

Yesteryear



2010

Barrett - Paradise



WHITE'S TANNERY

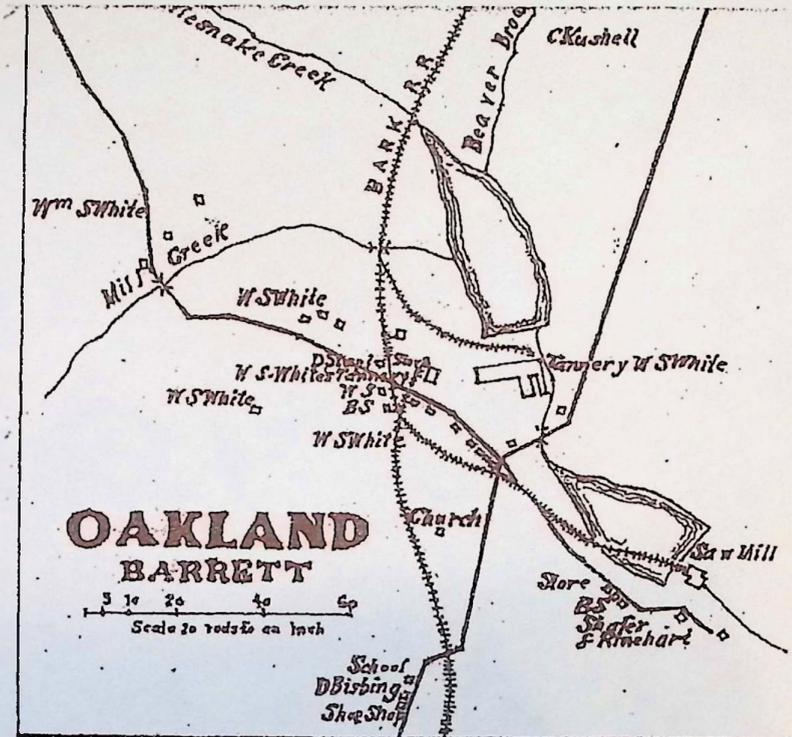
On the cover, the photograph on the left shows the Shafer and Rinehart General Store which is now the Pocono Bible Church. The store was also the Post Office for the town of Oakland, now Mountainhome. The large building in the background provided housing for the tannery workers. The street was known as Bark Street after the Bark RR which ran through this area. The photograph on the right shows the dam used to supply water to the William S. White tannery. The dam, built in 1856, was located at the confluence of three streams: Mill Creek, Rattlesnake Creek and Beaver Run. A breastworks of loose stone dammed the streams and formed a 2 acre lake with the head waters of the lake starting at the LaAnna road (now Route 191). Water was diverted from the lake by raceways to fill lye pits, tanning vats and to run a waterwheel for the mechanical equipment used at the site. It was important to have pure water for the tanning vats, free of minerals, in order to prevent spotting of hides during the tanning process.

The old dam was damaged in the flood of 1955 and the stream opened by bulldozers clearing a path through the breastworks. Remnants of the breastworks can be seen by crossing Route 390 at Lewis' Market and walking west through the field behind the Day Care to the Mill Creek.

WILLIAM SHAW WHITE—THE TANNER (1814-1889)

William Shaw White was born on August 14, 1814 in New York of Irish immigrant parents. At an early age the family moved to rural Lopatcong Township, Warren County, New Jersey, where he grew up and attended the local country school to learn his "3 R's". After formal schooling for the fundamentals of reading, writing, and arithmetic were completed and at about 14 years of age, he searched for an occupation that would serve him for the rest of his life.

William answered an advertisement in the Hunterdon Gazette Newspaper calling for industrious, ambitious, young men to become apprentices to learn the tanning trade at the William Egbert Tannery in Pattenburg, New Jersey. Taking an apprenticeship in any trade, at this time period, meant a young man would agree to work at minimum wage (26 to 31 cents per week) for a period of 5 to 7 years to learn the skills necessary to perform all the various jobs at the tannery. He would be provided free room and board and all the tools and equipment necessary to accomplish the various tasks at the tannery. At the end of his apprenticeship he became a Journeyman Tanner with a pay scale of \$141.00 per year, provided with a house and a small garden. On signing the necessary papers he was taken into the



Egbert home where he learned not only the tanning business but was exposed to the business aspect of the purchasing and deeding of land, listing and sale of land for taxes, forming of partnerships and contracts and other agreements necessary to conduct business. This tutoring by Judge Egbert proved invaluable when it was his time to buy and manage his own tannery. He finished his apprenticeship in about 1835 and although it is uncertain how long he remained with the Egbert Tannery, his wage of \$141.00 would have made it difficult to start his own tannery prior to his marriage to Mary Brakeley, in 1843. After that time, the Brakeley financial support comes into evidence by the William S. White and Matthias Brakeley ventures in the Poconos Mountains just across the Delaware River.

WHITE'S TANNERY IN ANALOMINK

By the 1840's the tanning business in Hunderdon County was starting to decline and White and his brother-in-law Matthias Brakeley, looking at the unending oak and hemlock forests across the Delaware River, and with the support of the Brakeley money, took their first steps towards starting up their own tannery. On March 31, 1845 a deed was registered in the Monroe County Courthouse at Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania for the purchase for \$550 from Richard S. Staples, a 25 acres and 95 perches tract of land on the Brodheads Creek, with a saw mill, located in the town of Analomink, Stroud Township, Monroe County. It was here that the White Tannery, in Analomink, was built and started operating in ~~1885~~. *1845*

In this early period, it is believed that he bought bark from the local farmers and lumberman to supplement that obtained from their own tracts of land. Adam Utt, a neighbor, logged for the saw mill but after the tannery started operations cut and peeled bark and delivered it to the tannery. He also helped White and Brakeley to organize the local farmers to supply the necessary bark to the tannery to meet their production needs.

The town of Analomink grew as the tannery flourished; homes were built, and a company store opened with a Post Office. For a period of time the town and its Post Office went under the name of Spragueville but returned to Analomink later on.

WHITE'S TANNERY IN OAKLAND, NOW MOUNTAINHOME

In 1848, White and Brakeley scouted land about 14 miles to the Northwest, in what was then Price Township, that was ideal for a second tannery. This land was owned by Sam Griscom, William Silvas and Jared Epler. This was wild all unseated land without any settlers on the tracts. Several of the tracts looked promising and on April 13, 1848 Matthias Brakeley bought from Silvas and Epler for \$525 two Warrants in Price Township. This first purchase amounted to approximately 800 acres. Over the next several years more land was bought until by 1866, Brakeley and White land holdings totaled over 10,000 acres in Price, Paradise (now Barrett) and Coolbaugh Township. On January 1, 1857, Brakeley sold to William for \$19,585.00 his interest in the land in Monroe. He relocated to New York City to purchase hides being shipped to New York from South America and to sell the finished leather to the leather industries manufactures.

In 1854, 880 acres of land were sold to Harrison Sebring to build a log house and a saw mill. It was completed in late summer and commenced operation. In 1856, this land again changed hands and was purchased by George G. Shafer and Martin B. Rinehart. White retained the tannery lot of 113 acres and rights to the bark on the two tracts, Sebring stayed as master sawyer for a year and then bought property along the Brodhead Creek in Price Township to farm the land. (Cont. on Back Cover)



Buck Hill Dog Sled Team

“Members” of the Buck Hill Falls Dog Sled Team are shown getting ready for a race or returning from one at the Buck Hill Falls Kennels. The man on the truck was identified as Carl “Buck” Price. The skier on his way to the skating rink is unidentified. The picture was taken in 1931 or 1932 according to the license plate on the truck. Dog Sled Teams were quite popular in the area in the 1930’s with the local teams competing with each other. In the early 40’s the dogs were commandeered by the US Army and sent to snowy areas for use in the war and rescue efforts.



Onawa Lodge

This picture, taken in the early fifties, shows some of Onawa Lodge's winter sports activities. The ski slope, and especially the toboggan chute, were very popular. A short rope ski-tow was later added between the slope and the chute. Part of the south

Facing chute was covered to keep the packed ice from melting.

This area is located behind the Mountainhome United Methodist Church cemetery.

A blacksmith shop, owned and operated by Jacob Miller, was razed to erect the Cresco Garage, which was built by Arch and Clinton Price around 1918.

It was purchased by August Schultz and Henry Price in 1931. They advertised General Automobile Repairs & Service. As these were depression times and there was not enough work to support two families, Mr. Price bought out Mr. Schultz and continued in the business until 1972, when the building was sold to the Shanley brothers, along with the land where the Barrett Paradise Friendly Library is located today. The Shanley's opened The Garden Gate Shop at this intersection of 191/390 and Sand Spring Road. The garage was used to store equipment and supplies.

August Schultz

Phone - 603 J

Henry Price

The Cresco Garage

SCHULTZ & PRICE, Proprietors

GENERAL AUTOMOBILE REPAIRS & SERVICE

Cresco • Pennsylvania

Jun 23, 1931



Mr Price was elected Justice of the Peace in the 1940's, and carried out these duties for 18 years in the garage office. He also served many years as a Notary Public. Contributed by Youndale Price Seese



Early fifties? Five local gentlemen sitting in a canoe in the middle of the Canadensis intersection? Canadensis United Methodist Church can be seen in the background. Apparently the fishing was pretty good. Maybe a publicity shot? Anyone who might have information about this photograph please contact the Barrett Township Historical Society at 595-6157 or visit the Cresco Station Museum. We'd sure like to get the full story on this. Front to back: Bill Sengle, Bill Bloss, Frank Brown, Bill Kipp, and Fred Shafer.

The M. E. Church, Canadensis, Monroe Co., Pa.



Canadensis Methodist Episcopal Church

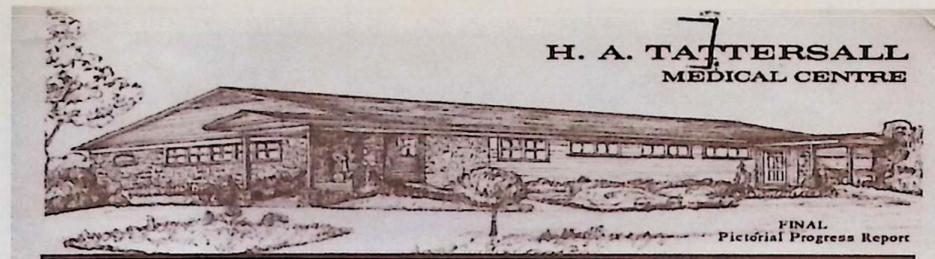
Now the Canadensis United Methodist Church

This post card from the late Nineteen thirties shows a little changed church compared to its present day appearance. The building on the left side of the card was either moved or torn down to make way for the relocation of Route 390 to its present location in 1940 or 1941, so we have the "New Hill" and the "Old Hill".



FALL VIEW, MAPLE LAWN, Cresco, Pa.

Destined to suffer the same fate as many other wood-structured hotels in Barrett and Paradise Townships, this early postcard of Maple Lawn shows the hotel before it passed through several owners, remodelings and eventual destruction by fire in the 21st century. It was razed in 2008 and is now an empty lot at the top of what is known as Maple Lawn Hill, about a two miles from Cresco on Route 191. During its lifetime it passed through several owners who added a motel unit, swimming pool, and a sunroom on the back. A professional saloon builder was brought in who turned the old laundry building into a saloon which became the “Wild Flower Saloon”, At one point it painted yellow and renamed “The Golden Goose”. According to the 1910 issue of Mountain & Lakes Resorts Lackawanna Railroad, it was a farm that was converted to a boarding house. “It commanded a magnificent view and the air was dry, pure and exhilarating.” All food was grown on the premises. It accommodated 50 guests from April to November.



Once Upon a Time,

there was an apple orchard

and . . .

"THE IMPOSSIBLE DREAM"



ten months later . . .

***Barrett Township's
Medical Center!***



In our two previous papers, we've taken you on a tour of this project from the groundbreaking in September 1974 to the end of that year. We will now take you on a picture-trip from January 1975 to August . . . just turn the page!

The Harold A. Tattersall Medical Center

Ground was broken for the local medical center, located on Route 390 between the Penn Star Bank and Starner's BP Gas Station, in September of 1974 and ten months later, August 1975, the building as we know it became a reality. The citizen's of Barrett Township, volunteers from the communities of Canadensis, Cresco, Mountainhome, Buck Hill Falls, and Skytop, contributed time, labor, and money to change an apple orchard into "The Impossible Dream". According to this pamphlet Dr. John Milander joined Dr. Tattersall in the new building and Dr. James Antipas opened his dentist office in 1976.



Keokee Chapel

Paradise Valley, Pennsylvania

Keokee Chapel was built in 1894 by Mrs. Mary E. Monroe, a wealthy woman from Cleveland Ohio. She vacationed in the Poconos with her secretary, Mrs. Miriam Carse, and began attending the little church in Paradise Valley. She decided to erect a new building for the congregation in memory of her beloved daughter, Mary Keokee Monroe, who died on January 23, 1866 at the age of 17. It was dedicated on May 19, 1895 and the name changed to Keokee Memorial Evangelical Chapel. Unfortunately Mrs. Monroe did not live to see its dedication. It became Keokee Chapel United Methodist Church when the Evangelical United Brethren Church merged with the Methodist Church. It is located in Paradise Valley on Keokee Road, next to the Paradise Valley Park ball field and The Roof.

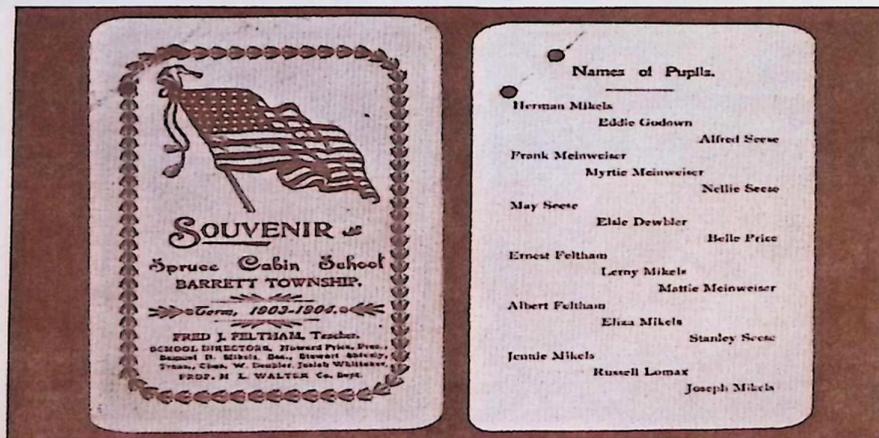
SPRUCE CABIN SCHOOL

March 31, 1898. Charles (V) Seese and wife Sophia appeared before E. M. Case, J.P. "in and for the County of Monroe" and signed the papers selling to the Barrett School District a parcel of land upon which the Spruce Cabin School would be built. the purchase price was \$10.00.

Nearly 100 years later, the only portion of the school remaining is the small moss covered stoned porch and is located on a "V" shaped piece of property between Lake Road and the gravel road entrance to the "Chub" Caprioli property. ☐



Moss covered Porch is the only remains of the Spruce Cabin School



Spruce Cabin School's Class of 1903-1904 Souvenir

Names of Pupils.

Herman Mikels	Eddie Godown	Alfred Seese
Frank Meinweiser	Myrtie Meinweiser	Nellie Seese
May Seese	Elsie Dewbler	Belle Price
Ernest Feltham	Lerny Mikels	Mattie Meinweiser
Albert Feltham	Elisa Mikels	Stanley Seese
Jennie Mikels	Russell Lomax	Joseph Mikels



Cresco Station

Looking East from the front of the station in the early nineteen hundreds. On the right side of the picture, the last car of a Hoboken bound Passenger car can be seen. The souvenir shop by the station is still standing so there is no parking lot on that side of the highway. The gate-man's shanty seen here will be moved to the other side of the tracks. Today a replica of the shanty is back in its original location through the efforts of the Weiler Family Foundation.

Most of the houses in the left rear area are still standing. Dr. Rogers, a prominent physician who was a 1881 graduate of Jefferson Memorial College and opened practice here, lived in one of them.

Since the parking lot for hotel buses was not built yet, a canopy is not needed, but was added later and is recreated today from the original builders plans.



Barrett Township High School JV Basketball Team—1941

Team's Starting Five

Back Row - Wolden Magann, Willard Albert, Coach Joseph Wile, William Price, John Vanderweel—Seated—Robert Bauman

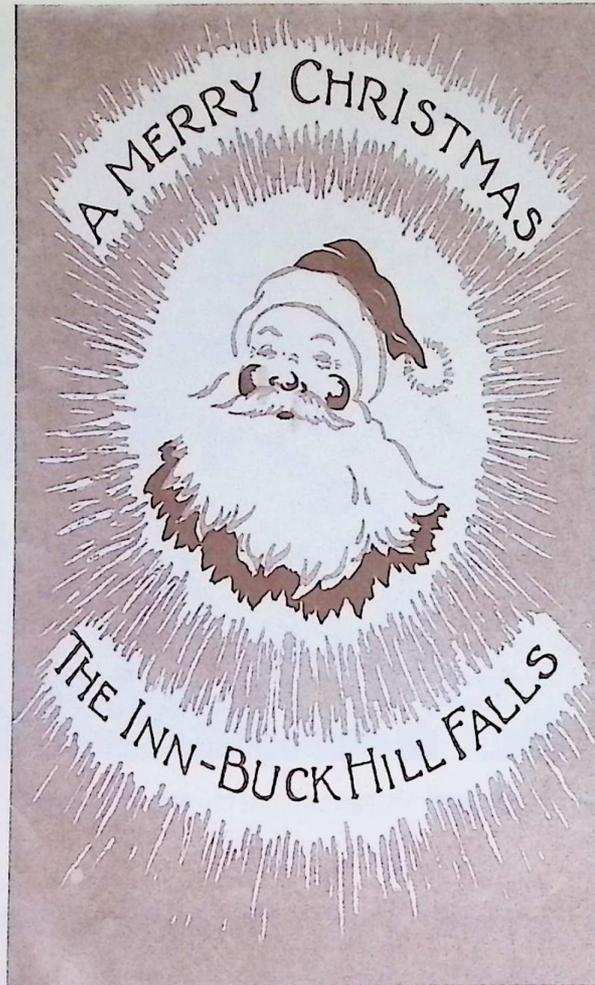
Barrett Consolidated School High School fielded a junior and senior varsity basketball team after hiring coach Joseph Wile in 1934. The coach started teaching the fundamentals of basketball to the 5th grade children in gym classes and continued their development with

intramural basketball games. He sorted out the better athletes and by the 8th grade selected a junior varsity team. After a few seasons these boys moved on to the varsity team. The games were played in small gymnasiums of the consolidated schools in the Monroe County school district including: Barrett, Chestnuthill, Coolbaugh, Polk, Tobyhanna, and Pocono. Unlike today's games the points scored were in the 30;s, with a spread of 5 points or less between winners and losers. The season consisted of ten games, one at home and one away, before a champion emerged. Coach Wile's teams always contended for the league championship.

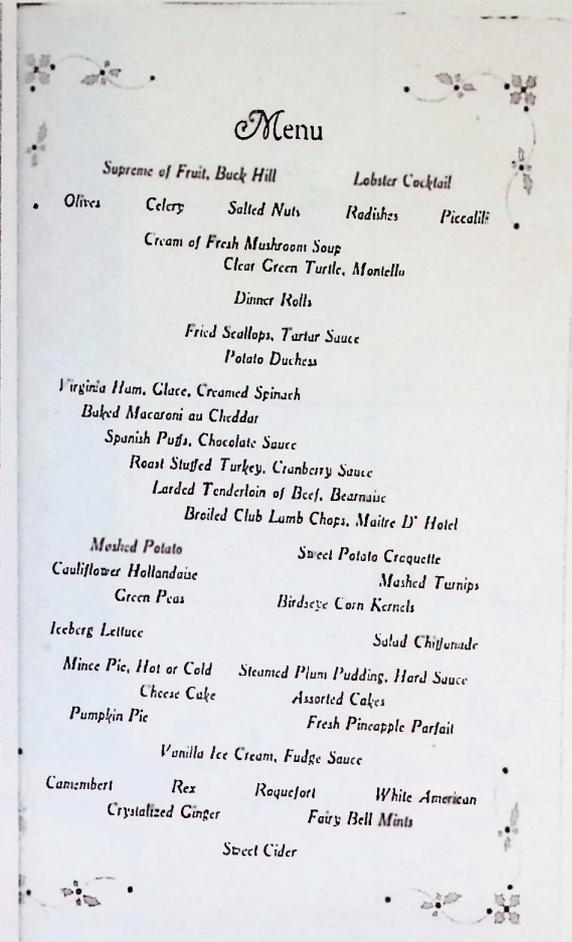
According to a Holiday Program for Christmas, 1939 and New Year's, 1940 all of the activities listed were complimentary to guests at The Inn, Cottagers, and invited Guests, except the Talking Pictures on December 23-25-27-28-29-30 and January 1, for which there is a charge of 40 cents.

Following is an example of some of these activities: Fireside Party, Steak Roast, Capehart Music Hour, Talking Pictures. On Sunday, December 24, Friends' Meeting, Trimming Bird Trees, Bringing in the Tree, Christmas Music, Afternoon Tea, Bringing in the Yule Log, Carols, Santa Visits Buck Hill, Trim the Christmas Tree. On Christmas Day, there was a Friends Meeting, Salmagundi

(Courtesy Buck Hill Archives)



Party, Music Hour, and Talking Pictures (Myrna Loy and William Powell in "Another Thin Man"), Tuesday, December 26, there was a Music Hour, Recital and Lew Ayres and Lionel Barrymore in "The Return of Dr. Kildare". On New Year's Eve there was a Buffet Supper at 11:00 PM with Dancing in the South Lounge at 12:01 AM. Next day the feature movie was Melvyn Douglas and Joan Blondell in "The Amazing Mr. Williams".

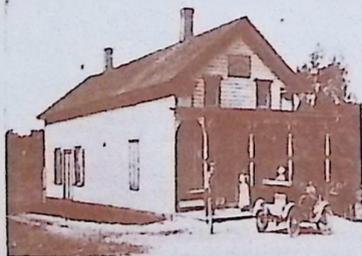


(Cont. from page 3)

The White's Tannery was built in about 1855. A dam was built that was larger in area than the saw mill dam. Water was captured from three major streams; Mill Creek, Rattlesnake and Beaver Run. The tannery dam waters backed up to where the present Route 191 bridge crosses over the Rattlesnake Creek. The main tannery building was below the dam and adjacent to the stream. The bark shed was attached to the end of the main building. Water power was used to drive the wheel. Also water was diverted from the dam through races to pools and vats throughout the yard. After completing various tanning operations the waste materials were discharged back into the stream. Wouldn't the EPA have a ball with that type operation today! The vertical boiler, furnace and chimney was located down stream from the main building.

With the opening of the DL & W Railroad to the Delaware River in January of 1856 and across the river in May of the same year, White seized the opportunity to enter into an agreement with George Shafer, for \$1, to cross Shafer's land for the purpose of building a gravity railroad up to the foot of Bush Mountain. He also put in a Spur Line from what became the Oakland Station of the DL&W to the "Lumber Yard" and onto the tannery property. The LaAnna road, now Route 191, follows the path of the old rail road bed from Mountainhome to Bush Mountain.

In 1860, White employed about 23 people at the tannery. Twelve were single and nine married. Assuming five people for the married families, this would mean it was necessary to provide housing for about 57 people. White build the houses and rented living space to all the employees. One large double house was located on the corner of what is called the LaAnna Road and the Brutzman Road. Other homes were located on the Brutzman Road down to the bridge over Mill Creek at Route 390 and along Bark Street.



White also built a store and a Post Office, now the location of the Bible Church. Daniel Staples ran the store and became the first Post Master on May 10, 1858. It is believed that Staples was also bookkeeper for the tannery. The town of Oakland grew with the success of the tanning business, which in 1860 had a capital investment of \$60,000, processed \$32,000 hides, used 900 cords of bark, had 15 employees, and produced 640,000 pounds of leather for an annual gross product valued at \$192,000. White's blacksmith processed 9 tons of horse shoes and wagon irons for a gross product value of \$1,800. This is according to the 1860 Industrial Census.

On December 13, 1861 William S. White sold the Oakland Tannery to Loring Andrews, a leather broker from New York for the sum of \$39,000. In 1862 he sold the Analomink Tannery and the White's residence home. Although the business would be in greater demand due to the Civil War, it is thought that several family tragedies may have caused the decision. The family had purchased a home in Belvidere, New Jersey and according to the 1860 census, the family lived there with William commuting back and forth to the Oakland Station or Analomink to manage the tanneries. After the sale of the tanneries, he continued to reside in Belvidere.

William S. White died on June 21, 1889, at 75 years of age. His wife lived with a daughter Susan, first in Easton and then Philadelphia. After the death of her daughter, she moved back to Brakeley homestead near Philipsburg, NJ, where she resided until her death in 1907 at age 88.

Excerpts for this article were taken from the research of Wolden Magann