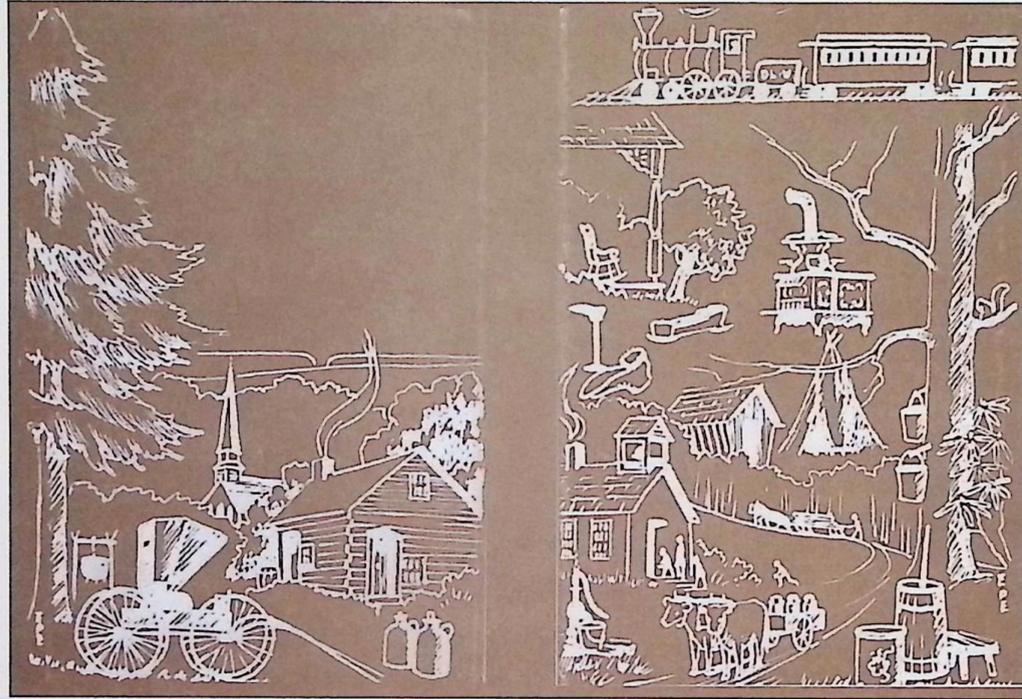


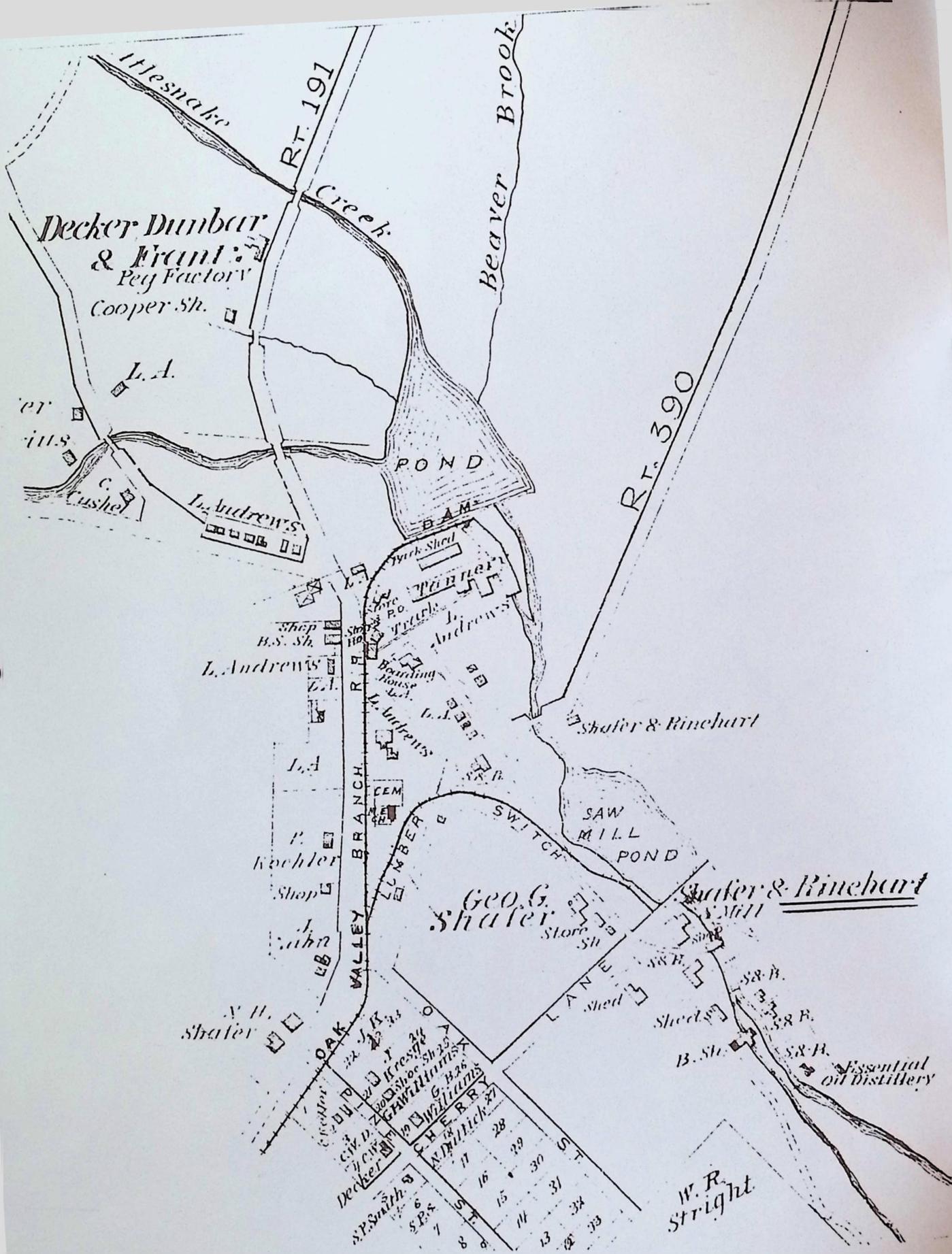
Yesterday

Book Cover from
"Bringing Axes
& Rocking Chairs"



by
Edna Englehardt
circa 1976

Barrett Township Sesquicentennial
1859-2009
Special Edition



Decker Dunbar
& Grant's
Peg Factory
Cooper Sh.

RT. 191

Heslake
Creek

Beaver
Brook

L.A.

POND

RT. 390

L. Andrews

B.A.M.

York Shed

Tannery

Shop
H.S. Sh.

L. Andrews

Andrews

Boarding
House

L. Andrews

Shafer & Rinchart

L.A.

J. Cochler
Shop

VALLEY BRANCH

SWITCH

SAW
MILL
POND

Geo. G.
Shafer

Shafer & Rinchart
Mill

Store
Sh.

A.H.
Shafer

OAK

LANE

Shed

B. Sh.

Essential
Oil Distillery

WILLIAMS

WILLIAMS

WILLIAMS

WILLIAMS

WILLIAMS

W.R.
Stright

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40

HISTORY OF BARRETT TOWNSHIP

Some of the following excerpts were taken from a reproduction from the *Pocono Record* "Outlook" Sunday, May 2, 1982 and from Ringing Axes and Rocking Chairs by Peggy Bancroft.

Before John Price, the region's first settler, attempted to locate permanently in the region now known as Barrett Township in 1756, the area was the hunting ground of the Delaware Indians. They called themselves the Lenni-Lenape, "The Original People," and believed in their own superiority and right of ownership in that they had made their homes in this land for thousands of years. They were thought to be a gentle people until the white man came into the wilderness along the Brodhead Creek and took over the land. The early stories concerning the settlers are filled with violence and fear common in the younger days of this country.

But the John Price family persevered and after being chased out several times returned to stay in 1764. Soon other families joined the Price's and after clearing the land were able to make a good living for their families, farming and raising pigs, cattle and poultry. A list of names of early settler includes many that local folk will recognize: Gravel, Deubler, Ink, Seese, Utt, Straight, Albert, Boyer, Sommers, and Bender to mention only a few.

Over the next several years the population of the area grew and the little villages thrived, schools opened and churches were built. Soon many of the residents became involved in local industries. Leather played an important part in machinery and everyday life, and tanneries were erected to take advantage of the immense tracts of timber. Sawmills were built throughout various parts of the township to cut lumber for housing and other industries.

In 1859, Barrett Township, named after a President Judge of Monroe County, Judge George Barrett, was carved out from portions of Price and Paradise Townships. Mountainhome was originally White's Tannery, named after a factory started in 1856 by White & Brakeley. It later became Oakland but as this was too confusing for the post office, the final name change was Mountainhome. Dr. Gilbert Palen, of the Palen and Northrup tannery named Canadensis for the Latin name of the hickory, Tsuga Canadensis, and Cresco Station was originally named Oakland which only added to the confusion.

The tanning and lumbering business were so successful they caused their own downfalls by depleting area trees, particularly hemlocks. After the two tanneries burned down, industry died in the area until local residents discovered a new source of revenue – tourism.

**Continued on Back Cover

Clothespin Factory

In the day before mechanical means of drying clothes, a household item put to almost everyday use was the clothespin, manufactured in the Peg Factory in Barrett Township. This factory was located in the town of White's Tannery; on Route 191, north of the Bible Church, a short distance from the Onawa Townhouses..



Hotel Canadensis

Believed to be one of the oldest hotels in Barrett Township , it was built in 1867, burned twice and was twice rebuilt on the same spot. Vacant for several years it was razed by bulldozer in 2003. The first proprietor was Adam Albert and it was well known for its hospitality and "table" as well as a reputation for the best fishing in Pennsylvania. Where the popular hotel once stood is now a vacant lot in downtown Canadensis.



A different view of the Cresco Station area: you are standing on Sand Spring Road looking northwest toward the yet to be built Route 191. On your left can be seen the passenger platform and beyond that The Cresco Hotel. The main building was built by Jacob Miller as a variety store and later, joined by J.A. Sequine became The Seguin Souvenir Store.

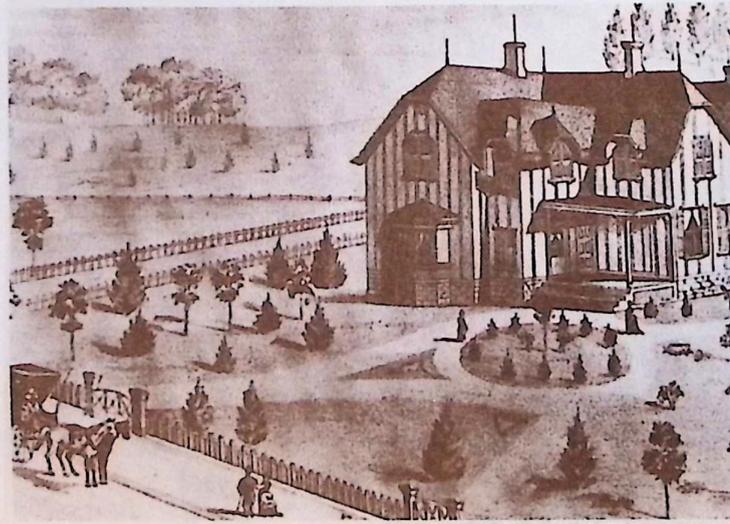


97
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D.L. & W. R.R. CRESCO, PA.

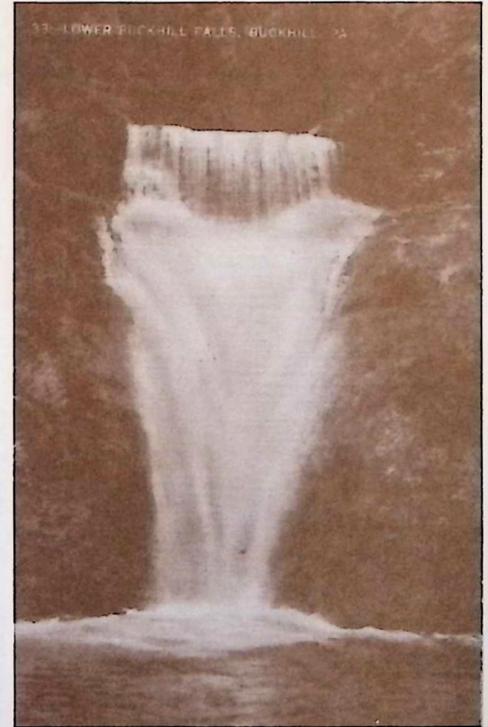
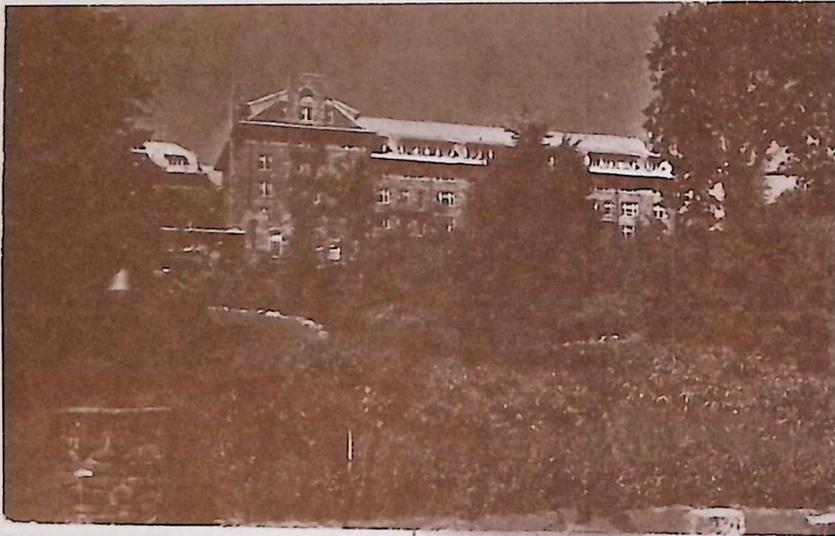
Leather Tanning Industry

Once left in piles to rot after the lumber was used for other purposes, the famous financier, Jay Gould, joined his sister's husband, George Northrup, to form a tannery at junction of the Brodhead Creek and Goose Pond Run in Canadensis. Another tannery in Barrett Township was White's Tannery in Mountainhome. The Northrup home still stands, the big white house with red trim close to Route 447 a few houses beyond Upper Seese Hill Road. The Palen home, residence of Edward Palen and family later became Pine Knob Inn and suffered the fate of many of the old wood resorts in the area. It burned twice in 2006 and was subsequently torn down.



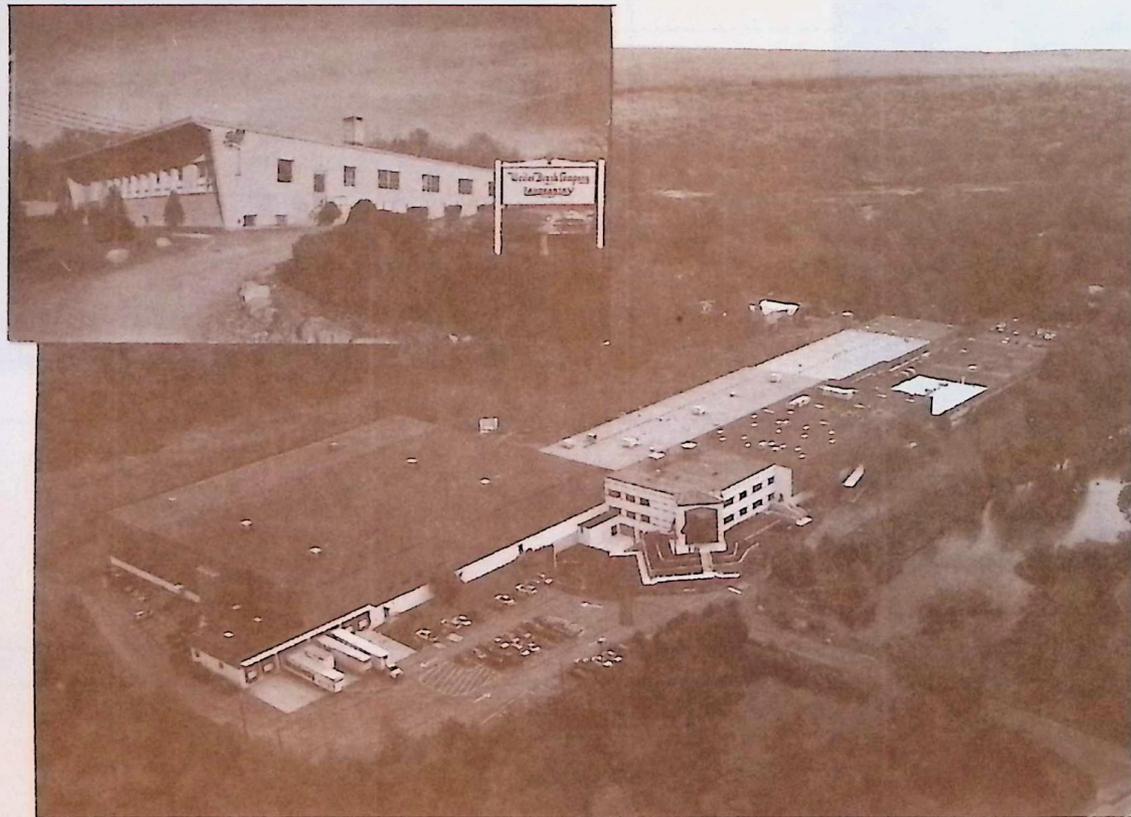
Buck Hill Falls Company

Buck Hill Inn opened in June 1901, founded by a group of Quakers from Philadelphia as a summer resort. Buck Hill Inn and Buck Hill Falls Company has served as a major employer for the community over the years. The Buck Hill Falls Company owns 4000 acres, 125 of which are permanently protected by the Buck Hill Conservation Foundation. Noteworthy milestones of the Buck Hill Falls Company include; 1913 - Buck Hill opens year round 1923- Stone work added 1930 -East Wing addition added. 1964- West Wing addition added 1978- Buck Hill Inn divests from Buck Hill Falls Co. 1990-Buck Hill Inn Closes.



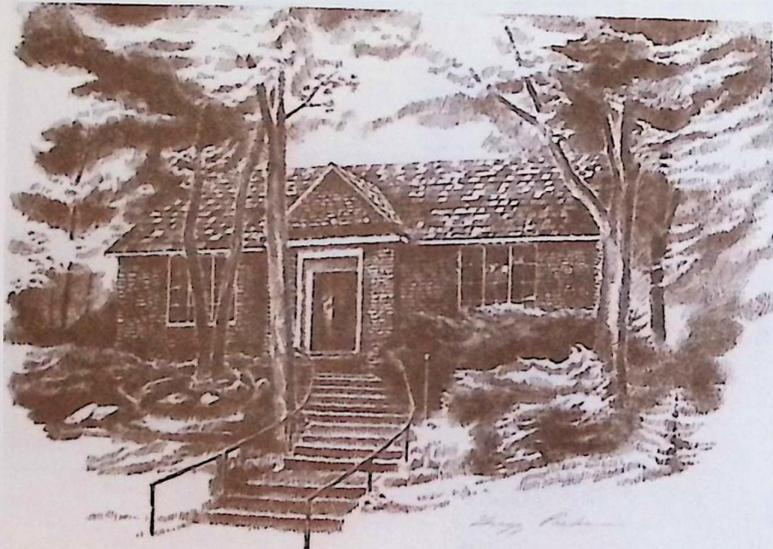
Brief History of Weiler Corporation
June 4, 2008

- Joseph Weiler founds Joseph Weiler Co. in Pforzheim Germany in 1898 to manufacture polishing brushes for the Jewelry Industry.
- 1928 Karl E. Weiler, Joseph's oldest son emigrates to the USA.
- 1944 Karl E. Weiler starts Weiler Brush Company in the basement in Franklin Square N.Y. with a capital of \$200.00.
- 1957 Weiler Brush Company moves to Cresco, PA with 20 employees and is housed in an 8000 square foot building.
- 1961 Karl M. Weiler joins the Company after college and service in the US Army.
- Fast forward to 2008, The Cresco Facility is now 250,000 square feet with over 400 employees.
- The Company is now called Weiler Corporation and manufactures brushes, abrasives and maintenance products in 5 facilities, globally with over 600 employees worldwide.
- The Company now sells in over 50 countries and serves markets ranging from the jewelry industry to shipbuilding.

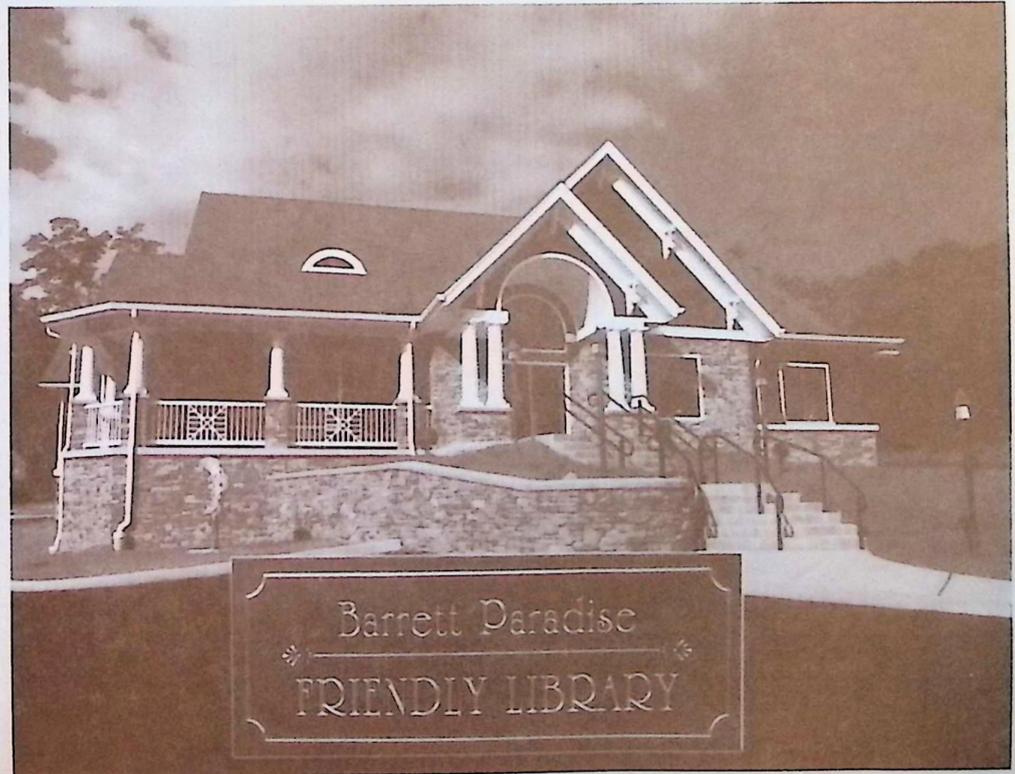


Barrett Friendly Library

The Barrett Friendly Library, dedicated in 1913, was formed by members of the Quaker settlement of Buck Hill as well as other Barrett township residents, hence the name "The Barrett Friendly Library". This was the first building in Monroe County built for the sole purpose of housing a library. The building was built by workers of Buck Hill Inn in the winter of 1912 at a cost of \$2000.00. An addition was added to the original structure in 1965 which provided kitchen and rest room facilities. A second addition was completed in 1982 providing a children's room. By the new millennium, the library had out grown this 2000 square foot space and in June 2008, a new 7800 square foot building was completed jointly funded by the totally by the communities of Barrett and Paradise townships and renamed "The Barrett-Paradise Friendly Library".



barrett friendly library



Flood of 1955

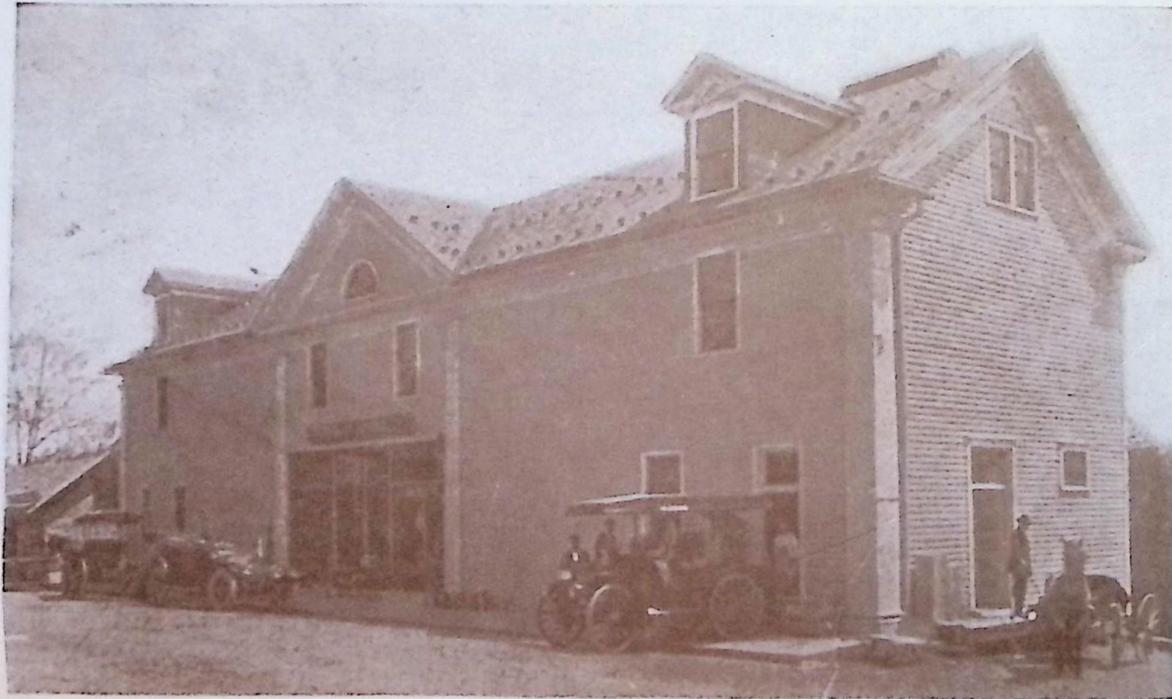
The picture above shows some of the devastation caused by the flood of 1955. All but one of the bridges in Barrett Township were destroyed or rendered useless by the furious rush of water. It hardly seems possible that the usually babbling brook which is the Brodhead or any of the other creeks in the area could become such a raging torrent and cause the deaths of 67 persons in Monroe County and cost millions of dollars in damages.



John A. Seglune

In 1906 John A. Seglune, in partnership with Mr. Jacob Miller, opened The Cresco Cash Store. In 1908 Mr. Seglune took sole ownership of the business and changed the name to Seglune's Department Store. He expanded the variety store by building a four-story building across the street from the original store, and eventually added more buildings that combined to total 24,000 square feet of retail and storage space. Some of the products sold by Seglune's Store included: groceries, dry goods, clothing, carpet, wall paper, coal, propane, and equine supplies.

After Mr. Seglune's death in 1945, the store was operated by his daughter Edith. The business continued under Edith's control until 1955 when fire claimed the main building and in turn the business.



SEGLUNE'S STORE, Cresco, Pa.

Lumbering was one of the major industries in Barrett's early history, and many attendant saw mills were scattered throughout the township. Unfortunately very few pictures of them survive.

The view above is of the Shaffer and Rinehart sawmill in Mountainhome. The dam is to the left of the picture; Mill Creek is behind the building and Spruce Cabin Road is parallel to the bottom of the picture. Most of the finished lumber was carted up to the coal yard in front of the Mountainhome U.M. Church, and then shipped to the D.L. & W. mainline at Cresco via the Oak Valley Branch Line. The water-toboggan chute was a popular attraction for a few years, circa 1927.



What is now "The Daily Bread" bakery in Mountainhome had many past lives. A Mrs. Morrissey from Portland, Pennsylvania moved to the Besecker house, later married John Besecker and started a gift shop with unusual gifts, mostly items thought to be brought from the west coast of Florida where she spent the winter. A tearoom was added and Howard Morrissey, a saxophone player, came on special weekends in the summer to entertain. It was also Mrs. Somers Yarn Shop and an antique and fine arts shop. After several years' vacancy, it became the Bakeshop we know it as now.



Morrissy's Cresco, Pa.



Skytop Lodge

Skytop Lodge is located on a scenic high plateau 3 miles north of Canadensis and stands as one of the last grand Pocono hotels. Located on 5500 acres, Skytop has been a favorite destination for visitors for more than 80 years. Skytop has 193 guest rooms, 30 miles of hiking trails, and features a beautiful 18 hole golf course rated 4.5 out of 5 by Golf Digest. This full service resort has two pools, one indoor, one outdoor, lake swimming, seven tennis courts, and a sporting clay shooting range. Experts are on hand to provide instruction in golf, fly-fishing and shooting. The "Skyview Spa" located on the lodge's fifth floor offers a full complement of salon and spa services. Noteworthy milestones of Skytop Lodge include: 1928- Skytop Lodge Opens 1929- The west wing was added expanding the dining room. 1961-The east wing was constructed that included an indoor pool. 1998-To accommodate an increasing corporate business "The Inn at Skytop" was built. 2005- The Conference Center was added. Skytop is a member of the National Trust Historical Hotels of America, and a Conde Nast Johansen recommended resort.



**Continued from Front Cover

The coalfields of Scranton helped the tourist industry, which began around the turn of the century. Coal meant railroads. Barrett Township's first railroad station, called Oakland, was built in 1875.

Soon though, inns and boarding houses sprang up all around the Township, one of the first being Buck Hill House, located at the Forks. The Spruce Cabin Inn was one of the largest and best known of the early resorts. Built in 1887, it burned in 1891 and again in 1920, after which it was never rebuilt. The Hotel Canadensis, built in 1867, was Barrett Township's oldest tourist facility until it was demolished in 2003.

Train arrivals were great events. Hotels met their customers with horse-drawn carriages, later with cars. Old-timers sat with well-known personalities to spin yarns around the stations potbelly stove.

The station closed in 1968 but was reopened in 1998 under the auspices of the Barrett Township Historical Society and has operated as Cresco Station Museum.

Since the writing of the above article there have been many changes. Buck Hill Inn is closed and many of the old resorts are no longer in existence having burned down or been abandoned. Barrett Township has changed but, hopefully, will continue to attract tourists with its beauty and natural surroundings.