

## **SCHOOL SITES IN CHESTER & VICINITY, 1936**

In which the minutes of the Boroughs of Chester, North Chester, South Chester, and those of the city of Chester to 1893, have been consulted, and in addition, much information obtained from Martin's History of Chester (1877) and Ashmead's History of Delaware County (1884)

Robinette's account of our schools (1879) was helpful, and a great amount of aid rendered the facts solicited and not clearly discernable in the records.

Therefore, from 1893 to 1936, this record is (it is hoped) correct as to locations, but sketchy as to details.

Signed by Chester F. Baker  
Chairman, Library Committee  
The Delaware County Historical Society  
December 19, 1936

**MARKER NO. 39 – BAPTIST CHAPEL PUBLIC SCHOOL** – A primary school was established by the Directors in 1866 in the old Baptist Church, on the west side of Penn Street, north of Second Street, and in the rear of the more pretentious Church erected on the corner. The rent was at the rate of \$5 per month. Both Church edifices have been removed and worship is now had in the Baptist Church at Seventh and Fulton Streets: Hon. Edward Nothnagle's brother Frank attended school here, and the teacher was Miss Burns who prior to this, or later, conducted a private school on Franklin Street (Marker No. 218).

**MARKER NO. 40 – FINCH PRIVATE SCHOOL** – On the north side of Second Street, east of Edgmont Avenue, stood a house erected by Jasper Yeates in 1700. It was removed by the John J. Buckley Company in 1889 to make way for an abattoir and packing plant. Here had lived Deborah Norris Logan and her mother, Mary Parker Logan.

In 1823, Miss Lydia Eliza Finch established a private school here, using two rooms to accommodate about ninety pupils, both sexes. Miss Finch had been a Philadelphian. She afterwards had a store on Third Street west of Market Street where No. 11 and 13 now are. She taught alone for the first six years, then obtained Charles D. Manley (later of Media) for her assistant. He taught the older George Darlington says the school was conducted in an out building.

**ST. PAUL'S CHURCH PARISH SCHOOL** – The only school known to have been conducted in Chester prior to 1770 was in connection with this Church, after about 1731. About 1843, Mrs. Frances Biddle had a school for girls in the Sunday school room – a frame building – attached to the Church.

**MARKER NO. 79 – SHARPLESS' SCHOOL HOUSE** – This one-story frame school house stood until 1891 in a grove of oak and hickory trees, some of which survive, on the west side of Chestnut Street between the present dwellings of E. A. Howell and Andrew Frank. The building had been erected in 1830 by the

Friends of that vicinity, and it is known that Miss Peterson, Amy Griffith, and Ann McGill were teachers here. Miss McGill became the wife of Richard Wetherill, and Miss Peterson the wife of Richard Wetherill, and Miss Peterson the wife of John Sharpless, Jr. When Frederick A. Howard built the Frank dwelling in 1891, he caused the uncut from door step of the school house to be laid in the sidewalk of Chestnut Street at the driveway entrance. On this step were the initials of Ann McGill, and a date. From the latest available information, the step still lies where Mr. Howard is placed. In the Morning Republican of April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1896, Mr. Howard, in verse, perpetuates the history of this school house, and of Ann McGill. In its last years, tenants occupied the building.

**MARKER NO. 104 – CHESTER HIGH SCHOOL** – This, the third High building, is in the block bounded by Eighth, Ninth, Fulton and Parker Streets. It was constructed in 1901 at a cost of \$167,014.25, including the grounds, the first class graduating in 1905 which had passed its full high school course in the new building.

It immediately became designated as Building No. 1, had 44 rooms, including 18 classrooms with 764 seats, and one assembly room with 536 seats, 2 laboratories, library, etc. A counterpart was added to this building about 1920.

**MARKER NO. 105 – THOMAS J. CLAYTON** – Located on the north side of Seventh Street, west of Highland Avenue, this building was named for Thomas J. Clayton (1826-1900) upon its construction in 1891-2. George Whittaker was the contractor, and his bid price \$11,918 for a four-room school building, which was remodeled in 1922-3 by J. Minshall Holden. An early teacher was Maggie C. Baldwin, who married William H. Bancroft, and lives (1936) at 3429 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Chester, Pa.

Thomas J. Clayton, who lived close by, was President-Judge of the Courts of Delaware County, and served before that on the South Chester School Board from 1872 to 1874.

**MARKER 106 – SOUTH CHESTER BOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL, 1883** – Situated at the northwest corner of Third and Yarnall (then Morton) Streets, the building remains in use at this writing (1936) and is designated as the George Dewey School. The name was changed to the Morton School in 1889, but upon annexation to Chester City in 1898, and due to a school of that name existing in Chester, the present name was affixed in honor of Admiral Dewey (born 1837) who had just achieved fame at the Battle of Manilla.

Contractor W. H. Smith built the first building in 1883 at a cost of \$8585.85, while J. W. McMaster constructed an addition in 1893 for \$2076, and George S. Whittaker another addition in 1896 for \$4475.

As between the three school buildings existing at this period between Jeffrey and Yarnall (then Morton) Streets, on Third Street, the allocation of Teachers'

names to the proper buildings has been difficult due to confusion in the record therefore such lists are subject to correction.

The teachers in this block in 1885 were:

Mary E. Roebuck, High School Principal  
Anna P. Bishop, Asst. High School Principal  
Hannah A. Sears, Grammar School  
Christie Gourley, Fifth Grade  
Sadie E. Wilde, Second Grade Secondary School  
Laura E. Reaney, First Primary  
Mary B. Rees, Second Primary  
Anna Dwyer, Third Primary

In 1883, the list had been substantially the same, the exceptions being the names of Mary Fisher and P. J. Lock.

In 1885, a new teacher joined the staff – Frances C. Bliss, and in 1886, Florence Brossius was added as teacher.

In 1896, Mr. DeZapp was granted use of a room for one night each week “for the study of music and rehearsals of the Choir Union.”

#### **MARKER NO. 107 – SOUTH CHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOL, 1871 –**

The first school house built in South Chester Borough, was on the north side of Third Street centered between Jeffrey and Yarnall (Morton) Streets, and the front kept 40 feet back from Third Street. This was in 1871. Sometime after the erection of the Horace Mann School House at the corner of Third and Jeffrey Streets, this building was removed and the site today (1936) is part of the playgrounds of the Horace Mann and Dewey Schools.

The architecture of this building was patterned after the Morton Avenue School House in Chester, then two-years old. John W. Martin was the contractor, and the price of erection, \$7669.

By 1872, 393 pupils occupied the four rooms – three by white children, one by colored children, and there were four teachers namely, Miss Busby, grammar; Mary E. Roebuck, intermediate; Ella Conroy, secondary; and Miss Fairlamb, primary. The preceding year, the Misses Burns and Cornog seemed to have taught there. In 1872, permission was granted by the School Board for a Sunday school to hold sessions in the building. By 1873-4, the colored pupils had been removed, and teachers were E. Busby, grammar; A. Megerghegan, intermediate; E. L. Cornog, secondary; and M. V. Fairlamb, primary. In 1876, teachers were Anna C. Murray, Mary W. McAnall, Miss Welsh, and Fannie V. Campe.

Night school was established in 1878 under the direction of Miss Tomlinson – a total of three night schools in the Borough. The year following, there appears to have been only one night school, and that white.

Hannah Sears joined the staff in 1879; in 1881, Anna P. Bishop and Mary W. Marshall.

**MARKER NO. 108 – HIGH SCHOOL ANNEX OR EYRE SCHOOL –** This residence, formerly of Sallie P. Eyre Price, is on the north side of Seventh Street between Barclay and Fulton Streets, and for a great many years, due to overcrowding in the High School, has been used as an addition to, or annex to the parent school.

**MARKER NO. 109 – FRANKLIN GRAMMAR SCHOOL –** When built, the original was known as the South Ward School, but officially became the Franklin School March 7, 1889, and named for the street upon which it fronted. The street had been named in honor of Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) of whom little need be said.

The site is the east side of Franklin Street, north of Third Street, and extends in depth eastwardly to Concord Avenue.

The original building was constructed about 1853 to seat 200 pupils, and in 1862 a two-story addition was erected in the rear to accommodate another 100 pupils. The lot was purchased in 1853 from Martha Smith.

In 1866, Edwin Hannum was granted use of a room for night school – also a room to Miss Naisby for a like purpose. In 1873, night school was still being conducted here.

Water was introduced into the building in 1870, and in 1872, a grammar school was created here.

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This building was removed and replaced with the present schoolhouse in 1912, and rebuilt in the early 1920's following a disastrous fire.

In 1899, called Building No. 11, 286 seats, six teachers, and grades primary to fourth. Cutler's Hall was used this year, on Third Street, with Bertha M. Hansel as instructress.

In 1900, six rooms, 331 seats, and Vida St. C. Smith taught in Cutler's Hall. This continued the next year, when again is noted 286 seats, so that the assumption can be drawn that Cutler's Hall held 45 seats for primary pupils.

**MARKER NO. 110 – FREDERICK DOUGLAS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL -** It is situated upon the north side of Seventh Street between Central Avenue and Edwards Street, and was erected in 1931-2 by Richardson and Luce, contractors, with George S. Idell as architect.

It was named for a nationally known educator.

**MARKER NO. 111 – BOOKER T. WASHINGTON SCHOOL -** This school for colored Children is located on the south side of Seventh Street between Central Avenue and Edwards Street, and was built by the Chester Construction and

Contracting Company in 1923. It was named for a nationally known colored educator. Architects were Sanders and Young.

**MARKER NO. 112 – CENTRAL SCHOOL, FIRST HIGH SCHOOL, DR. ELWOOD HARVEY SCHOOL** – Dr. Elwood Harvey (1820-1889) for whom this school was named, was for thirty years prior to his death, a successful medical practitioner in Chester, and of whom Ashmead says “was one of the strongest characters and intellects Chester has ever known.” He served among the Directors from 1864 to 1870, and from 1870 to 1876, and from 1865 to 1868 was President of the Board.

In 1867-8, a Central Grammar School for both sexes was constructed at the southeast corner of Fifth and Welsh Streets at a cost of \$8210, John Hinkson, contractor. In 1872 a High School was established here, the first in Chester, and the first class of eight graduated in 1875. The fall of this year, gas was introduced into the building and night school commenced with 135 scholars and teachers Misses McAfee and Happersett. In 1877, there were 95 pupils in the High School. On March 7, 1889, it was officially named by the Board that cognomen which it bears today (1936). Upon the erection of the High School next door in 1886 (Marker No. 189) it resumed the status of a Grammar School only, and by 1891 housed 112 pupils.

The Chester School Manuals furnished the following additional data:

**Building No. 2**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 1899      | 4 classrooms, 283 seats, principal & 6 teachers, grades 1-7                                    |
| 1900-1902 | 3 rooms, 4 classrooms, principal and 6 teachers, grades 1-7.<br>Becomes Building No. 3 in 1902 |
| 1903-1904 | Principal and 2 teachers, balance of data ditto  |
| 1905-1908 | 217 seats, balance of data ditto   |
| 1909      | 214 seats, balance of data ditto   |
| 1910-1914 | Grades 1-7, excepting the 4 <sup>th</sup> . Balance of data ditto                              |
| 1915      | Principal and 3 teachers   |

Since prior to 1926, this building has been used for colored pupils.

**MARKER NO. 113 – THE OLD ACADEMY, GARTSIDE SCHOOL, GRAYS ACADEMY** – In 1870 the Chester School Board purchased at Sheriff’s Sale from James Chadwick, the old Academy building on the south side of Second Street between Franklin and Fulton Streets, for the sum of \$9178.07, subject to certain claims. Water was introduced into the building this year, and by 1892 grammar school had been established.

On March 7, 1889, the building was officially named in memory of Benjamin Gartside (1794-1885) who had been a prominent manufacturer in the South Ward, and a member of the Board in 1860 and 1863.

The “Academy” had been pressed into use by the School Board as early as 1864 to help relieve the over-crowded conditions caused by the influx of population due to the War boom.

The first John P. Crozer built the original building in 1850, and in 1856 it was purchased by John M. Broomall, who in turn sold it about 1860 to James Chadwick. (See Marker No. 217) It was used as an Academy as long as Messrs. Crozer and Broomall had it but during the Chadwick ownership was used as a boarding house, restaurant, and what not. In 1852, Samuel Arthur taught here. George Darlington (born 1832) in his “Recollections,” notes attending school here under Arthur, so that the supposition can be arrived at that Arthur was the first instructor – Darlington one of the first pupils. In 1889 listed as Building No. 10, 336 seats, 8 teachers, and grades fifth to seventh. In 1908, 6 rooms, 2 classrooms, 303 seats, 6 teachers, for grades 1, 2, 5, and 6.

**MARKER NO. 114 – GEORGE JONES SCHOOL** – This is a brick building for colored pupils at the southeast corner of Seventeenth and Walnut streets, and was constructed about 1901. Cost of lot and construction, \$5593.77. Known as Building No. 23. It was named for the first colored teacher in old Chester, born in 1819, and whose first school had been that held in the old M. E. Church at Second and Bevan Streets. He served on the North Chester School Board from 1880 to 1881, and from August 18, 1881 until his death in May 1886. To his honor, and in respect for his learning, and position in the Borough, the Oak Grove and Powell Schools were closed on the day of his burial.

**MARKER NO. 115 – LINCOLN SCHOOL** – Ground was purchased in 1899 at the northwest corner of Eight and Lincoln Streets, with 192 feet on Eighth Street by 120 feet along Lincoln Street to an alley. The services of J. Harrison Reed, Architect, were engaged, and contract awarded to Crothers Brothers for \$14,750, exclusive of heating, curbs, walks, clocks, and bells. Oliver Brothers had part of the contract, and work was completed in 1891. Post Wilde, G. A. R., presented flags to the School, together with a picture of Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865) for whom the building was named.

The first principal was Frank A. Balche, and one of the earlier teachers was Sarah Wilde.

In 1900, it had eight rooms, as many teachers, grades primary to sixth, and 363 seats. Designated, Building No. 13.

In 1908, it had 387 seats, nine teachers, and grades primary to fifth.

**MARKER NO. 116 – WILLIAM HILL MARTIN SCHOOL** – A two-story brick schoolhouse, located at the northeast corner of Fifteenth and Walnut Streets, erected in 1888-9 on a lot purchased from Thomas S. Phipps for \$3000. The lot had 125 feet on Fifteenth Street, and 100 feet on Walnut Street. The architect was George Hannum, and the contractor, John Hinkson, and construction

bid on the building \$9999. On March 7, 1889, the Chester City School Board named the school for one of the earliest known advocates in the Legislature for a public school system for Pennsylvania. Dr. Martin was born Sept. 2, 1765, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1786, and came to Chester in 1788 where he became chief burgess soon afterwards. Not satisfied with his profession alone, nor with his public activities, he studied law here and was admitted to the Bar in April 1796. He died of yellow fever two years later, at the early age of 33, and lies buried in Old St. Paul's Graveyard. In June 1907, Sallie K. Blakeley was principal at a time Dr. Martin's portrait in oil was presented to the School by a grandson, William Martin Bonsall and by executors Edward S. Sayers and G. A. Elasser of the Martin Estate. Known as School No. 7.

**MARKER NO. 117 – MORTON AVENUE SCHOOL** – Built at the northeast corner of Seventh Street and Morton Avenue in 1869 upon land purchased from John Hinkson. The lot fronted Morton Avenue with 140 feet by 120 feet by 120 feet along Seventh, formerly Cochran Street. By 1874, the grades were primary, intermediate, and grammar, but this year, the grammar department was removed to the Logan or Larkin School at Eleventh and Madison Streets.

March 7, 1889 the building was officially named by the Board from the avenue upon which it faced. The Avenue of course took its name from John Morton (1724-1777), a Signer of the Declaration of Independence, whose remains lie in Old St. Paul's Graveyard in Chester.

When this building was first opened, two primary schools were taught. An addition was built to a school in the North Ward in 1879, the contractor being H. A. Fairlamb, at his low bid of \$3230. The record is not clear as to the location, but undoubtedly it was an addition to this schoolhouse. The record is not clear or other details, or on teachers' lists, in that it seems impossible to allocate the proper item of interest, or the appointed teachers to the proper buildings, not only here but in the old Middle and South Wards as well.

By 1899, this is termed the "Morton Building" (not Morton Avenue Building) No. 4, with 401 seats, eight teachers, and grades one to seven. In 1900, 8 rooms, 388 seats, teachers and grades ditto. In 1908, 8 rooms, 371 seats, teachers eight, and grades primary to sixth.

**MARKER NO. 118 – JOSEPH G. E. SMEDLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL** – Situated on the east side of Upland Street and on the extension of Seventeenth Street, it is a two-story brick structure erected in 1923 on land purchased from Louise Deshong Woodbridge. Chester Construction and Contracting Company were the contractors with Sanders and Young, architects.

**MARKER NO. 119 – JOHN A. WATTS (colored) SCHOOL** – This schoolhouse bore the name of "Lincoln" until the consolidation of South Chester Borough with the City of Chester in 1898. Then it became the Langston School,

Building No. 21. In 1900 it had 8 rooms with 403 seats. The name was changed to the "John A. Watts School" sometime prior to 1908, in honor of a humble devotee of education among the colored race, and who rendered creditable public service to the old Borough by interesting himself in the erection of this building, serving on the Borough School Board from 1875 to 1881, and from 1887 to 1893. He was born a slave in 1850, secured his freedom during the Civil War, came to South Chester in the early 70's, and died in 1894, mourned by a host of friends both white and colored.

The schoolhouse was erected in 1889 at the northwest corner of Fourth and Edwards Street upon land purchased the previous year from John M. Broomall for \$1200, with 125 feet frontage on Edwards Street, and building of four rooms with outside dimensions of 56 feet by 40 feet. Alexander Shakespeare was the contractor, and the awarded contract figure \$6287.36.

In 1890 the teachers were the Misses Sterling and Houcleso and Mr. Lock, with Emma White granted the use of a room "to continue the night school." An addition was built in 1895 by John McMaster for \$3261.64. A Mr. Washington taught the night school in 1896. By 1909 this school was being designated as Building No. 20, with a principal and seven other teachers, 8 rooms, and 440 seats.

**MARKER NO. 120 – JOHN WETHERILL SCHOOL** – A two-story stone primary and intermediate schoolhouse erected in 1930 whereupon the Oak Grove and Portable Schools were closed. It is situated on the south side of Twenty-Fourth Street, and west side of Potter Street, an unopened street. The name was transferred from Old Oak Grove which had been designated the John Wetherill School about 1906. The only public kindergarten in Chester is conducted in this building. Prior to the school's erection, the kindergarten spent a year or so in the frame chapel of the First Presbyterian Church, 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and Edgmont Avenue.

**MARKER NO. 121 – DR. DANIEL W. JEFFERIS SCHOOL** – This building, a two-story brick structure, were erected in 1932, and is on the east side of Hyatt Street between Morton Avenue and Twelfth Street, and with grounds extending eastwardly to Melrose Avenue. Clarence W. Brazer was the architect, with J. Minshall Holden, contractor. It has been so named because the late Dr. Jefferis' outstanding efforts and accomplishments relative to the improvement and advancement of school matters in the City of Chester.

**MARKER NO. 122 – LARKIN GRAMMAR SCHOOL** – This building was built in 1894-5 and named in honor of our first Mayor, John Larkin, Jr. (See Marker No. 178). It is situated at the southwest corner of Ninth and Crosby Streets (formerly Broad and Mechanic Streets). It had then ten classrooms with 572 seats, and was denoted as Building No. 5 and by 1899, had a principal and seventeen teachers, and grades one, two, three, and grammar. The next year, it was classed as



having an assembly room, eight classrooms (grammar department) 1260 seats; three rooms, two classrooms (primary department), 576 seats, one principal and sixteen teachers. AT present (1936) the office of City Superintendent of Schools and his staff, occupy the front of this building.

**MARKER NO. 123 – BOROUGH OF PARKSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL**

– From a copy of a history of Parkside, deposited in the cornerstone of this building when ceremonies were held during construction in October 1919, the following facts have been determined: Chester Township School Directors early in 1919 remained adamant in their purpose of erecting a new building at Brookhaven, where the pupils of what is now Parkside Borough had been compelled to attend. Meetings were held at the office of the Parkside Real Estate and Improvement Company, committees appointed, and action furthered and matured which resulted in the incorporation of the new Borough and School District. The Real Estate Company donated a tract of land for school purposes, and the first unit of this school was then constructed, followed by necessary additions in 1922 and 1929 upon the continued growth of the Borough. Primary to grammar grades are taught here.

**MARKER NO. 124 – ST. ROBERTS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AND PAROCHIAL SCHOOL** – The Church built a two-story stone building in 1924 in the center of the block on the south side of Twenty First Street between Potter and Upland Streets. The lower floor or basement, is used for Church purposes, while the second floor is the school which grades from primary through High School. In the rear of the building is the residence of the teaching staff, while the Rectory is at the southeast corner of Nineteenth Street and Providence Avenue.

**MARKER NO. 125 – ST. MICHAEL’S PAROCHIAL SCHOOL** – A parochial school had been established and erected in 1866 by the Church of St. Michael the Archangel, and used also as a chapel during the erection of the present imposing edifice on Edgmont Avenue beginning in 1874. The present stone schoolhouse was erected in 1889 and is on the north side of Seventh Street east of Edgmont Avenue.

**MARKER NO. 126 – ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA ROMAN CATHOLIC PAROCHIAL SCHOOL** – The Trinity M. E. Church as established in 1865, and a Chapel built on the west side of Parker Street north of Third Street in 1866, and the Church, on the northwest corner of these two streets, completed about 1870.

In 1913-14, an Italian R. C. Church was built on the north side of Third Street between Concord Avenue and Franklin Street, and a school established in the basement.

About 1920, the Trinity Church erected a new edifice at the northeast corner of Eighth and Butler Streets, conveying title of the old site to the Cardinal and the

following year the old M. E. Church and Chapel were renovated, and became the Parochial School, and Convent for the teaching staff.

**MARKER NO. 127 – IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY ROMAN CATHOLIC PAROCHIAL SCHOOL** – The school building was erected on the west side of Norris Street, north of Second Street in 1883, and is still in use.

**MARKER NO. 128 – ST. HEDWIG’S PAROCHIAL SCHOOL AND AUDITORIUM** – This building is located on the south side of Fourth Street between Wilson and Hayes Streets, and was built in 1925, being an addition to the older school building still standing at the southwest corner of Fourth and Hayes Streets. The parochial school was established before 1915.

**MARKER NO. 129 – RESURRECTION ROMAN CATHOLIC PAROCHIAL SCHOOL** – This school was established, and building erected in 1911-12 at the southeast corner of Tenth Street and Highland Avenue. It is still in use.

**MARKER NO. 130 – HOWELL STREET SCHOOL** – This schoolhouse was erected in 1878 when the street upon which it fronts was known as Howell Street, but now as Lamokin Street (Lamokin was the former name of Central Avenue). Its location is on the west side, north of Third Street.

The lot was purchased in 1877, 80 feet by 120 feet, for \$2000; and the following year a contract in amount of \$6500 let to Joel Lane for construction. Also this year, 1878, an adjoining lot was purchased at Sheriff’s Sale for \$1500. The investigator believes this to be the first school house in the present limits of the City of Chester, to have been heated with steam. All other schools were still being heated with stoves in each room.

On March 7, 1889, the schoolhouse was officially named from the Street upon which it had been built.

In 1900, the grades were primary to fifth, six teachers in six rooms, 318 seats, and designated Building No. 14. In 1908, there were 295 seats.

**MARKER NO. 137 – OLD FRANKLIN PUBLIC SCHOOL – THE CHARTER SCHOOLHOUSE** – In 1848, Gilead Carter and wife Margaret conveyed to six Trustees the one-half acre site upon which this old building today (1936) stands, and thereon was erected a one-story brick building, known as the Carter School, which was replaced in 1871 by the Franklin School, a two-story brick and stucco building. This in turn was replaced in 1928 by the New Franklin Schoolhouse, west of, and adjacent to this site. (See Marker No. 177) In 1929, the School Board sold this building and lot to Mary Ellen Doyle, wife of Patrick, who the same year conveyed the premises to Horace D. Bullock and wife, Sara T., the present owners and occupiers.

This site is the north side of Chichester and Bethel Road, about 450 feet west of Felton Avenue.

Here, in the old one-story building in 1858, first attended William Phillips, born in 1853, and at present (1936) living near the Carter Cemetery. Senator McClure's father, William J., too went to school here.

Mr. Phillips attended school here for upwards of ten years, the only schoolroom he ever knew. He first recalls Mr. Tomlinson as teacher, from West Chester way – who lived and died in the frame dwelling still standing (1936) on the east of this site. Next followed John McCay, son of Robert, who lived in the brick house now standing east of the frame house. Next, came a German named Clauser, or Clauder, and after Mr. Phillips had left school, came Maggie Barlow, now Mrs. Aarons left (1936) in Marcus Hook. Kate Maddock too taught here, and left teaching to marry Horace W. Fairlamb.

Mr. Phillips is of the belief that the present Old Franklin School was placed on the original foundations of the Carter School.

**MARKER NO. 138 – EBENEZER METHODIST CHURCH AND SCHOOLHOUSE, AND CARTER CEMETERY** – These buildings were erected of stone in 1828 by funds contributed by John Lloyd, Gilliad Carter, and others. They stood in the rear of, and opposite the southeast corner of the present walled-in Charter Cemetery. They probably passed into disuse in 1848 when Gilead Carter and wife Margaret conveyed to trustees the site of the present Old Franklin School, then to become the Carter School. Mr. William Phillips who (1936) lives just north of this site, was born in 1853, and remembers the ruins of these two buildings, but never their use. He confirms Ashmead in stating that Abraham Carter built the present wall around the Cemetery from these ruins. These grounds, including the Cemetery, afterwards became known as the Meeting House lot, and were one-third of an acre of greater extent than the present enclosed cemetery, so that in course of time the original outline of the lot lost its identity and adverse proceedings were had by John A. Trosino in 1931 to acquire the parts of the original lot outside the cemetery walls. At that period, the Law presumed that John Wesley Carter, Gilliad Carter, and Abraham Carter had interests in the old lot but no deed of record from any of them to either of the Church, School or Cemetery sites. Abraham Carter advised in "Delaware county Republican" June 15, 1860, that a stone wall had been erected, cemetery was in good order, and 27 unoccupied lots offered for sale.

This site is on the east side of the Concord Road about 500 feet north of the B. & O. Railroad, and the last burial seems to have taken place in 1915.

**MARKER NO. 170 – GILBERT'S CHESTER ACADEMY** – At the southwest corner of Ninth and Potter Streets stands (1936) the Elizabeth Apartments. The late William Lukens of Fairview, remodeled this building after purchasing the site about 1912.

Here in 1862, Charles W. Deans established his Chester Academy and Normal School, having relinquished his duties as Superintendent of Public Schools of Delaware County. Becoming ill, he advertised the school for sale, and George Gilbert, a teacher in the public schools of Philadelphia, saw the advertisement, bought the school and equipment, married within two weeks, and opened school here in October 1865. Charles C. Larkin and family at this period owned and occupied the corner building, the school being confined to one room on the first floor of the building next to the corner, with the dormitories and principal's apartment occupying the balance of the building.

Mr. Gilbert, upon his purchase from Professor Deans, improved the curriculum of the school, and so popular had his courses become, that it was necessary in 1871 to purchase the corner property, to take care of the enlarged enrollment. In doing this, the family apartment was moved to the Potter Street side of the building. In this transaction he also obtained title to the entire school property. This improvement doubled the capacity of the school and provided for twenty more boarders, a total of about seventy-five scholars.

By 1870, Professor advertised the school (for both sexes), with courses in Scientific, Classical, and Commercial subjects, and also in Latin, Greek French, Italian, and instruction on the piano, in drawing, painting, and phonography. In the primary department, children were accepted from age six to age twelve.

In 1882, the facilities of the school are noted as being provided in preparing young men and women for college, teaching, or for general business. At this time the faculty for about one hundred pupils was:

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| George Gilbert, Principal       | Instructor in Latin, Greek, and higher Mathematics |
| M. Louise Clancy                | Instructress in Music, French and Literature       |
| Mrs. T. M. Gilbert              | Instructress in Writing, Drawing and History       |
| S. Alice Lees                   | Primary Department                                 |
| Addie H. Pyle & Sallie E. Beale | English Branches                                   |

A year or two following, H. Jennie Cornell conducted the Primary Department and Addie H. Pyle, Hannah R. Lenderman, and Jennie McCoy, the English branches. The rest of the faculty had not changed, and pupilage had increased to about one-hundred and twenty.

In 1896 the curriculum was about the same as in 1870. The Academy had a Euepian Society for debating and literary work; had two libraries, one for this Society, the other for the Students Union; and a school paper was published called the "Chester Academy Record."

Professor Gilbert died January 31, 1904 and his widow and daughter, Miss Dora A. Gilbert, continued the school until the June following, when this great and honorable institution ceased its activities covering forty-two years.

Sometime prior to 1912, Miss Annie R. Bird and Miss Emma J. Baker occupied two rooms on the first floor where they taught school for a short period. The front room, not at the corner, was also for a season occupied by the Women's Exchange where were placed on sale articles of their handiwork such as embroideries and baked goods.

On the teaching staff, Miss Mary Louise Clancy is the best remembered by the older generation, having taught and served under Professors Dean and Gilbert for almost twenty-five years. Another teacher, Miss Elizabeth T. Green, now (1936) lives at Long Beach, California; and when teaching at the Academy, had charge of the Junior department. Miss Clancy died in 1907 at Amsterdam, N. Y.

**MARKER NO. 171 – FULTON OR HOWARD HALL** – This building was razed in the late summer of 1936 due to its decrepit condition. Within its walls, private schools had been represented here for near half of a century. Its popularity as a social center waned upon the erection of the Chester Free Library Hall farther west on Ninth Street.

It was said to have been erected by John Larkin, Jr., at the northeast corner of Ninth and Upland Streets, where years ago the hub of business in Larkintown existed and flourished.

The most notable school conducted here was that of George Hood, called the Chester Female Academy. His advertisement in the Delaware County Republican of Friday, May 30, 1862 says inter alia:

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Session February to July     |              |
| Day Scholars                 | \$12 to \$20 |
| Board and Tuition in English | \$75         |
| Tuition in Music             | \$20         |
| Tuition in Drawing           | \$10         |
| Tuition in French or Latin   | \$10         |
| Use of piano for practice    | \$ 3         |
| Washing 36¢ per dozen        |              |

Two octogenarians living at present (1936) in Chester attended this school – Mrs. Annie Campbell Baker of 604 E. Fourteenth Street, and Mrs. Kate Ulrich Harvey of 602 West Ninth Street. Mrs. Harvey died some months after having aided in the formation of these notes. Among others, remembered by these two estimable ladies, who attended school there were:

Miss Lizzie Hinkson – m. John Sweeney and a Mr. Kirkpatrick. Dr. Hood called her “The Lilly.”

Mrs. Emma (Campbell) Ashmead

Mrs. Margaret Dale Leiper

Mrs. Rebecca Crooks

Miss Clara Bent

Miss Mary Bent

Mrs. Hattie (Felton) Peters

Miss Alvie Graff

Mrs. Louise (Deshong) Woodbridge

Miss Mary Elizabeth Blakeley, m. John P. Graham

Miss Sallie Pennell

Miss Mary Pennell

Miss Fannie Warner

Miss Helen Flickwir

Miss Lida Irving, m. Edward Trainer

Miss E. Matilda Irving, 1st a. Gowing; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Wm. H. Starbuck

Mr. Hood was a Presbyterian Minister, and was assisted by his wife and son Alfred and a Miss Bliss, in the conduct and management of his school. In 1869-70 this school for day students or boarders had been removed to 515 Welsh Street where now (1936) are the offices of the law firm of Geary and Rankin. (See Note under Marker No. 212.)

By 1870, Miss Leas was conducting a kindergarten and primary school here on the first floor. The building to the east of the former Hall, still standing though remodeled, was also used in conjunction with the Hood School – either for boarders, or as a school annex. Some of Miss Leas’ pupils were Annie Mirkil, Mattie Irving, Mary Gray, Doray Hyatt, Josephine Morris and Gertrude Brown.

**MARKER NO. 172 – RICE PRIVATE SCHOOL** – Mrs. John V. Rice and the Misses Rice, who may have had for a short time a school in Fulton Hall (?) (Marker No. 171), established a school at 407 East Ninth Street, where Doctor Neufeld now resides (1926). She was later succeeded by Miss Mary Pusey Warner (Marker No. 173) who added some of the grammar grades. In 1896 she advertised having established the school in 1886; 30 pupils limit; primary and higher grades thru high school; and in this year, kindergarten established. Subjects, music, Latin, Greek, eight teachers. The Misses Rice taught the kindergarten. (See Marker No. 222).

**MARKER NO. 173 – WARNER PRIVATE SCHOOL** – Miss Mary Pusey Warner, having left #407 East Ninth Street (Markers No. 172 and 222) removed her school to #514 East Ninth Street where the entire first and second floors were devoted to school purposes with a teaching staff numbering about five.

Kindergarten, Primary, and Grammar grade subjects were taught here, and the school is known to have continued for some years after the close of the Gilbert Academy. Miss Wallie Parker was one of the teachers.

**MARKER NO. 174 – OAK GROVE SCHOOL – FIRST JOHN WETHERILL SCHOOL** – This two-story stone and stucco stands today, unoccupied, on the north side of Twenty-Fourth Street one block west of Chestnut Street. It is the oldest school building in Chester, and was abandoned in 1930 upon the erection of the more modern Wetherill School almost across the street from this site. Recently it had been occupied for a short time by a boy's club, and in the fall of 1936 was used for election purposes for the first time in more than thirty years. To the east of the old building stands a portable school building, put in place during the hectic period following the War, and abandoned along with the old building. Tenants today (1936) of this portable school, are Mrs. Susie Plumley and Joseph Gallagher. (In December 1936, these tenants moved into the second story of Old Oak Grove, where Mr. Gallagher was so soon to die.

The first building on this site was erected by trustees of the inhabitants of Chester Township, and was of one-story stone construction. The site was donated in 1813, so it is supposed that year also marks the erection of the school house. In 1836, this "Sharpless" Schoolhouse (named because of the donor of the lot) was transferred to the newly constituted Township School Directors. In 1860 this old building was removed, and the present building erected. Upon the incorporation of North Chester Borough in 1873, this property passed to a new set of directors, as it did again in 1888 when the Borough was annexed to the City.

As near as can be determined from the record, the teachers from 1873 to 1888 are as follows:

1873 – J. W. Parsons, Sally McHenry and Maggie F. Edwards

1875 – Silas S. Sample

1878 – Josephine R. Buchanan

1880 – R. A. Gould

1881 – M. Augusta Edwards

1886 – Eva Sharpless and Lillie Jefferis

The misses Adele Coulter, Parthenia L. Harpur, Margaret J. Taylor, Ida M. Haddock et al, taught in later times. Jennie Flavill taught here for three months about 1869.

In 1874 this was a primary school only, and the next year became School No. 2 because of the erection of the new schoolhouse on Eighteenth Street. Silas S. Sample also conducted a night school during 1875-6, and further added to his income by assuming the office of janitor. Though in 1878 more than one "school" was conducted here, in 1881 one room only was used. However, by 1884, 57 pupils attended, and in 1886, 68 pupils, with Miss Sharpless having the primary

class. In 1888, 72 pupils. The colored children from Waterville and Sunnyside also attended this school. As of the 1897-1902 period, all children north of Twenty-Second Street attended here.

A night school with 22 pupils was conducted by Miss Harpur in 1889 for four nights in each week. On March 7, 1889, the name of "Oak Grove" was officially applied to this school, but changed in 1906 to "John Wetherill" (1834-1916) in honor of a resident of Park Place who devoted so much of his time and interest to First Ward school matters. He was a member of North Chester School Board from 1879 to 1888, and of the City Board from 1888 to 1903.

It is known that elections were held here from 1873 to and including the year 11887, and not in anyone's recollection after that date until 1936.

Known as School Building No. 9.

**MARKER NO. 175 – HENRY L. POWELL SCHOOL – EIGHTEENTH STREET SCHOOL** – Erected in 1873 at the southeast corner of Eighteenth Street and Upland Street upon ground purchased from Henry M. Hinkson for \$1800. The lot encompassed 200 feet on Eighteenth Street, and 108.5 feet on Upland Street. The building 55 feet front by 30 feet depth, 2 stories high, of brick, and similar to the Morton Avenue Schoolhouse in Chester. The architect was Col. Simon Litzenburg, the Contractor Pierce and McIlvain and the cost of erection \$6764.03. It opened the first Monday in January 1874, as the "North Chester Public School."

Some of the teachers from 11874 to 1888 have been as follows:

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| 1874   | Thomas Aaron and Anna McDuffee                                      |
| 1878   | Anna McDuffee and Maggie F. Edwards                                 |
| 1880-1 | Mrs. Anna M. Statia and Maggie F. Edwards and Josephine R. Buchanan |
| 1882   | Sarah M. Beatty vice Mrs. Statia                                    |
| 1886   | M. Augusta and Maggie F. Edwards and Josephine R. Buchanan          |
| 1887   | Laura Trainer vice J. R. Buchanan                                   |

On October 19, 1874, night school was opened in the building with Mr. Aaron the teacher. No further reference to a night school has been found after 1880. This building was designated as No. 1 schoolhouse, and North Chester Borough Council permitted to hold meetings in the building until the erection of the Borough Hall I 1885. In 1878 number 1 and 3 "schools" were held here with numbers 2 and 4 at Oak Grove. The following year, a Prof. Cunningham was granted use of a room to conduct a "writing school", but further notice of this too, cannot be found in the record.

In 1883, pupils began to "pass" from Oak Grove School to this school, and in 1884, three rooms were in use with 151 scholars, which number had fallen to



119 in 1886. This year, use of a room was granted for Church and Sunday school purposes at the solicitation of William H. Flaville, so doubtless this was the forerunner of the Providence Avenue M. E. Church, later erected close by. Also during this year, the “schools” here were redesignated Nos. 3, 5 and 5 with Nos. 1 and 2 at Oak Grove. In 1888, 129 pupils, when the consolidation with Chester took place.

On March 7, 1889, this building was officially named for Henry Lemuel Powell (1809-1897), a former Burgess and School Director in Chester, and who had served the Borough of North Chester School Board from 1873 to 1875, 1877 to 1879, and from 1882 to 1887.

Water and steam heat were introduced into this building in 1892.

During the War, or shortly afterwards a portable schoolhouse was located in the yard between the present building and Upland Street, and is at present (1936) in use.

Officially known as School Building No. 8.

**MARKER NO. 176 – PORTABLE SCHOOL BUILDINGS** – During the War period, due to the remarkable growth of the Sun Hill and Sun Village communities; two portable school buildings were erected at the southeast corner of Twelfth Street and Melrose Avenue, which continued in use until the completion of the Dr. Jefferis School across Melrose Avenue.

**MARKER NO. 177 – NEW FRANKLIN SCHOOL** (Chester Township)  
(Covered by remarks under Marker No. 137).

**MARKER NO. 178 – GRAHAM SCHOOL – LARKIN SCHOOL – ELEVENTH STREET SCHOOL** – Prior to 1867, Eleventh Street was known as Logan Street, and when this building was erected at the northwest corner of Eleventh and Madison Streets, bore such names as “Logan”, “Eleventh”, and prior to the building of the Larkin Grammar School, as “Larkin”, which name was officially appended by the Board March 7, 1889, in honor of John Larkin, Jr. (1804-1896) the first Mayor of the incorporated City of Chester, and the man who developed the neighborhood of the building under a real estate enterprise called by his townsmen, “Larkintown”. Upon completion of the Larkin Grammar School in 1895, the name of this institution was again changed, to “Dr. F. Ridgeley Graham” (1826-1895). He was “one of the small but remarkable group of physicians who have contributed so much to the intellectual wellbeing of Chester and the success of her schools”. He served on the Board from 1872 to 1875, and from 1876 to 1879.

A one-story brick building was constructed in 1859, upon a lot bought the year before from John Larkin, Jr., for \$565, with two rooms to accommodate about 100 scholars. In 1874 a second story was added by John Hikson for \$5610, this project then accommodated 4 rooms on the first floor, and two rooms on the

second floor, or a sufficiency for about 300 pupils. The one-story building had been so erected because of a then recent school fire in New York in which children had been burned to death.

This same year (1874) a grammar department was established here, having been removed from the new Morton Avenue School.

In 1886, night school from 7 to 9 p.m., was conducted in four rooms with an enrollment of 158 pupils. The teachers were the Misses Weaver, Edwards, Fearon, and Rhoads, at a dollar each per night. The next year the night school continues with Miss Griffith serving in place of Miss Weaver.

In 1899, designated Building No. 6, 4 rooms, 2 classrooms, with 246 seats, six teachers, and grades four to seven.

By 1908, listed with 6 rooms, 320 seats, seven teachers and grades third to sixth. The building was discontinued for school use upon the erection of the Dr. Jefferis School in 1932. From late in 1933 to early in 1938 this building was used as headquarters for the United States Re-employment Service.

The first wall map of Chester, 1856, shows John Larkin owning the lot upon which is marked "Pub. School", and the building shown in the bed of now Madison Street, and on the north side of Logan, now Eleventh Street. There was at that time no projection of Madison Street north from Eleventh Street. Walter Wood, a former Assistant City Engineer, confirms the schoolhouse location as shown on the map, and says he attended school here in company with John L. Black, et al; that it existed for some time after the erection of the schoolhouse on the corner, as he had passed "from one to the other." He says it was of clap boards, painted red, with green shutters, one-story high, peaked roof, with gable end facing south toward Maddison Street. Size about 20 feet by 40 feet, 2 windows and door on the front, 2 windows at the rear and 3 windows on each side.

**MARKER NO. 179 – PALMER PRIVATE SCHOOL** – In a small brick building which stood at the northeast corner of Edgmont Avenue and W. Mary Street (late Graham St.), Martin in his History of Chester, says Nathaniel Rulon informed him that an "infant" school had been kept here by a Miss Palmer, and that he, Rulon, was one of the pupils. This building had many uses, and at times was occupied as a law office by different persons.

**MARKER NO. 180 – FIRST PRIVATE SCHOOL** – About 1823 or 4, the wife of Dr. Irvin, or Irwin, conducted a primary school on the south side of Third Street west of Chester River (then Creek). The exact location is uncertain. This was the first known private school conducted in the old Borough of Chester other than those of a denominational character.

**MARKER NO. 181 – PIERCE'S PRIVATE SCHOOL** – The Columbia House stood at the northeast corner of Market and Fifth Streets; the Anderson house stood at the northwest corner of Welsh and Fifth Street. About the

beginning of the last century, Major Anderson had built a summer house in the rear of the Columbia House and about 1830, Caleb Pierce leased this building and “assumed the duties of instructing the youths of Chester whose parents would not permit them to attend the old school at Fifth and Welsh Streets” (Marker No. 189). By 1840, the public school system idea had become generally accepted, and Mr. Pierce discontinued his private school, and accepted a position to teach in the schoolhouse on Welsh Street (Marker No. 189). His average pupilage was from thirty to forty.

**MARKER NO. 182 – MECHANICS HALL NIGHT SCHOOL** – Late in 1873, the Chester School Board established a night school in the Mechanic’s Library and in January 1875 changed to Wilcox’ Hall, Ella Morrison teacher. In 1874 the teacher was Susan Fenton, assisted by Alfred Taylor.

The Mechanic’s library AND Reading Room was on the second floor, over H. B. Taylor’s Hardware store, south side of Third Street, west of Market Street, about No. 13, west. Wilcox’ Hall was on the same side of the Street, close by, but investigation has failed to find its exact location.

**MARKER NO. 183 – PATTERSON SCHOOL** – General Robert Paterson, whose name this school bears, as does also the street upon which the building faces, was born in Ireland in 1792, dying in the United States in 1881 after having fought in the Mexican and Civil Wars. He never resided in Chester, but was well known here due to his connection with the Paterson Mills which still stand (1936) at the southeast corner of Penn Street and the P. B & W. R. R., Maryland Division.

The site is on the south side of Patterson Street between Penn and Barclay Streets, and was erected as a colored school about 1870 or 1871, two stories in height, and of brick. It is now not in use (1936) but will shortly be reopened for use of students in the industrial arts.

The lot was purchased in 1870, 100 feet on the street by 135 feet in depth for \$1380. Colored night school was conducted here in 1876, and on March 7, 1889, the Board officially confirmed the name of the building.

Known as Building No. 12, it had 4 rooms and 176 seats in 1900, and grades from primary to fourth, but whether white or colored scholars, is not known. There were four teachers at that time, among whom was Caroline M. Jackson, now (1936) of the High School staff.

**MARKER NO. 184 – JEFFREY STREET SCHOOL** – This brick building stood on the east side of Jeffrey Street, north of Third Street, until its removal about 1906. It had been a Chester Township schoolhouse, and a short while after the incorporation of South Chester Borough in 1870, was transferred by order of the Court to the South Chester authorities. Under this Board, the schoolhouse never seems to have had a proper name assigned to it, being

constantly recorded in the minutes as the “Old Schoolhouse.” Someone has said it was also spoken of as the “White School,” from the color of the cement-dash on its outer walls. In 1900, it is lifted as having 2 rooms with 104 seats, and as Building No. 17. (This number was later transferred to the Thurlow School).

In 1870 the School Authorities purchased for \$2000 from Broomall and Ward the “public grounds” on the north side of Third Street from Jeffrey Street to Morton, now Yarnall Street. The counterpart of this tract on Fourth Street, was purchased by the Councilman Authority of the Borough, and the line between the two tracts later adjusted by both bodies.

The grades at the start of this district in 1870 must have been primary and intermediate, and 6 grammar-grade scholars were sent to the City of Chester at \$3 per month each. Under the new regime teachers seem to have been Mattie Kenworthy, Miss Edwards, and Miss Mathews.

In 1875, this building was used for election purposes; in 1880 as a meeting place for the Iron Workers Building Association (provided this building was then known as No. 1); in 1883 and 1884 by the South Chester Lyceum; in 1887, the second floor by Post Phillips, G. A. R.; and in 1888 by the W. C. T. U.

Teachers in 1883 were Laura Reaney and Mary B. Reece.

In 1884, Ashmead in his History says the school building was unoccupied, and this is partially borne out in the records of 1888 when “the room used by the Lyceum\*\*\*\*be fitted up\*\*\*\*for white\*\*\*\*children”, Marcella Reilly, teacher.

**MARKER NO. 185 – HARRISON (Colored) SCHOOL** – This building was erected in 1874-5 by the South Chester School Board on the east side of Townsend Street between Front and Second Streets. The ground had a frontage of 104 feet on Townsend Street, by in depth to an alley which was in the rear of the Bethel Church, later the Murphy A. M. E. Church which faces Engle Street. The lot cost \$936, and John W. Martin was the contractor, building the schoolhouse for \$2800. It is a two-story brick structure. It received its name in 1889 from the street upon which it faced, but though today (1936) the building still stands, it had passed into disuse as a school building by 1900, then known as School No. 22, a number later given to the George Jones (Colored) School in the First Ward. Of later years, it had been called the Harrison School, in honor of the President of the United States who died in 1901.

The first teaches seems to have been Agnes Roebuck; in 1881, P. I. Locke; in 1883, W. H. F. Armstead, and A. B. Wilson; in 1884, Miles Tucker; and in 1885, Stephen B. Gipson, and W. H. Cooper. Night school was conducted here in 1878 and 1879. By 1884, students were taught here irrespective of color.

**MARKER NO. 186 – THURLOW SCHOOL** – This school building, situate at the southeast corner of Second and Thurlow Streets, derives its name from John J. Thurlow (12795-1887), a prominent citizen of that community before

and after the incorporation of South Chester Borough. It was built upon ground purchased in 1881, by the South Chester School Board, Alexander Shakespeare contractor, at his bid price of \$2435, and from plans drawn by John McMaster. Additions were built in 1889 by Smith Downey for \$2165, and in 1895-6 by Samuel A. Hewes for \$7058. For the last addition, 60 more feet of land was purchased at \$10 a foot.

The official name was appended by the Board in 1889.

Some of the earlier teachers were:

Prior to 1883 – Nellie Schofield, Emma Urian, Sallie R. Slater.

1885 – Emma Urian, Sallie R. Slater.

The building is still in use (1936), and under the City of Chester School Board is officially designated School No. 17. By 1900, the eight rooms had 273 seats, with one of these rooms not in use.

**MARKER NO. 187 – ROBERT MCCAY II (Colored) SCHOOL –**

Named for the former owner of a large tract of land surrounding this building who was born in 1783 and died in 1864. The tract upon which the school building was erected was known as “Forty Acres,” because of its content, and this school at times was designated by that name.

The building was constructed at the southeast corner of Eleventh and Edwards Streets in 1878-9 by Henry Miller at a cost of \$2950, upon land purchased from John M. Broomall for \$1608.37, and with a frontage of 200 feet on Edwards Street, and 140 on Eleventh Street.

In 1883 and 1885 Hannah R. Tomlinson and Mary Welsh were teachers. In 1889, the present name was officially applied to this building which in 1900 is listed as Building No. 20 with 2 rooms and 116 seats. In 1909, one room was unoccupied.

**MARKER NO. 188 – P. M. C. PREPARATORY SCHOOL –** This is the former dwelling of I. Engle Cochran, and of his father-in-law, Lewis Lodomus. Some years ago it was conveyed to the Trustees of the College, who converted the building into school uses preparatory to the College course. The building was erected prior to 1877, designed and built by William H. Flaville.

**MARKER NO. 189 – FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL – HOUSE IN CHESTER OLD HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING – DR. SAMUEL STARR SCHOOL –** By will dated 12-31-1769, Joseph Hoskins (1705-1773) devised unto certain trustees, a lot at the southeast corner of Fifth Street (King’s Road) and Welsh Street (Back Street), and of dimensions, one hundred feet square, and for the use of citizens of the then Borough and Township of Chester “for the building and erecting a schoolhouse or schoolhouse or other edifices for the teaching and instructing and educating of youths therein.”

Joseph Hoskin's will was not probated until July 21, 1773, but in 1770 he joined with his neighbors in erecting a schoolhouse on this lot. He also left the sum of thirty pounds by his will towards "the schooling and educating of such poor children belonging to the inhabitants of the Borough and Township of Chester."

By whatever name we call Fifth Street, whether "Free," "King's," or "Queen's," its location in 1770 was a trifle farther south at Welsh Street, than it is today, and the line of Welsh Street was then an equal small distance farther west than at present. Besides this will, there has been no other record of title to this day, excepting a formal transfer from one group of directors to another in 1841. A very curious circumstance confronts the investigator when the amount of ground occupied by the three buildings today (1936) is compared with the devise in the Hoskins will. His 100 feet by 100 feet lot encompassed about one-quarter of an acre; the transfer of 1841, and outline of the yard today, embraces about six-tenths of an acre. From the location of the first building of 1770 as still recollected by a few of our townspeople, it was situated approximately just south of the center of existing acreage, and as Joseph Hoskins was alive and participated in its erection, he must have increased the size of the donation at the time, contrary to provision already contained in his will.

The original two-story school house was constructed of red, and black-faced bricks, with the date "1770" formed by black headers in the south gable.

Samuel Lytle, an Irishman, was schoolmaster from 1806 to 1818, and William Neal from 1824 to 1830, "at which time it was known as the Chester Academy." Due to a law passed in 1802, this school came under the classification of a Charity school. James Campbell, a graduate of Union College, New York, followed Mr. Neal, and he in turn was succeeded by Caleb Pierce in 1840, but when the counterpart of the building was erected at the north end in 1842, "James Riddle was chosen principal, and four lady assistants appointed."

"In 1845, James Dawson had a select school in one of the rooms of the school building, the public demand not requiring the use of all the apartments there." Martin in his history of Chester says that about this time William P. Saunders taught here. He also states an Irishman named Boyle about 1836 "taught a select school in the second story of the old brick school, then the only schoolhouse in Chester." On page 344, Martin lists those whom he recalls attending school here with him.

By the addition of 1842 (erroneously given by some as 1843), four rooms were had, two down and two up, with a central hallway leading from the front back thru the building on the first floor. This hallway contained the stairway to the second floor, which was on the right side as one entered the front door. It led to a landing and reversed itself before reaching the second floor. The basement

entrance was outside, under these stairs. Sixty to seventy-five pupils were accommodated.

In 1875, the Middle Ward Schoolhouse was erected on the site of the present (1936) Old High School building. The contractor was J. W. Barnes & Co., and cost of erection, \$6148. Part of the southerly original half of the old building was removed during this construction. At 2 a.m., of Monday, Jan. 25, 1886, the new schoolhouse was burned, entailing a total loss to the School Board. Steps were immediately taken to replace the burned structure, and on April 28, 1886, a contract awarded to Joel Lane in the amount of \$165,387 for the construction of the present (1936) Old School House Building. H. D. Taylor was the architect. Upon completion, high school classes were removed from the corner building (Marker No. 112) and conducted here until the erection of the New Chester High School at Ninth and Fulton Streets (Marker No. 104) in 1901.

During reconstruction following the fire, classes were held in the Entwisle Building, on the north side of Third Street about opposite Dock Street 48 & 1<sup>st</sup>, which the Board leased for five months at \$35 per month, and the balance of the classes were held in the Old Hoskins Schoolhouse, in the north-rear of the burned building, and which had escaped the conflagration. Upon the completion of the 1886 New High School building, the remains of the Old 1842 Schoolhouse, the cradle of public education in Chester, were removed. One student then, still living in 1936, states conditions were so crowded, that classes were held in the hallway of the Old Hoskins building, thus substantiating the fact of removal of the 1770 building in 1875, leaving its 1842 counterpart and hallway until demolished in 1886. The north wall of this old building butted the south wall of Marker No. 112.

Electric bells were installed in 1890, and by 1891 it had 108 pupils.

In 1906, the name of the then Old High School building was changed to "Dr. Samuel Starr building", in honor of the Civil War veteran, a popular practicing physician, and a member of the Board of School Directors from 1883 to 1895, and from 11897 to 1900. He was born in 1840 and died in 1904.

The following records of the Dr. Samuel Starr School is obtained from the school manuals:

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 1899-1901 | School No. 1, 7 classrooms, 175 seats, 1 principal, 7 teachers                    |
| 1902-1905 | Building No.2, 1 assembly room, 288 seats, 1 principal, 6 teachers, grades 1 to 6 |
| 1906-1908 | Building No. 2, 293 seats, balance ditto  |
| 1909      | 389 seats, 1 principal, 5 teachers, balance ditto                                 |
| 1910      | 6 teachers, balance ditto   |
| 1913      | 7 teachers, balance ditto   |
| 1914-1916 | 6 teachers, balance ditto   |

The building had been used for storage purposes since the erection of the Dr. Jefferies School in 1932, but in 1937 was leased to the United States Re-employment Service. Mrs. Samuel J. Cochran (Annie Mirkil) attended school in the old building about 1864, teacher Caroline Beauvie.

**MARKER NO. 190 – THE JOSEPH HOSKINS SCHOOL** – In 1882, there was erected on the south side of Fifth Street, east of Welsh Street, a small two-story brick building at a cost of \$2780, George W. Sheaff, contractor. This building was for the use of the Superintendent, Directors, and for school purposes. On March 7, 1889 the name was confirmed by the Board, and the next year the Director's Room was fitted up as a library for use of the teachers of Chester. Some years after this the Director's meetings were transferred to the Larkin Grammar School.

The ground upon which this building sits was donated by Joseph Hoskins, the subject being more fully covered by remarks under Marker No. 189.

This building in recent years has been used for various purposes including the Tax Collector, Continuation School, etc. The school manuals produce the following:

|         | Building No. 3 - 113 E. Fifth Street  |
|---------|---|
| 1899    | 108 seats, 2 teachers, grades 1 to 5  |
| 1900    | 106 seats, 2 teachers, grades 1 to 5  |
| 1901    | Ditto   |
| 1902    | Not mentioned – probably in disuse, and schoolhouse on Southeast corner of Fifth and Welsh Streets called Building No. 3. |
| 1903    | Now Building No. 23, director's room & tax office   |
| 1904    | Ditto   |
| 1905    | Ditto   |
| 1906    | Now Building No. 22, use as above   |
| 1907-9  | Ditto   |
| 1913-16 | Not mentioned   |

**MARKER NO. 191 – OLD SCHOOLHOUSE, UPLAND BOROUGH** – This stone building, still standing 1936, is on the north side of Race Street, in Upland Borough, adjoining the Caleb Pusey House on the west. The children of the then Village of Upland prior to 1849 attended schools either at Brookhaven (Sneath's Corner) or at Cartertown (Feltonville), so that when John P. Crozer first offered to erect a building at his expense, the Directors accepted his proposal, the school erected, and conducted for nine years until No. 1 School was constructed on Sixth Street. Mrs. Warren Dixon was the first teacher, followed by A. Williams. In 1853, the school had 44 boys and 39 girls. In 1854 the building was used for election purposes, and the roster shows 55 boys and 60 girls! Instructor Williams



at this time shows that the cost of tuition for each pupil to be 1 1/20¢ per day, and that school had been divided into primary and secondary in the spring, causing a more moderate attendance of 21 boys and 24 girls.

In 1858 elections were still held there, and pupils numbered 32 boys and 28 girls. It is noticed however, that attendance never equaled the roster, being approximately 60%.

In 1856 Mr. Williams conducted night school, and had 22 boys on the roster, which at one other and earlier place in the record he speaks of as “mill scholars.”

**MARKER NO. 192 – SCHOOL NO. 1, UPLAND BOROUGH** – Due to the growth of the Village of Upland, the increase in scholars caused the erection of this brick schoolhouse in 1858 on the southwest side of Sixth Street, then Bridgewater Road, just northwest of Upland Avenue. It was enlarged in 1880 for the accommodation of four “schools.” John McCay was an early teacher here.

A few years after the war, this school ceased to be used upon enlargement of the facilities at the Hill Street School. Today (1936) the building stands, but vacant.

**MARKER NO. 193 – HILL STREET OR NO. 2 SCHOOL** – This stone building was erected in 1868 and two “schools” established therein. As of 1884, Schools No. 1 and 2 accommodated about 325 scholars. Here in 1880 taught John W. Parsons, and in later years George McCracken, Nellie Pretty, Ella Rodebeck, Hannah Castle, Sallie Castle, et al. An addition was erected in 19327 by J. Minshall Holden, with Ballinger and Company as architects, and today (1936) this is the only school building in use in the Borough. It is graded from primary to grammar, students more advanced grades attending Chester High School.

**MARKER NO. 194 – TRAINER PUBLIC SCHOOL** – This one and one-half frame schoolhouse is on the south side of Third Street just east of Price Street, in Trainer Borough, formerly Lower Chichester Township. Little can be found pertaining to it, and at this time (1936) is not used for school purposes.

**MARKER NO 195 (Lower Chichester Township #21) - TRAINER PUBLIC SCHOOL** – This building was erected about 1923 at the northeast corner of Bishop Street and Post Road in the Borough of Trainer, upon the abandonment of the old schoolhouse almost opposite.

**MARKER NO. 196 – TRAINER CENTRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL (Lower Chichester Township #21)** – This brick and frame two-story building was built about 1880 on the south side of Post Road, just east of Main Street produced in the then Township of Lower Chichester, but now the Borough of Trainer. The building still stands, but used for industrial purposes by the Sinclair Refining Company was purchased the building about 1923 when the new school was established across the road.

**MARKER NO. 197 (Ridley No. 45) – SIMPSON SCHOOL** – This schoolhouse at the southwest corner of Fourth Street and Saville Avenue in Eddystone borough, was part of the Borough due to the activity of the Eddystone Manufacturing Company. The schoolhouse, a two-story brick and frame structure, has been abandoned for school purposes since 1915 and is used by the successors to the Simpson manufacturing interests.

**MARKER NO. 198 (Ridley No. 41) – EDDYSTONE PUBLIC SCHOOLS** – These buildings have been erected on and after 1915 and comprise the entire educational facilities on the Borough of Eddystone. They are on the east side of Leiper and extend Ninth to Tenth Streets.

**MARKER NO. 199 – NEW CHESTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL – New Perry A. Wright (Colored) School** – This building for colored pupils, is now (1936) under construction, at the southwest corner of Twelfth and Flower Streets, and is being financed partly by a P. W. A. grant, and contractors J. Marcellus & Co., of Philadelphia. It replaces the schoolhouse on Eleventh Street, recently burned.

**MARKER NO. 200** – (Chester Island)

**MARKER NO. 201 – OLD PERRY A. WRIGHT (Colored) SCHOOL** – This one-story frame schoolhouse was built about 1927 on the south side of Eleventh Street, midway between Yarnall and Jeffrey Streets, and was named for a deceased colored citizen in South Chester who was long prominent in the affairs of his race. It was burned about 1934, and at this writing (1936) stands in ruins, and is being replaced by a schoolhouse at the southwest corner of Twelfth and Flower Streets. (See Marker No. 199.)

**MARKER NO. 202 – ELEVENTH STREET SCHOOL ANNEX “THE BARRACKS”** – This frame building, which formerly stood on the north side of Eleventh Street, just east of Madison Street, had been the Larkintown Union M. E. Sunday school, and because of the later tenancy by the Salvation Army, became known as “The Barracks” or “Little Heaven”. Because of the crowded conditions then existing across Madison Street in the former Larkin, but now, Eleventh Street School, this site and building were purchased by the School Board in 1883 from John M. Burke and Henry F. Morrow for \$2710.25. The lot was 60 feet on Eleventh Street by north 114 feet. The lot to the west of the corner was owned by William J. Oglesby and as the Board was desirous of acquiring it for the purpose of erecting a new building on both lots, overtures were made to Mr. Oglesby, and as the Board was desirous of acquiring it for the purpose of erecting a new building on both lots, overtures were made to Mr. Oglesby, but by dilatory tactics and repeated raising of his price, the Board finally in disgust gave up the project and thus the foundation was laid for the choosing of another site a decade later culminating in the erection of the Larking Grammar School.

This school at times was called the Larkin School Annex because the building on the other corner at this period bore the name of "Larkin", after John Larkin, Jr., the developer of "Larkintown", by which that section of Chester was then known.

Teaching began in the fall of 1883 with Laura Cloud as instructress, who was followed by Jennie Cullis in 1884. The next year Lou Johnson was made an assistant to Miss Cullis. Teaching here may have been allowed to lapse for a few years, as in the fall of '889, the record gives the impression of a "re-opening" with Aalice Birtwell teacher. The school was vacated in 1891, and offered for sale in the fall of that year.

**MARKER NO. 203 – FIRST COLORED SCHOOL IN SOUTH CHESTER** – By 1871, a school for colored children had been established in the home of "Samuel Perry" according to the record, but believed to have been a misquote for Samuel James Perigan, who at that period owned property on the west side of Lamokin Street, now Central Avenue, north of the P. B. & W., then P. W. & B. R. R. His lot had been purchased in 1868, and with a frontage of 20 feet on now Central Avenue. Mr. Perigan's house burned this year, and a Benjamin Reed stepped forward and offered the use of "the colored church". This is believed to mean St. Daniel's church, near the burned residence of Mr. Perigan, and on the east side of Edwards Street south of Fourth Street. This church was first built in 1871 while the Church on Engle Street was not erected until the year following.

In 1872 the record mentions a colored schoolhouse, but failing to locate the existence of such a structure devoted exclusively to school purposes, it must be assumed that school continued in the church until the Townsend Street School was constructed in 1874-5. In 1872, one room was devoted to uses of colored pupils at school house on Third Street east of Jeffrey Street, but had been discontinued by 1873-4.

Minshall Baker was teacher in 1870, Miss Megoughegan in 1872, and Amy L. Heacock and M. A. Howard in 1873. Miss Howard was later relieved by a Miss Campbell, followed by Samuel G. Gould.

In 1888-9, one room was rented in St. Daniel's Church for colored children with Cornelia Gray for teacher.

**MARKER NO. 204 – WEST END FREE LIBRARY** – School is now (1936) conducted on the second floor of this building at the southeast corner of Fourth and Jeffrey Streets. The building, built in 1879, is the former Borough Hall of South Chester until annexation with the City of Chester in 1898.

**MARKER NO. 205 – HORACE MANN SCHOOL** – Built in 1913 at the northeast corner of Third and Jeffrey Streets and named in honor of Horace Mann (1796-1859) a great educator, and President of Antioch College, Ohio, at the time of his death.

**MARKER NO. 206 – FELTON FIRE COMPANY BUILDING** – A room was leased and used by the South Chester School Board, in this building in 1891, pending the erection of the new school house. The Fire Company building is on the south side of Third Street, just west of Yarnall (Morton) Street, and the building under construction in that year was the Thomas J. Clayton School on Seventh Street west of Highland Avenue.

**MARKER NO. 207 – PRIVATE SCHOOL HOUSE** – There is some evidence to support the statement that a frame schoolhouse was here as early as 1787, but this location is definitely fixed by partition proceeding between Joseph and Daniel Carter April 10., 1793, where a line comes “South 34 degrees West, 30 9/10 perches to Chichester Road near the School House.” (Chichester & Bethel Road a few hundred feet west of Concord Road, Cartertown or Feltonville).

**MARKER NO. 208 – “MUD-WASP” SCHOOLHOUSE** – Colin McLaughlin from 1812 to 1829 owned the ground along the south side of Chichester or Bethel Road, from Keystone (Keysertown) Road eastwardly almost to Highland Avenue.

Near Highland Avenue and approximately opposite to the lane leading to the former home of Joseph W. Ebright, he built a frame schoolhouse in which he taught until deafness compelled his retirement from teaching. William Phillips, who at present (1936) lives near Cartertown, and who was born in 1853, remember this building, but not when it was used as a school house. Close by, and nearer the west side of the present Highland Avenue, Samuel M. Felton had his ice house, pond, and a good spring of water. Mr. Phillips helped cut ice here.

In 1821, Henry L. Powell (of North Chester notice) was a pupil here, as was also Paul Beck Carter, son of Edward, who later was admitted to the Bar, and lived in Chester, though doing a great deal of his practice in Philadelphia. He had lost an arm in a cider mill at Cartertown.

In this school house, the early Methodists in that section held occasional meetings.

As McLaughlin sold the property in 1829, and as Gilead Carter in 1828 helped to erect the Ebenezer Schoolhouse (Marker No. 138), it can pretty well be assumed that this year terminated the use of the “Mud Wasp” Schoolhouse.

**MARKER NO. 209 – JOHNSON PRIVATE SCHOOL** – Mrs. William Shaler Johnson, established in 1876 at #527 East Ninth Street, which she conducted for about two years. She was the mother of Charlotte Shaler Johnson who married Joseph Horace Baker, 3<sup>rd</sup>. Her advertisement in April 1878 terms it a “select boarding and day school: John Spencer, father of R. Chester, lived here afterwards.

**MARKER NO. 210 – BARTON PRIVATE SCHOOL** - Miss Mary Barton was conducting a primary school at the northeast corner of Third and

Franklin Streets about 1872. The frame building has since been removed, the present store on the corner having been built in the side yard of the building where Miss Barton had taught. The Honorable "Ned" Nothangle attended his first school session here, but because of fancied or real punishment inflicted upon him the first morning, he was placed in the public school that afternoon!

**MARKER NO. 211 – ANDERSON PRIVATE SCHOOL** – Miss Virginia Anderson as early as 1873 and as late as 1896 was conducting a private school in the small frame building which stood until 1935 on the south side of Fourth Street just west of Welsh Street. Mayor William Ward, Jr. His brothers and sisters and their colored nurse, Eliza; Mrs. Jas. A. g. Campbell, et al, attended school here.

**MARKER 212 – ROBERT'S PRIVATE SCHOOL** – In 1870, Miss L. A. Roberts had a "Select School" on the third floor of the building at the southwest corner of Fourth and Market Streets "over the dwelling of Mrs. Minshall." (This was later the Swan Hotel). Annie E. Coates adv. a 14 week school to commence here Monday, April 2, 1860. NO further advs. appear, so suppose the venture failed.

At a former period the Misses Emma E. McLeod and Marie A. Rathbun conducted school here.

"Will open day school, both sexes, fourth and Market Streets, over Minshall's store – entrance on Work (Fourth) Street, Monday, April 26, 1863. Common and Higher English branches, Music and Drawing. Private lessons in elocution." Mrs. Rathbun also conducted her school at one time on the east side of Welsh Street, north of Fifth Street, where Miss Fannie Campbell, now living (1936), attended. (See Marker No. 171). Her adv., March 16, 1860, says "established 1855".

**MARKER 213 – HARD PRIVATE SCHOOL** – Miss Mary Hard at one time conducted a private school on the west side of Potter Street opposite Fourteenth Street.

**MARKER 214 – CROSBY PRIVATE SCHOOL** – Miss Harriet G. Crosby first conducted her school, about September 1868, at the home of her sister, Mrs. Felix deLannoy, at 15<sup>th</sup> and Walnut Streets (S.E. corner) where she had 12 pupils. About April 1, 1869, she removed her school to Thirteenth and Upland Streets, and in September 1876 again removed to Ninth Street and Edgmont Avenue. The second site was in the old residence that stood at the southeast corner of Thirteenth and Upland Streets, and the third site over the Ross store next to the corner drug store of Dr. Ulrich. From September 12, 1883 her fourth and last location was on the second floor, north side of Third Street about the fourth building west of the bridge over Chester River (#130). Here were taught the English branches, French, drawing, and painting. In 1880 she lived with her sister at 617 E. Fourteenth Street and continued here until her death in 1917.

**MARKER NO. 215 – BUCKINGHAM PRIVATE SCHOOL** – In 1870, L. H. Buckingham conducted a Classical School at 514 Market Street, “over the store of J. E. Black and Brother”.

**MARKER NO. 216 – DARLINGTON PRIVATE SCHOOL** – The following advertisement appeared in 1862:

“Chester Boarding & Day School for Young Ladies and Children

Summer term May 23, 1862 for 12 weeks

English education \$6 to \$12 per term. Primary class \$4

Boarding & tuition \$40 to %50

French, instrumental Music, Drawing & Painting.

Mrs. E. Darlington, Principal

Edgmont Street below Graham”

Mrs. Darlington was the mother of Mary, who married Major J. R. T. Coates; Mrs. Julius Dutton, Annie; and Harry. (See Marker No. 227).

Graham Street is now West Mary Street, and at this writing, it is not known in which building her school was, but it is remembered as being on the east side of Edgmont Avenue between Second Street and Mary Street. An advertisement in November 16, 1860, says the above subjects were in addition to the teaching of “all branches of a thorough English education.” The school location is given “first door below Graham.” This seems to have been the beginning of her School, as she had taken up her residence here by April 1861, prior to that, residing and teaching “Piano Forte” on Front Street, third door from Penn Street, excepting for a period in the fall of 1860 where teaching and practicing room was on Clinton (4<sup>th</sup>) Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> door from Welsh Street.

**MARKER NO. 217 – LECKEY’S PRIVATE SCHOOL** – According to the first directory for Chester in 1859, Charles Leckey had a boarding school on Second Street “below” Franklin Street. For want of a better location, this Marker had been placed on the north side of Second Street, yet he may have occupied the Old Academy (Marker No. 113) during the ownership of John M. Broomall.

**MARKER NO. 218 – BURN’S PRIVATE SCHOOL** – Miss Burns who married Dr. Johnson, and the mother of Mrs. William Clyde, conducted a private school on the east side of Franklin Street north of Second Street, in the rear of the corner property. (See Marker No. 39)

**MARKER NO. 219 – FIRST COLORED SCHOOLS** – In the basement of the first Methodist Meeting House in Chester, and at the time the place of worship for the African Methodists, was established the first colored school in Chester, at the northwest corner of Second and Bevan (Bethel Court) Streets. History claims George Jones as the first colored teacher, and for whom the school house at Seventeenth and Walnut Streets was named (Marker No. 114). As far as known, this was in 1867, and the Church received \$5 per month for use of the

basement. In 1867, Miss Lytle was teacher according to the record, and in 1868, W. Gould.

By 1868-9 the school at Bevan and Second Streets had become so overcrowded, with over one hundred pupils, that the Directors received permission to erect a temporary frame building in February 1870 on the west side of Welsh Street just south of E. Mary (then Graham) Street. This was for more advanced pupils. This ground was owned by the City, and was part of the "Potters Field" or "Strangers Burial Ground". By December of that year, it was decided to sell the building, and by March of 1871 it had been sold for \$50, the pupils being transferred to the newly erected Patterson Street School (Marker No. 183).

**MARKER NO. 220 – BURCHAL'S PRIVATE SCHOOL** – Lydia Burchal from about 1825 and 1826 conducted a private school in the building at the northwest corner of Third Street and Concord Avenue which was razed this year (1936).

**MARKER NO. 221 – MRS. WARD'S PRIVATE SCHOOL** – Mrs. William Ward, Sr., (the former Clara Ulrich, at one time conducted a private school on the second floor of that part of the Penn Buildings facing Market Street at Market Square. The Mayor can recall being shown the room after its disuse for school purposes. Mrs. Samuel J. Cochran (Annie Mirkil) recalls accompanying her sister Sallie here once or twice, but only as a visitor, and according to her recollection, the school ceased functioning upon Clara E. Ulrich's marriage to William Ward (Sr.) in 1860.

Pupils Mrs. Cochran recalls:

Sallie Mirkil, m. a. Byers

Louise Deshong, m. J. Edwards Woodbridge

George Young, son of the Doctor

"Daughters of Mr. Dyer who conducted the Washington House."

John G. Dyer and his son Samuel A. Dyer both were landlords here, so it is not certain as to whom Mrs. Cochran referred.

**MARKER NO. 222 – WEST PRIVATE SCHOOL** – The Misses Lillyan West and Mabel R. Fulton opened a primary and kindergarten school in 1899 at the northwest corner of 14<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut Streets. They both were graduates of the Philadelphia Training School for Kindergarners conducted by Mrs. Louise Van Kirk. They successively conducted their school at the residence of Thomas Higgins, 8<sup>th</sup> and Butler Streets; at Fulton Hall (Marker No. 171); and at #407 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street (where Dr. Neufeld now lives). (Markers No. 172 and No. 173). Assistant teachers were Lillian Healey (Mrs. George Hunter), Ethel Ledward (Mrs. William H. Worrilow); and Mary J. West (Mrs. Thomas Cochran). Mary and Lillyan West were sisters and thru decease in both families, Lillyan (having first married Mr. MacWaters) finally married her brother-in-law, Mr. Cochran.

This School was carried on successfully for four or five years, the pupilage ranging from forth to sixty, and termination brought about only thru marriage of the principals.

Miss Fulton became Mrs. Elisha Safford.

**MARKER NO. 223 – TAYLOR PRIVATE SCHOOL** – Joseph Taylor was born in Upper Providence April 6, 1802, the son of Israel and Ann (Malin) Taylor. He was of the Whig Party, serving as Prothonotary and Clerk of Court, Register of Wills and Recorder of Deeds in Chester from No. 22, 1844 to Nov. 11, 1847, following which he conducted a school for boys, including his own sons, William H. Flavill, et al, on the second floor of the Penn Buildings facing Third, then James Street, and in the rear of Y. S. Walters' printing office of the "Delaware County Republican." English branches and mathematics were taught by him.

He was particularly adept in mathematics, and followed the profession of surveying until his death Feb. 27, 1884. He had served as County Surveyor, Surveyor for Darby Borough, and Borough Surveyor of Chester, continuing in that capacity upon incorporation of the City until 1869 when he and Alfred Owen were the surveyors until 1871, to be succeeded by William H. Flavill. Mr. Taylor laid out the Chester Rural Cemetery in 1863.

**MARKER NO. 224 – DE LANNOY PRIVATE SCHOOL** - Professor Felix deLannoy had a private school for about a year on the north side of 9<sup>th</sup> Street, near Upland Street. It was for girls, and primary subjects only were taught. He discontinued this venture to join the teaching staff at P. M. A., now the Pennsylvania Military College.

**MARKER NO. 225 – SCHAFFER PRIVATE SCHOOL** – Miss Mary Carter Shaffer (affectionately known to her friends as "Winkie") conducted a kindergarten for about a year on the north side of 14<sup>th</sup> Street, second building east of Walnut Street.

**MARKER NO. 226 – EMMANUEL PRIVATE SCHOOL** – A Miss Emmanuel for a short while conducted a primary school in a one story frame building which stood on the north side of 4<sup>th</sup> Street, east of Market Street, where the Birkley Paint Shop now is (1936). Miss Annie Mirkil attended here for a very short period. (The Principal may have been one of the Misses Emmanuel who conducted a private school at Linwood).

**MARKER NO. 227 – DARLINGTON PRIVATE SCHOOL** – The Misses Ellie and Annie Darlington conducted a primary school on the south side of 5<sup>th</sup> Street, east of Crosby Street. They were the daughters of Mrs. E. Darlington who conducted a school near 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Edgmont Avenue (Marker No. 216). Mrs. Samuel J. Cochran (Annie Mirkil), who supplied this information was not certain which side of 5<sup>th</sup> Street this school was on. Col. James A. g. Campbell remembers some kind of school in this block, but on the north side of 5<sup>th</sup> Street.



His recollection is seeing children at play in a yard with the railroad as a background.

Pupils remembered by Mrs. Cochran:

Herself

Thomas Mirkil

Dolly Dyer (?)

Lizzie Smedley

**MARKER NO. 226 – PRIVATE SCHOOL** – Mrs. Ellwood Harvey, shortly before her death, spoke of a Miss Mary Garrett who had pupils in French and Dr. Ellwood Harvey's house on the west side of Penn Street, south of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. A check on other old residents failed in verifying this, other than the lady who one of the Doctor's household, and may have had a small class on the side. She commuted to Phila. and is said to have been interested in the school for deaf and dumb at Mt. Airy.

**MARKER NO. 229 – BENT PRIVATE SCHOOL** – The Misses Bent had a private school at what may people have thought was in the Bent house, now a Rectory, at the northeast corner of 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Highland Avenue. However, the writer of these notes bows to the judgment and recollection of Richard Peters Jr. whose mother was Harried Felton peters of Felton Place a short distance north of this site. Mr. Peter's letter is freely quoted from as follows:

“Regarding the private school which my cousins, the Misses Bent, ran years ago near Ninth & Highland Avenue.

“I had a pretty good recollection of everything except as to whether or not Judge Broomall's mother was the owner of the house where the school was held. I am quite sure that it was at No. 910 Highland Avenue. The house was just about opposite the gateway into the Bent property, where the Catholic Church now stands.

“I called the Judge up a short time ago and he was a bit hazy about it until I reminded him of certain facts, which prompted him to write to his sister, Mrs. Biles, who lives in Oakland, Cal. It is my thought, and also that of my sister, Mrs. Butler, that she also went to the school. Among the pupils, including my sister and myself, were the McManus girls, daughters of Captain McManus, who lived in the house adjoining the Bents. One of these girls has lived in Paris for some time and another lives in Denver, Colorado, while Caroline, the oldest, lives out inn Chestnut Hill. Both Newlin and Bancroft Trainer also attended the school. They lived at the Newlin Trainer home, Buckman Village. Gus Bird and a brother whose name for the moment has slipped my mind, also attended, and their sister, Miss Annie Bird of Linwood, was a teacher in the school. Her father, as I recall it, was pastor of the old St. Martins Church at Marcus Hook.

“I have a picture taken of the group, which I think must have been about 1690, and I also have some of my reports, which were signed by Cousin Mary Bent, and from my recollection of my prowess as a student I think that the marks were much better than what the results justifies. I do know, as I told the Judge, that our acquaintanceship and friendship started at the time I attended this little private school. He was a few years older than we were and was going to Friends Central in Philadelphia at the time.

“I do not believe the School ran for more than possibly two years, which is about the length of time we attended, for in the fall of 1890 when the family moved to Philadelphia for the winter, I started at Penn Charter and only went there a year and a half, and in the fall of 1893 was one of the first pupils at Tomlinson’s Swarthmore ‘Grammar’ School, afterwards ‘Preparatory’. As you know, this school has been out of existence for some years past and the buildings are now occupied by the college. John Broomall was also one of the first students there, as was Ed Worth, President of the Worth Steel Company at Claymont.”

Miss Anne Trainer, of Trainer, adds to the forgoing letter the information that one of the Misses Bent had an earlier school at Linwood, the first school Miss Trainer ever attended. She recalls as other pupils at Linwood: John A. and Dr. William (“Pike”) Poulson and sister, the Birds, the Brintons (now of Germantown), and David and William Booth Trainer.