass, bronze or bell metal. Mortars were intro-

allied subjects, and was friendly with many distinguished typographers at home and abroad, including, for example, Bruce Rogers (1870-1957) and Giovanni Mardersteig (1892-1977). Converted to Catholicism in 1908, Morison was a conscientious objector in the First World War, a railway enthusiast, a socialist and a republican.

Morisson, Friedrich Jacob Morisson published two suites of designs for jewellery and enamelling (1693 and 1697) in Vienna, ten plates in all. A third suite, *Unterschiedliche neue Feston, von Blumen und Früchten* (twelve plates), comprises NATURALISTIC swags of fruit and flowers, combined with small black scrolled motifs for enamel. It seems to have been published first in Vienna in 1697 and then in Augsburg in 1699 by Jeremias Wolff, presumably after Morisson's death. Wolff later issued *Unterschiedliche neue Inventionen* (two parts, fourteen plates in all), engraved posthumously after Morisson's designs; it shows brooches, aigrettes, pendants, etc., many with large stones, and also boxes, flasks, handles, sword-hilts, fan handles, and a prayer-book cover, in a rich combination of scrolled, floral and BERAINESQUE ornament.

Morris, Talwin (1865-1911) Born in Winchester, Talwin Morris was trained as an architect under his uncle, Joseph Morris of Reading. He then was on the staff of the periodical *Black and White*, and subsequently, in 1893, became Art Director of Blackie & Sons of Glasgow. In this capacity he was a gifted and prolific designer of ART NOUVEAU bookbindings. He also designed some stained glass, furniture and metalwork. Morris was associated with the Glasgow School, his work being discussed with that of Herbert J. MACNAIR in an article by Gleeson White in the 'STUDIO' (1897). In 1902 he introduced

Charles Rennie MACKINTOSH to Mr W. W. Blackie, an introduction which resulted in Hill House, one of Mackintosh's masterpieces.

Morris, William (1834-96) Born in Walthamstow on the outskirts of London, the son of a wealthy stockbroker, Morris was educated at Marlborough, one of the new Victorian public schools. In 1853 he went to Exeter College, Oxford, intending to become a clergyman, and rapidly struck up a friendship with BURNE-JONES. Architecture and design became his main interests and RUSKIN and the 'BUILDER' prominent in his reading. In 1854 he visited Amiens, Beauvais and Chartres. He returned there in 1855 with Burne-Jones, the two friends committing themselves at the end of their holiday to art, Morris to architecture and Burne-Jones to painting. In 1856 Morris entered the office of G. E. STREET, where Philip WEBB was senior clerk, and began to study architecture. However, he soon fell under the influence of ROSSETTI and started to paint. In 1856 Burne-Jones and Morris moved into a house in Red Lion Square for which Morris designed some massive GOTHIC furniture. In 1857 they were involved with Hungerford POLLEN and others painting murals in the Oxford Union, designed by the architect Benjamin Woodward. In 1858 Morris travelled to France once more, this time with Philip Webb, who then built the Red House at Bexley Heath near London for Morris from 1859 to 1860. It is a handsome red-brick house in the style of William BUTTERFIELD and Street, which Morris decorated in the Gothic style, with furniture designed by Webb. Morris's experience in commissioning appropriate decorations and furniture for the Red House led him, at Ford Madox BROWN's suggestion, to form a cooperative firm to produce well-designed and

executed decorative work. Morris, Marshall, Faulkner & Co. began business in 1861 with Burne-Jones, Webb, Rossetti and Madox Brown as partners, as well as those names in the title. At the LONDON 1862 EXHIBITION the firm filled two stalls with its products, including the St George cabinet (1861), designed by Webb and painted by Morris. Morris himself, the main financial prop of the firm, gradually took over complete control in the mid-1860s, but with his private income declining and the firm's accounts ill disciplined the future of the venture was doubtful until Warrington Taylor started as accountant in 1865. In 1875 Morris took over complete control of the firm himself. In 1865 he had given up the Red House and moved to London. The main early product of Morris & Co. was stained glass, in whose design Burne-Jones, Webb and Rossetti played the main roles. Morris himself designed some figure subjects, but was mainly active as a designer of lay-outs and backgrounds, especially around 1870. Morris & Co. also executed many decorative schemes, ecclesiastical and secular, including Queen's College Hall (1875) and Jesus College Chapel (1867-74) in Cambridge, the Green Dining Room (1866) in the VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, and two rooms in St James's Palace (1866-7). Morris's own designing work included a group of three wallpaper patterns issued from 1864 to 1866; one of them, Trellis, incorporated birds and insects by Philip Webb. They repeated simple naturalistic motifs, but were not successful until the 1870s. In 1871 Morris designed three more geometric patterns. From 1872 to 1876 he designed seventeen wallpaper patterns, including Jasmine, Vine and Apple, in which natural forms are arranged in rich and vigorous scrolled patterns. After 1876 Morris's wallpaper designs tended to a more formal treatment of flowers and foliage,

although a final group designed in the 1890s combines naturalism and formalism. Having designed an experimental chintz, Tulip and Willow, in 1873, Morris began in 1874 to work seriously on the design and technique of textiles, investigating the latter at Thomas Wardle's factory in Leek in Staffordshire from 1875. In 1875 his scrolling Honeysuckle chintz was produced and Wardle printed five other designs, including Tulip, up to 1877. From 1881 to 1885 Morris designed over twenty patterns for chintzes printed at Merton Abbey, where he set up print works in 1881, including Bird and Anemone, and Strawberry Thief. Later chintz designs include Daffodil (1891). Morris & Co. supplied embroidery kits including designs by Morris, who also designed embroidery for the Royal School of Needlework (founded 1872). In 1878 Morris started to make hand-tufted carpets in the stables of his house in Hammersmith. However, his finest carpets were woven at Merton Abbey from about 1881, including the great carpet of 1887 for Clouds, the house designed by Philip Webb for Percy Wyndham from 1877. Morris also designed several machine-made carpets for the Wilton, Axminster, Kidderminster and other factories. He also designed silk and woollen fabrics for Morris & Co., many influenced by the textile collection at South Kensington which he studied assiduously; they include the woollen tapestry Bird of 1878, which he used in the drawing-room at Kelmscott House, the Oxfordshire country house he had occupied since 1871, and the silk Oak designed in 1880 to 1881 for the Throne Room at St James's Palace. In 1878 Morris began to experiment with weaving tapestry; he completed his first piece, Cabbage and Vine, in 1879. For other tapestries woven by Morris & Co. at Merton from 1881 Morris designed only foliate backgrounds, figures being by Burne-Jones, except for the Wood-

pecker (1885). From 1870 to 1876 Morris was active as an illuminator of manuscripts. In around 1870 he planned editions of his poems *The Earthly Paradise* and *Love is Enough* with illustrations by Burne-Jones, but it was only in 1888 that Morris, influenced by a lecture in printing by his Hammersmith neighbour Emery Walker (1851–1933) at the ARTS & CRAFTS EXHIBITION, designed his first book, *The House of the Wolfings*, printed by the Chiswick Press. In 1889 Morris decided to set up his own press and in 1891 the Kelmscott Press began printing. It closed in 1898, having produced fifty-three books. Morris designed three typefaces, Golden (1889), Troy (1891) and Chaucer (1892), the former Roman, based on Jenson, the latter two Gothic. For the Kelmscott Chaucer (1896) Burne-Jones designed eighty-seven illustrations. Morris himself produced in all some 664 designs for initials, borders, title-pages etc. for the Kelmscott Press. Kelmscott books were mainly expensive de luxe products for the collector. One of the earliest was Ruskin's *The Nature of Gothic* (1892). Ruskin was a life-long influence on Morris, and Morris was always at his happiest with the Gothic style. Born a High Victorian, Morris was not an innovator in design; his foundation in 1877 of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings reflected conservation as well as an enlightened attitude towards conservation under Ruskin's influence. But Morris's designs, especially his flat patterns, display a marvellous fusion of richness and power. Morris's greatest influence was as a teacher and as a leader. His gifts as a poet, his inherited wealth and status, his power as an orator and propagandist, his generosity and his apparently inexhaustible energy, a happy combination of advantages and talents, all fitted him for this role. Loved and admired as Morris was, it is not surprising that his followers should have exaggerated his

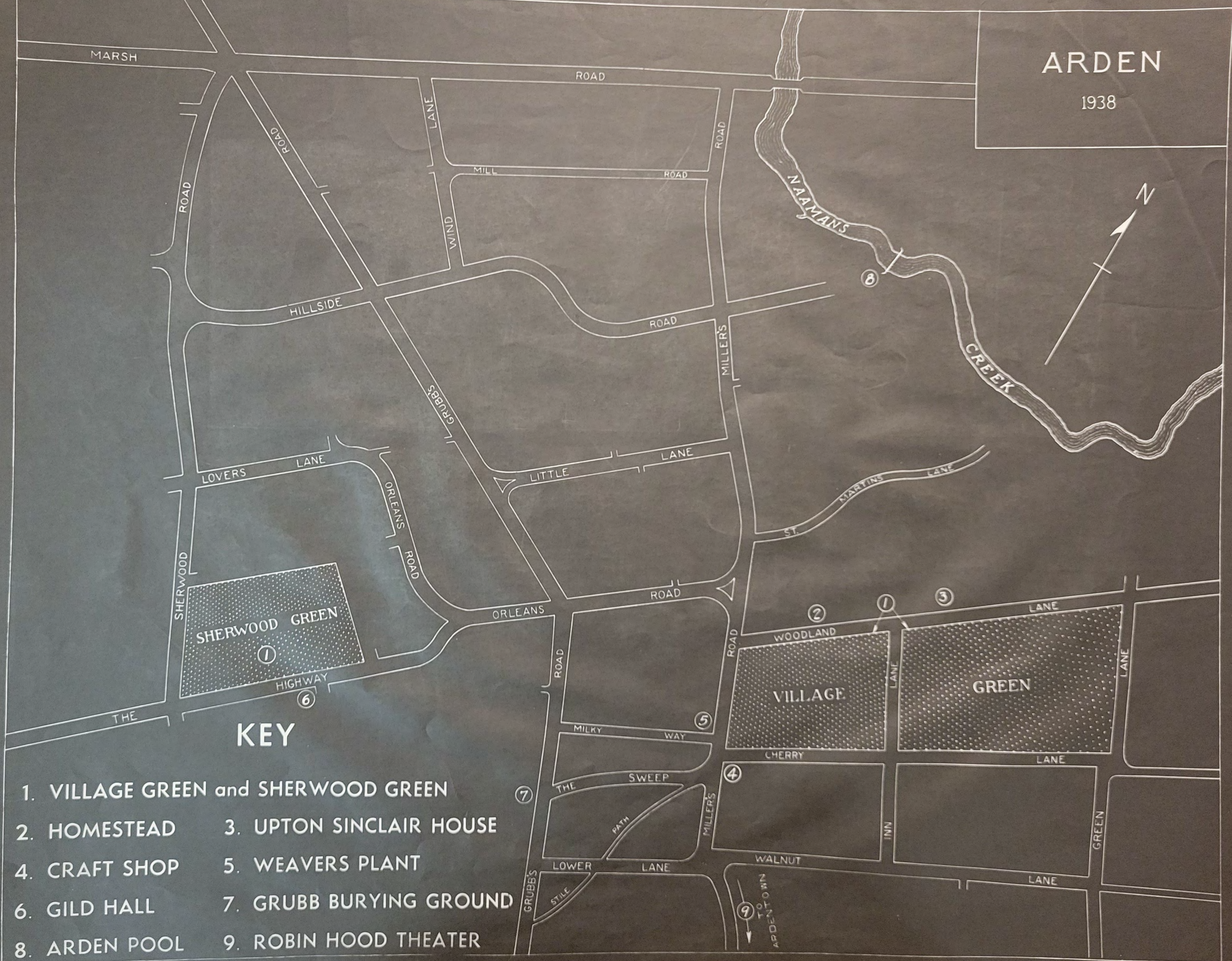
role as a pioneer reformer of design, especially given his involvement in the proposed reform of society through Socialism, which he took up seriously from 1883. There were tensions and inconsistencies in this socialist who spent many of his best years 'ministering to the swinish luxury of the rich', this artist-craftsman who designed for the machine, this Victorian businessman who was buried from a hay-cart in Kelmscott churchyard, with a gravestone designed by Philip Webb. But of Morris's greatness as a designer and his international influence from the 1880s there can be no question.

Mosbach, Hans Georg Mosbach designed a suite (six plates) of jewellery in the COSSE-DE-POIS manner, with frames and brooches suspended above figures, engraved by Balthasar MON-CORNET in 1626.

Moser, George Michael (1704–83) Born in Schaffhausen, the son of an engineer and metalworker, Moser was trained as a chaser in Geneva. He then moved to London in about 1721 and was at first employed by the cabinet-maker John Trotter, who later subscribed to CHIPPENDALE'S *Director* (1754), as a chaser of furniture mounts. Moser later became the leading gold chaser in London and was also an enamellist, responsible for many watches and snuff-boxes. Moser was manager and treasurer of the ST MARTIN'S LANE ACADEMY, founded in 1735. He was also a drawing-master to the young George III, and engraved his great seal on his accession in 1760. Moser was a founder member of the Society of Artists, and became founder Keeper of the Royal Academy in 1768. Moser illustrated a book of *Fables* (1746), and also provided designs for silver. One of these, a candlestick influenced by MEISSONIER, probably dating from about 1740, provided a

ARDEN

1938



KEY

- 1. VILLAGE GREEN and SHERWOOD GREEN
- 2. HOMESTEAD
- 3. UPTON SINCLAIR HOUSE
- 4. CRAFT SHOP
- 5. WEAVERS PLANT
- 6. GILD HALL
- 7. GRUBB BURYING GROUND
- 8. ARDEN POOL
- 9. ROBIN HOOD THEATER



WOODLAND
Sherwood Forest

WOODLAND



Marsh Road
Grubbs Corner
Grubbs Road
Pump Path
Mill Road

Bridge
Ardentown Property
Swimming Pool

Hillside Road
Hillside Road

Arden Forest

Water Tower
Orleans Road
Lovers' Lane

Miller's Road

Little Lane

Sherwood Road
Sunset Road

Grocery Path

The Homestead

Woodland Theatre

Sherwood Green
The Highway

Orleans Road

Woodland Lane

Moonlight Theatre
Pond Road
Forest Path
Gild Hall - Cemetery
Clubhouse Path
Springhouse

Grubbs Road

Village Green
Fels Oak
Cherry Lane

Milky Way

The Sweep

Miller's Road

Inn Lane

Green Lane

Meadow Green

Stile Path

Walnut Lane

Grubbs Road
Meadow Lane

Lower Lane

Appletree Lane

Miller's Road

Grubbs Road

to Phila. Pike

to Ardentown

Road Map of
Arden Delaware