

Fernwood

Fernwood is located near Cobbs Creek in Upper Darby Township on the line of the Central Division of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad, about six miles west of Philadelphia. In 1872 a village was first started here. At the present time there are over 1000 people residing in the immediate neighborhood. The largest and finest cemetery in the county is located here and is visited by thousands of people yearly. There are good schools and several churches. Its accessibility to the city has induced many business men to choose this locality as a place of residence. A number of well equipped business houses enjoy a good trade and the community is an enterprising and growing one. We mention the more important concerns here.

N. D. Bartram – Coal, Lime, Flour, Feed, Etc

This gentleman is a native and life-long resident of Delaware County, is enterprising and public spirited, and a man of intelligence, and for several years a member of Darby borough council. The business which he so able conducts, was established about a quarter of a century ago, but has been under the present management a little over a year. The stock carried includes Lehigh and Schuylkill coal, lime, hair, plaster, cements, hay, flour, grain, and mill feed, also terra-cotta drain pipe. About 2 ½ acres are covered by the premises, and a trade is had extending as far as 10 miles distant. Orders are given and received by telephone, thus enabling the proprietor to keep his stock at a standard fullness, and to fill orders with promptness. About eight hands are employed.

J. C. Wahl – Boots and Shoes

This popular boot and shoe store, was opened for public patronage about three years ago and removed to its present quarters 20 x 49 feet in size, in the early part of the summer of 1889. The stock carried embraces a full line of boots, shoes, gaiters, slippers, etc., for men's, women's and children's wear, of all grades and sizes, purchased from the most reliable houses, and sold at city prices. Specialty is made of custom and repair work, and satisfaction is in all cases guaranteed. The proprietor is a native of Brooklyn, N.Y., where he was born in 1853. He is a thorough and proficient shoemaker, and conversant with the business in all its details. He regularly employs competent assistants, and in busy season requires extra help, being prepared at all times to execute orders with the greatest promptness. He is also proprietor Wahl's Hall 20x53 ft. in size, well equipped, and the only one here.

J. Alfred Bartram – Lumber, Nails and Hardware

This business was originally started about 25 years ago, by Joseph Powell, who subsequently took a partner, and the firm name became Bartram and Powell, which was some years later reorganized under the title of Bartram Bros., who were succeeded by Bartram & Kent, and the junior partner retiring left J. Alfred Bartram the sole proprietor. The stock carried embraces a full and complete line of building and fencing lumber, the well and favorably know Duncannon nails, and builders supplies generally. He sells the Blatchley Cucumber Pumps, and Longman and Martinez mixed paints, and keeps felt roofing, turned

and square port posts, moldings, kindling wood, shovels, rakes, forks, etc. The premises occupied comprise a lumber yards of 2 ½ acres, with shedding, warerooms for storage of hardware and a well-equipped office. The trade centered here comes from miles around, and aggregates about \$50,000 yearly. Nine hands are employed, four teams kept, and a well-equipped saw-mill with almost entirely new machinery, is also included in the premises. This gentleman is a native of Darby, where he was born in 1861. He was educated at the Friends' school of that place, and is a man of superior intelligence and business qualities.

John H. Steward – Meat and Provision Store

Opened not quite two years ago, this store has already an established trade. The stock is kept sufficiently complete to meet the most urgent demands at short notice, and includes fresh and cured meats of all kinds, canned and bottled goods, teas, coffee, spices, table requisite and household necessities generally. The meats are purchased of first class butchers in the 40th Street (Philadelphia) market, and groceries from reliable houses. All kinds of soft drinks are kept, as are also home-made bread, home cooked tongues, pigs feet and all strictly pure catsup. The salesroom is well equipped, containing as it does abundant shelving, glass front cases, etc., and a good cellar is used for meats, soft drinks, and other perishable goods. The proprietor is efficiently assisted in the business by his wife and daughter, and is a native of Delaware County. He was born in 1843, and is a man of sound business views, and sells goods at low prices.

John Kellett – Fernwood Marble and Granite Works, Church Lane, Adjoining Depot

These works date their inception here from 1882, at which time they were established by the present proprietor. The business consists in the designing and execution of all kinds of cemetery and building work, specialty is made however in the former, which embraces monuments, tombs, cradles, headstones, etc., the material used for the manufacture of these goods being of the finest quality. Most of the work is executed for Philadelphia cemeteries, although some specimen of handiwork are placed in home cemeteries. The premises occupied are large and ample, from five to six men are employed, and the business is annually on the increase. The proprietor is a native of Chorley, England, where he was born in 1858, and is a man of superior business qualities. He has recently opened in connection with this concern, and office for the transaction of real estate business, and is prepared to buy, sell or rent houses, building lots and other property. Those dealing with him may be assured of fair and honorable treatment.

E.W Wilson – Trimming Store, Baltimore Ave.

This popular trimming store was opened about five years ago, under the Mansion House and removed two years later to its present site. The stock carried embraces a complete line of trimmings, linings, muslins, men's women's and children's hosiery and furnishing goods, handkerchiefs, gloves, and notions, also the latest styles of hats, bonnets, and millinery goods generally. Here will also be found a full assortment of spool cotton and silks in all colors and numbers perfumery, toilet soaps, tooth brushes, and dental preparations. Ladies' will find this a suitable place to purchase Saxony wools, floss

silk, ribbons, and stamped goods. The proprietor is a native of Philadelphia where she was born in 1854, and is a young woman of enterprise and energy.

Wm. B. Evans – Groceries, Baltimore Avenue and Church Lane

This business has been in active operation for about 15 years, the present proprietor coming into possession about 10 years ago and has built up a trade aggregating in the neighborhood of \$15,000 yearly. The stock carried embraces a full and complete line of choice family groceries, including canned and bottled goods, table requisites and delicacies, culinary necessities and grocers sundries general, specialty is made in the celebrated Sharpless butter, and in the summer season a prominent feature is made in green truck of all kinds. The salesroom is 14x16 feet in dimensions, and thoroughly equipped. Two assistants are employed and a team is kept for delivery. This store is justly popular, the proprietor being a thorough going business man. He was born in Upper Darby Township, in 1849, and has been post master here ever since taking charge of the store.

E.F. Pearson – Groceries and Provisions, Baltimore and Union Ave. West Fernwood

This enterprising establishment was opened about ten years ago by William and Henry Hall, the present proprietor assuming possession some seven years ago. The stock embraces a complete line of choice family groceries, including canned and bottled goods, evaporated fruits, green truck, oysters, clams and fresh fish in season, fresh and cured meats, and he also handles the Nonpareil Furniture Polish, the best of the kind on the market. The salesroom is 20x50 feet in dimensions, a ware room to the rear is also utilized, and the proprietor is a native of Philadelphia County, where he was born in 1849. He is a man much esteemed in this community and now holds the responsible position of a school director in this township.

Thomas Hughes – General Blacksmith

This is one of the best equipped blacksmith shops in Delaware County. The proprietor is a competent and efficient blacksmith, and practices all branches of the business, guaranteeing satisfaction in every case. He has also adjoining a wheelwright shop in which the same careful scientific work is executed. The work of either shop will bear a favorable comparison with that done anywhere. Two forges are kept in use, and one assistant is employed with extra help in busy time. Both new and repair work are done as carriage and wagon building, and repairing, horse shoeing, etc. A native of Ireland, this thorough mechanic has resided in the United States since boyhood.

H.M. Leech & Son – Florist, Fernwood Station

These well equipped greenhouses are located on Church Lane. Here at all times may be found a full and elegant assortment of all the leading varieties of popular foliage and flowering plants. The firm makes a prominent feature of propagating plants during the winter months and selling them at the opening of spring at reasonable prices. Those desiring bouquets of cut flowers, or plants for bedding purposes will have no difficulty in being satisfied here. Quite a specialty is made in "the laying out of cemetery lots, keeping them in order, planting them with suitable flowers, etc. Funerals may be furnished with

appropriate designs in fresh and dried flowers. The concern was originally established by J. C. Laude, who was succeeded by H. M. Leech & Son, in 1886. The senior member of the firm is a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in 1829. His son and associate was born at Philadelphia, PA., in 1855. Both are practical and accomplished florists and botanists.

George H. Robbins – Manufacturer Spiral Spring Black Jacks, Mansion House Block

This gentleman was born in the old Southwark district of Philadelphia, in 1832. He early apprenticed himself to the trade of silversmith, and had the misfortune to lose the sight of his right eye, subsequently learned the trade of harness maker, and about five years ago invented the "Spiral Spring Black Jack," which he is introducing all over the United States, having recently filled orders for the police force of some of the western cities. This black jack consists of a solid ball of lead about four inches in circumference, attached to a spiral spring, the whole covered with leather, and the leather loop handle attached to the spiral spring, so that it is convenient, effective, and cannot be broken. This gentleman still conducts his harness making business, doing all kinds of custom and repair work in this line, and keeps a stock of drivers and horstlers supplies. He located here about a year ago, and occupies a room 20x35 feet in dimensions.

J. F. Wood – Steam Granite and Marble Works

These works were established here by the present proprietor about seven years ago. The premises occupied are 60x105 feet in dimensions, fully equipped with all the best machinery necessary, motor power being furnished by a 20 horse power steam engine. Twenty workmen are employed and all kinds of stone work is executed, but specialty is made in cemetery work, such as monuments, statues, headstones, tablets, etc. J. F. Wood, the proprietor is a native of Philadelphia, where his father carried on this line of business for a period of 40 years, he is a man of energy and enterprise, and has made a life study of this business, and has built up a trade aggregating about \$20,000 per year, his fine work is particularly popular, he having designed and executed some of the finest cemetery work in this section, while many from a distance also seek him for this class of goods. His establishment is regarded as one of the most important and progressive here.

Annie Hill – Dry Goods, Trimmings, Etc., Union Ave., West Fernwood

This enterprising and energetic lady is a native and life long resident of this place. As such she is esteemed and respected by a large number of friends and acquaintances. She carries a stock of dry goods, dress fabrics, domestic, trimmings, men's and women's furnishing goods, dress makers supplies, spool cotton and silks in all colors and numbers. The goods are of the best quality, the prices are reasonable, and a nice trade is had. The salesroom is about 12x12 feet in dimensions, and its arrangement reflects the good taste of the proprietress. The business is managed entirely by herself and family and patrons are assured courteous attention. She also deals in ice cream, having a neat ice cream parlor, and supplies all the popular flavors.

Samuel T. Hall – Blacksmith, Baltimore Ave. and Kelley Street

The subject of this sketch was born in Philadelphia, in 1846. The shop occupied by him is a frame structure 18x30 feet in dimensions, thoroughly equipped for carrying on a general blacksmithing business. He is a mechanic of 21 years experience, and executes all descriptions of work in the line, including carriage and wagon ironing, repairing of farm implements and iron work of every kind. The leading specialty of the business however is in horse shoeing upon scientific principles, at which he is an expert and his shop is popular among owners of horses. This shop dates its inception from 1885. For the past three years has kept a confectionery store in the front room of his dwelling. The room is 14x13 feet in size and contains a superior line of confectionery, cakes, toys, tobacco soft drinks, ice cream, etc. The store is chiefly managed by the proprietors wife and daughter.