

**1924 BUTTONWOOD COLORED SCHOOL 1955**



**OPEN HOUSE  
DECEMBER 8, 2007**

# BUTTONWOOD SCHOOL



2002

**Buttonwood Colored School  
111 Buttonwood Avenue  
New Castle, DE. 19720**

**Greetings:**

**On behalf of the Board of Directors and the members of Buttonwood Colored School Restoration committee and its alumni, I would like to welcome you to our Open House. Without your support this event would not be taking place.**

**This event will provide the Buttonwood School alumni along with our guest and supporters the opportunity to celebrate the opening of an historic landmark. This historical building will be both a museum, and community facility. So let us all celebrate knowing that each of you has played an important role in this successful endeavor. I would like to send special greetings to Mrs. Dollie Speights one of our grade school teachers.**

**I would like to thank the committee for an outstanding job. Also I would like to thank those businesses, individuals and officials who placed ads in this booklet. A special thanks goes out to Charolette Gilbert, Norman Spector, Hagley Museum, Russ Mc Cabe, New Castle, County, Native Americans, Senator Margaret Rose Henry, friends and supporters like you.**

**This associations hope that you enjoy this opening while learning something about The African American and Education. It is also our hope that each of you will continue to support and attend all of the future affairs.**

**Please know that you are welcome to make comments, add to our museum, donate pictures and monitorial gifts. Once again on the behalf of all of us welcome and enjoy.**

**Sincerely,**



**Teel Petty**

**President**

Buttonwood Colored School

11 Buttonwood Avenue

New Castle, DE 19720

The Buttonwood's Mission is to provide a much needed center that will go towards important programs and services to improve the quality of life for residents in the Buttonwood community and surrounding areas.

## *Program*

<i>Introduction of Native American Blessing Dance</i>	<i>Eugene Petty</i>
<i>God Bless America</i>	
<i>Ribbon Cutting</i>	
<i>Welcome and Introduction</i>	<i>Teel Petty</i>
<i>Mistress of Ceremony</i>	<i>Professor Jeanne Nutter</i>
<i>Invocation</i>	<i>Rev. Aaron Moore</i> <i>Mana Christian Fellowship Church</i>
<i>Our Delaware</i>	<i>Led by Marselina Petty</i>
<i>Recognition of Dignitaries</i>	<i>Anne Farley</i> <i>Community Services</i> <i>General Manager</i>
<i>The Negro National Anthem</i>	<i>Ref. Aaron Moore</i>
<i>Remarks</i>	<i>Christopher Coons</i> <i>New Castle County Executive</i>
<i>Reading of Sylvester Woolford's Letter</i>	<i>Larry English, Jr.</i>
<i>DuPont Song</i>	<i>Henry Chesholm</i>
<i>Benediction</i>	<i>Rev. Albert C. Gaither, Jr.</i>
<i>Unveiling of Historic Marker</i>	<i>Russ McCabe</i> <i>Delaware State Archives</i>
<i>Reception</i>	

## Sylvester Woolford

Sylvester Woolford graduate from West Chester Normal School began to teach at the Buttonwood Colored School. Sylvester was a graduate of the Buttonwood Church School held in the Buttonwood Methodist Church.

At this school every weekend the desks had to be moved and chairs put up for Sunday Services Sylvester was one of the young men that helped with this task.

This school was cold in the winter because of these conditions at the age of 13 Sylvester decide to write to Mr. Pierre du Pont for a new school. It was in the year of 1934 that Sylvester begin to teach in a school he had wrote and dreamed about. Sylvester was responsible for 24 children in grades 1-4. Mr. Coulbourne, the principal, taught grades 5-8.

Sylvester was promoted to principal in the early 50's when Mr. Coulbourne retired. In 1956 Sylvester became principal at the Booker T. Washington School in New Castle, DE. Sylvester taught at several other schools in the area during his career and developed a specialty in teaching special education students.

Although Sylvester retired from teaching in 1974, Sylvester continued to service his community through many hours of volunteer work. Sylvester went on to do a greater work on. Although Sylvester is no longer with us in the flesh his spirit will be with us forever.

## James Coulbourne

Buttonwood School started out in the Buttonwood Methodist Church with eight grades. James was the principal teaching grades 1 – 8. Conditions were very poor in this church school desks had to be moved and chairs put up for Sunday services. The room would be damp and cold until a fire was started by James. Some time James would have to set up the classroom himself.

Since there was only one room each group met for a half day. Around 1934 another room was added with a kitchen and another teacher. James was a good cook and would prepare a hot lunch for the children to enjoy for this was one of the duties of the teacher in charge.

James had a hand bell to ring to get the children's attention during recess and at the beginning of school to start the day. During the school year the 3 R's were taught along with spelling bees, Marching to music, games special days (duPont Day) May Day field trips the list goes on and on.

James was a songwriter. He wrote the "duPont Song" in honor of Pierre S. and Alfred I. DuPont. This song was sung in colored schools throughout the state of Delaware. James retired in the early 1950's leaving a great legacy for all to enjoy generation after generation of student's

## OUR DELAWARE

### First Verse:

Oh the hills of dear New Castle, and the  
Smiling vales between. Where the corn  
Is all in tassel, and the meadowlands are  
Green; Where the cattle crop the clover, and  
Its breath is in the air, While the sun is shining  
over our beloved Delaware.

### CHORUS (follows each verse)

Oh our Delaware, Our beloved Delaware!  
For the sun is shining over our beloved Delaware.  
Oh our Delaware our beloved Delaware! Here's  
The loyal son that pledges Faith to good old Delaware

### Second Verse:

Where the wheat fields break and billow, in the peaceful  
Land of Kent. Where the toiler seeks his pillow, with the blessings  
Of content: Where the bloom that tints the peaches, Cheeks of merry maidens  
Share and the woodland chorus peaches a rejoicing Delaware.

### Back to Chorus

### Third Verse

Dear old Sussex vision linger, of the holly and the pine, of Henlopens  
Jeweled finger, flashing out across the brine; Of the gardens and the hedges and  
The welcome waiting there for a loyal son that pledges Faith to good old Delaware  
Back to Chorus

### Fourth Verse

From New Castle's rolling meadows, through the rich fields of Kent.  
To the Sussex Shores hear echoes of the pledges we now present  
Liberty and Independence we will guard with loyal care, and hold  
Fast to freedoms presence, In our Home state Delaware.

### Chorus

Oh our Delaware! Our beloved Delaware for the sun is shining over  
Our beloved Delaware. Oh our Delaware Our beloved Delaware  
Here's the loyal son that pledges Faith to good old Delaware.



# DUPONT SONG

Dedicated to the Schools and Roads of Delaware

Words and music by J. MATTHEW COULBOURNE

Arranged by F. A. CLARK

*March time.*

1. There are two men in Del - a - ware Of whom the state feels proud; One gave us schools, one  
2. Their names shall live while a - ges roll, They kept the gold - en rule: Do un - to oth - ers

gave us roads, Let's sound their names a - broad. They were in - spired by the voice of God, They  
as you would That they should do to you. They're great - er than a king or queen Who

saw the peo - ple's need, And with a heart so big and brave They did this great, great deed:  
sits up - on the throne, And rule the peo - ple by their birth, And not by might a - lone.

Chorus

Du - pont, Du - pont, Du - pont is the man, Du - pont, Du - pont the best men in the land, One

gave us schools, one gave us roads, You rid Del - a - ware of a great big load, Du - pont, Du - pont,

we are proud of thee, And your name shall ev - er with us be, No great - er deed has

ev - er been wrought, We know that you have played your part, Du - pont! Du - pont! Du - pont is the man.

## LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

Lift every voice and sing,  
Till earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the list'ning skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea;  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
Facing the rising sun  
Of our new day begun.  
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,  
Bitter the chast'ning rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat,  
Have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,  
We have come treading our path through the blood of the  
slaughtered.  
Out of the gloomy past,  
Till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who has by Thy might  
Led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray;  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,  
Lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand  
May we forever stand,  
True to our God,  
True to our Native Land!

James Weldon Johnson  
Music: John Rosamond Johnson

City of Wilmington  
Delaware

JAMES M. BAKER  
MAYOR

LOUIS L. REDDING - CITY/COUNTY BUILDING  
800 FRENCH STREET  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801-3537  
TEL: 302-576-2100  
FAX: 302-571-5102



November 8, 2007

Ms. Teel Petty  
Chairperson  
Buttonwood Civic Association  
44 Buttonwood Avenue  
New Castle, DE 19720

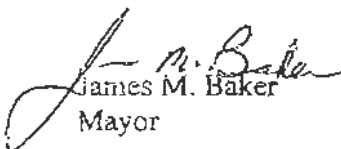
Dear Ms. Petty:

Thank you for your kind invitation to attend the opening of the newly renovated Buttonwood Colored School. Although I will be unable to attend due to several previously scheduled commitments, please know that I appreciate and understand the historical significance of the school.

I wish to thank you and all members of the Buttonwood Civic Association for your efforts to restore this community treasure. Due to your perseverance, our young people will learn to appreciate the struggles of their ancestors and will hopefully strive for excellence in their daily lives.

Again, thank you for the invitation. I wish you much success with the grand opening.

Very truly yours,

  
James M. Baker  
Mayor

Teachers that taught at the Buttonwood Colored  
School

James Coulbourne

Sylvester Woolford

Dollie Speights

Mrs. Easterling-Pinkney

Helen Lopman

Art and music teachers' names unknown

**THIS SOUVENIR BOOKLET IS DEDICATED TO  
ALL THE DECEASED ALUMNI TEACHERS, AND  
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS**

**NOW IS THE TIME**

**We are but minutes little things  
Each one furnished with sixty wings  
With which we fly on unseen tracks  
And not a minute ever comes back.**

**We are but minutes use us well  
For how we are used we must one day tell,  
Who uses minutes has hours to use. Who  
Loses minutes whole years must lose**

**Time is ours but for a season it cannot be  
Stored up, brought back, slowed down or  
Hurried up. May we be ever mindful of  
The important of the great gift of time  
May we use the gift wisely**

**Author unknown:**



In Loving Memory of Past President Robert Jackson

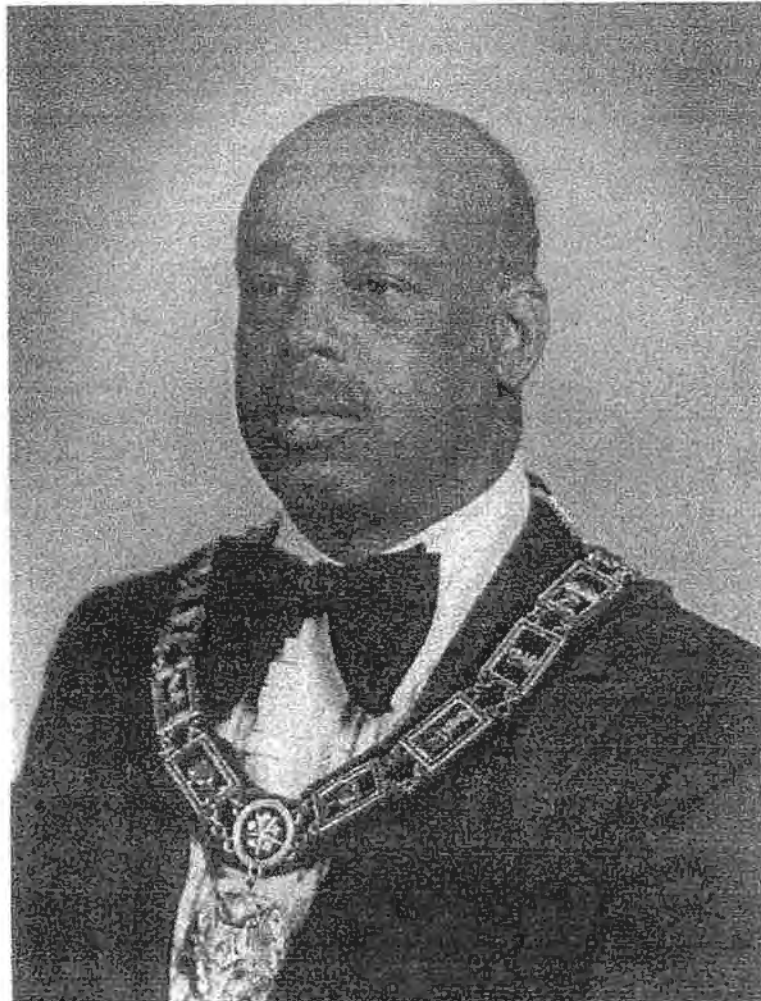
***In Loving Memory***  
***Of***  
***George Pennington, Jr.***

*Sunrise*

*February 14, 1930*

*Sunset*

*January 16, 2006*



**African American Schools Completed 1922 1925\***

New Castle County	Kent County	Sussex County
Christiana	Blanco	Blackwater
Claymont	Dover High	Bridgeville
Delaware City	John Wesley	Frankfort
Hockessin	Lockwood	Friendship
Marshallton	Milford	Hollyville
Matthews Corner	Raymond's Neck	Laurel
Odessa	Sandfield	Lewes
Port Penn	Smyrna	Millsboro
Kirkwood	Union	Milton
Middletown	Willow Grove	Nassau
Newark	Williamsville	Rabbit's Ferry
Newport	Berrytown	Seaford
Summit Bridge	Blackiston	Selbyville
Ebenezer	Brownsville	Warwick #1
Green Spring	Clayton	Greenwood
Iron Hill	Dover	Williamsville
Lee Chapel	Harrington	Blocksom
Mount Pleasant	Kenton	Concord
Taylor's Bridge	Parker's Chapel	Warwick #2
St. George's	Reeve's Crossing	Georgetown
<b>Buttonwood</b>	St. Joan's Neck	Portsville
Williamsville\Bethesda	Viola	Ross' Point
Townsend	Mt. Olive	Slaughter Neck
Booker T. Washington	White Oak	Trinity
Bethesda Colored	Woodside	Ellendale
Wilmington	Carlisle	Lowes X Roads
		Owen's Corner
		Rehoboth
		Drawbridge
		Middleford
		Roxana
		Delmar
		Lincoln

\*Delaware School Auxiliary Association Progress of Schools, 1922-25, P.S. dupont Papers.



*IN REMEMBRANCE*

*OF*

**REOLA, TESSIEBELL, TRUMAN,  
WILLIAM, CYRUS, LUTHER AND  
LULA HARRIS**

*FORMER STUDENTS OF BUTTONWOOD  
SCHOOL*

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
BUTTONWOOD RESTORATION  
COMMITTEE

*THE HARRIS-TWYMAN FAMILY*



The Family of  
Sylvester E. Woolford, Sr.



Congratulates the  
Buttonwood Civic Association  
and the Buttonwood Community for their  
successful efforts in restoring the historic

Buttonwood School  
“A Symbol of Pride”

May the legacy of this community and institution  
continue to inspire African-Americans of all ages.

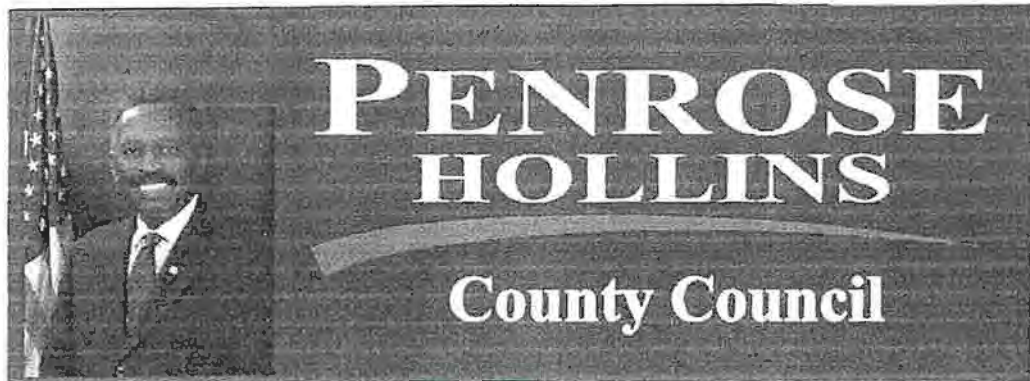
Grace Saunders Woolford  
Leila Woolford Holmes  
Sylvester Woolford, Jr.  
Dr. Aliya Holmes  
George, Darya, Skylar, Sydney & Solomon Holmes  
Edward & Brian Woolford



170 E. Main Street, Newark, DE 19711 ■ P.O. Box 698 Newark, DE 19715 ■ Phone (302) 738-3811 Fax (302) 738-3855

d.dalby architect is proud to be the architect for the  
renovations of  
the historic Buttonwood Colored School.

It is an honor and privilege to be a part of this  
“symbol of pride”.



Congratulations.  
and  
God Speed  
from

Buttonwood United Methodist Church  
34 Buttonwood Avenue  
New Castle, Delaware 19720

Reverend Albert C. Gaither, Jr., Pastor



~Mission Statement~

As the Body of Christ, we the members of Buttonwood United Methodist Church believe that our mission is to build a bridge that links this church and this community together.



# THE BAHÁ'Í FAITH

**Congratulations from the Bahá'ís  
in New Castle County**

**to the Buttonwood Civic Association**

**on the Grand Re-Opening of the**

**Buttonwood Colored School**

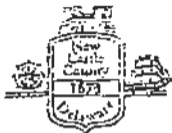
**an historical landmark and symbol of community pride**

More than 100 years ago,  
Bahá'u'lláh, the Prophet-Founder of the Bahá'í Faith penned  
these words—

“The well-being of mankind, its peace and security, are unattainable  
unless and until its unity is firmly established.” and “The earth is but  
one country, and mankind its citizens.”

The Bahá'í Faith  
New Castle County North  
Roger Blaine, Secretary  
210 McCallmont Road  
New Castle, DE 19720  
(302) 427-4017

[www.bahai.us](http://www.bahai.us)



**JOSEPH M. REDA**  
COUNCILMAN FIRST DISTRICT

Louis L. Redding City/County Building  
800 N. French Street, 8th Floor  
Wilmington, Delaware 19801  
Office: (302) 395-8341

**CHRISTINE H. ROBERTS**  
Legislative Aide  
Office: (302) 395-8361  
Fax: (302) 395-8385

# *CONGRATULATIONS*

**BUTTONWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**“NOTHING SUCCEEDS LIKE SUCCESS”**

**FROM**

***THE PINKETT FAMILY***

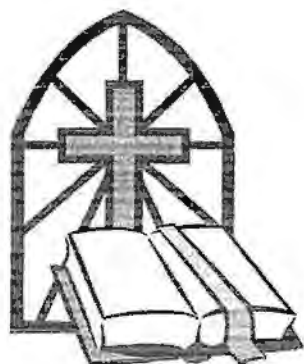
**\*JOSEPH H. AND LEONA M. PINKETT, SR.  
BARBARA PINKETT HICKS  
JOSEPH H. PINKETT, JR.  
BERNARD A. PINKETT  
WARREN M. PINKETT  
JEROME H. PINKETT  
\*TYRONE J. PINKETT  
GILBERT L. PINKETT, SR.**

**\*DECEASED**

**TO THE BUTTONWOOD CIVIC  
ASSOCIATION**

**CONGRATULATIONS!!**

**BE GLAD AND REJOICE  
FOR THE LORD HAS DONE GREAT  
THINGS! Joel 2:21**



*God give us lots of good reason to celebrate...and this is  
one of the best!*

**Bethany U.A.M.E. Church  
5<sup>th</sup> and William Street  
New Castle, Delaware  
Rev. Bernette Dickerson, Pastor**



# GREGGO & FERRARA GROUP

## GREGGO & FERRARA, INC.

Road Builders  
and  
Site Developers



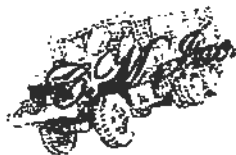
## PARKWAY GRAVEL, INC.



Real Estate  
and  
Property Management

## CONTRACTORS MATERIAL, LLC

Extractive Land Use Facilities  
Suppliers of Construction Materials  
Manufacturer of Asphalt-Hot Mix Material



## CONTRACTORS HAULING, LLC



Hauling

## BEAR MATERIALS, LLC

Manufacturer of Concrete Products

*Congratulations to the  
Buttonwood Civic Association  
on the successful completion of the  
Buttonwood Colored School Project!*



*A former neighbor from Collins Park,  
Bill Tansey  
New Castle County Council  
Third District*



# Congratulations!

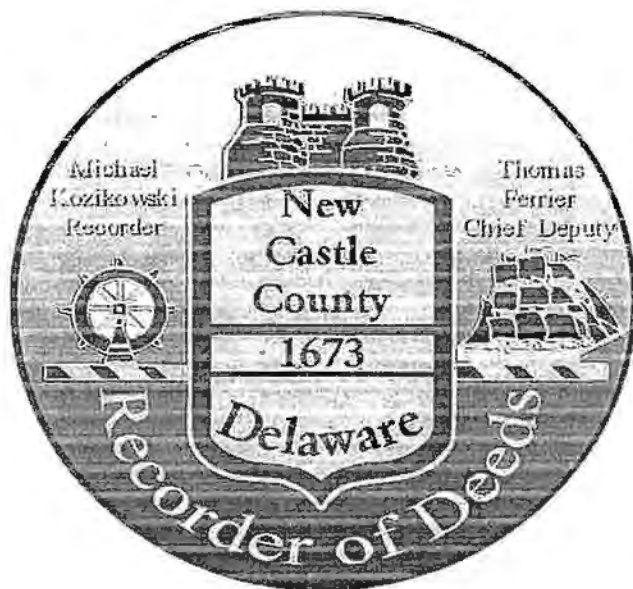
**The Hagley Museum and Library  
congratulates the Buttonwood Civic  
Association for the successful renovation of  
the Buttonwood School.**

The Buttonwood School is featured in the documentary  
film, *A Separate Place: The Schools P.S. du Pont Built*,  
produced by Hagley and available through our store.

Hagley Museum and Library  
P.O. Box 3630  
Wilmington DE 19807  
(302) 658-2400  
[www.hagley.org](http://www.hagley.org)

*Image: Howard High School, Class of 1929*

Congratulations  
Buttonwood School  
For a Fine Symbol of Pride!



Michael E. Kozikowski, Sr.  
New Castle County  
Recorder of Deeds



**LEVI BROWN**  
CHIEF

**FELTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
P.O. BOX 329  
FELTON, DE 19943

COMPLAINT # 60-\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: 302-284-8441  
FAX: 302-284-3449

E-MAIL: LBROWN@FELTONPD.STATE.DE.US



e-mail: gsmiley@co.new-castle.de.us  
Office: (302) 395-8347  
Fax: (302) 395-8385  
Home: (302) 658-3790

**GEORGE SMILEY**  
COUNCILMAN SEVENTH DISTRICT

Louis L. Redding City/County Building  
800 N. French Street, 8th Floor  
Wilmington, Delaware 19801

**TARA M. FINNIGAN**  
Legislative Aide (302) 395-8367  
Fax (302) 395-8385

Congratulations!  
John + Patty  
Jones

From the Desk of  
Mrs. W G Crichton Jr



Dear Jeel,  
Am sorry to miss it,  
but I'll be working at  
The Amstel House The  
afternoon of The 8<sup>th</sup> -  
Good luck!

*Taloy*

**BEST WISHES!**

**MICHAEL & DOT MOSKOVIS**

**The New Castle Historical Society**  
Congratulates  
**The Buttonwood Civic Association**  
on the opening of  
**The Buttonwood Colored School**



Visit the museums of the New Castle Historical Society  
The Amstel House - The Dutch House - The Old Library

(302) 322-2794

[www.newcastlehistory.org](http://www.newcastlehistory.org)

765 Hamburg Road  
New Castle, DE 19720  
(Intersection of Rt. 1 and Rt. 13)  
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Pavilion Picnics, & Group Outings

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ORGANIZED  
February 19, 1914

INCORPORATED  
September 16, 1942

Hocahontas Temple No. 60  
Dgts. J. B. H. O. E. of W.  
Wilmington, Delaware

CONGRATULATION ON THE HISTORIC OPENING

OF THE

BUTTONWOOD COLORED SCHOOL

DGT. RULER ALBERTA PONZO

OFFICERS & MEMBERS

*Best Wishes from Mrs. H. Sylvester Clark*

## Many thanks to our Donors

The Arguild Foundation  
Senator Dori Connors  
Honorable & Mrs. Richard Cooch  
Crestlea Foundation Inc  
Crystal Trust  
Delaware Community Foundation  
Delaware River & Bay Authority  
Mr. & Mrs. David Geiszler  
Tom Gordon  
Senator Margaret Rose Henry  
Lorin P. Hunt  
The Laffey – McHugh Foundation  
Longwood Foundation  
Marmot Foundation  
New Castle County  
Speer Trust  
Young Lumber Company  
Welfare Foundation

## Many thanks to our Patrons

Janet I. Churchill  
Rev. & Mrs. Albert C. Gaither Jr.  
Patricia A. Jenkins  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Pinkett Jr.  
John & Susan Sarro  
Dollie M. Speight  
Sheilah A. Sterling  
Matthew T. Twyman Jr.  
Marion A. Twyman  
Luther C. Twyman

### Buttonwood Colored School Alumni

Delmar Blake	Ruth Griffin	Mary Moore	Annie Steyens
Murrel Blake	Buckie Griffin	Edward Moore	Clara Stevens
Ada Black	Harold Griffin	Paul Moore	Sarah Taylor
Charles Bungy	Roger Holis	Ulysess McManus	Consuella Taylor
Linwood Bungy	Rosalie Hollis	Pierre McManus	Earl Taylor
Yvone Bungy	Hester Harden	Edward Petty	Saunders Taylor
Donald Bungy	Mary Harden	Leon Petty	Franklin Taylor
Benny Broomer	John Harden	Conwell Petty	Alonzo Taylor
Jesse Broomer	Earl Harden	Eugene Petty	Natalie Taylor
Beatrice Costen	James Harden	Hester Petty	Eliose Taylor
Elwood Costen	Richard Hines	Frank Petty	Violet Taylor
Izetta Cephas	James Holloday	Lacomus Petty	Marcellia Taylor
Wilson Comfort	Lillian Holloday	James Petty	Catherine Taylor
James Comfort	Pearl Holloday	Rosa Petty	Victoria Taylor
Edward Comfort	Hughmerser Holloday	Barbara Pinkett	Calvin Taylor
Ruth Comfort	Monfreda Holloday	Joseph Pinkett	Ralph Tiller
Buddy Curtis	Mary Holloday	Bernard Pinkett	Dolores Twyman
Shirley Curtis	James Holloday	Jerome Pinkett	Thomas Twyman
John Carter	Wayne Holloday	Warren Pinkett	Bernice Twyman
Rose Carter	Leon Honey	Gilbert Pinkett	Sylvia Twyman
Enoch Carter	Truman Harris	Lewis Pinkett	Maurice Twyman
William Carter	Tessebel Harris	Mary Pinkett	Ernestine Twyman
Loretta Carter	Luther Harris	Mildred Pinkett	Luther Twyman
Martha Carter	Cyrus Harris	Amā Pinkett	Arnold Twyman
John Charles	Babe Harris	Nathan Pritchett	Ernest Turner
Barbara Charles	William Harris	Adrain Pritchett	Anna Mae Thurston
Ruth Charles	Earthel Jackson	Alberta Pritchett	Edith White
Norman Charles	Clarkie Jackson	Rose Mae Pye	Helen White
Clarence Charles	Leroy Jackson	Ernest Purnell	Sandra Williams
Willamena Charles	Thomas Jackson	Zeida Purnell	Calvin Wiggins
Levi Church	Willie Floyd Jackson	Rebecca Ryan	Jean Wright
Ruth Church	Dulee Jackson	John Ryan	James Wright
Darby Grace	Elizabeth Jenkins	Bishop Rudd	Edward Wright
Thomas Delanie	Wesley Jenkins	James Rudd	Otenie Wright
William Delanie	Betty Jenkins	Violet Stansbury	Otis Wright
Susan Doles	Beatrice King	Roscoe Simmons	Phillip Wright
Lorraine Davis	Freddie Lewis	Peter Simmons	Elizabeth Wright
John Arthur Edwards	George Lewis	Marie Stevens	Albet Wright
Mary Ferrel	Ethel Lewis	Thomas Stevens	Doris Wright
Lowell Ferrel	Mary Lolley	Claude Stevens	Isabelle Wright
Randall Gordy	Lucille Moore	Lamotte Stevens	



September 19, 1934.

There was a meeting of the Board of Education in the school office at 8:00 P. M., with Messrs. Booth, Deakayne, Eliason, and Burr present and Speicher absent.

The minutes of September 5 were approved.

At the beginning of the meeting, a representative of a motion picture projection company was present and showed several reels of silent and talking film such as is used in many schools for classroom instruction. The members expressed an interest in the equipment but no action was taken due to the fact that complete budget figures for the school year are not yet available.

It was the consensus of opinion that, since the American Employers' Insurance Co. have taken no action in connection with the damage caused by the leaks in the roof of the William Penn School, a letter should again be written to Mr. Larkin of the Wilmington Claim Department asking him to please take care of this matter promptly.

A proposed plan for planting trees and shrubbery was presented. The matter was ordered placed on the agenda and held over until the next meeting.

The question of placing the first grade of the William Penn School on a half-day schedule was discussed but no action was taken. The matter was ordered held over until the next meeting.

A motion was passed that the Superintendent's recommendation that the Board of Education set up a new teaching position to cover seventh grade work on a somewhat retarded curriculum and that any pupils whose chronological age is thirteen years or over and who are now classified in the fifth and sixth grades be placed with this teacher for the academic portion of the day's work and that Miss Marian Kee be employed at a salary of \$1100. for this position, that her pay for September be figured on the actual number of days taught, that her appointment become effective on Monday, September 24, and that her additional time shall be used by the Superintendent for the assignment of certain extra work which is not well covered in the high school field; namely, library work, study hall work, and work on a school annual or handbook was accepted.

It was the consensus of opinion that the enrollment at the Buttonwood School should be watched and that, if it increases further, the Superintendent interview possible applicants for the position.

A motion was passed that the chief custodian, Mr. Frank Dolson, be placed on the same basis of compensation as the former custodian, Mr. John Cannon. It is as follows: \$1140. less 10% or a net payment of \$1026. on a basis of twelve monthly payments.

A motion was passed that the services of the present attendance officer, Mr. Ollie Thomas, be continued.

A motion was passed that \$200. be set as a maximum for the purchasing of football equipment for the season. The football schedule for the school year was accepted.

A motion was passed that the Superintendent receive his traveling expenses on a 6¢ per mile basis, traveling by automobile.

The question of purchasing coal was ordered placed on the agenda to receive consideration at the next meeting.

The gift of Mrs. Lightner of oatmeal for children who are underweight was accepted and the Superintendent was instructed to write a letter of thanks to Mrs. Lightner.

It was the consensus of opinion that the Superintendent should have authority to hire additional substitute teachers whenever it seems necessary regardless as to whether regular teachers are absent or not.

The Superintendent reported that the Home and School Association will hold its annual reception to teachers on Monday evening, September 24, 1934.

The school calendar prepared by the Superintendent for the present school year was accepted.

The Superintendent announced that he has been able to secure Mr. Cameron Beck, the Director of the Institute at the New York Stock Exchange, to address the pupils of the William Penn School as well as citizens of New Castle in general on or about November 21.

The following bills were ordered paid when due:

October 3, 1934.

There was a meeting of the Board of Education in the school office at 8:00 P. M., with Messrs. Booth, Deakyns, Eliason, Speicher, and Burr present.

The minutes of September 19 were approved.

The Superintendent stated that Mr. Larkin, Superintendent of the Wilmington Claim Department of the American Employers' Insurance Co., had called at the school and gone over the damage caused by the leaks in the roof.

The proposed plan for planting trees and shrubbery at the William Penn School presented by Mr. E. B. Keating of Kennett Square was accepted with the understanding that several small changes will be made, one of which will be the planting of several trees including a Pin Oak and a Japanese Cherry in place of several of the small evergreens.

In connection with the building of a stairway to the space under the manual training department, the bid of Mr. Nathaniel Watson covering all labor and material, cutting of opening in north end of corridor leading to the storage space, placing of door in this opening, building steps to the space, and moving all pipes in the basement in order to secure head room for the sum of \$98.50 was accepted.

The question of purchasing visual education materials was discussed and the matter was left in the hands of the Superintendent to secure prices on this equipment.

The question of employing a school physician was discussed and it was the understanding of the Board that the Superintendent should have a talk with Dr. Booker before any definite steps are taken.

A motion was passed that the Superintendent be instructed to obtain prices on a carload of bituminous coal for the William Penn School and two ten-ton lots, for the colored schools, of egg coal and place an order for the same.

The Superintendent recommended that we place the Buttonwood School on a half-day session basis with five hours per session, that we employ an additional teacher to take charge of one of these sessions, and that Mr. Sylvester Woolford, a local candidate holding a State First Grade Certificate, be employed for this work. No action was taken on the recommendation.

RG-8185

C.S.D Board of Ed memo,

1955 - Aug 18<sup>th</sup> meeting

**INTEGRATION PLANS**

**NEW CASTLE COUNTY**

Newark - The Newark Special School District effected desegregation in grades 7-12 in 1954. The lack of housing facilities for the rapidly growing school enrollment requires that the New London Avenue School be continued as an attendance area for the coming school year.

Mt. Pleasant - Admit any pupil living within the District and being of school age.

New Castle - All children within the District will be admitted to the 9-10-11-12 grades of the William Penn High School. All first grade students will attend the Carrie Downie, Wilmington Manor or Manor Park Schools beginning September, 1955. In September the first and second grades and grades 9-10-11-12 will be integrated.

Alexis I. duPont - Integrated in 1954.

Claymont - Integrated high school in 1954 and kindergarten. Any elementary pupil in district may attend either school.

Arden - Integrated in 1954.

Hockessin #29 - Accepted Negro pupils in 1954 upon application.

Krebs School - "It appears that the court's decision in the Milford case places all authority and responsibility for integration in the hands of the State Board of Education. For that reason any integration in the Newport School District #21 can only be that authorized on the responsibility of the State Board of Education."

Oak Grove - All children of school age, regardless of race, color, or creed may attend the Oak Grove School provided they live within the Oak Grove District.

Commodore MacDonough - Presently using three temporary rooms to take care of present school population, A building program is planned that will care for all the children in the district.

Wilmington - Extension of plans already begun in 1954.

Rose Hill-Minorsdale - Board must await plans for school in the Millside area as well as for the completion of its current construction program before a definite step toward integration can be taken, however the Board's plan follows:

1. That its three present attendance areas remain as now established.
2. That junior high school attendance area await the availability of new facilities either at Calvyck or at the Millside School that shall be built.
3. And if the Millside area be incorporated into District #47 that a fourth attendance area be established for all communities having direct access to Rogers Road.

(over)

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Volume \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

# State of Delaware

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



## Educational Directory 1934-1935

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MILFORD SPECIAL DISTRICT (Continued)

Mrs. Louise C. Farrow, R. N.	Milford, Del.	Health in all Schools
Mrs. Helen A. Rodgers	Milford, Del.	Grade 6
Mrs. Cornelia C. Derrickson	Milford, Del.	Grade 6
Marguerite Edgar	Milford, Del.	Grade 5
Mrs. Ruth P. Blades	Milford, Del.	Grade 5
May Watson	Milford, Del.	Grade 5
Mrs. Rhea T. Tatman	Greenwood, R. F. D.	Grade 4
Mrs. Florence B. Travers	Milford, Del.	Grade 4
Cordelia E. Carter	Milford, Del.	Grade 4
Dorothy E. Derrickson	Milford, Del.	Grade 3
Mrs. Emma W. Cordray	Milford, Del.	Grade 3
Lila H. Hudson	Milford, Del.	Grade 3
J. Helen Smith	Milford, Del.	Grade 2
Mildred Breisch	Milford, Del.	Grade 2
Mrs. Geraldine Garrison		
Pettyjohn	Milford, Del.	Grade 2
Edith M. Johnson	Milford, Del.	Grade 1
Marian E. Heldmyer	Milford, Del.	Grade 1
Lulu M. Ross	Milford, Del.	Grade 1
Henson M. Evans	Milford, Del.	Grade 6 Special Division
Lydia A. Bancroft	Milford, Del.	Art
Lena S. Short	Milford, Del.	Elementary School Office Sec'y.

(COLORED SCHOOL)

J. Graham Scott	Milford, Del.	Principal & Grades 7 & 8
Mrs. Marian D. Polk	Milford, Del.	Grades 5 & 6
Edith C. Scott	Milford, Del.	Grades 3 & 4
Emma G. Woodson	Milford, Del.	Grades 2 & 3
Evelyn Rawlins	English 10	Grades 1 & 2 & Public School Music

NEW CASTLE SPECIAL DISTRICT

Board of Education

		Term Expires
Newlin T. Booth, President		1935
Horace L. Deaknye, Vice-President		1938
James T. Eliason, Jr.		1937
Jacob H. Speicher		1936
Samuel E. Burr, Secretary		

Teacher's Name	P. O. Address	Grades & Subjects Taught
Samuel Engle Burr	New Castle, Del.	Supt. & 12th Gr. Soc. Sci.
Theodore J. Kraemer	New Castle, Del.	Sci. & Man. Train.
Mrs. Pearl G. Lancaster	New Castle, Del.	Commercial Subjects
C. Louise Jackson	New Castle, Del.	English & Library
Margaret S. Crothers	New Castle, Del.	Home Economics
Charles E. Smith	New Castle, Del.	Mathematics
Roy S. Flook	New Castle, Del.	Science
Jean E. McSpurran	New Castle, Del.	French & Latin
John C. Roman	New Castle, Del.	History & Physical Educ.
J. Henry Speicher	New Castle, Del.	Comm. & Soc. Studies
Carrie Downie	New Castle, Del.	Health - Jr. High School
Anne M. Platt	New Castle, Del.	Math. - Junior High Sch.
Marion B. Kee	New Castle, Del.	Math., Sci., Eng.-Jr. H.
L. Barbara King	New Castle, Del.	English - Jr. High
Robert C. Wilson	New Castle, Del.	Soc. Stu. - Jr. High Sch.
Irene O. Wise	New Castle, Del.	Grades 4 to 6
Addie E. Duling	New Castle, Del.	Grades 4 to 6
Mrs. Ruth N. Ross	New Castle, Del.	Grades 4 to 6
Marian B. Sullivan	New Castle, Del.	Grade 3
B. Marjorie Lynam	New Castle, Del.	Grade 2
Lillie S. Eliason	New Castle, Del.	Grade 1
Mrs. Ruth Z. Duling	New Castle, Del.	Grades 1 to 8 Music
Elizabeth T. Jones	New Castle, Del.	Grades 1 to 6 Art & Writing
Mrs. Nell B. B. Mousley Edge	Moor, Del.	Grades 1 to 6 Health
Mrs. James T. Challenger	New Castle, Del.	School Accompanist
Florence V. Megginson	New Castle, Del.	Office Secretary

(COLORED TEACHERS)

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Albion T. Unthank	New Castle, Del.	Grades 5 to 8 inc.
Mrs. Bertha H. Battle	New Castle, Del.	Grades 1 to 4 inc.

BUTTONWOOD SCHOOL

James M. Coulbourne	New Castle, Del.
Sylvester E. Woolford	New Castle, Delaware

NEWARK SPECIAL DISTRICT

Board of Education

		Term Expires
Robert S. Gallaher, President		1936
Edward L. Richards, Vice-President		1935
George B. Pearson, Jr.		1937
W. Franklin Wilson		1938
Carleton E. Douglass, Secretary		
Teacher's Name	P. O. Address	Grades & Subjects Taught
Carleton E. Douglass	215 West Main St., Newark, Del.	Superintendent
William K. Gillespie	13 Center St., Newark, Del.	Science & Athletics
Rebecca J. Hess	131 Academy St., Newark, Del.	English
Anna E. Gallaher	150 West Main St., Newark, Del.	History & Social Science
Anna M. Stauter	31 Amstel Ave., Newark, Del.	Mathematics
Charles K. Hain	55 West Main St., Newark, Del.	French & History
Margaret Smithers	Chesapeake City, Md.	English
S. Rebecca Kirk	182 West Main St., Newark, Del.	Latin & Mathematics
Sarah L. Hinkle	182 West Main St., Newark, Del.	Latin & Mathematics
John L. Phillips	338 Academy St., Newark, Del.	Agriculture & Biology
Felisa Jenkins	31 Amstel Ave., Newark, Del.	Home Ec. & Biology
Mrs. Josephine R. Hancock	340 Academy St., Newark, Del.	Home Economics
A. Jeannette Thoroughgood	46 East Delaware Ave., Newark, Del.	Mathematics
Charles B. Boone	Haynes St., Newark, Del.	Social Science
Irene M. Wilkinson	704 West 22nd St., Wilmington, Del.	English
Ann W. Chalmers	81 W. Delaware Ave., Newark, Del.	English
H. Maurice Overley	126 E. Delaware Ave., Newark, Del.	Math. & Science
Dorothea Rothwell	127 Academy St., Newark, Del.	Commercial
Leon D. Buehler	146 West Main St., Newark, Del.	General Science
Oscar Suttles	95 Main St., Newark, Del.	Commercial
Greta E. McKinsey	1301 West 8th St., Wilmington, Del.	Social Science
Ethel V. Johnson	127 Academy St., Newark, Del.	Physical Education
William Tonge, Jr.	Newark, Del.	Music
Harold J. Bant	102 E. 29th St., Wilmington, Del.	Physical Education
Orpha P. Hangen	170 West Main St., Newark, Del.	Librarian
Jack H. Mohr	39 East Park Place, Newark, Del.	Industrial Arts
Hilda M. Werner	55 West Main St., Newark, Del.	Grade 6
E. Frances Medill	East Main St., Newark, Del.	Grade 6
Stanley Gibbs	39 East Park Place, Newark, Del.	Grade 6
Gertrude V. Trott	55 West Main St., Newark, Del.	Grade 5
Ruth E. Lindfors	192 Orchard Road, Newark, Del.	Grade 5
Verna Valence	127 Academy St., Newark, Del.	Grades 4 & 5
Madeline E. Johnston	Marshallton, Del.	Grade 4
May G. Strough	East Main St., Newark, Del.	Grade 4
Dorothy E. Cloud	Kelton, Pa.	Grade 3
Ruth O. Appgar	West Park Place, Newark, Del.	Grades 2 & 3
Elizabeth McLees	25 So. Chapel St., Newark, Del.	Grade 2
Sara E. Wyatt	324 East Main St., Newark, Del.	Grade 2
Genevieve Meixell	East Main St., Newark, Del.	Grade 3



State of Delaware



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Bulletin, No. 1-55

**NEWARK SPECIAL DISTRICT (Continued)**

**BROOKSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (Continued)**

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Irene M. Markert	Grade 4
Mrs. Sarah H. Rickerman	Grade 4
Harriet C. Hyre	Grade 4
Mrs. Edna Bailey	Grade 3
Mrs. Elizabeth Brooks	Grade 3
Mrs. Patricia Connors Ziller	Grade 3
Mrs. A. Louise Kreiser	Grade 3
Mrs. Elinor P. Ross	Grade 2
Claudia A. Beswick	Grade 2
Mrs. Mary L. Field	Grade 2
Mrs. Arlene B. Hughes	Grade 2
Mrs. Evelyn M. Snyder	Grade 2
Mrs. Ruth Jane Ungerer	Grade 1
Mrs. Doris D. Glacking	Grade 1
Mrs. Lois A. Hallett	Grade 1
Mrs. Hazel Sutcliffe	Grade 1
Johanna H. Otto	Grade 1
Mrs. Florence Schneider	Clerk

**CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Henry M. Brader	Elem. Supervisor
Edwin J. Hughes	Grade 6
Mrs. Hilda Marshall	Grade 6
Mrs. Estelle K. Miller	Grade 5
Mrs. Jessie Duncan	Grade 5
Henry G. Rickerman	Grade 5
Mrs. Agnes C. Strong	Grade 4
Margaret H. Morrison	Grade 4
Mrs. Grace Gibb	Grade 4
Mrs. Laura W. Nichols	Grade 4
Mrs. Alice Kelly	Grade 3
Mrs. Helen Douty	Grade 3
Mrs. Ocal H. Condra	Grade 3
Mary L. Keppier	Grade 3
Mrs. Iris Phillips	Grade 2
Jennie E. Smith	Grade 2
Mrs. Josephine B. Williams	Grade 2
Dorothy Maclary	Grade 1
Barbara A. Spencer	Grade 1
Sara F. Steele	Grade 1
Mrs. Doris Boone	Grade 1
Margaret Rowe	Clerk

**E. FRANCES MEDILL SCHOOL**

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Elwood C. Bittenbender	Principal
Earl R. Keller	Grade 6
Eugene F. Sharkey	Grade 6
Mrs. Arlene Smith	Grade 5
Mrs. Margaret L. Koelig	Grade 5
Mrs. Emilie W. Huebner	Grade 4
Hazel V. Johnston	Grade 4
Mrs. Wilma Gray	Grade 4
Priscilla Vanech	Grade 3
Mrs. Martha R. Cole	Grade 3
Mrs. LaRue Miller	Grade 3
M. Aileen Ritchie	Grade 3
Mrs. Margaret O. Sickman	Grade 2
Mrs. Geraldine Fields	Grade 2
Mrs. Ann T. Arnold	Grade 2
Barbara J. Specht	Grade 2
Mrs. Mary E. Mayer	Grade 1
Miriam Nottingham	Grade 1
Anne M. Beyerlein	Grade 1
Mrs. Betty M. Moulder	Grade 1
Ellen Gallaher	Secretary

**WEST PARK PLACE SCHOOL**

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
John Auletto	Principal
Mrs. Helen M. Parker	Grade 6
Clifford J. Brown	Grade 6
Ann Moffett	Grade 6
Mary E. B. Melvin	Grade 5
Mrs. Elizabeth Ludlow	Grade 5
Mrs. Mildred G. Barnhart	Grade 4
Joseph M. McVey	Grade 4
Dale N. Milligan	Grade 4
Irma R. Jaquette	Grade 3
Della W. Caswell	Grade 3
Mrs. S. Frances Stavelly	Grade 3
Mrs. Elsie W. Everett	Grade 2
Elizabeth Reece	Grade 2
Mrs. Mamie H. Palmer	Grade 2
Mrs. Mary Emma Robinson	Grade 1
Mrs. Elizabeth B. Mendenhall	Grade 1
Mrs. Alice M. Logan	Grade 1
Mrs. Mary Elien Magaw	Secretary

**NEWARK SPECIAL DISTRICT (Continued)**

**NEW LONDON AVENUE SCHOOL**

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Cornelius Morgan	Principal & Grades 5 & 6
Mrs. Cora B. Saunders	Grades 4 & 5
Mrs. Olive M. Ryland	Grades 2 & 3
Gloria Brown	Grades 1 & 2

**NEW CASTLE SPECIAL DISTRICT**

**New Castle, Delaware**

**Board of Education**

	Term Expires
J. Herbert Tobin, President	1957
George H. Kleaver	1959
William J. McKelvey, Jr.	1968
James M. Rosbrow	1966
Joseph R. Kleckner, Secretary and Superintendent	

**WILLIAM PENN HIGH SCHOOL**

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Charles E. Smith	H.S. Principal
James C. Moffett, Jr.	Asst. H.S. Principal
Louise Archbold	Home Economics
Mrs. Kay Armstrong	Librarian
Clyde Arnold	Industrial Arts
Harold S. Barr	Business Education
Robert V. Benson	Industrial Arts
Keith F. Bentham	English
Charles W. Bleakney	Art
Eugene S. Bucher	Science & Math.
Otis C. Chapman, Jr.	Boys' Phys. Ed.
Theodore H. Clark	Social Studies
Mrs. Estelle W. Cochran	Mathematics
William L. Cole	Science & Coach
Robert A. Coleman	Social Studies
Mrs. Eleanor C. Davidson	Home Economics
Mrs. Mary S. Dolson	Language Arts
John W. Dunlap	English
Francis W. Fenton	Science
Eugene S. Fogler	Business Education
Mary E. Hackney	Business Education
Dr. Jewell P. Haddock	Guidance
Grace M. Harrison	Girls' Phys. Ed.
Charles O. Horn	Business Education
Herbert H. Hurst	Industrial Arts
Dr. Jon R. Huston	Social Studies
William P. Keim	English
Arthur J. Matteson	Mathematics
John P. May	Business Education
George V. McIntyre	Social Studies
Elizabeth Miller	Social Studies
Donald F. Murtagh	Mathematics
Allene Nash	English
Francis R. McNamee	Business Education
Edward J. Newman	Industrial Arts
Mrs. Florence S. Newton	Foreign Languages
Robert W. Ney	Science
Wallace W. Pancoast	Instr. Music
Mrs. Ruby G. Prior	Language Arts
Charles H. Reid	Vocal Music
Maynard D. Reinbold	Mathematics
Mrs. Virginia D. Ryan	Business Education
Braden S. Shoupe	Geog. & Soc. Stu.
William T. Smith, Jr.	Science
John W. Snyder	Mathematics
Glenn E. Stover	Guidance
Mrs. Frances Strickberger	English
Fred A. Thompson	English
Louis J. Trinkaus	English
Edward W. White	Business Education
Robert W. Williams	English & Soc. Stu.
Kenneth E. Wood	Social Studies
Joseph H. Ehleman	Elem. Supv. Prin.
Mrs. Marie LeVigne	H.S. Nurse
Mrs. Elizabeth G. Ash	Secretary to Supt.
Mrs. Elmira N. Duncan	Senior Secretary-Bookkeeper
Mrs. Gladys Skeen	H.S. Secretary

**CARRIE DOWNIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Richard G. Studenmund	Elem. Prin.
Mrs. Lyle Kleckner	Grade 6
Harold V. Marshall	Grade 6
Donald R. Hopper	Grade 6
Thomas M. Metz	Grade 6

## NEW CASTLE SPECIAL DISTRICT (Continued)

### CARRIE DOWNIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (Continued)

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
John McMaster	Grade 5
Elizabeth T. Jones	Grade 5
Mrs. Jean R. Augustine	Grade 4
Barbara A. Miruk	Grade 4
Mrs. Ruth N. Ross	Grade 4
Mrs. Marian B. Sullivan	Grade 3
Mrs. Velma M. Atkinson	Grade 3
Ruth L. Pierson	Grade 3
Barbara Reynolds	Grade 2
Mrs. Ada P. Davis	Grade 2
Mrs. Grace S. Moore	Grade 2
Charlene Sweitzer	Grade 2
Mrs. Ruth Z. Duling	Grade 1
Mrs. Clara J. Ennis	Grade 1
Doris E. Simon	Grade 1
Mrs. Hazel F. Rausch	Grade 1
Mrs. Mary E. Nichols	Elem. Music
Royce Pearson	Art Supv.
Mrs. Lydia Hackenberger	Elem. Nurse
Mrs. Laura C. Matthews	Secretary

### WILMINGTON MANOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Livingston Gross	Elem. Prin.
William Balant	Grade 6
Louise Shepherd	Grade 6
Edward Snyder	Grade 6
Phillip Currier	Grade 6
I. Carolyn Hammond	Grade 6
Frederick G. May	Grade 5
Jane Bendiat	Grade 4
Mrs. Marjorie Montgomery	Grade 4
Valentine Sotis	Grade 4
Mary DePaul	Grade 3
Ellen Eisenhour	Grade 3
Kate Gladstone	Grade 3
Susanne Hall	Grade 3
Mrs. Nora Andreen	Grade 2
Mrs. Ruth L. Smith	Grade 2
B. Marjorie Lynam	Grade 2
Mrs. Margaret Thornton	Grade 2
Eileen Cowley	Grade 1
Mrs. Garnet Marshall	Grade 1
Mrs. Elisabeth Parsons	Grade 1
Sara Mae Penney	Grade 1
Benjamin S. Davis	Elem. Grades
Mrs. Verna Imber	Elem. Music
Mrs. Dorothy W. Peckham	Secretary

### MANOR PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Carl A. Wilson	Elem. Prin.
Andrew Cowell	Grade 6
Louis P. Recla	Grade 6
C. Donald Hummel	Grade 4
Mrs. Dorothy C. McNamee	Grade 4
Harold D. Henry	Grade 4
Doris W. Gustafson	Grade 3
Rose Marie Arcuri	Grade 3
Mrs. Bernice Y. Moor	Grade 3
Mrs. Mary E. Evans	Grade 2
Mrs. Patricia B. Coleman	Grade 2
Erna J. Kasey	Grade 2
Jean G. Tibbs	Grade 1
Mrs. Ellin B. Foote	Grade 1
Mrs. Christine Driscoll	Grade 1
Mrs. Elvira Snyder	Grade 1
Mrs. Elizabeth K. Rash	Secretary

### BOOKER T. WASHINGTON

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Mrs. Mildred Thomas	Grades 6-8
Mrs. Altamese Northern	Grades 3-5

### BUTTONWOOD SCHOOL

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Sylvester Woolford	Grades 6-8
Mrs. Dolly Spelgt	Grades 2-5

## REHOBOTH SPECIAL DISTRICT

Rehoboth, Delaware

Board of Education

	Term Expires
John A. McManus, President	1966
Jay D. Wingate, Vice-President	1958
J. Arthur Downing	1957
Mrs. Margaret S. Dick	1959
Dr. J. A. Vansant, Secretary and Superintendent	

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Lem Brinkley	English
George Butler	Science
Frank L. Coveleski	Phys. Ed. & Health
Irene Snyder	Mathematics
John Dubois	Languages
Ann R. Ewing	Libr. & Math.
Mary Freas	History
William J. Hayes	Music
Warren Hays	Rem. Read. & Gr. 7
Archie R. Jordan	Shop & Mech. Draw.
Walter Reifsenyder	Art
Frances Shoffner	Home Economics
Cecile Walker	Guid., Eng. & Soc. Stu.
Edward L. Williams	Commercial
Ethelyn Burns Vogel	Elem. Prin. & Grade 4
Edward L. Hurley	Grade 6
Harriett Jeglum	Grade 6
M. Catherine Douglas	Grade 5
Leslie Wolfe	Grade 5
Cornelia Cannon	Grade 4
Gertrude Simpler	Grade 3
Charlotte Bailey	Grade 2
Myrtle Emory	Grade 2
Elizabeth Noble	Grade 2
Barbara Boyce Evans	Grade 1
Martha McClelland	Grade 1
Floris Downing	Elem. Librarian (P.T.)
Helen L. Maynadier	School Nurse
Edna H. Vansant	Senior Secretary
Ann Lynch	Secretary

## SEAFORD SPECIAL DISTRICT

Seaford, Delaware

Board of Education

	Term Expires
Jacob H. Moore, President	1957
Cecil B. Tull	1959
Dr. I. Benson Allen	1958
Marvin L. Bradley	1966
Dr. Kenneth C. Madden, Secretary and Superintendent	

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
George V. Kirk	Admin. Asst.
Edward J. Moynihan	H.S. Prin.
M. Elizabeth Berry	Commercial
Mrs. Esther T. Bowling	Math. & Science
Mrs. Aurelia C. Dawson	Math. & Science
Donald W. Campbell	Science
Robert F. Dowd	Phys. Ed.
Mrs. Madeline A. Dunn	Art
Leon R. Ellis	Social Studies
Mrs. Helen B. Elzey	English
Mrs. Kilton P. Fallon	Science & Math.
Paul J. Fenstermaker	Ind. Arts
Mrs. Katie L. Handy	Science & Math.
Mrs. Helen C. Hewitt	Soc. Stu.
Mrs. Bernice S. Jones	English
Raymond E. Koelker	Soc. Stu.
James B. Limer	Guidance
Galen L. Miller	Soc. Stu.
Mrs. Virginia Miller	Home Economics
Mrs. Annabel Moore	English
Mrs. Evalyn F. Morris	Librarian
Ralph O'Day	Voc. Ag.
James Pauley	Math. & Sci.
Charlotte L. Phillips	Phys. Ed.
Mark G. Phillips	Ind. Arts
Mrs. Edna Radding	English & Soc. Stu.
Mrs. Betty R. Reynolds	English & Soc. Stu.
John W. Royal	Math. & English
Mrs. Mildred H. Snowberger	Home Economics
Joan I. Steele	Choral Music
Olive M. Vincent	Science & French

State of Delaware



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## NEWARK SPECIAL DISTRICT (Continued)

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Phyllis Hartman	Special Education
Mrs. Margaret Quillen	Secretary

### E. FRANCES MEDILL SCHOOL 1532 Capitol Trail, Newark, Delaware

Elwood C. Bittenbender	Principal
Eugene Sharkey	Grade 6
Floyd Weidman	Grade 6
Bayard Hendricks	Grade 6
Mrs. Jean Groscup	Grade 5
Mrs. Margaret Koslig	Grade 5
Mrs. Arlene Smith	Grade 5
Hazel V. Johnston	Grade 4
Mrs. Wilma Gray	Grade 4
Mrs. Emily McGlinchey	Grade 4
Mrs. Emilie Huebner	Grade 4
Mrs. Eleanor Minnich	Grade 3
Isabelle Smith	Grade 3
Jacqueline Hackett	Grade 3
Mrs. Janet Miller	Grade 3
Mrs. Mary L. Brinton	Grade 2
Mrs. Margaret Sickman	Grade 2
Mrs. Janet Bugher	Grade 2
Mrs. Anna Arnold	Grade 2
Mrs. Jean Pyle	Grade 1
Dimity Phifer	Grade 1
Mrs. Mary Mayer	Grade 1
Anne Beyerlein	Grade 1
Miriam Nottingham	Grade 1
Jacqueline Beck	Special Education
Mrs. Dorothy Davis	Secretary

### NEW LONDON AVENUE SCHOOL New London Ave., Newark, Delaware

Cornelius Morgan	Principal, Grades 6, 6
Mrs. Cora Saunders	Grades 4, 5
Mrs. Olive Ryland	Grades 2, 3
Mrs. Gloria Jones	Grades 1, 2

### WEST PARK PLACE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL West Park Place, Newark, Delaware

Dr. John Auletto	Principal
John Regan	Grade 6
Mrs. Helen Parker	Grade 6
Clifford Brown	Grade 5
Mary Melvin	Grade 5
Mrs. Elizabeth Ludlow	Grade 5
Nancy Lange	Grade 4
John S. W. Smith	Grade 4
Joseph McVey	Grade 4
Dale Milligan	Grade 4
Mrs. Della Cashell	Grade 3
Irma Jacquette	Grade 3
Mrs. Frances Stavely	Grade 3
Mrs. Faye Rittenhouse	Grade 2
Mrs. Elsie Everett	Grade 2
Mrs. Edith Hendricks	Grade 2
Mrs. Elizabeth Mendenhall	Grade 1
Mrs. Alice Logan	Grade 1
Nancy Layton	Grade 1
Patricia Salts	Secretary

### NEW CASTLE SPECIAL DISTRICT 9th and Delaware Streets, New Castle, Delaware Board of Education

Term Expires	
1957	J. Herbert Tobin, President.....14 W. 4th Street, New Castle
1958	William J. McKelvey, Jr.....Penn Acres, New Castle
1959	George H. Kleaver.....211 W. Grant Ave., New Castle
1960	Norman L. Rossiter.....Llangollen Estates, New Castle
	Joseph R. Kleckner, Secretary and Superintendent

### WILLIAM PENN JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL 9th and Delaware Streets, New Castle, Delaware

Joseph H. Eshleman	Administrative Assistant
Charles E. Smith	H.S. Principal
James C. Moffett, Jr.	Assistant H.S. Principal
Louise Archbold	Homemaking
Mrs. Catherine Armstrong	Librarian
Clyde Arnold	Industrial Arts
Harold S. Barr	Business Education
Robert M. Barto	English

## NEW CASTLE SPECIAL DISTRICT (Continued)

Teachers Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Robert V. Benson	Industrial Arts
Keith F. Bentham	English
Charles W. Bleakney	Art
Eugene S. Bucher	Science
Otis Chapman	Health & Physical Education
Theodore H. Clark	Social Studies
Mrs. Estelle W. Cochran	Mathematics
William L. Cole	Science & Athletics
Robert Coleman	Social Studies
Carolyn C. Cottrill	Social Studies
Mrs. Eleanor C. Davidson	Homemaking
Mrs. Mary S. Dolson	English
John Dunlap	English
John E. Edwards	Social Studies
Francis W. Fenton	Science
Eugene S. Fogler	Business Education
Herbert H. Fox	Business Education
Leon B. Gilbert	Mathematics
Mary E. Hackney	Business Education
Grace S. Harrison	Health & Physical Education
William L. Hopkins	Counselor
Charles O. Horn	Business Education
Dr. Jon Huston	Social Studies
Sheila M. Johnsgard	English
William Keim	English
Ann N. Kloster	Homemaking
Frances M. Larimore	English
Mrs. Marilyn H. Marion	English
Arthur J. Matteson	Mathematics
John P. May	Business Education
George V. McIntyre	Social Studies
Elizabeth J. Miller	Social Studies
Donald F. Murtagh	Mathematics
Edward J. Newman	Industrial Arts
Mrs. Florence S. Newton	Latin & French
Robert W. Ney	Science
Wallace W. Panceast	Instrumental Music
Charles E. Reid	Vocal Music
Maynard Reinbold	Mathematics
Mrs. Virginia D. Ryan	Business Education
Braden S. Shoupe	Social Studies
John W. Snyder	Mathematics
Mrs. Alberta Stover	Librarian
Glenn Stover	Counselor
Fred Thompson	English & Spanish
Louis Trinkhaus	English
Edward W. White	Business Ed. & Distributive Occ.
Robert W. Williams	English
Hershall Willis	Science
Kenneth Wood	Social Studies
George W. Zimmerman	Industrial Arts
Mrs. Marie A. LeVigne	Nurse
Mrs. Elmira N. Duncan	Senior Secretary
Mrs. Elizabeth C. Ash	Secretary
Mrs. Gladys S. Skeen	Secretary

### CARRIE DOWNIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Frenchtown Road, New Castle, Delaware

Homer N. Stewart	Principal
Donald H. Hopper	Grade 6
Harold V. Marshall	Grade 6
Louise Shepherd	Grade 6
Thomas Metzco	Grade 5
Elizabeth T. Jones	Grade 5
John G. McMaster	Grade 5
Mrs. Hazel Rausch	Grade 4
Ray E. Middleton	Grade 4
Mrs. Ruth N. Ross	Grade 4
Mary A. Watson	Grade 3
Mrs. Oleta Davis	Grade 3
Barbara Hoch	Grade 3
Mrs. Marian B. Sullivan	Grade 3
Barbara Reynolds	Grade 2
Barbara Miruk	Grade 2
Marjorie Montgomery	Grade 2
Mrs. Palestine Vanderpool	Grade 2
Mrs. Ruth Z. Duling	Grade 1
Mrs. Clara J. Ennis	Grade 1
Mrs. Marea Alexander	Grade 1
Mrs. Kathleen Barry	Grade 1
Mrs. Naomi S. Gorrel	Music
Mrs. Lydia Hackenberger	Nurse
Mrs. Dorothy W. Peckham	Secretary

### WILMINGTON MANOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL E. Roosevelt Avenue, New Castle, Delaware

Robert Davis	Principal
William Balant	Grade 6

## NEW CASTLE SPECIAL DISTRICT (Continued)

Teachers Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Mrs. Lyle Kleckner	Grade 6
Edward Snyder	Grade 6
Philip Currier	Grade 5
Carolyn Hammond	Grade 5
Frederick May	Grade 5
Mrs. Maxine McCaddin	Grade 4
Norma J. Bendistis	Grade 4
Valentine J. Sotis	Grade 4
Mrs. Emma H. Janowski	Grade 3
Mrs. Elizabeth Middleton	Grade 3
E. Kate Gladstone	Grade 3
Susanne Hall	Grade 3
Helen B. Seymour	Grade 2
Mrs. Ruth Smith	Grade 2
B. Marjorie Lynam	Grade 2
Mrs. Margaret Thornton	Grade 2
Eileen Cowley	Grade 1
Mrs. Garnett Marshall	Grade 1
Mrs. Elisabeth Parsons	Grade 1
Sara M. Penney	Grade 1
Mrs. Jean Hunter	Music
Benjamin S. Davis	Related & Motivation Activities
Mrs. Laura Matthews	Secretary

### MANOR PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Bassett Avenue, Manor Park, New Castle, Delaware

Carl A. Wilson	Principal
Andrew Cowell	Grade 8
Louis P. Recla	Grade 5
Donald Hummel	Grade 4
Mrs. Dorothy McNamee	Grade 4
David Henry	Grade 4
Doris Gustafson	Grade 3
Rose M. Arcuri	Grade 3
Mrs. Velma Atkinson	Grade 3
Mrs. Mary E. Evans	Grade 2
Mrs. Grace Moore	Grade 2
Mrs. Erma K. Wood	Grade 2
Mrs. Elvira Snyder	Grade 1
Mrs. Christine Driscoll	Grade 1
Mrs. Oliva M. Bohenic	Grade 1
Jean G. Tibbs	Grade 1
Mrs. Patricia Kelly	Grade 1
Lois K. Eckbreth	Elementary
Dr. Jewell Haddock	Counselor
Mrs. Mary E. Nichols	Music
Royce Pearson	Related & Motivation Activities
Mrs. Elizabeth K. Rash	Secretary

### BOOKER T WASHINGTON SCHOOL

4th and South Streets, New Castle, Delaware

Mrs. Mildred Thomas	Grades 6, 7, 8
Altamese Northern	Grades 4, 6

### BUTTONWOOD SCHOOL

Buttonwood Avenue, New Castle, Delaware

Sylvester Woolford	Grades 6, 7, 8
Mrs. Dollie Speight	Grades 4, 6

## REHOBOTH SPECIAL DISTRICT

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware

### Board of Education

Term Expires	Name	Address
1958	Jay D. Wingate, President	Rehoboth Beach
1957	J. Arthur Downing	Rehoboth Beach
1959	Margaret S. Dick	Rehoboth Beach
1960	John A. McManus	Rehoboth Beach
	Dr. J. A. Vansant, Secretary and Superintendent	

### REHOBOTH SCHOOL

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware

Lem Brinkley	English
Thomas J. Butterly	Social Studies
Frank L. Coveleski	Health & Physical Ed., Athletics
John H. DuBois	Foreign Languages & Athletics
Mrs. Ann Ewing	Mathematics & Librarian
William J. Hayes	Music
Warren S. Hays	Core, Reading Consult., Athletics
Archie R. Jordan	Industrial Arts & Athletics
Mary K. Kinder	Mathematics
Joseph M. LeCato	Science
Mrs. Opal C. Long	Homemaking

## REHOBOTH SPECIAL DISTRICT (Continued)

Teachers Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
W. E. Reiffnyder	Art
Cecil Walker	Counselor & Social Studies
Edward L. Williams	Business Education & Athletics
Mrs. Ethelyn Vogel	Elementary Principal & Grade 4
Edward J. Hurley	Grade 6 & Athletics
Mrs. Harriett Jeglum	Grade 6
Mrs. Leslie Wolfe	Grade 5
Joseph Moore	Grade 5
Cornelia Cannon	Grade 4
Mrs. Andree DuBois	Grade 4
Mrs. Gertrude Simpler	Grade 3
E. Joyce Murray	Grade 2
Mrs. Elizabeth S. Noble	Grade 2
Mrs. Charlotte Bailey	Grade 1
Mrs. Marian E. Boucher	Grade 1
Floris E. Downing	Librarian
Mrs. Helen L. Maynard	Nurse
Mrs. Edna H. VanSant	Senior Secretary
Mrs. Phyllis Hill	Secretary

## SEAFORD SPECIAL DISTRICT

Seaford, Delaware

### Board of Education

Term Expires	Name	Address
1957	Jacob H. Moore, President	Hearn's Pond, Seaford
1958	Dr. I. Benson Allen	Spring Street, Seaford
1959	Cecil B. Tull	Stein Highway, Seaford
1960	Marvin L. Bradley	531 Phillips Street, Seaford
	Dr. Kenneth C. Madden, Secretary and Superintendent	

### Central Administrative Office

Seaford, Delaware

John W. Royal	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Gertrude W. Jester	Senior Secretary
Janice Workman	Superintendent's Secretary

### SEAFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Seaford, Delaware

Edward J. Moynihan	H.S. Principal
M. Elizabeth Berry	Business Education
Bryan Bennett	Mathematics & Science
Robert Bergman	Industrial Arts
Donald W. Campbell	Mathematics & Science
Orval Carney	Social Studies & English
David Cline	Choral Music
Bernard Cunningham	Social Studies, English, Athletics
Mrs. Aurelia C. Dawson	Mathematics & Science
Robert F. Dowd	Health & Physical Ed., Athletics
Mrs. Madeline A. Dunn	Art
Leon R. Ellis	Social Studies
Mrs. Helen B. Elzey	English
Mrs. Kilton P. Fallon	Science & Mathematics
Paul J. Fenstermaker	Mechanical Drawing & Mathematics
Mrs. Katie L. Handy	Science & Mathematics
Mrs. Mary Fontaine	English & Latin
Raymond E. Koelker	Social Studies
Mrs. Irene Larimore	English
James B. Liner	Counselor
Robert Lockerman	Mathematics & Science
Charles Maclay	Mathematics
Galen L. Miller	Social Studies
Mrs. Virginia Miller	Home Economics
Mrs. Evalyn F. Morris	Librarian
Ralph O'Day	Vocational Agriculture
James J. Pauley	Mathematics & Science
Earl J. Peterson	Instrumental Music
Charlotte L. Phillips	Health & Physical Ed., Athletics
Mark G. Phillips	Industrial Arts
Mrs. Edna Radding	English & Social Studies
Mrs. Betty R. Reynolds	English & Social Studies
Betty Small	English
Mrs. Mildred H. Snowberger	Home Economics
Olive Vincent	French & Science
Irvin R. Wheatley	Social Studies
Mrs. Dorothy Wright	Business Education
Mrs. Charlotte Hallman	Nurse
Doris Hastings	Secretary

### CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Seaford, Delaware

Peter A. Mollahan	Elementary Principal
Theodore P. Smith	Grade 6
Helen Martin	Grade 6
Mrs. Marie Y. Hearn	Grade 5

State of Delaware



Department of  
Public Instruction

**EDUCATIONAL  
DIRECTORY  
1957-58**

Dover, Delaware  
Bulletin No. 1-57

## MOUNT PLEASANT SPECIAL DISTRICT (Continued)

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Mrs. Jerry A. Doran	Grades 3, 4
Mrs. Jane A. Cornwall	Grade 3
Mrs. Dorothy K. Madrechiesia	Grade 3
Mary A. Fuglisi	Grade 2
Mrs. Isabelle D. Drury	Grade 2
Mary H. Moore	Grade 1
Mrs. Vera F. Ferguson	Grade 1
Mrs. Ruth S. Shawn	Grade 1
Mrs. Kathryn L. Herr	Grade 1
Mrs. Eleanor F. Corbett	Secretary
Mrs. Stella F. Yang	School Lunch Manager
Rufus E. Grove	Chief Custodian

### EDGE MOOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Brandywine Boulevard & Edge Moor Road, Wilmington 2, Delaware	
Joseph Connelly	Principal
John F. DiMaio, Jr.	Grade 6
Mrs. Elizabeth P. Spindler	Grade 6
Mrs. Susan R. Hall	Grade 5
Paul F. Robinson	Grade 5
Mrs. Helen C. Townsley	Grade 5
Mrs. Gertrude H. Teoli	Grade 4
Mrs. Gladys P. Shalvey	Grade 4
Mrs. Blanche T. Bahr	Grade 3
Mrs. Fleeta G. Steward	Grade 3
Carolyn Cliff	Grade 2
Agnes Crouch	Grade 2
Mrs. Louise L. Markinson	Grade 2
Mrs. Emily B. Blackford	Grade 1
Mrs. LaVerne W. Tinker	Grade 1
William C. Adams	Special Education
Jacob Fox	Special Education
Mrs. Doris L. Robson	Secretary
Mrs. Emily Smith	School Lunch Manager
H. Russell Smith	Chief Custodian

### RIVER ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1314 River Road, Wilmington 3, Del.	
Lawrance M. Furbush, Jr.	Principal
Guy J. Albanese	Grade 6
Leo E. Ozoroski	Grade 6
Murray H. Thompson	Grade 6
Herbert C. Abell	Grade 5
Mrs. Margaret W. Erwin	Grade 5
Mrs. Janet V. Opdyke	Grade 5
J. Doremus Wynn	Grade 5
Dolores C. Battaglio	Grade 4
Shirley A. Conaway	Grade 4
Marie E. Galt	Grade 4
Mrs. Marilyn C. Postles	Grade 4
Mrs. Mary E. Alexander	Grade 3
Mrs. Diane N. Bell	Grade 3
Mrs. Margaret O. Pichette	Grade 3
Mrs. May H. VanAken	Grade 3
Mrs. Katherine Y. Berger	Grade 2
Mrs. Laura G. Greer	Grade 2
Mrs. Beatrice N. Donalson	Grade 2
Mrs. Sue O. Pritchett	Grade 2
Mrs. Myrtle J. Abell	Grade 1
Mrs. Margaret C. Conaway	Grade 1
Mrs. Marie W. Groom	Grade 1
Mrs. Alice P. McVaugh	Grade 1
Mrs. Carolyn K. Paul	Secretary
Mrs. Anna Hrzek	School Lunch Manager
Roy Riddleberger	Chief Custodian

### SILVERSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Silverside & Carr Roads, Wilmington 3, Delaware	
Jack G. Rockwell	Principal
Pete Hallberg	Grade 6
Frank A. Petras	Grade 6
Mrs. Ethel E. Richards	Grade 6
William C. Lowe	Grade 5
Mrs. Winifred H. Raiber	Grade 5
Mrs. Helen A. Rogers	Grade 5
Ethel J. Burkhardt	Grade 4
Mrs. Nellie F. McMinn	Grade 4
Mrs. Jane H. Snyder	Grade 4
Mrs. Edith J. Dalbey	Grade 3
Mrs. Evelyn K. Friday	Grade 3
Vivian L. Loveless	Grade 3
Mrs. Eva F. Ezrailson	Grade 2
Mrs. Mary Jane McGinnis	Grade 2
Mrs. Carla W. Topper	Grade 1
Mrs. Mildred D. Ackerman	Grade 1
Mrs. Margaret R. Robinson	Grade 1
Mrs. Mary Jo Tyndall	Grade 1
Elisabeth J. Yeatman	Grade 1
Mrs. Margaret G. Thomas	Secretary
Mrs. Mary Episcopo	School Lunch Manager
Albert H. Griffith	Chief Custodian

## NEW CASTLE SPECIAL DISTRICT 9th and Delaware Streets, New Castle, Del. Board of Education

Term Expires	Name	Address
1961	J. Herbert Tobin, President	14 W. 4th St., New Castle
1963	William J. McKelvey, Jr.	Penn Acres, New Castle
1959	George H. Kleaver	211 W. Grant Ave., New Castle
1960	Norman L. Rossiter	Liangollen Estates, New Castle
	Joseph R. Kleckner, Secretary and Superintendent	

### CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

9th and Delaware Streets, New Castle, Delaware	
Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Joseph H. Eshleman	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Elmira N. Duncan	Senior Secretary
Mrs. Elizabeth C. Ash	Secretary
Mrs. Laura Matthews	Secretary

### WILLIAM PENN JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL 9th and Delaware Streets, New Castle, Delaware

Charles E. Smith	High School Principal
James C. Moffett, Jr.	Assistant H.S. Principal
Louise S. Archbold	Homemaking
Mrs. Catherine Armstrong	Librarian
Clyde Arnold	Industrial Arts
Judith Bachman	Health, Physical Education
Harold S. Barr	Business Education
Robert M. Barto	English
John H. Benson	Music
Robert V. Benson	Industrial Arts
Keith F. Bentham	English
Charles W. Bleakney	Art
Eugene S. Bucher	Science
Otis Chapman	Health, Physical Education
Theodore H. Clark	Social Studies
Mrs. Estelle Cochran	Mathematics
William L. Cole	Science, Athletics
Robert Coleman	Social Studies
Carolyn C. Cottrill	Social Studies
Joseph J. Datko	Social Studies
Mrs. Eleanor C. Davidson	Homemaking
Mrs. Hary S. Dolson	English
John Dunlap	Social Studies
John E. Edwards	Science
Francis W. Fenton	Business Education
Eugene S. Fogler	Business Education
Herbert H. Fox	French and Spanish
Mrs. Ruth W. Gibson	Mathematics
Leon B. Gilbert	English, Social Studies
Jack D. Graybeal	Business Education
Mary E. Hackney	Homemaking
Andrey A. Hardenbergh	Health, Physical Education
Grace S. Harrison	Counselor
William L. Hopkins	Business Education
Charles O. Horn	Social Studies
Dr. Jon Huston	English
William Keim	Mathematics
Arthur J. Matteson	English
Mrs. Marilyn H. Marion	Business Education
John P. May	English
Sharon V. McGiung	Social Studies
George V. McIntyre	Librarian
Frederick A. Meigs	Mathematics
Donald Murtagh	Industrial Arts
Edward J. Newman	Latin, French
Mrs. Florence S. Newton	Science
Robert W. Ney	Instrumental Music
Wallace W. Pancoast	English
Virginia Prichard	Social Studies
Joseph B. Pritchard	Vocal Music
Charles E. Reid	Mathematics
Maynard Reinbold	Science
Robert Rinehart	Business Education
Mrs. Virginia D. Ryan	Social Studies
Braden S. Shoupe	Mathematics
John W. Snyder	Counselor
Glenn Stover	Mathematics
Raymond B. Talbert	English & Spanish
Fred Thompson	English
Louis Trinkaus	Homemaking
Mrs. Mary M. Wenner	Work Experience Coordinator, Business Education
Edward W. White	English
Robert W. Williams	Science
Hershall Willis	Social Studies
Kenneth Wood	Industrial Arts
George W. Zimmerman	Nurse
Mrs. Marie A. LeVigne	Secretary
Mrs. Gladys Skeen	School Lunch Manager
Mrs. Ida Carney	Chief Custodian
Arthur A. Miller	



## NEW CASTLE SPECIAL DISTRICT (Continued)

### CARRIE DOWNIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Frenchtown Road, New Castle, Delaware

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Homer N. Stewart	Principal
Mrs. Mary Rinehart	Grade 6
Harold V. Marshall	Grade 6
Donald R. Hopper	Grade 6
Thomas Metz	Grade 5
John G. McMaster	Grade 5
Elizabeth T. Jones	Grade 5
Mrs. Ruth N. Ross	Grade 4
Ray E. Middleton	Grade 4
Patricia A. Priestley	Grade 4
Mrs. Hazel Rausch	Grade 4
Mrs. Marce Alexander	Grade 3
Mrs. Oleta Davis	Grade 3
Mary Ann Watson	Grade 3
Mrs. Marian B. Sullivan	Grade 3
Mrs. Lois K. Eckbreth	Grade 2
Barbara Miruk	Grade 2
Barbara Reynolds	Grade 2
Mrs. Palestine Vanderpool	Grade 2
Mrs. Ruth Z. Duling	Grade 1
Doris Simon	Grade 1
Barbara Hoch	Grade 1
Patricia Smith	Grade 1
Mrs. Naomi S. Gorrell	Music
Mrs. Miriam Gray	Nurse
Mrs. Dorothy W. Peckham	Secretary

### WILMINGTON MANOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL East Roosevelt Avenue, New Castle, Delaware

Robert L. Davis	Principal
William Balant	Grade 6
Mrs. Lyle Kleckner	Grade 6
Edward Snyder	Grade 6
Frederick May	Grade 6
Carolyn Feagans	Grade 5
Carolyn Hammond	Grade 5
Mae Wilson	Grade 4
Carol J. Bays	Grade 4
Jean L. Ingham	Grade 4
Mrs. Maxine M. Rettew	Grade 4
Mrs. Emma H. Janowski	Grade 3
E. Kate Gladstone	Grade 3
Mrs. Elizabeth Middleton	Grade 3
Rose Marie Arcuri	Grade 3
B. Marjorie Lynam	Grade 2
Mrs. Ruth Smith	Grade 2
Mrs. Margaret Thornton	Grade 2
Helen B. Seymour	Grade 2
Mrs. Garnet Marshall	Grade 1
Mrs. Clara J. Ennis	Grade 1
Mrs. Donna Boyer	Grade 1
Sara Mae Penney	Grade 1
Mrs. Jean Hunter	Music
Benjamin S. Davis	Related & Motivation Activities
Mrs. Miriam Jester	Nurse
Mrs. Elva Lyon	Secretary

### MANOR PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Bassett Avenue, Manor Park, New Castle, Delaware

Carl A. Wilson	Principal
Mrs. Elvira Snyder	Grade 6
Andrew Cowell	Grade 6
Louise Shepherd	Grade 6
Mary A. Radabaugh	Grade 5
Louis P. Recla	Grade 5
Arabelle Waller	Grade 5
Mrs. Patricia Kelly	Grade 4
Donald Hummel	Grade 4
Ellen Eisenhour	Grade 4
David Henry	Grade 4
Nancy E. Bailey	Grade 3
Betty J. Faison	Grade 3
Mrs. Velma Atkinson	Grade 3
Mrs. Audrey S. Edwards	Grade 3
Norma J. Bendistis	Grade 2
Mrs. Erma K. Wood	Grade 2
Mrs. Grace Moore	Grade 2
Mrs. Ellen C. May	Grade 2
Mrs. Donna Weiss	Grade 1
Mrs. Olivia Bohenic	Grade 1
Mrs. Christine Driscoll	Grade 1
Grace E. Duling	Grade 1
Mrs. Mary E. Nichols	Music
Royce Pearson	Related & Motivation Activities
Mrs. Elizabeth K. Rash	Secretary

## NEW CASTLE SPECIAL DISTRICT (Continued)

### BOOKER T. WASHINGTON SCHOOL 4th and South Streets, New Castle, Delaware

Teacher's Name	Grades & Subjects Taught
Sylvester Woolford	Grades 7, 8
Altamese Northern	Grades 5, 6

### NEWARK SPECIAL DISTRICT 83 East Main Street, Newark, Del.

#### Board of Education

Term Expires	Name	Address
1960	Joseph M. McVey, President	228 S. College Ave., Newark
1961	Martin Gauger, Vice-President	Paper Mill Road, Newark
1959	W. Franklin Wilson	58 W. Park Place, Newark
1968	J. Pearce Cann	Winslow & Orchard Rd., Newark
	Wilmer E. Shue, Secretary and Superintendent	

### CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE 83 East Main Street, Newark, Delaware

F. Robert Mercer	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Rebecca Runnels	School Lunch Supervisor
Jane Kopshinsky	Dental Hygienist
Dr. Howard Armstrong	Doctor
Dr. Samuel Wright	Doctor
Mrs. Eva Custer	Senior Secretary
Mrs. Dorothy L. Wickersham	Secretary
Mrs. Elizabeth W. Young	Secretary

### NEWARK SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL E. Delaware Avenue Newark, Delaware

Dr. Frederick B. Kutz	Principal
Charles W. Hoover	Asst. Principal, Mathematics
Mrs. Mary M. Armstrong	Plane Geometry
William H. Bohning	Spanish
Elizabeth L. Carrow	English
Robert F. Chambers	Physics
Roman A. Ciesinski	Physical Education
Mrs. Mildred Cleaves	Librarian
Jane Cooper	Vocal Music
William Crossan	History
Edward J. Davis	Biology
Doris E. Dean	Homemaking
Dr. Elizabeth Duff	Physical Education
U. Grant Ewell	Business Education
Anna E. Gallaher	Social Studies
Stanley Gibbs	Social Studies
John Guy	Driver Education (P.T.)
Francis J. Higgins	Industrial Arts
Robert T. Hoffman	Social Studies
Kinmoth W. Jefferson	English, Journalism
J. Raymond Justin	English
Eugene Kelechava	Art
William R. Kent, Jr.	Agriculture
S. Rebecca Kirk	Latin
Mrs. Helen S. Kubico	Chemistry
Mrs. Pauline H. Lacey	French, German
Andrew Marcantonio	Driver Education
Robert W. Maul	Instrumental Music
William T. McLain	Mathematics
John G. McNelis	Business Education
Vernon Meier	Business Education
Richard Musselman	Biology
Mrs. Mahle R. Overbey	Business Education
Mrs. Mildred B. Shields	English, Dramatics
Eugene Smith	Business Education
Ann M. Stauter	Mathematics
Joseph Talarowski	English
A. Jeannette Thoroughgood	Counselor
Mrs. Doris B. Donaldson	Nurse
Mrs. Ann R. W. Chalmers	Secretary

### NEWARK JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL Academy Street, Newark, Del.

Gilmore B. Ott	Principal
H. Lewis Miller	Asst. Principal
Edmund A. Anderson	Social Studies
M. Jacqueline Baker	English
Mrs. Ann K. Bartle	Homemaking
C. Stewart Bennett	Mathematics
Mrs. Catharine Y. Bonney	Science
Susan Brown	Health, Physical Education
Albert L. Brayman	Social Studies
Ann Chalmers	English
Mrs. Wilma Chambers	Mathematics

20021004-0095615

Pages: 2 F: \$29.00  
10/04/02 10:20:45 AM  
T20020079649  
Michael Battaglia  
New Castle Recorder DEE

Tax Parcel No. 21-005.00-048  
Prepared by : Cooch and Taylor  
PO Box 1680  
Wilmington, DE 19899-1680

C & T DE 08/19

Return to: Jacob Balick, Esquire  
1211 King Street  
P.O. Box 2091  
Wilmington, DE 19899-2091

**D E E D**

**THIS DEED**, made this 1st day of October in the year of our LORD two thousand two

**BETWEEN Trustees of the New Castle Common**, a corporation of the State of Delaware, party of the first part.

**A N D**

**Buttonwood Civic Association**, a corporation of the State of Delaware, party of the second part.

WITNESSETH, that the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar lawful money of the United States of America and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hereby grants and conveys unto the said party of the second part, its successors and assigns

**ALL that certain tract, piece or parcel of land together with the improvements thereon situate on Buttonwood Avenue, City of New Castle, and as shown as Parcel 2 on the Subdivision Plan of Buttonwood School for The Trustees of New Castle Commons, (properly known as Trustees of the New Castle Common) prepared by VanDemark & Lynch, Inc., Engineers, Planners and Surveyors, Wilmington, Delaware, dated April 13, 2002, recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds in and for New Castle County Delaware on September 12th, 2002 as instrument number 20020912-0087439 and described to wit:**

Beginning at a point on the northeasterly side of Buttonwood Avenue (widths varies) said point being a corner for Parcel 1 and being distant, South 47°-15'-00" East, 175.00 feet measured along the said northeasterly side of Buttonwood Avenue from a found monument on the southwesterly extension of the line dividing Collins Park Addition, Section E and said Parcel 1;

THENCE from the said point of Beginning and leaving the said northeasterly side of Buttonwood Avenue and along the southeasterly line for said Parcel 1, North 42°-45'-00" East, 381.02 feet to a point, in the line of lands now or formerly of Parkway Gravel, Inc. (also known as The Mews at Riveredge Park) shown on Microfilm No. 13897, recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds in and for New Castle County;

THENCE partly along the southwesterly lines of said lands now or formerly of Parkway Gravel, Inc., South 47°-15'-00" East, 175.00 feet to a point, a corner for lands now or formerly of 4048 Associates LLC (also known as The Mews at Riveredge Park), shown on Microfilm No. 13897 and, recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds in and for New Castle County;

THENCE along the northwesterly line of said lands now or formerly of 4048 Associates LLC, South 42°-45'-00" West, 381.02 feet to a point on the said northeasterly side of Buttonwood Avenue;

THENCE, thereby, North 47°-15'-00" West, 175.00 feet to the point and place of Beginning; Containing within said metes and bounds 1.531 acres of land be the same more or less...

NCC 39257 10/04/02 09:40:00  
09 00 51  
00 00 00


Being a part of the lands and premises conveyed to Trustees of the New Castle Common by deed of Epic Corporation dated the 15th day of December 1998 and recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds in and for New Castle County Delaware in deed record 2556 page 219.

GRANTEE'S ADDRESS  
111 Buttonwood Avenue  
New Castle, DE 19720

TAX PARCEL NUMBER  
21-005.00-048

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said, Trustees of the New Castle Common, a corporation of the State of Delaware, has caused its name by <sup>William J. Laga</sup> Francis J. DeAscanis <sup>Vice</sup> its President to be hereunto set, and the common and corporate seal of the said corporation to be hereunto affixed, duly attested by its Secretary, M. Anita Banks, the day and year first above written.

SEALED AND DELIVERED  
IN THE PRESENCE OF

BY   
Vice-President

  
Witness

ATTEST:   
Secretary

[ corporate seal ]

STATE OF DELAWARE )  
                                  :  
NEW CASTLE COUNTY )       SS

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on this 1st day of October, in the year of our LORD two thousand two personally came before me, the Subscriber, a Notarial Officer for the State of Delaware, <sup>William J. Laga</sup> Francis J. DeAscanis, <sup>Vice</sup> President of Trustees of the New Castle Common, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, party to this Indenture, known to me personally to be such, and acknowledged this Indenture to be his act and deed and the act and deed of said corporation, that the signature of the President thereto is in his own proper handwriting and the seal affixed is the common and corporate seal of said corporation, and that his act of sealing, executing, acknowledging and delivering said Indenture was duly authorized by a resolution of the Board of Directors of said corporation.

GIVEN under my Hand and Seal of office, the day and year aforesaid.

  
Notarial Officer

Andrew P. Taylor, Attorney-at-Law  
Notarial Officer-State of Delaware  
Permanent Commission

DEED

Received for Record

A.D., 20

Recorder.

Fee for Recording, &c., \$

State of Delaware,

County, } ss.

Remarbed

in the office for the Recording of Deeds, &c., at

in and for the said County of

Deed Record

Vol

Page

&c



*Buttonwood Col*

Buttonwood Colored School

New Castle County

One room

Construction started - 12/1/25

" completed 4/26/26

Cost \$13,741.82

*Sc 173*

Board of Ed  
Box 2 P 2





~~Added~~ Buttonwood Colored School

New Castle County

One room

~~Construction started 12/1/25~~

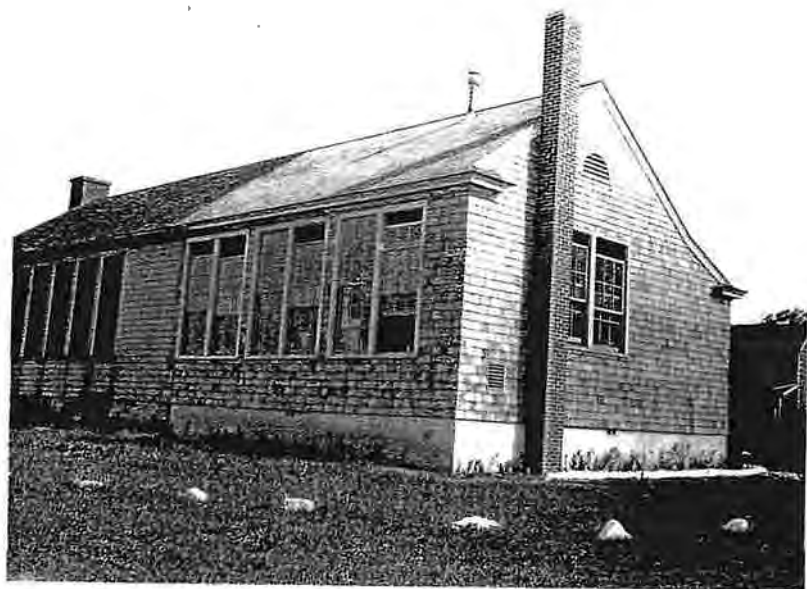
~~" completed 4/26/26~~

~~Cost \$13,741.82~~

Sec. 174

Board of Ed

Box 2 f 2



SC 7096PA

Addition Buttonwood (Colored)

New Castle Special Dist.

June 9, 1938

28

26

SC. 7096PA

Addition Buttonwood (Col)

New Castle Special Dist.

June 9, 1938

Board of Ed

Box 2 P 2

May 18, 1938

There was a meeting of the Board of Education in the school office at 8:00 P. M., with Messrs. Deakyme, Eliason, Speicher, Appleby, and Burr present.

The minutes of May 4 were approved.

The Superintendent presented a report concerning the completion of the new addition at the Buttonwood School and stated that Dr. Holloway has agreed to assist with the furnishing of the new room.

The Superintendent reported that work on the placing of the assessment lists for the new tax levy is progressing according to the school laws. He stated that the assessment lists have been received from Mr. Hushebeck, that advertisements are being inserted in the local newspaper and in the two Wilmington daily newspapers, and that the lists are being posted in their usual places. Wednesday evening, June 1, was set as the meeting night on which to hear any appeals concerning the list and as the evening when the tax rate would be set.

Quotations were received on the placing of rain gutters and rain spouts on the two local colored school buildings. No action was taken on this matter and the quotation was ordered held over until a later meeting.

Official notification was received from the State Board of Education stating that the Hares Corner School District has been consolidated with the New Castle Special School District. The Superintendent was instructed to write to the Secretary of the State Board in order to find out if there is any further action which should be taken by this Board concerning this consolidation and if there is any further correspondence which we should have with the State Board concerning this legal action.

A quotation of \$15.00 was received from Mr. Thomas Steele of Wilmington for the painting of the three flagpoles in the local school district. The Superintendent was instructed to ask this painter several questions before accepting this quotation; namely, does this quotation cover labor and paint or only labor? Does this painter carry any type of liability insurance? Does this quotation cover one or two coats of paint?

The question as to whether or not the school grounds might be used by outside groups received considerable discussion and it was the consensus of opinion that a definite policy should be adopted concerning this matter but no action was taken at the time of this meeting.

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Volume \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

May 1938

Report on completion given to board

June 1, 1938

There was a meeting of the Board of Education in the school office at 8:00 P. M., with Messrs. Deakyne, Eliason, Speicher, Appleby, and Burr present.

The minutes of May 18 were approved.

The Superintendent reported that, with the exception of the painting of the interior and exterior woodwork, the additional room built on to the Buttonwood School has been completed and will be ready for occupancy in September. An additional project is being approved by the WPA covering the painting work which will be done during the summer months. It was the consensus of opinion that Dr. Holloway should be contacted again concerning furniture for the new room.

The Superintendent reported that he has received a number of applications and has interviewed quite a number of applicants for the vacancy on the high school staff in physical education for boys and commercial subjects. He stated that he probably would be in a position to make a recommendation at the time of the next meeting. No appeals were received concerning the tax levy for 1938-39. A motion was passed that the tax rate for 1938-39 be set at 10¢ per \$100.00 and that this information together with a copy of the assessment list be forwarded to the County Tax Collector, Mr. Claude Uoshell.

The Superintendent reported that the commencement activities are proceeding very nicely and that other activities concerning the closing of school are being taken care of.

The question of group insurance for athletic teams was discussed but no action was taken by the Board. It was the consensus of opinion that the local Board should ask the State Supervisor of Physical Education to keep us informed as to what is being done by the State as a whole concerning this matter. The item was ordered dropped from the agenda.

A request was received from men living at Buttonwood, asking for permission to play baseball on the Buttonwood School playfield. The Superintendent's recommendation that this request be granted was approved.

The purchase of a new mowing machine received quite a bit of discussion. It was the feeling of the Board that a reliable person should be secured to repair the old mower and to quote a price on the value of the machine both as to trade-in allowance and as to straight sale value; that two propositions should be secured on the possible purchase of a new mower to be used on the athletic field; and that it should be understood that if equipment is rented, the money paid for this purpose should apply on the actual sales cost, if the equipment is purchased at a later date.



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Volume \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

June 1838

Report on project

January 5, 1938

There was a meeting of the Board of Education in the school office at 8:00 P. M., with Messrs. Deakyne, Eliason, Speicher, Appleby, and Burr present.

The minutes of December 15 were approved.

The Superintendent reported briefly on the activities of the schools since they have reopened following the Christmas holidays. He also reported that the group of boys who have been causing trouble are behaving much better.

The Superintendent stated that the Delaware Safety Council has loaned a Pontiac automobile to the William Penn School for six weeks for the purpose of teaching safety work. He also reported that Mr. Edward V. Platt has loaned the school a garage for the housing of the car. The Superintendent was instructed to write letters of thanks to the Safety Council and to Mr. Platt.

The Superintendent presented the following letter received from the State Board of Education: "The State Board of Education at its meeting today considered further the construction of the addition to the Buttonwood School. The lowest bidder for the material was J. T. & L. E. Eliason, who bid \$1,046.84. It will cost approximately \$200.00 to purchase and install the sanitary tanks for the toilets. It is the purpose of the State Board to furnish a Waterman-Waterbury Heater, and furniture from closed schools, without cost to your board. The State Board set up \$1,200.00 for this project. It can be seen, therefore, that the amount allocated is \$48.84 short of the amount needed for material. The State Board at its meeting today authorized its secretary to make application to have the building constructed by W.P.A. labor. This, of course, would be without cost to the state Board or your district. The State Board desires to know, therefore, whether or not your Board is willing to assume the cost over and above the \$1,200.00 already set up. If so, please advise this office at once and we will take the necessary steps to have the work begun as soon as the labor can be arranged for."

A motion was passed by the local Board of Education as follows: Due to the actual conditions of our budget, it is impossible for us to assume an unlimited obligation. We are glad to contribute what we are able and at this time we feel that we could definitely appropriate not more than \$100.00 for materials to include the excess charge for materials beyond the \$1,200.00 set up by the State Board, and paint for the finished room, and not more than \$50.00 for the cost of super-

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Volume \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

vision. The Superintendent was instructed to convey this message to Dr. Holloway, Secretary to the State Board of Education.

The Superintendent presented a letter from the Delaware Safety Council, asking the local Board of Education if they would like to make use of the Standard Student Accident Report System. It was the consensus of opinion that the local Board is willing to cooperate in this activity but we feel that the teachers should not be given too much extra clerical work.

The Superintendent reported that Mr. Coulbourne, teacher in the Buttonwood School, would like to have an oil stove for use in connection with his hot lunch project at the Buttonwood School. It was the consensus of opinion that if a stove of this sort does not interfere with the insurance on the building it has the approval of the Board.

The question was raised as to whether or not the local district is eligible for exemptions from the gasoline tax on gasoline used for school purposes. The Superintendent was instructed to take this matter up with the State Department of Public Instruction.

The following bills were ordered paid when due:

Middle States Association	Accrediting Fee	\$10.00
Scholastic	Books	2.00
Reynal & Hitchcock	"	1.08
Ginn and Co.	"	4.38
Thomas Nelson & Sons	"	6.29
Education Digest	"	2.00
School Board Journal	"	3.00
George M. Kern	Supplies	7.46
Rose Goudiss	"	2.50
Huber & Co.	"	17.65
Edward E. Babb & Co.	"	19.69
J. T. & L. E. Eliason, Inc.	"	40.39
Harry H. Haines	"	8.44
Central Scientific Co.	"	2.18
O. H. Graham	Transportation	38.00
William N. Cann, Inc.	Printing	14.75
Robelen Piano Co.	Tuning Pianos	8.00
Sanborn Studio	Photographs	2.50
Bd. of Water & Light Com.	Electric Service	68.85
J. T. & L. E. Eliason, Inc.	Coal	21.50
William Deakyne	"	21.60
Bullen Chemical Co.	Janitors' Supplies	7.40
Sterl. Soap & Chem. Co.	" "	9.65
Quillen Bros.	" "	.90
Porter Cable Machine Co.	Supplies	5.89
George & Lynch	Filling & Sodding Field	79.22
E. Challenger & Son	First Aid Supplies	3.44
Samuel Engle Burr	Travel. Expenses	15.45
Horace L. Deakyne	Insurance	110.93
Patrick McGrory	"	95.90
J. Rogers Holcomb	"	151.47
Pennsylvania Railroad	Drayage Service	1.50

\$784.01

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Volume \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Jan. 1938 - bids on Battenwood project

to, in and for New Castle County aforesaid, in Book Record "D", Vol. 33 Page 325.

we did give and convey unto Clifford M. Davis and wife in fee simple.

In Witness Whereof, the said parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year aforesaid.

Sealed and delivered  
in the presence of  
Francis J. Monaghan  
State of Delaware  
New Castle County

Clifford M. Davis (Seal)  
Kathryn M. Davis (Seal)

Francis J. Monaghan  
Notary Public  
Appointed Jan 17, 1925  
Term of Office Two Years  
State of Delaware

Be It Remembered, That on the Fifth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-six, personally before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the County and State of said Clifford M. Davis

and Kathryn M. Davis, his wife, Parties to this Indenture known to me personally to be such, and severally acknowledged this Indenture to be their deed. And the said Kathryn M. Davis, being at the same time privately examined by me, apart from her husband, acknowledged that she executed the said Indenture willingly without compulsion or threats, or fear of her husband's displeasure.

Given under my Hand and Seal of Office, the day and year aforesaid.

Francis J. Monaghan  
Notary Public.

Received for Record April 5, 1926.  
Albert Stetser.  
Recorder.

This Indenture, Made This First day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-six, Between Lukens Steel Company, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, party of the first part, And State Board Of Education of the State of Delaware, party of the second part, Witnesseth, That the said party of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of Fifteen Hundred Dollars (\$1500) current lawful money of the United States of America, unto it well and truly paid by the said party of the second part, at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, has granted, bargained, sold, aliened, conveyed, released, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents does grant, bargain, sell, alien, convey, release, convey and confirm unto the said party of the second part its successors and assigns. All that certain piece or parcel of land at Buttonwoods, New Castle Hundred, New Castle County and State of Delaware, bounded and described as follows: - Beginning at a stone on the northeasterly side of Buttonwood Avenue, New Castle Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware, at a point six hundred sixty-eight and one-tenth feet from the easterly boundary line of the right of way of the New Castle cut-off of the Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington Railroad Company; thence by a line along lands now or

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Volume \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

late of the Thomas Green estate north forty-four degrees  
fifty-four and one-half minutes east three hundred  
eighty-one and twenty-eight hundredths feet to a point;  
thence by a new line through lands of the Leukens Steel  
Company south forty-seven degrees and fifteen minutes  
east three hundred thirty-five and sixty-six hundredths  
feet to a point; thence by another new line through the  
lands of the Leukens Steel Company south forty-two  
degrees and forty-five minutes west three hundred and  
one and two hundredths feet to a point to the south-  
erly side of Buttonwood Avenue, aforesaid, thence on  
said side of Buttonwood Avenue north forty-seven  
degrees and fifteen minutes west three hundred and sixty  
feet to the place of Beginning, containing three acres.

Together with all and singular the improvements, ways,  
woods, waters, water-courses, rights, liberties, privileges,  
hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever therunto belonging  
or in anywise appertaining, and the reversions and remainders  
rents, issues and profits thereof, and all the estate, right,  
title, interest, property, claim and demand, whatsoever of the  
said part of the first part, in law, equity or otherwise  
howsoever of, in and to the same, and every part and  
parcel thereof. To Have And To Hold, the said lot, piece

or parcel of land hereditaments and premises hereby gra-  
nted, or mentioned, or intended so to be, with the appurten-  
ances unto the said party of the second part its successors  
and Assigns, to and for the only proper use and behoof  
of the said party of the second part, its successors and  
Assigns forever And the said party of the first part

Does by these presents, covenant, grant and agree to and  
with the said party of the second part its successors  
and Assigns, that it the said party of the first part all  
and singular the hereditaments and premises herein above

described and granted, or mentioned, or intended so to be, with  
the appurtenances, unto the said party of the second part its  
successors and Assigns, against it, the said party of the  
first part, and against all and every other person or persons  
whosoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same, or any  
part thereof, shall and will by these presents Warrant

and forever defend. In Witness Whereof the said Leukens  
Steel Company has caused its name to be subscribed by  
Robert W. Malcott its President and its corporate seal to  
be hereunto affixed pursuant to a resolution of its Board  
of Directors the day and year first above written.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of  
R. W. Malcott, President  
Leukens Steel Company  
By Robert W. Malcott, President

Witness my hand and seal this 13th day of  
February 1917



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Volume \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

RA 2555.011

V33 p525

New Castle, Del., 10/7/1925.

There was a meeting of the Board of Education in the supt's office at 8:00 P.M., with Messrs. Booker, Spacher, and Holliday and Supt. Manely present.

The minutes of Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> were approved as read.

On recommendation of Supt. Manely, moved by Mr. Spacher, seconded by Mr. Holliday, Miss Marion Lindsay of Richmond, Va., was elected a teacher in the elementary school at a salary of \$1 per month from Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> 1925.

On motion of Mr. Spacher, seconded by Mr. Holliday, the supt. was authorized to make to Capt. Wm. S. Weggeman a proposition to the effect that the Board is willing to pay for the use of the Armory for basketball \$50.00 for the season above the actual expenses of operating the bldg. using the data that Capt. Weggeman furnished to Supt. Manely.

On motion of Mr. Spacher, seconded by Mr. Holliday the action of the pres. and sec. in paying <sup>in full</sup> the bill of J. J. & L. E. Eason, Inc. under the date of July 10, 1925, for 100,000 lbs. of coal for \$400.00 was approved.

Pres. Booker reported that on Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> he, State Supt. Holloway, Mr. Taylor of the D.D.S., and Supt. Manely viewed and approved as a site for a colored school at Buttonwood a plot of ground on St. that belongs to the Johns Steel Co.

On motion of Mr. Spacher, seconded by Mr. Holliday, the report of the pres. was accepted.

On recommendation of Supt. Manely, moved by Mr. Holliday, seconded by Mr. Spacher a system of demerits for the control of conduct in the high school and grammar school depts. was adopted in accordance with the following outline: For every unexcused absence or lateness and for the milder infractions of the rules, such as excessive whispering, going out of bounds without permission, etc., a pupil shall be charged with one demerit and for more serious offenses with two or more demerits; when a pupil has accumulated a total of ten demerits he shall be automatically suspended for five days; the supt. shall

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Volume \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

RG 8185

-suggestion of property for  
school site

New Castle, Del., November 13, 1919.

There was a meeting of the Board of Education this evening in the Assembly Room of the High School, with Messrs. Holliday, Speicher, Tobin, and Supt. Snarely present.

The minutes of October 23 were approved as read.

On motion of Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Tobin, Jr., and carried, it was agreed that the Supt. be authorized to purchase eight fire extinguishers from Mr. Unger to comply with the regulations of the State Board of Education.

On motion of Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Tobin, Jr., and carried, it was agreed that the Supt. be authorized to purchase 16 steel vises for the manual training dept. at approximately \$6. each.

On motion of Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Tobin, Jr., and carried, it was agreed that the Supt. be authorized to purchase text books to the amount of \$100 in addition to the amount already set aside, before further notice to the Board.

On motion of Mr. Tobin, Jr., seconded by Mr. Speicher, and carried, it was agreed that \$50 be appropriated to the Home and School Association for the library.

On recommendation of Supt. Snarely, moved by Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Tobin, Jr., and carried, it was agreed that Mrs. Julia Wilbanks be engaged as janitress of the Buttonwood School at \$10 per month for the time that the school is in session.

On motion of Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Tobin, Jr., and carried, it was agreed that the Supt. be authorized to purchase 5 or 6 inexpensive flags for the buildings.

On motion of Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Tobin, Jr., and carried, it was agreed that Mr. Tobin be authorized to secure Mr. Wm. A. Kinney to survey the Rodney, Trust Co., and proposed athletic field sites.

On motion of Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Tobin, Jr., and carried, it was ordered that the following bills be paid, provided the materials have been received:

Martha E. Fragile	\$ 49.50
Julian B. Robinson	2.00
L. S. Mfg. Co.	189.00
Western Union Telegraph Co.	1.81

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Volume \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

EG 8185

(withbanks as jawitor)

2  
New Castle, Del., August 8, 1919.

A special meeting of the Board of Education was held this evening at nine o'clock with Messrs. Holliday, Speicher, and Tobin, Jr. in attendance. The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Holliday, who stated that he called the meeting to act on recommendation from Supt. Snarely and to see what could be done towards opening a school for colored children in the Buttonwood.

Messrs. Harry W. Hall, Johnson B. White, Hannibal Cooper, Daniel B. Allen, and Samuel B. Green, residents of the Buttonwood and members or Trustees of the colored church appeared before the Board and stated that they would like to have a school opened for the children who live at the Buttonwood, that the Church building could be used, that they were authorized to grant us permission to use it for a school, that the building is 20' by 20', and that they were considering putting on a 14 ft. addition.

On motion of Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Tobin, Jr. and carried, the Board agreed to consider the matter, and offered to open the school, furnish the teacher, desks, books, coal, supplies, and janitor service, and pay them a rental of \$50 for a full year, provided they erect the addition of 14 ft., buy a stove large enough to heat the building, and plaster the inside, and also agreed that the colored people be granted permission to use the building for church services if they used their own coal.

Supt. Snarely recommended the election of Mrs. Martha E. Frazier as one of the colored teachers at a salary of \$60 per month. On motion of Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Tobin, Jr. and carried, Mrs. Frazier was elected.

Supt. Snarely also recommended Chas. Smith and J. Matthew Culbourn as teachers in the colored schools. On motion of Mr. Tobin, Jr. seconded by Mr. Speicher, and carried they were elected for the coming year, at a salary to be determined later, subject to approval of State Board.

On recommendation of Supt. Snarely, moved by Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Tobin, Jr. and carried, Mr. George Minnich, of Glatington, Pa., was elected to

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Volume \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

RG 8185

Colonial School / dist. board minutes

8/8/1919

(opening the school)

New Castle, Del., October 23, 1919.

There was a meeting of the Board of Education in the Assembly Room of the High School this evening with Messrs. Holliday, Speicher, Lobin, and Supt. Snarely present. Minutes of Sept 22 were approved as read.

On recommendation of Supt. Snarely, moved by Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Lobin, Jr., and carried, it was ordered that Mr. James Coulbourne be elected teacher of the Buttonwood School, beginning with the second month of the present term, at a salary of \$70 per month.

On motion of Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Lobin, Jr., and carried, it was agreed that Supt. Snarely be instructed to secure information from the New Castle Trust Co. as to just how the School Savings Account is handled.

On recommendation of Supt. Snarely, moved by Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Lobin, Jr., and carried, it was decided that the Board of Education is in sympathy with the work in Americanization so long as it does not interfere with the regular school work and does not obligate the Board financially, since no provision for this item was made in the budget.

On motion of Mr. Lobin, Jr., seconded by Mr. Speicher, and carried, it was ordered that Supt. Snarely find out how many fire extinguishers will be required.

On motion of Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Lobin, Jr., and carried, it was agreed that the Sec. inform Mr. Jump that his letter relative to coal for the Williams St. School has been received and that the Board will assume the obligation.

On motion of Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Lobin, Jr., and carried, it was agreed that Mr. Lobin, Jr., be authorized to contract with Mr. Deaklyne to furnish coal for Building #3 and the Buttonwood School for the balance of the year.

On motion of Mr. Speicher, seconded by Mr. Lobin, Jr., and carried, it was agreed that the Secretary be authorized to draw up the orders for teachers' salaries for the second month.

On recommendation of Supt. Snarely, moved by



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Volume \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

RG 8185

Colonial school dist. minutes

10/23/1919

(confirm teacher & salary)

*Passing on the  
Story: African-  
Americans in New  
Castle*



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New Castle Historical Society



*Cover Photo:* The Prichett family ca. 1940. (L-R) Adrien, Alberta, Alma and Nathan Prichett riding bicycles and tricycles in the Buttonwood neighborhood.

*Courtesy of Alberta Prichett Ponzo*

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*Passing on the  
Story: African-  
Americans in New  
Castle*

Text by Bruce and Peter Dalleo, Heidi Harendza,  
& Catherine Hoffman Kaser

---

Based on an exhibit presented by the New Castle  
Historical Society

October—December 2001  
March—October 2002

Old Library Museum,  
40 E. Third Street,  
New Castle, Delaware



Published by the New Castle Historical Society © 2002

## FORWARD

The New Castle Historical Society is very pleased to publish this book in conjunction with its current exhibit, *Passing on the Story: African-Americans in New Castle*. The historical research that culminated in the exhibit, and now this book, is the New Castle Historical Society's first meaningful attempt to document the important role of African-Americans in New Castle's history.

The first African-Americans arrived in New Castle in the 1660s and have been an integral part of the town's history and fabric since that time. The exhibit and this book set forth documentary information about nineteenth and twentieth-century African-Americans in New Castle and demonstrate the establishment and vitality of African-American churches, neighborhoods, and community organizations. The exhibit and this book have brought together, for the first time, historical photographs and artifacts from the private collections of town residents.

The Society is indebted to the many individuals who have lent objects, photographs and family histories, and who have provided interviews about the lives of African-Americans in New Castle. The preparation of the exhibit and this book was guided by a hard-working steering committee made up of African-Americans in the New Castle community, University of Delaware staff and students, and members of the New Castle Historical Society.

The mission of the New Castle Historical Society is, broadly, “to interpret the history of New Castle and its environs.” The experience of a visitor to the exhibit in sitting on the same wooden bench thought to have been used by African-Americans passing through New Castle on the Underground Railroad, is most certainly an interpretation of New Castle’s history not soon to be forgotten. The Society hopes that this exhibit and this book help paint a better and more complete picture of life in New Castle.

Richard Rodney Cooch  
President, New Castle Historical Society

January, 2002



Miss Bungy

*Courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. Eugene C. Petty*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

FORWARD.....	<i>i</i>
INTRODUCTION.....	8
SLAVERY, FREEDOM, AND THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD.....	11
LIVING AND WORKING IN NEW CASTLE.....	25
HOMES AND NEIGHBORHOODS.....	33
NEW CASTLE'S AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHURCHES.....	39
EDUCATION.....	41
COMMUNITY LIFE.....	47
A STORY OF DESEGREGATION.....	52
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	53
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	55

**TIMELINES:** U.S. events appear above the line; New Castle events appear below the line.

1600-1700.....	10-11
1700-1800.....	24-25
1800-1900.....	32-33
1900-2002.....	38-39



## INTRODUCTION

In her Pulitzer-prize winning book *Beloved*, a fictional narrative chronicling the tragic events in the life of an enslaved woman, noted author Toni Morrison concludes with the haunting refrain, “This is not a story to pass on.” This phrase is laden with meaning for African-Americans, for whom the institution of slavery and the practice of racism has shaped three hundred years of life in America. For Morrison’s character and the millions whom she represents, oral history—passing on a story—was the only method of memory, since they were forbidden basic skills like reading and writing. An untold story represents the loss of history, of memory, and of culture.

While any examination of African-American history in the United States must include a discussion of slavery and its cultural impact on the population, both black and white, the topic is not limited to a discussion of the horrors of slavery and racism. It encompasses a rich heritage grounded in family, religion and community. The exhibit upon which this book is based focuses on the history of African-Americans in New Castle and examines a variety of themes, including slavery and freedom, employment and occupations, housing and neighborhoods, religion, education, and community life. Although the themes reflect nation-wide trends and attitudes, African-Americans in New Castle have fashioned a unique and distinct history for themselves.

Through pictures, objects, documents, and most importantly, reminiscence, we seek to “pass on” the story, to chronicle the lives and histories of African-Americans in the town of New Castle. The story is alternately disturbing and uplifting, sad and triumphant. We believe that this chronicling of the African-American experience in New Castle is a worthy cause for remembrance in the celebration of the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of New Castle’s founding in 1651.

Research for the exhibit focused on documenting and preserving the life stories of African-Americans who have shaped the town of New Castle, both past and present. While the research is by no means exhaustive, it does provide a beginning framework for understanding the role that African-Americans played, which we hope will be developed further by future researchers. We hope that by knitting these stories, documents, and artifacts together, it is possible to uncover a lively history, shaped by issues of black and white, which vividly represents a community defined by far more than color.

1607: First  
Jamestown  
settlement

1620: Pilgrims  
land at Plymouth  
rock

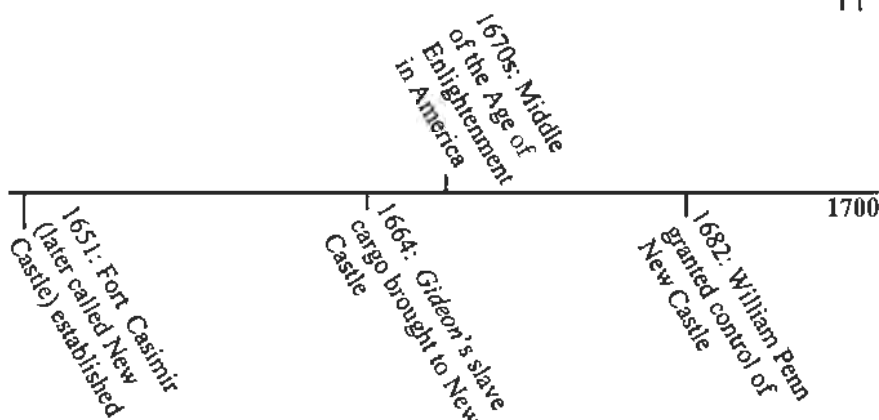
1600

Lenni Lenape Indians  
living along coast of  
the Delaware Bay for  
centuries



*Map of the State of Maryland laid down from an actual survey of all the principal waters, public roads, and divisions of the counties therein; describing the situation of the cities, towns, villages, houses of worship and other public buildings, furnaces, forges, mills, and other remarkable places; and of the Federal Territory; as also a sketch of the State of Delaware shewing the probable connexion of the Chesapeake and Delaware Bays. June 20th, 1794. Engraved by J. Thackara & J. Vallance.*

*Courtesy of Library of Congress Map Collection*



## SLAVERY, FREEDOM, AND THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

Swedish, Dutch, English, and African immigrants formed the earliest settler populations in Delaware. In contrast to European immigration to America, the institution of slavery forced emigration from Africa to the New World. Trading companies such as the Dutch West India Company profited both by the transportation and sale of slaves, as well as by trading the agricultural products that slave labor produced.

### Slavery in the Dutch Period

In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Dutch played a central role in the forced emigration of enslaved Africans to North and South America. They purchased slaves in West Africa and shipped them to Curacao in the Caribbean. When the Dutch colony at New Amstel, later renamed New Castle, needed a steady stream of labor, it turned to enslaved African labor. Events in 1662 indicate that slaves were imported into New Amstel at least from that date. There is an early Dutch reference to activities of the City of Amsterdam's Director and Commissary Alexander D'Hinoyossa, then the administrator of the colony. D'Hinoyossa, who desired to conduct trade with the farmers of the English colony of Maryland across the peninsula, traded two

items at that time: Dutch beer made in New Amstel and slaves imported through the New Amstel port. In exchange, the colony acquired tobacco for sale in Holland. In 1663 he urgently requested, "50 negroes who are particularly adaptable to the preparation of the valleys...[and] for the advancement of agriculture." The earliest record of slave cargo arriving in New Amstel is the cargo from the *Gideon* in 1664; 38 males and 34 females from Africa arrived in that year. At this early point historians have estimated that New Amstel and its immediate environs contained 125 slaves or about twenty percent of the population of the Dutch colony here.

## Slavery & Freedom in New Castle

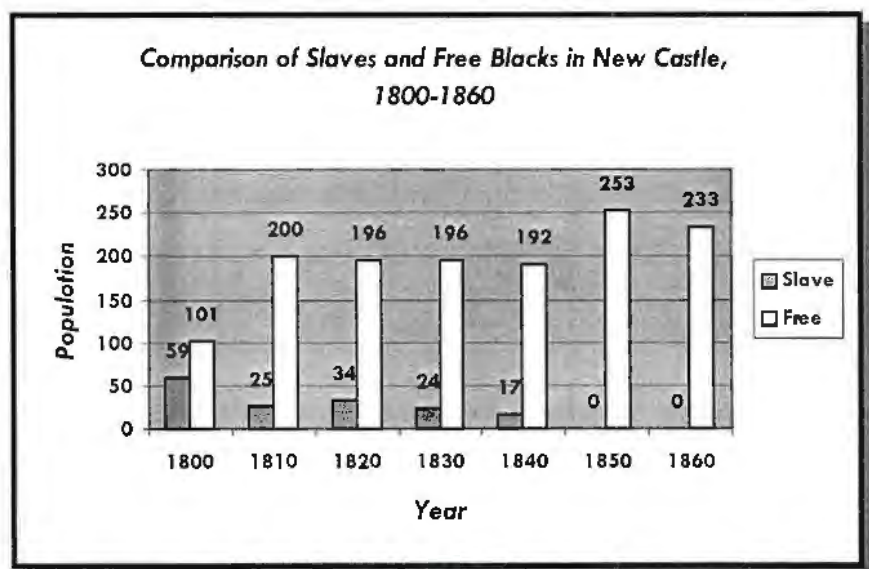
From its earliest history, Delaware developed a unique amalgam of cultural traditions due to geography and economics. For example, Delaware's early major agricultural cash crops, tobacco and wheat, fostered an economic system conducive to slave labor; however, Delaware was also heavily influenced by the religious principles of the Quakers, whose moral opposition to slavery grew throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> century. New Castle's geographic locale along the Delaware River and Bay placed it on the major shipping route into Pennsylvania and western New Jersey, and in proximity with Maryland and the Chesapeake Bay. The town therefore gained from exposure to economic and social influences from both its northern and southern neighbors.

In 1664 England took control of Delaware away from the Dutch. The recurring slave shortage continued under English rule, and fourteen years later New Castle's townsmen petitioned that "the liberty of trade may be granted us with neighbouring colony of Maryland for supply us with negroes, servants, and utensils, without which we cannot subsist."

Although during the 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries most slaves in Delaware did not come directly from Africa, by the middle of the

18th century, 50 percent of Delaware's black population was African-born, a figure that declined thereafter. Most slaves accompanied migrants from Maryland and Virginia to Delaware or were acquired through purchase in Philadelphia. Many of the slaves sold in the region came from the island plantations of the West Indies, and some of those were African. Another potential infusion of African influence in New Castle occurred in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries when French émigrés from Ste. Domingue brought a small number of slaves with them and temporarily settled here. The number of enslaved people grew during the early 18th century and by the mid-18th century represented one-third of the population of southern New Castle County.

By 1860, only three percent of the African-Americans in New Castle County were slaves, and none lived in the town of New Castle. The expense of maintaining slaves in an urban setting,



*The above graph of census data shows that by 1850 there were no longer any enslaved African-Americans in New Castle. This trend toward freedom continued to be true a decade later.*

abolitionist pressure, laws limiting the sale of slaves out-of-state, and the practice of manumission combined to help bring about the decline of slavery in New Castle. As slaves aged, owners became more likely to manumit them. From 1820 to 1840, three-quarters of all slaves in New Castle were age 25 or younger.

### **Manumission**

In Delaware, the practice of manumission—the freeing of enslaved people by their owners—outpaced other states, so that by the Civil War, the great proportion of Delaware’s African-Americans were free. The convergence of Quaker idealism and shifts in the state’s agricultural economy made slavery less financially advantageous and helps explain why so many slave owners resorted to manumission. Therefore, from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century onward, Delaware’s slave owners practiced voluntary, albeit delayed, manumission. Sometimes this was because of economic motives; at other times it was due to altruistic concerns. Enlightenment ideals of the natural rights of all men, Quaker activism in northern Delaware, and economic convenience also undoubtedly motivated leading New Castle slave owners. At the same time, it is important to remember that being free in Delaware was not the same as being white and free. Because free blacks had very restricted economic, political, and social rights, a visitor to the state in 1837 described the status as “a mere mock freedom.”

Slaves manumitted by prominent New Castle residents included Violet in 1787 owned by Nicholas Van Dyke; John Worthy in 1799 by David Finney; Henry in 1803 by John Moody; and two slaves in 1810, the property of Kensey Johns. Ann Clay manumitted 23-year-old Ned Jacobs in 1789; he also received “*freedom dues according to the custom of the country in cases of apprentices and servants.*”

**“Harriet Tubman is again in these parts.”:  
Abolition & the Underground Railroad**

Due to the courage of runaways and the efforts of their abolitionist supporters, New Castle emerged as both a station on the Underground Railroad and a venue for legal arguments about slavery, kidnapping, and fugitive slaves. Freedom runners used a series of safe houses and trails to travel and rest on their route to free northern states and Canada. The town attracted two nationally renowned Underground Railroad participants, conductor Harriet Tubman and station master Thomas Garrett.

The secret nature of their activities means that we may never know as much as we would like about the Underground Railroad. However, because activities in Delaware sometimes became public knowledge, it is well known that an active network assisted fugitives in and around the town of New Castle. For example, throughout the period of slavery, ads for runaways from other states identified New Castle as a supposed destination on their escape route. Furthermore, Tubman and Garrett conspired with one another to achieve this goal. Famed for having brought possibly as many as 300 individuals out of slavery, Tubman personally escorted runaways to and through New Castle. Her presence in the town is documented in an 1860 letter from Thomas Garrett to William Still:

I write to let thee know that Harriet Tubman is again in these parts. She arrived last evening from one of her trips of mercy to God’s poor, bringing two men with her as far as New Castle.

There is much more evidence about Garrett and his network. In the mid-1840s, Garrett helped the Hawkins family from Queen Anne’s County, Maryland, escape from New Castle to Pennsylvania. He learned about their presence at the New Castle jail in separate notes from the Sheriff and his daughter, both of whom were abolitionist sympathizers. The Quaker quickly notified his lawyer, John Wales, who went before Judge James Booth to defend



the rights of Hawkins, who himself was a free man. Before the full truth could be discovered about who exactly in the family was free and who was a slave, they all fled in transportation arranged by Garrett. Because of their role in this affair, Garrett and fellow Quaker John Hunn, found themselves on the wrong side of the law in the infamous Trial of 1848, for which they paid dearly for their roles. At the same time, Garrett voiced publicly his determination to continue in the fight against slavery. In the 1850s, however, Garrett's attempts to free "salt-water Davis" from the clutches of slave owners who followed him from Georgia to New Castle failed, but not until Wales had assembled a defense with witnesses brought from Philadelphia. In 1860 Garrett arranged for the defense of Joseph Hamilton, one of his black conductors, who had to answer for trumped-up charges of theft.

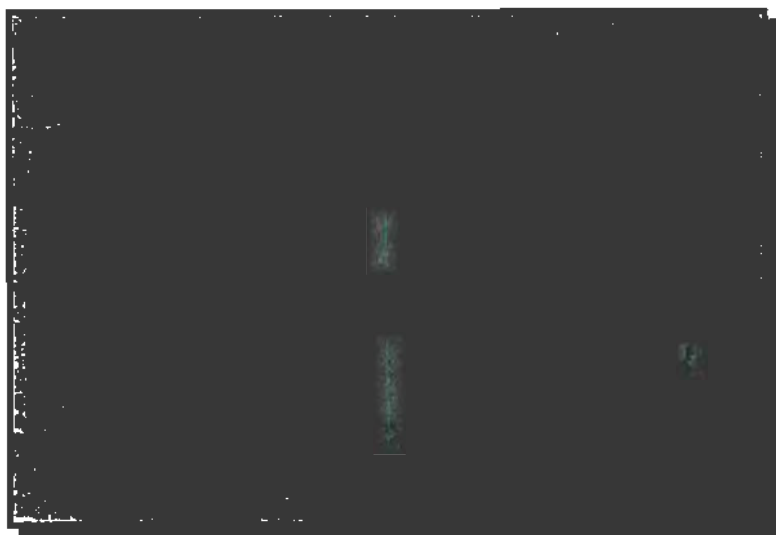
### **Town Lore & the Underground Railroad**

The escape to freedom continues to be a gripping tale in the imaginations of New Castle residents. Despite the public nature of these situations, we still do not know the names of black or white town residents who assisted Garrett. Family oral history and local legend indicate at least two specific locations in New Castle that may have had connections to the Underground Railroad. An additional location, a church, also seems likely.

Some believe that Lesley Manor on Sixth Street, now a bed-and-breakfast, was a stop on the Underground Railroad. Two hidden crawl spaces between closets and the floors above them are large enough to conceal a person. An underground tunnel connected to these spaces runs out of the house and across the yard to a location that once contained a pond with access to the river. Owners of the manor have long claimed that when Dr. Lesley built his house in the mid-1850s, he planned to shelter escaped slaves there. In many people's minds, the fact that Dr. Lesley sponsored a school for African-American children in New Castle in the 1860s further supports this supposition.

The Lukens Farm is another place tied to the Underground Railroad in local lore. Located north of town on the Delaware River, the farm was managed by the Haines family after 1915. The family believes that the house was a stop on the Underground Railroad, speculating that fleeing slaves were brought to the house by way of the river, directed to sit on a bench in an interior room of the farmhouse until dark, and then spirited away farther upriver.

One must also ask if the African-American congregation of Peter Spencer's Bethany A.M.E. Church in New Castle assisted runaways, as did his church in Wilmington.



This early photo of Bethany U.A.M.E. Church in New Castle is an extremely rare view of this African-American congregation at the turn of the twentieth century. The site was possibly associated with the Underground Railroad.

*Courtesy of Mrs. H. Sylvester Clark*

## Thinking About Freedom

It is difficult to verify local legends about the Underground Railroad so long after the fact. You are invited, however, to consider the difficult journey of the African-Americans fleeing to freedom through New Castle, as well as the risks taken by those who aided them to escape. Consider what it might have been like to live as a slave, and the fear that escape must have produced. The Haines' bench (below) reminds us that these stories about the passage from slavery to freedom generate an emotional connection that spans time.



This nineteenth-century bench is from the Lukens Farm north of New Castle. Family members have long believed that the house was a stop on the Underground Railroad.

*Object on loan from Bishop Ronald Haines. Photo by C. H. Kaser.*

## Slavery, Freedom & the Law

In 1682, the land that would eventually become the state of Delaware was granted to William Penn and was known as the lower counties of Pennsylvania. Due to increasing dissatisfaction with their political and economic situation, the residents of the lower counties petitioned Penn for separate colonial status. Independent colonial status was achieved in 1704, and New Castle became the first capital of Delaware. As both a political and judicial seat, New Castle served as an important governmental center throughout the 1700s and much of the 1800s, and continued to house local, state, and federal court functions until 1881. Thus, New Castle formed the center of law throughout the county and even the state for much of the 19th century. For African-Americans, the town presented scenes of both punishment and freedom.

### New Castle Court House

Before it moved to Wilmington in 1881, the New Castle Court House was the site of local, state, and federal judicial and governmental activity for 150 years. It was also a part of the American legal system that institutionalized racism. Early in the colonial period, slaves and indentured servants enjoyed few civil rights. In 1726, the British colonial governor created a special court for slaves. If a slave was proven guilty, his or her master received partial compensation for the loss of these services. In 1789, such cases were transferred to the authority of the Court of General Quarter Sessions; however, in 1797, the special court regained legal status for one crime—that of a slave accused of raping a white woman. In 1826, the special court was abolished once again, and authority transferred to the Court of General Sessions. The Court of Oyer and Terminer heard capital offense cases for both blacks and whites, while the federal courts addressed issues related to laws dealing with fugitive slaves.

Over the course of the period of slavery, codes developed that not

only restricted the rights of slaves, but eventually had a negative impact on the free black population. During these years, the legislature passed laws which insured that blacks could not vote, could not buy or sell alcohol, could not carry guns, could not travel without passes signed by whites, and could not travel outside of the state except for defined periods of time. On the other hand, it is significant that in Delaware a series of laws banned slave sales out-of-state in 1787, 1789 and 1797. Kidnapping laws passed in 1787, 1793 and 1841 were sometimes enforced, and, unlike in other slave states, African-Americans were presumed free unless the evidence proved otherwise.

By virtue of its legislative and judicial functions, the New Castle Court House became the symbolic representation of order and the rule of law in the community. The presence of the Court House and the nearby county jail meant that New Castle's African-Americans witnessed first hand the impact of court rulings and discriminatory codes. Runaways were incarcerated in the county jail, prosecuted at the court, and returned to their masters. Punishments of blacks judged guilty of crimes included public whippings, corporal punishments, and hangings, and it was not unusual for their sentences to be harsher than their white counterparts. A *Delaware Gazette* columnist from New Castle who worked at the Court House, Arthur, suggested that this backdrop set a somber tone among black residents in the 1850s. Arthur commended Justice of the Peace John Bradford for handling a legal claim between two argumentative African-American women who, after they paid their fines, "left, rejoicing that they had escaped the prison, so hateful to all darkies since Jim Anderson and his co-murderers were hung herein."

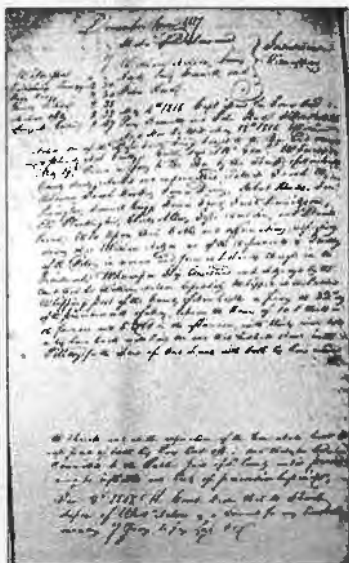
On some occasions, whites who violated the rights of African-Americans earned punishment at the hand of the law. For example, the kidnapping of blacks was a violation of state law and there are many instances of perpetrators of such a crime being judged guilty and punished. A case such as this is illustrated in the vignette "*I Went Out for Chips*" on the next page.

## "I went out for chips"

**A**t the trial of her kidnapers in 1816, Bathsheba Bungy, a 15-year-old free black girl, testified:

*I went out for chips. Jas. Reed, Perry Bennett & Wm. Nelson seized me. Nelson the [defendant] & Jas. Reed took me to Dixon's Tavern in Maryland & Perry Bennett went home.*

The subsequent trial and decision not only reflects the type of sentence given to those who violated the kidnapping laws, but also affirms one of the most important rights held by African-Americans in Delaware. Unlike other slave states, Delaware's legal system considered blacks free unless proven otherwise. The all-male white jury found Nelson and his cohorts guilty of kidnapping, for which the three-judge panel issued the following sentence:



*...on Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May between 10 & 4 he shall be whipped at the public whipping Post of the County with 39 lashes on his back well laid on; and shall stand in the Pillory for the space of one hour with both his Ears nailed thereto, and at the expiration of the hour, shall have the soft part of both his Ears cut off, and that you shall be not commd till this punishment be inflicted, and the costs of the prosecution paid.*

The official court record of the Bathsheba Bungy kidnapping case.

Courtesy of the Delaware State Archives

The town's inhabitants may have been heartened when in 1854, a black woman sued a white man to obtain wages due that he denied because she purportedly could not produce a record of what she was owed. The court, however, accepted her accounting, which was kept on a "*three-sided gum stick*, knotty, crooked, and very twisted...." There was a similar outcome in 1867, when a young African-American, Alexander Turner, won his case and damages against a white man for whom he had served as a substitute in the Civil War but was subsequently denied payment.

Another case of great interest to African-Americans occurred in the mid-19th century. Elias Saunders brought a lawsuit against Wilmington's Mother Church because the trustees there sought to deny Saunders the right to perform his duties as a presiding officer of the church. The case eventually caused a split within the body.

A review of Thomas Garrett's court activities reveals both success and failure. At the infamous Trial of 1848, presided over by United States Supreme Court Chief Justice Roger Taney and District Court Judge Willard Hall, Quakers Thomas Garrett and John Hunn were convicted of violating the Fugitive Slave Act. The decision illustrates that even a man as powerful as Garrett was subject to the legal consequences of assisting freedom runners. On the other hand, these situations show how quickly Garrett and his abolitionist black and white friends could mount an operation to defend runaways or their helpers and assist fleeing slaves in their escape. Garrett also used the trial to demonstrate publicly his enduring commitment to abolishing the evils of slavery. Even though in 1854 Garrett's lawyer, John Wales, lost his case trying to prove that "salt-water Davis," an escapee from Georgia, was not a slave, it gave public notice that Garrett and his team were still operating; so, too, in 1860 did the legal assistance offered black conductor Joseph Hamilton in yet another case in New Castle's court.

### FORTY DOLLARS Reward.

**R**AN away, on the 15th of July last, from the subscriber living in Chester-Town, Maryland, a Negro man, name Anthony, a slim black fellow, pitted with the small-pox, five feet nine or ten inches high, 28 years of age, but looks older; he is a very artful fellow, has procured a pass, and when examined can tell a very plausible story. He has worked on a farm in a mill, and blacksmith's shop, is a great gamester, fond of liquor and company, but very seldom gets drunk; it is expected he will pass thro' New-Castle and Wilmington to Philadelphia, and from thence to the Jerseys. No person can object to apprehend such an ungrateful rogue; I bought him a slave for life, and since have manumitted him free after a certain term. All persons are forewarned from harbouring or employing said Negro, or assisting him to get off, either by land or water. Whoever seizes him in any goal, where I may get him, and gives notice of the same, shall have Twenty Dollars, or the above reward if brought home. T. M'CLUER.

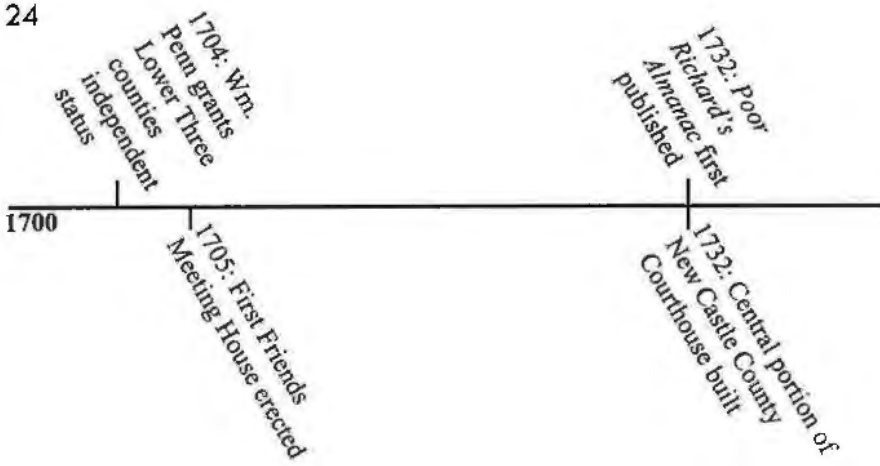
Runaway advertisements were common in newspapers prior to the abolition of slavery. This ad from the *Pennsylvania Gazette* was placed in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century to recover what slave owners considered lost property. Such documents are used today to learn about the lives of enslaved people.

Marked, "Delaware Justice 1875," this wooden model suggests that the pillory and whipping post was not only the location of corporal punishment, but also an imposing symbol of law and order in the town of New Castle.

*From the New Castle Historical Society Collection. Photo by C. H. Kaser.*

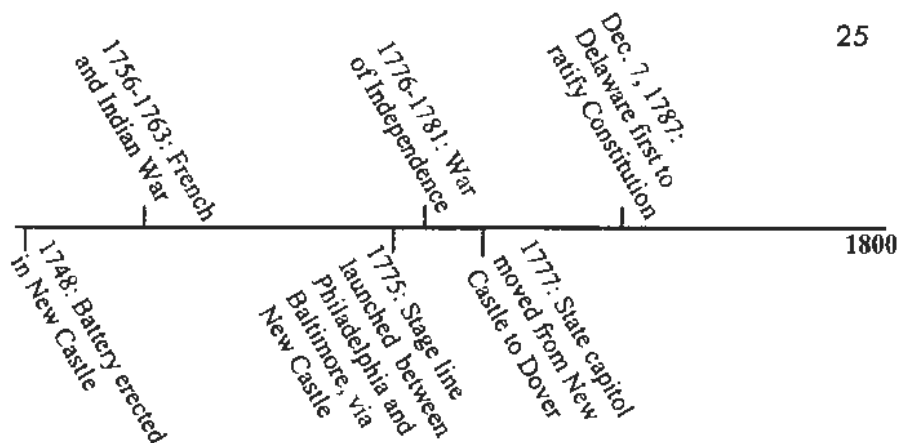






Eugene C. Petty, the first African-American police officer in New Castle, is pictured at the far right of this photo of the New Castle Police Department. He retired in 1983 as Chief of Police.

*Courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. Eugene C. Petty.*



## LIVING AND WORKING IN NEW CASTLE

### Household & Family Patterns in the First Half of the 19th Century

**A**lthough free blacks often lived in their own homes or rented houses, it was also common for them and slaves to live in white households, usually as adolescents or young adults. In 1800, 46 percent of white households in New Castle—almost half the population—included black residents. During the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, the median size of a free black household in New Castle was four members, which was smaller than the average white household of 5.8 members. About two-thirds of black households were composed of two parents with children, and males headed ninety percent of black households. By 1860, most white households did not include African-American inhabitants, but among those that did, 44 African-Americans lived in them, primarily as servants. No white household had more than three African-American inhabitants. The town contained nearly 50 African-American households, 38 of which were headed by males. Most male heads of household were employed as day laborers and were almost always the only adult male in the household. Two exceptions appear in the census: one household had five resident laborers and another had four.

## African-American Occupations and Households in New Castle, 1850 and 1860

According to federal census data in 1850 and 1860, most black males with occupations were laborers, while females were servants. In 1860, the age of servants ranged from 11 to 85, while those of laborers ranged from 13 to 95. Slavery, limited training and education, and racial prejudice restricted employment opportunities for African-Americans in New Castle. Yet within these limitations, African-Americans showed initiative. Those who were able grabbed opportunities in trades and in services such as house servants, coachmen and hack drivers, ostlers and waiters at inns, bricklayers and carpenters, or waterman and sailors in the bay or ocean. Only a handful of African Americans are identified with occupations that could be considered entrepreneurial. Perhaps mid-century men like John Peterson and Henry Lilly, who kept oyster houses, and Jacob Finney, a hackman who later owned a livery stable, took inspiration from some of their predecessors. In that earlier generation was the "French Mulatto" Augustus Jamot, who in the early 1800s opened a hairdresser and accessories shop. Robert VanJoy, began as a laborer, worked as a farmer, and then rented his property to whites; at a later time, Peter Jackson ran an oyster house.

Women faced even greater restrictions and are identified primarily as servants. African-American women apparently had very few employment options and not until the 1860 census are their occupations listed. In this case, they were exclusively servants, probably an indication that they had done the same type of work prior to that time. The structure of American family life in the 19<sup>th</sup> century differed from today's. Household chores like washing, cooking, ironing, and cleaning required hard physical labor, and modern conveniences like washing machines and electric irons had not yet been invented. Household management demanded skill and often required outside help—often that of

enslaved or hired African-American women. Many of these servants lived and worked in white-owned households or establishments, whereas the laborers tended to head independent households. It is impossible to know exactly what kind of work they performed, but the servants lived in the homes of clergymen, hotel and innkeepers, lawyers, maiden ladies, and widows. Other heads of households for whom African-American laborers worked included a bank teller, brick maker, butcher, coal merchant, engineer, farmer, gentleman, grain merchant, retired merchant, and shoemaker. Only six African-American women appeared to be heads of the household, and none of the women listed as living in an African-American household had an occupation attached to her name. It is likely that their work went unrecorded.

### **“In Competition with the Wilmington & New Castle Railroad Company”**

The story of Jacob Finney, identified as a 34-year-old hack driver in the federal censuses, represents the connection of African-Americans to one of New Castle’s pre-eminent industries—transportation. New Castle had long served as a Mid-Atlantic transfer point for travel and trade by ship, carriage, and eventually rail. Free blacks and slaves held positions as teamsters, hack drivers, coachmen, sailors, stewards, laborers, and worked in service jobs at inns, boarding houses, and stables. Even enslaved individuals skilled as wagoners merited mention in newspaper ads, and there is mention of blacks “pushing hand-carts at a trot full of goods” through Packet Alley to the harbor. George Ford handled a barouche for one of the town’s young men to see Lafayette during his visit to New Castle. Caleb Darby, a manumitted slave, was a teamster who drove a Conestoga wagon for the New Castle and Frenchtown Railroad.

In the 1840s and 1850s, daily and seasonal transportation needs created by the courts, camp meetings, tourism to beaches in

Delaware and New Jersey, California gold-seekers, and immigrants from overseas brought travelers to town. One newspaper in 1850 estimated that 150 people per day traveled by stage between New Castle and Wilmington. These operations, as well as New Castle's largest industrial employer, the New Castle Manufacturing Company, employed blacks as laborers.

Before the railroads were built, Jacob Finney drove a stage for the old Union Line from New Castle to Frenchtown, Maryland, as part of a steamboat venture that linked places such as Philadelphia and Baltimore. Later he operated a hack between Wilmington and New Castle, as he said, "in competition with the Wilmington and New Castle Railroad Company." He eventually owned one of the town's five livery stables and operated a sleigh, and his real estate grew in value from \$200 to \$500. At the time of his death in 1873 his inventory of household items included a cook stove, chairs, tables, chest, feather bed, as well as 12 fowls, 3 ducks, and 2 pigs—and a sleigh with two strings of bells, one hack lounge, and one hack with a back.

Alexander Cooper, a lawyer who practiced in New Castle, provided this description of Jacob in 1866:

I rode over from Wilmington in Jake Finney's hack... Jake was an unusually large and burly Negro, lame in one leg. He was dark in color, a genuine black man, yet an active and thorough democrat in politics. He always voted for a democrat and assigned his reason for it (which is absolutely true,) that the republicans never granted him any favors, while the democrats always did. Whenever he wanted assistance he called upon a democrat, and invariably got it... he drove me to the old Court House. I alighted, and paid him thirty five cents for my fare...

Perhaps the following accident, reported by Arthur, a correspondent for the *Delaware Gazette*, accounted for Jacob's lameness:

Old Jacob's hack was standing at the wharf near the depot, the horses took flight and ran up Delaware Street and turning into Orange Street proceeded toward Wilmington at a furious rate. The hack was much damaged, the top being entirely broken off and destroyed. A subscription was immediately set on foot (in New Castle) and before night a sufficient sum was raised to repair the loss.

While census information provides an overview of the town, newspapers provide other details of black entrepreneurship. For example, the *Delaware Gazette* described the New Castle Ice Cream Saloon run by Henry Lilly in 1860:

...he has a superior quality of Ice Cream which he will dispose of at reasonable rates. He has fitted up a saloon in superior style and will be happy to wait on all that may favor him with their patronage. N. B. Parties, Pic Nics, Excursions, supplied at any hour of the day in any quantity.

In the 1860 census, however, Lilly is listed as an oyster house keeper with real estate valued at \$500 and personal worth of \$100. After the war, Lilly was also known to manage a shop that sold candy and porter on one of the wharves. By then, according to A. B. Cooper, he had established a reputation as "a good cook and caterer...employed at...weddings and other public and private dinners...and did it well and satisfactorily and in a manner suited to the taste of an epicure." Henry was also active in the town's African-American church and educational activities.

### **The Great Migration (1916-1929)**

**D**uring World War I, approximately one-half million African-Americans abandoned their southern homes and streamed into northern industrial centers. This movement was spurred by the war economy, combined with the virtual cessation of foreign immigration and the mobilization of the armed forces, which created new opportunities for black workers

in northern industry. Known as the “Great Migration,” this exodus continued during the 1920s, with the movement doubling in volume.

Most of the New Castle residents interviewed for this exhibit are the descendants of those who came to New Castle as part of the Great Migration, rather than the descendants of the town’s earliest African-American residents. This illustrates that two waves of African-American migration brought blacks to New Castle. Earlier groups arrived in the bonds of slavery; later groups came in hope of improved economic status and quality of life.

### **Employment in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

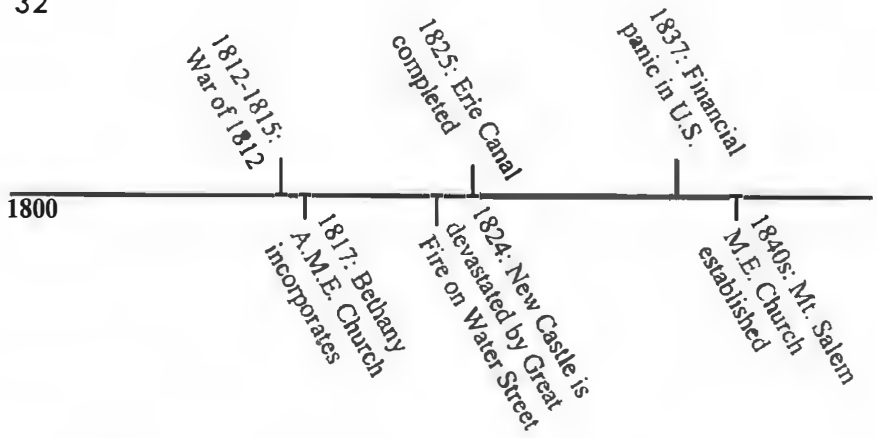
**F**actory and industrial work comprised the largest sector of employment for African-Americans in greater New Castle in the early to mid-twentieth century. Such was the case for Joseph H. Pinkett, who had a succession of jobs in steel factories in Wilmington. Several local businesses thrived in New Castle, however.

In the Buttonwood neighborhood of New Castle, Pinkett’s wife, Leona (Black) Pinkett recalls one particular business, George’s Market. Mr. George Pennington’s store, located on the corner of Arbutus Avenue and Route 9, was within walking distance of the houses in Buttonwood and “had pretty much the basics. He had fruit, vegetables, meat, bread, household products, gasoline...” Mrs. Pinkett noted that if a person did not have enough money to pay for his goods, Mr. Pennington would keep the bill on a tab to pay at another time.

In the town of New Castle, residents describe a wide variety of jobs done by African-Americans. A host of casual laborers supported small businesses, skilled workers were employed in the building and manufacturing industries, and increasing numbers of white-collar workers staffed schools and offices.

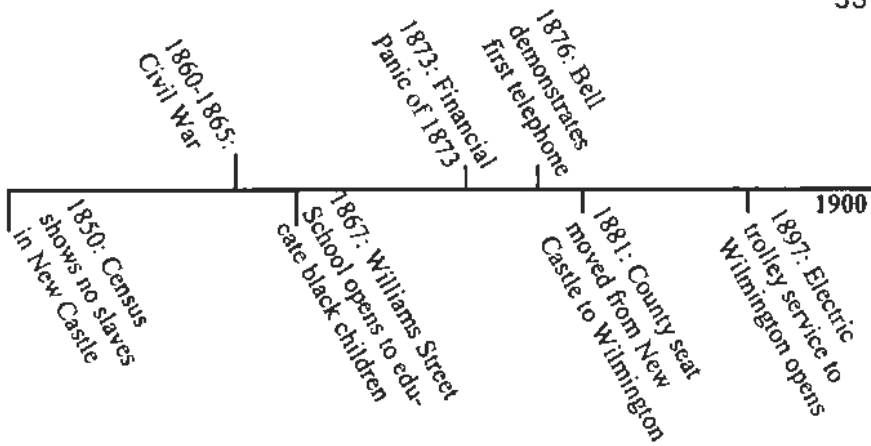
Toward the later half of the 20th century, racial barriers were broken in the areas of law and government. In 1971, Mr. H. Sylvester Clark became the first African-American to serve on the New Castle city council. His appointment, and later election, to city council represents an important symbolic change in New Castle. Mr. Eugene C. Petty similarly broke barriers in New Castle. He joined the Police Department in the early 1970s as the first African-American police officer. He retired in 1983 having served eight years as Chief of Police in New Castle and six years as Chief Constable for the State of Delaware.





This photograph from the 1940s shows young students on the steps of the Buttonwood School in New Castle. Front row (left to right): Teel Taylor, Jean Wright, Eloise Taylor. Back row: Sylvia Twyman, Loretta Carter, Izetta Cephas.

*Courtesy of Dolores Twyman McCray*



## HOMES AND NEIGHBORHOODS

New Castle's housing, integrated in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, became more residentially segregated by the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Racism and the nature of the work that African-Americans performed probably fostered this trend. Before the advent of the automobile and public transportation, it was necessary for people to live within a reasonable walking distance of their workplaces. The two main areas of African-American housing were the central area of town and Buttonwood, a neighborhood on Route 9 north of New Castle.

During the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, the development of segregated housing for African-Americans became standard practice. Restrictive housing covenants attached to property titles often dictated standards for residents based on race and ethnicity. These covenants were particularly popular in new suburban districts and were applied when the lots were first subdivided. Besides prohibiting residents of a particular race or religious affiliation, deed covenants also outlined the size or price of a house to be built on a property, stipulated locations for outbuildings and garages, and forbade specific usages such as commerce or industry. Despite these kinds of restrictions, some neighborhoods developed without the application of restrictive

covenants based on racial discrimination. The establishment of single-family black households represents a critical milestone in African-American history.

## Residents in the Central District

No one particular area of central New Castle contained an exclusively African-American population. The town experienced its peak development in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and retained an extremely stable population of both blacks and whites throughout the early 19<sup>th</sup> century in comparison with the rest of the state. African-Americans, who comprised a significant sector of the population in the town from the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, established a firm presence in several areas of the town. The greatest concentrations of African-Americans lived on the eastern and western ends of Third, Fourth, and Fifth Streets. The dwellings tended to be modest, frame row houses. For example, an African-American, Rachel Carter, rented the residence on Third Street now known as the Dutch House in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, before it was developed as a museum.

African-American residents of central New Castle remember the town's residential patterns during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Bishop Ronald Haines, who grew up on Fifth and Tremont Streets, recalled that "every street" had both blacks and whites although there was perhaps "one whole block" on Fifth Street, between Delaware and Tremont that was exclusively African-American. Although whites and blacks lived in close proximity, he commented, "New Castle was a good example of a 'Jim Crow' town" with little or no interaction between African-Americans and whites, or between residents in downtown and suburban areas. Gladys Clark, a lifelong inhabitant of New Castle, commented that the town today seems less integrated in regard to housing than it did while she was growing up. Many black families have sold their homes in New Castle, and moved into newer suburban communities.

## Buttonwood

The Buttonwood neighborhood, located on the northeastern edge of New Castle off Route 9, was established in 1902. The neighborhood is comprised of one main street, Buttonwood Avenue, which intersects several smaller lanes, including Arbutus Avenue, Lincoln Street, Meehan Street, Railroad Avenue, New Castle Avenue, and Foster Avenue. This historically black suburban development has been a stronghold for African-Americans, drawing residents from both Wilmington and the town of New Castle. Residents of Buttonwood have often commented on the vibrant sense of community in the neighborhood over the years, centering on the family, church, and school.



Barbara Pinkett Hicks in front of Buttonwood United Methodist Church. Photo taken mid-20th century.

*Courtesy of Dolores Twyman McCray*

The neighborhood takes its name from the adjacent estate, **Buttonwood Plantation**, built by James Booth, Sr. in the early 1800s. Booth, a prominent statesman and judge, played a critical early role in the abolition of slavery. Among other important activities, he participated in the Delaware State Constitutional Convention in 1776, which led to a ban on the importation of slaves into the state.

### **Life in Buttonwood**

The Buttonwood neighborhood experienced modest changes in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. As Teel Petty, a lifelong resident describes, “It’s pretty much the same—I think the streets have improved a little... So we’re missing quite a few houses that used to be here that are just vacant lots now.” Most houses in Buttonwood are located on Buttonwood Avenue and the adjacent street, Arbutus Avenue.

The neighborhood illustrates a key principle in the history of late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century development: as innovations in transportation such as streetcars, trolleys, trains, and automobiles allowed cities and towns to become larger than ever before, they also allowed a greater level of segregation to occur. This segregation occurred on many levels—economic, ethnic, and racial. The comments of another lifelong Buttonwood resident, Alberta Pritchett Ponzio, reflect this trend:

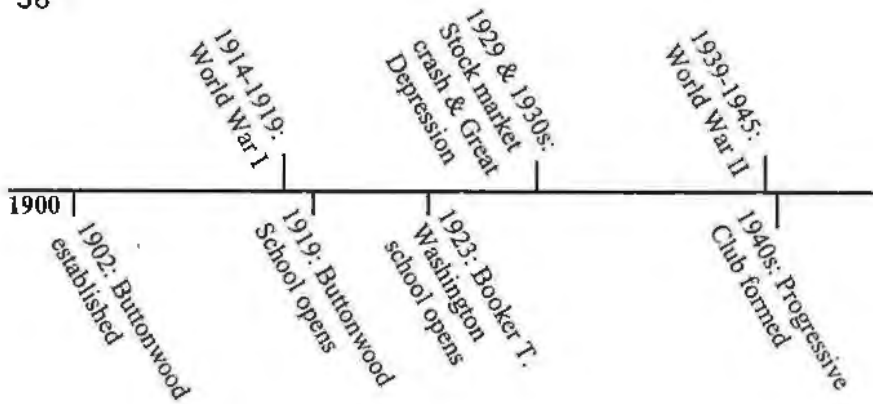
As a sixty-five year old, born and raised, resident of the black community of Buttonwood, the story I have to tell is very bleak. Buttonwood has sustained itself without the support of the local government or the goodwill of the city of New Castle at large. As a resident of Buttonwood, I have never bonded with the “city of New Castle.” Maybe it’s because of the sustained neglect by the city’s administration or the indifference of the city’s residents. In past years, due to segregation, Buttonwood residents’ structured social and cultural experiences were through the Buttonwood Methodist Church, the Buttonwood School, when it was in existence, and the larger black

community of Wilmington. My childhood spent in my community, Buttonwood, was wholesome and enjoyable. My return to the community has been peaceful and fulfilling. Only as an adult did I look back and view my life in New Castle as racist, segregated, and stagnant. To be asked to comment on Afro-Americans in the City of New Castle is like asking a slave to comment on life in the “Quarters” on the master’s plantation.



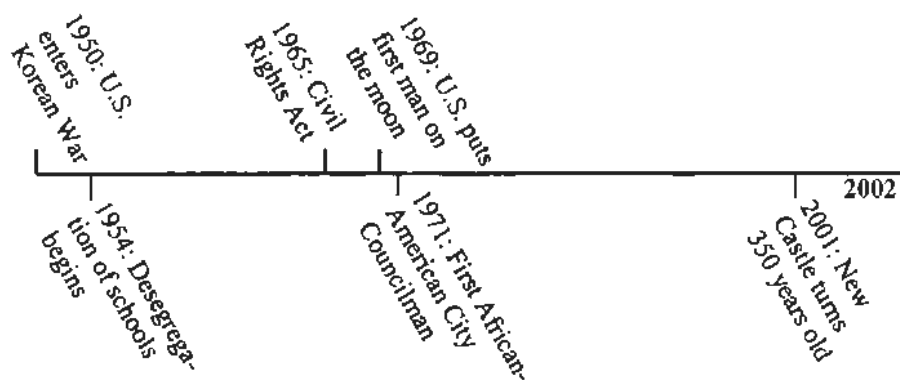
“Henry’s Family”

*Courtesy of Dolores  
Twyman McCray*



View of Mount Salem Methodist Episcopal Church at 140 East Fourth Street. While the congregation was established in the 1840s, construction on this second building was completed in 1878.

*From the New Castle Historical Society Collection*



## NEW CASTLE'S AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHURCHES: "SO SAY ONE, SO SAY ALL"

**O**n October 27, 1817, the town's blacks incorporated the African-American **Bethany U.A.M.E. Church**. It was a direct offshoot of Peter Spencer's independent African Methodist movement started in Wilmington, and Spencer himself was involved in setting up the church in New Castle. In 1818, some of New Castle's black townsmen constructed the first church, a small frame building about 60 feet square located at Fourth and Williams Streets on land conveyed from Alexander Duncan to the trustees of the African Union Church: Tony Hayes, Philip Young, John West, Isaac Mousley, David Smith, and Jacob Marsh.

On March 10, 1859, the African Union Church bought an adjoining lot to their church from the heirs of William B. Janvier, and using the additional land, built a new, larger brick church in the 1860s. The name of the church was changed in 1867, and on September 16, 1868, the papers and property of the congregation were transferred to the new trustees of the Union American [Methodist Episcopal] Church of New Castle. This document was signed "so say one, so say all" by J. Ayers, Norris Maxwell, S. Waters, N. Brinkley and Perry Sisco, secretary. By 1869, the



rebuilt church included a gallery and expanded seating capacity. The most recent remodeling took place in 1949 under the pastoral direction of Reverend Alfred E. Miller and included new pews, a dining room, rest rooms, and an addition at the rear of the church.

While the establishment of Bethany U.A.M.E. Church was a landmark step in religious freedom, many black residents of New Castle continued to worship within other traditional, segregated congregations in town. By 1840, the practice of segregation in these churches inspired the establishment of a second African-American congregation in New Castle. The **Mount Salem M.E. Church**, located at 140 East Fourth Street, is a Methodist Episcopal congregation that was established in the 1840s. The first church on the site, a wooden frame building, was constructed in 1857, and the present brick church was completed in 1878.

A third African-American congregation established in greater New Castle is the **Buttonwood United Methodist Church**, located on Buttonwood Avenue. The church was founded early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century as part of the Buttonwood community. The church built in 1947 is still in use today.



Reverend Taylor

*Courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. Eugene C. Petty*

## EDUCATION

**E**ducation for African-Americans in the United States has been tainted by prejudice throughout its history. Slaves in the United States were expressly forbidden even basic education such as reading and writing, and, for the most part, blacks were denied access to public education until after the Civil War. Despite this bleak national picture, African-Americans in New Castle had sporadic opportunities for formal schooling.

The old Quaker Meeting House in New Castle (now demolished) is believed to have housed an early Negro school established by the African School Society. Composed mainly of Quakers from Wilmington, this organization was likely responsible for establishing another Negro school in New Castle; a book dated 1838 was found under the floorboards of the Immanuel Church's Parish House, and contained the inscription "*African Sabbath School, New Castle.*" In 1863, according to a newspaper report, the African-American townspeople took advantage of a summer visitor from Boston willing to teach their children and used their Methodist church to educate nearly 50 "young and middle aged pupils" in a Sabbath school. According to their teacher, "the colored children of New Castle will compare favorably in behavior and aptitude to learn, with any who have been under her charge." Another example of the intermittent efforts to educate blacks made by both races of local citizens is described in the following passage from the November 8, 1867 *Delaware Gazette*:

A New Colored School has been erected by the liberality of several citizens, among whom were Mr. Tasker, who gave the lot, Dr. Lesley and Mr. Spruance. It is quite a neat and tasty affair. There are thirty scholars who are taught by Miss Jones of Portland, Maine. Their prowess is truly wonderful. They answer correctly numerous important questions in geography and punctuation. They read well and sang excellently, their voice being in unison, and with correct measure.

While none of the 19<sup>th</sup>-century school buildings for African-Americans survives in New Castle, several schools from the 20th century are still extant, including the Buttonwood School and the Booker T. Washington School.

### **Williams Street School**

New Castle's first fully institutionalized black school, the **Williams Street School**, was located on the site of the current Goodwill Fire Company. The school was established by the Delaware Association for the Moral Improvement and Education of Colored People in 1867 and opened October 5<sup>th</sup> of that year. Students studied reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, geography, and grammar. At that time, African-American schools did not receive funding from the state and relied on the Freedman's Bureau for an operations budget. In 1869, the Freedman's Bureau provided \$2,440 to the school, which also received the charitable support of local individuals, both black and white.

By 1877, the Actuary of the Delaware Association, Henry C. Conrad, reported that the Williams Street School had 48 pupils enrolled, that the school was open six and three-quarters months, between October and May, and that the Association paid \$54 toward the salary of a teacher. The school continued to operate until the Booker T. Washington School was opened in 1923.

## The DuPont Schools

The **Buttonwood School** was founded out of the need to provide Buttonwood neighborhood children with a school close to their homes. On August 8, 1919, a special meeting of the Board of Education was called to address the needs of the Buttonwood community. The Board and community agreed that a small 14 x 14 foot addition could be made to the local church to house the school. The first teacher, Mr. James Coulbourne, was hired at a salary of \$85 per month.

At the same time the original Buttonwood School was established, Pierre S. DuPont and the Service Citizens of Delaware (later the Delaware School Auxiliary Association) sponsored a number of surveys of the state's educational system, giving particular attention to the conditions of the school buildings for African-Americans. They concluded that African-American pupils could be better served by the construction of one and two room schools throughout the state. The Department of Education accepted this recommendation and P. S. DuPont personally financed the construction of 86 school buildings for African-Americans; two of these "DuPont Schools" were in New Castle.

The Delaware School Auxiliary Association identified two locations for new schools in New Castle: one on South Street in the downtown area, the other in the Buttonwood neighborhood. Completed in 1923, the **Booker T. Washington School** was constructed on the South Street location replacing the Williams Street School. The Delaware School Auxiliary Association paid \$23,405.97 for the entire cost of the land and the construction of the two-room brick building. Two teachers, Bertha Howard Battle and Albion T. Unthank, taught grades one through eight in the two-room school. Mrs. Battle was the first person to teach grades one through four, from 1923 until 1936. Mr. Unthank taught grades five through eight from 1926 until his death in 1953. Both

teachers received an annual salary of \$1150, approximately 85 percent of what white teachers earned. Booker T. Washington was last used as a school in September 1958, and was then used to supplement other educational programs until the early 1980s.

The second DuPont School was constructed in the Buttonwood neighborhood. The new **Buttonwood School** replaced the small church addition that the community had been using to conduct classes. It was originally a two-room frame school, completed in 1926 at a cost of \$15,346.78. Additional classrooms were later added to the building. Sylvester Woolford, Sr. taught at Buttonwood School from 1934 until 1952, when the school closed.



Graduation at the Buttonwood School in the 1940s.

Front row (L-R): Dolores Twyman, Mary Harden, Mildred Raisin, Alberta Prichett, Betty Jenkins.

Back row: Sylvester Woolford, teacher, Franklin Taylor, Bernard Pinkett, teacher unknown.

*Courtesy of Dolores Twyman McCray*

## Higher Education

During the late 19<sup>th</sup> and first half of the 20<sup>th</sup>-century, only two institutions provided higher education opportunities for African-American students throughout the state: the **Delaware State College** for colored students in Dover founded in 1891, and **Howard High School** in Wilmington. The first Howard High School was formally dedicated September 20, 1869 and was located at 604 Orange Street. This building was replaced in 1928 by a much larger facility located at 13<sup>th</sup> and Poplar Streets, and drew students from all over northern Delaware, including New Castle. Recognized by the National Register of Historic Places for its landmark significance in the history of education, Howard High School “inspired a high caliber of education” through “the common bonds of pride, ambition, and support.”

Because the school drew students from the Greater Wilmington region, New Castle students who attended Howard High School formed a network of friendships throughout northern Delaware. African-American students from New Castle generally found their experience there was extremely positive and inspiring. Buttonwood resident Grace Woolford, wife of Buttonwood schoolteacher Sylvester Woolford, grew up in Newark. She recalls meeting her husband through friends from Howard High School at a dance in Chester, Pennsylvania. The school created lifelong bonds, and became, in the words of one historian, “a part of the heritage of local families.”

Desegregation was underway in Delaware by 1954, when Buttonwood resident Teel Petty was among the first African-American students to attend William Penn High School. One of her recollections from her school days appears on the next page.

*"...so why shouldn't I be one?"*

Starting in 1954, the educational system in Delaware began to be desegregated. Students from the Old Town, as well as the outlying suburban districts started attending William Penn High School. Today schools are still changing in reaction to desegregation which began almost 50 years ago. For example, while much discussion of present day curriculum changes center on promoting a "multi-cultural" interpretation of history, students from Buttonwood School and Howard High School were educated with a broad understanding of African-American achievement. In an interview regarding her life in Buttonwood, Teel Petty examines this phenomena:

It's really strange because they talk about Black history but I've always had Black history in my life. I've always known there were Black movie stars and Black boxers and always had that history awareness. I guess it's from my schooling. So when I went to William Penn, I felt like I wanted to be a majorette, so why shouldn't I be one? Anybody can be a majorette, and I never thought because I was Black, I couldn't be one. They might have thought that but I never thought it.



Teel Taylor, pictured here in her majorette uniform in 1957, was in the first integrated class at William Penn High School. While the school was integrated by law, students still held many racist beliefs: white majorettes refused to wear uniforms worn by black majorettes.

*Courtesy of Mr. & Mrs.  
Eugene C. Petty*

## COMMUNITY LIFE

The development of established social organizations for African-Americans during the 20<sup>th</sup> century represented a major step forward from restrictive laws of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Such laws prevented gatherings of more than four blacks due to white paranoia over insurrections among the slave and free black populations.

Early attempts to establish African-American organizations were met with much resistance from the white community; however, certain early groups helped establish a basis for social organizations for African-Americans in New Castle. For example, in 1830, a group that included at least some if not all manumitted slaves, presented an Act to Incorporate the Sons of Benevolence in the Town of New Castle to the State of Delaware General Assembly:

Joseph Manly, Robert Jackson, Levi Finney, Peter Jackson, James Finney and Caleb Darby now associated and such others as may hereafter be associated with them for the purpose of [suppressing?] vice and immorality, burying the dead, and taking care of the indigent and sick among their coloured brethren shall be and are hereby ordained and declared to be a body politic and corporate, by the name of the Sons of Benevolence in the Town of New Castle.



The assembly declined their request for incorporation and the town's African-American population had to wait until the 20<sup>th</sup> century to take advantage of legal changes and a more tolerant atmosphere to establish organizations for social interaction outside of church.

### **The Community Progressive Club, Inc.**

One of the major social influences in New Castle during the 20<sup>th</sup> century was the Community Progressive Club, Inc., formed in the early 1940s out of the need to provide wholesome activity for the youth of New Castle. The organization sponsored a Boy Scout troop, Cub Scouts, and Brownies, as well as an annual awards banquet to honor civic leaders. It continues to provide similar services to this day.

In the 1960s, the Club worked to provide new opportunities for community children, both black and white. Government surveys determined that New Castle could offer a new national program, Head Start, to help young children gain skills to achieve success in school. When no other community agencies were willing to undertake the new project, the Community Progressive Club initiated the program. According to Mrs. Gladys Clark, "[Head Start] was so successful and grew so fast that within two or three years, the schools were willing to take it then." Club members raised funds in order to renovate the building, providing the bathroom and kitchen facilities required for the program.

African-Americans in New Castle recall that in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, they were not allowed to shop in New Castle stores or to attend the local theater except for special showings at Christmastime. Mrs. Lydia Garnett founded the Community Progressive Club in order to fill a need in the community for a public gathering place. Along with local African-American churches, the Club fostered community action against racial segregation.



The Community Progressive Club, Inc. sponsors a variety of beneficial programs for the town of New Castle. This is a photograph of their annual luncheon April 14, 1962.

*Courtesy of Mrs. H. Sylvester Clark*

## Sports

Baseball was one of the major pastimes for children and adults in New Castle and Buttonwood throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Many of the young boys played on pick-up 'sand lot' teams as well as organized, county leagues. Because local children, both black and white, loved to play baseball together, the sport helped to break down the practice of segregation imposed by others.

Residents of Buttonwood have strong memories regarding the establishment of neighborhood baseball teams. There were two official teams, the Buttonwood Cubs for younger children and the Buttonwood Tigers for older boys. The Tigers had two specific incarnations. As Mr. Bernard Pinkett recalls:

The Buttonwood Tigers had two teams. The second team was formed about 1945, and lasted until about 1951. And I was the mascot at that time. I was the batboy. They had a uniform for me—it was a regular Buttonwood Tigers uniform, my size. Traveled with the team... I always loved the game because—actually my mother and father played baseball. My father was a part of the [earlier] Buttonwood Tigers... We really did play for the love of the game.





### Above

Buttonwood Scout Troop sponsored by the Community Progressive Club, Inc.  
 Front row (L-R): —, Trice Flammer, David Harris, Ulysses McManus,  
 Lewis Pinkett

Second row: Wayne Holladay, —, Gilbert Pinkett, James Rudd

Third row: Luther Twyman, Kenneth Davis, John McManus

*Courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. Eugene C. Petty*

### Left

Buttonwood Cubs baseball team.

Row 1 (L-R): Tony Tucker, — Hines

Row 2: Cyrus Harris, Coach, — Hines, David Harris, —, Lewis Pinkett

Row 3: Norman Trice, Ernest Thomas, Gilbert Pinkett, Reginald Davis, Wilson  
 Comfort

*Courtesy of the Pinkett Family*

## A STORY OF DESEGREGATION

**Y**ou may have noticed that this book has no specific chapter on segregation; rather, the stories and effects of segregation and racism are woven into each chapter. When asked if he remembered any particular instances of racism or segregation growing up, Eugene Petty replied, “that was every day.” Though each person interviewed for this exhibit did have vivid memories of specific incidents, many expressed a similar sentiment—racism and segregation were a regular part of everyday life. We hope presenting the effects of these evils in the context of each chapter’s theme conveys how this aspect of life was part of the tapestry of living in New Castle—part of work, school, church and social gathering. We choose to end, however, with a story of hope.

The walls of the Old Library building, which houses the exhibit this book is based upon, echo with the ghosts of segregation and desegregation in New Castle. The private New Castle County Library Company was racially segregated when, in the early 1940s, Gladys Clark and her friend Pearl Henry walked up to the desk and asked for a library card. Gladys remembers that the librarian, in her surprise, said she would have to ask her superior if a card could be issued. Gladys and Pearl went to the library director’s home and asked to be issued a card. The director did so, and the girls borrowed books from the library. In church on the next Sunday, the pastor admonished the congregation to go apply for a library card, to take out books, and to return them “promptly and in good condition.”

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