



DEERPARK DIARY

Town of Deerpark Historian's Office
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Volume 5

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**Second Annual
Deerpark Fair
September 13, 2008
10:00-5:00**

Support the local food banks and the Deerpark Humane Society while having a wonderful day filled with games, music, good food and laughter.

Spend a day celebrating old-time fun at Harriet Space Park, Route 209, Huguenot, New York.

There will be traditional games such as spoon races, parent-child three legged races, a watermelon or pie eating contest and the Women's Skillet Tossing Contest. Weaving, spinning blacksmithing, fly tying and black smithing will be demonstrated.

See the insert for details about all of the activities that will take place.

A great day for all!

Old Cochection Road by Norma Schadt

I live on Prospect Hill Road. A number of years ago, someone stopped by to ask directions to get over to Peenpack Trail via Prospect Hill Road. They had a map, which showed that the road went straight through. I explained that the map was incorrect. The road stops at the top of the hill, just before its intersection with Big Pond Road. Their request for directions caused me to become interested in the history of the road.

When I was a child I remember being able to go through to Peenpack Trail from Prospect Hill Road using an old jeep trail. Granted you had to use a vehicle that could travel on a bumpy, dirt trail. What surprised me was the fact that this trail was still marked as a through road on a current map. I looked up old maps (1875 Beers Map and 1903 Deerpark Map) that showed the road, but there was no name noted.

Awhile ago, I found a newspaper article that may provide some answers. This through road was called the Cochection Road.

The following information comes from a newspaper article dated October 13, 1933.

Unfortunately there is no newspaper noted nor a byline.

"The writer had just found a manuscript which pertains to an interview that the late Hon. Frank Lybolt late County Judge of Orange County, N.Y., had with Mr. Cuddeback of Huguenot, Orange County, N.Y., on March 6th 1889, and has to do with matters pertaining to the Huguenot, Godeffroy and Cuddebackville neighborhoods in Orange County, N.Y. that the Hon. Frank Lybolt knew very well. He went to school with my father, the man with whom he had this interview, would appear to be Colonel Peter G. Cuddeback as he was a grandson of Capt. Abram Cuddeback and also lived at Huguenot where Mrs. Otto Britting, his granddaughter, now lives..."

"They crossed the old Cochection road. It ran from Roses Point to Cahoonzie, then to Mongaup and then to Ten Mile River (a part of it from Roses Point to Cahoonzie is closed as is also a part from Cahoonzie to Mongaup). When I was a boy both of these roads were still being used. What they called the Cochection road turned off and went up to Cochection." This article was the first information about Prospect Hill Road that I had located. It seems to have answered my question about be-

ing able to travel directly across Deerpark from Cuddebackville to the Mongaup River.

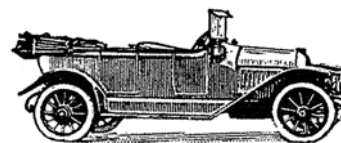
I compared some recent tax maps and an old 1875 Beers map. According to the above-mentioned description, I traced the road. Starting at Roses Point, (the mountain area near the Prospect Hill Road and Route 209 intersection). On the tax map, Prospect Hill Road goes up to Big Pond and the old trail is still noted with a dotted line ending at the far end of Cahoonzie Club Road. The Cahoonzie Club Road comes out on Peenpack Trail. When comparing the old 1875 map with the recent tax map, the Cochection road follows Peenpack Trail crosses Route 42 onto West Peenpack Trail. At the end of West Peenpack Trail there is a dotted line on the tax map. An imaginary line can be drawn from this point to the upper end of Wilson Road, which would have carried the Cochection Road down to the Mongaup River. The 1875 Beers map

shows two Mongaup River crossings north of Route 97.

Two maps are included with this article to show the route as outlined in the newspaper article of 1933.

During my search for information, I found some notes from Richard Carey, Town of Deerpark Historian during the 1970s.

He wrote the following in 1975: *Old Cochection Road runs west from Route 42 between Sparrowbush and Cahoonzie and reaches the Mongaup at the junction with the Delaware River. It is now called the Wilson Road from the name of a family that lives on it. It was at one time the only way up the Delaware but has been supplanted by the Hawk's Nest Road (Route 97). Quinlan uses the Indian name in saying of some settlers, 'Their route was by the way of Shinglekill to the Mongaup on the old Minisink and Cushetunk Road.'*



FRANKE ROAD HUGUENOT

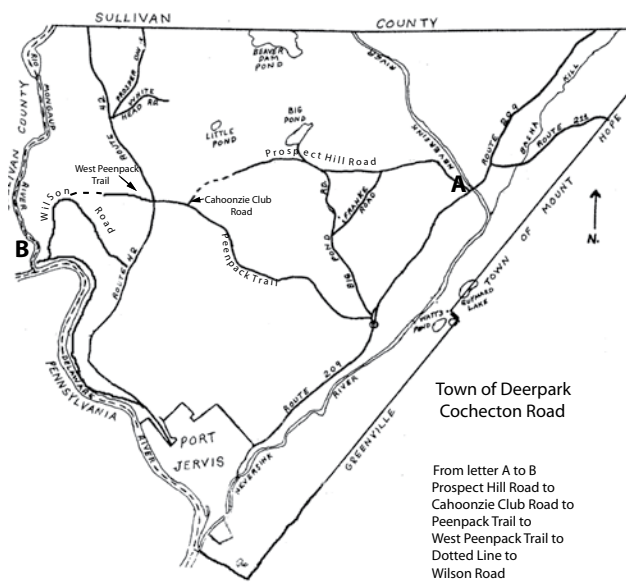
*Eileen and Frances Simpson
Interview (May 2008)*

Franke Road was named after the Franke family. William Albert Franke was born near Stuttgart, Germany and immigrated to America when he was around eighteen years old. Albert was the name he used, rather than his first name. After he arrived in this country, he lived in Paterson, New Jersey and worked as a wallpaper hanger and house painter. There he met his wife, Margaret, who also had come from Germany.

He wanted to live in the country and moved his family to Oakland Valley in the 1930s. During that time he worked as a wall paper hanger and house-painter, but he always wanted to be a chicken farmer.



1875 Beers Map



From there he bought land on the road which connects Prospect Hill Road and Big Pond Road. They were the only residents there and for many years, the family worked a large chicken farm.

One of his favorite winter pastimes was to borrow Jess Runnells' caterpillar tractor to plow the roads after snowstorms.

After he became an American citizen, he worked at the polls on Election Day and when he retired he worked as an officer of the court in Goshen taking jury members to lunch and escorting them from the courtroom to the jury room.

He was also very active in the Elks Club when it was located on Pike Street.

Albert's granddaughter tells the story about his reaction

to the time he had given up his driving license because he had had a minor accident. He decided that he wanted to drive again, but couldn't because he didn't have a license. His thoughts were that this was not a problem and he could drive in spite of the lack of a license. Someone in the family removed the car's alternator so that the car wouldn't start. Albert would sit in the car for hours trying to start the car until he realized it was useless.

Throughout his life he gave to his community. Some people considered him the unofficial mayor of Huguenot. Because of his civic involvement and the fact that he and his family were the first residents on the unnamed road it was officially named Franke Road.

PROSPECT HILL MEMORY

(Photo courtesy of Marion Jackson)



*Jackson Family Farm, Prospect Hill Road
Three Jackson Girls (center front), Father on the roof
November 25, 1890*



William Albert Franke

Memories The Long Way Home

by Toni Marion

After Mass on Sunday mornings, my mother, Michelle Marion would ask us kids if we wanted to go the "long way home". Most times we would excitedly answer, "Oh, yes!". It was always such fun to go home that way.

After driving through Port Jervis and traveling along Route 209, we would turn right onto Neversink Drive. The Fenning chicken farm (New Hope Farms) was on both sides of the road.

The road went straight down a small hill and over an old, rickety bridge making a sharp right turn at an old hunting club road. There was a small, abandoned shack and trailer on this property.

On the right was an older house with a garage on the ground floor and living space above the garage, making it ap-

pear to be a two-story house.

Next was a very modern chalet with a glass front which sat by a small pond. Tall pine trees obstructed the view from the road.

At the base of the rock ledge on the left side of the road was a spring gurgling out of the ground. People came from all over to get the pure, cold water. Every time we passed it, there were people filling jugs. The rocks placed around the spring looked like a tiny fence. Someone had built a little springhouse over it.

After this was the Lass farm. This family was very active in 4-H.

As we went up the hill the Fowler farm was on the right. I don't remember if it was a working farm then. It looked old to me as a kid. Someone once had a German coffee house there called "Der Kaffee Klatsch".

Before coming to the Eagen farm we passed the big, modern homes owned by the Murphy family of Murphy Buick in Port Jervis. The Eagan farm was next with barns and pastures on both sides of the road.

It was fun watching the first new houses being built near the Black Rock School. The school had just closed and it looked neglected. The Clifford farm was across from the school and just a little further along on a knoll is the site of an Indian village.

One cool summer day my mother parked the car on

the side of the road and we went part way up the hill looking for Walahoosa Cave which had always fascinated me.

"Is this it?" I said disgustedly to my mother. "If this is the cave that Major Decker hid in then the Indians must not have looked too hard for him"

It was not the cave. It was jagged rocks in an interesting formation. Mr. Calvin Crane later told us the cave was covered when the railroad came through.

Across the road was a Simpson house and farm with a little cottage set away from the main house. Adjacent was another Simpson farm called Penhosenlandt (Indian Acres).

One of my favorite spots on the road was just beyond the farms where the road forked. "Do you want to take the low road or the high road?" asked my mother.

"Oh, the low road," we both said, because we could look out onto the golf course and see if we recognized anyone. The low road was at the east edge of the Country Club and was used before the Civilian Conservation Corps built the upper section of Horn Road that we use today.

My mom would stop where the low road, the high road and the driveway to the Country Club all intersected. The Country Club, the site of Fort Van Aucken, another Simpson home, farm and the veterinary hospital were on the right.

There is a rock ledge on the left side of the road between

Skinner Lane and Hickory Avenue. Old Mrs. Hetzel lived on that hill. Hetzel Street off of Hickory Avenue was named for that family.

Back on Neversink Drive on the left was a house in the shape of an "L". Phyllis Davis lived there for a while. It was finally torn down and only the slab remains. Her mother Mary Prothro lived across the road. Next was Mr. and Mrs. Munoz house. They were from Spain.

My grandfather owned the property on both sides of the road beyond the radio station (WDLC). Actually, the owners of the radio station bought the property from him. The entire property originally had been the Elting Farm. The house was located where the water treatment building now sits.

Just before the radio station, we turned down our driveway (Christopher Street). Then I would say, "That ride was fun. That's the long way home."



DEERPARK MUSEUM
PROGRAMS
3:00
September 21
EARLY-MID 20TH
CENTURY
October 19
DEERPARK TODAY