

Ackerman Cheat Sheet

- I. Jacob Ackermann (1855-1910) md. (w1) Annie Wepler (d. 1885 during childbirth)
- A. Harry Ackerman (1885-____) md. Bernice ____
no children
- I. Joseph Gossmann (d. about 1886) md. Christine Kühnle (1862-1936)
- A. Christine “Teen” Gossmann (1886-1966) md. William Wilson (____-1951)
Dorothy Wilson
Billy Wilson (____-1958)
- I. Jacob Ackermann md. (w2) Christine (Kuhnle) Gossmann
- A. Katharine Ackerman (1889-____) md. ____?
1. Had daughter Kathryn who md. William Turner Sr (1905-1974) with children:
 - a. William Turner Jr
 - b. Donald Turner
 - B. Jacob “Jack” Ackerman (1891-1979) md. Marie Fox (1894-1968)
no children; The family did not see much of Jack, though he submitted poems to newspapers upon someone’s sickness or death.
 - C. Elizabeth Ackerman (1893-1974) md. Frank Frederick (1890-1975)
 1. Annette Frederick (1930-living) md. David Skinner (1929-living)
 - D. Carolyn Ackerman (1895-1980) md. Joseph Williman (1897-____)
 1. Norman Williman (1921-1980)
 - E. Mary Ackerman (1879-1930) md. Joseph Rexer (____-1942)
 1. Ethel – died young
 2. Mildred (1917-1974) md. Thomas Lawson
 3. Mary Elizabeth (1920-____) md. Lloyd Wunder
 4. Jean (1922-____) md. Henry “Henny” Scheutz Jr.
 - F. Emma Ackerman (1901-1993) md. Louis Fleck (____-1943)
 1. Barbara Fleck (1943-2019) - adopted
 - G. Fred Ackerman (1904-1964) md. Adeline Breyer (1905-1992)
no children
Adeline was dau. off John Breyer (d.1957) and Amelia ____ (1886-1980)
Adeline had brother John Breyer who married Agnes ____

Frederick Cheat Sheet

I. Jesse Gerhart (____1917) md. Many Amanda Nase

children – Frank, Calvin, Carrie, Katharine, Etta (m. Henry Smith), Amanda, Charles, Ellamina (m. John Bossert), Annie (m. Morris Zendt Frederick)

Annie Nase Gerhart (1869-1925) md. Morris Zendt Frederick (1869-1915)

1. Frank Russell Frederick (1890-1975) md. Elizabeth Ackerman (1893-1974)

2..Oscar Frederick (1892-1956) md. May Spicer

a. Evelyn (m. Lloyd McClennan)

b. Raymond (m. Etta)

c. William (m. Evelyn)

3.Jesse Frederick (1895-1969) md. Marie Kensil (1894-1968)

a. R. Kensil ;Ken' Frederick md. (w1) Marilyn and (w2) Barbara

4..LeRoy 'Roy' Frederick (____-1967) md. Dora

a. George (m. Marion Miller)

5. Mark Frederick Sr. (1899-1985) md. Florence

a. Mark Jr. (m. Edith)

b. Ernest

c. Robert (m. Jennie)

d. Charles (m. Lois)

e. Carl

f. Jay

g. Glenn (m. Mildred)

h. Ethel (m. Pep Geluppi)

i. Betty Jane (m. John Heligor)

j. Stella (m. Allen Smith)

k. Nancy.

6. Stella Frederick (1901-1964) md. Raymond Thompson (____-1955)

no children

7. Viola Frederick (1904-1990) md., ____Greaser, who walked out on her

a. Leon (m. Ruth)

b. Russell (m. Cleta)

c. Lorraine (m. Ernest 'Bud' Nyce)

d. Joan (m. Berstein)

e. Jerry Ann (m. Leslie Rollins)

8. Sadie Frederick (1906-____) md. Clark Repogle (1895-1962)

no children

The Ackermans and Fredericks

Annette Skinner, my mother, is the daughter of Elizabeth Ackerman and Frank Frederick.

Elizabeth Marie Ackerman [9/11/1893–10/30/1974] was usually called ‘Liz’ or ‘Lizzie’, names she never liked. A few people called her Beth. When dating Frank in her youth, she used the name Bess, or ‘B’ for short. Her last name of Ackermann, a German name, was shortened to Ackerman during the course of her life.

Frank Frederick [11/18/1890–12/8/1975] was born Frank Russell Frederick, but later took the name of Frank Gerhart Frederick – Gerhart being his mother’s maiden surname. Gerhart was also the middle name of all of Frank’s siblings.

The Ackermann and Frederick families were all of German ancestry – 100 percent, though their stories are quite a bit different. Liz’s parents, the Ackermanns, had been recent arrivals to this country, emigrating from Germany to Philadelphia in the 1880’s. They were an urban, ethnic family – a lively group who lived in rental row homes, worked blue-collar jobs and kept their German language and culture alive at home and at church.

Frank’s ancestors were a cluster of families of German descent that had been living and inter-marrying in northeastern Pennsylvania for five and six generations dating back to the early 1730’s. They were part of the massive German immigration to Philadelphia in the 1700’s that created the conservative German belt of farms and towns that surround Philadelphia to this day. The immigrants were German protestants of many sects, including Mennonites. Frank’s maternal grandmother was writing in Pennsylvania Dutch in school in the mid-1800’s, but the family was speaking English by the time of Frank’s birth in 1890.

The ancestors of Frank Frederick are the earliest of my ancestors to come to America, probably predating the English on my paternal (Skinner) side. The parents of Liz Ackerman, emigrating from Germany to the US in the 1880’s, were the most recent arrivals in my family.

Frank and Liz would be the last generation of their families to marry within the German community – their only child, my mother, married outside the German community.



Frank and Liz, circa 1911



This photo, cut from a group shot, sat on Frank's secretary-style desk during his life.



Liz and Friend (Lillian Leibert?), undated



Liz and Frank Frederick – Her 75th Birthday, 11 Sep 1968



Frank and Liz with their daughter Annette and family
Frank's 75th Birthday, 18 Nov 1965
[DES slides]

The Ackermans

Liz Ackerman was born and raised in the Port Richmond section of northeast Philadelphia. Port Richmond is located on the Delaware River about 2 ½ miles north of center city. The family lived about a mile inland from the river near Allegheny Avenue.

Their neighborhood of small row homes was home to a large immigrant population – Germans at first, and later Irish. The Ackerman's were living at 3170 Mercer Street in 1900, when Liz was age seven, and a few blocks away at 3172 Belgrade St. in 1910 and 1920. Belgrade was the address that my mother (b. 1930) recalls the family reminiscing about.

Ackermann History

Liz's father was Jacob Ackermann who was born in 1855 in the town of Buggingen in the Baden region of Germany. Jacob immigrated to Philadelphia in 1880, and married a German gal by the name of Anna Wepler in 1882. The marriage was performed by Pastor Suckow of the Fifth German Reformed Church [located on Otis Street, just off Cedar in the Port Richmond neighborhood]. In 1885, Jacob and Anna had a son Harry Ackerman. Tragically, Anna died during Harry's birth, though Harry would go on to live a long life, dying at age 83 in 1969. I never met him.

Jacob Ackermann was left a widower with child. At church, he met another German gal, Christine Gossmann, who was also a widow with child. Christine's maiden name had been Kuhnle.

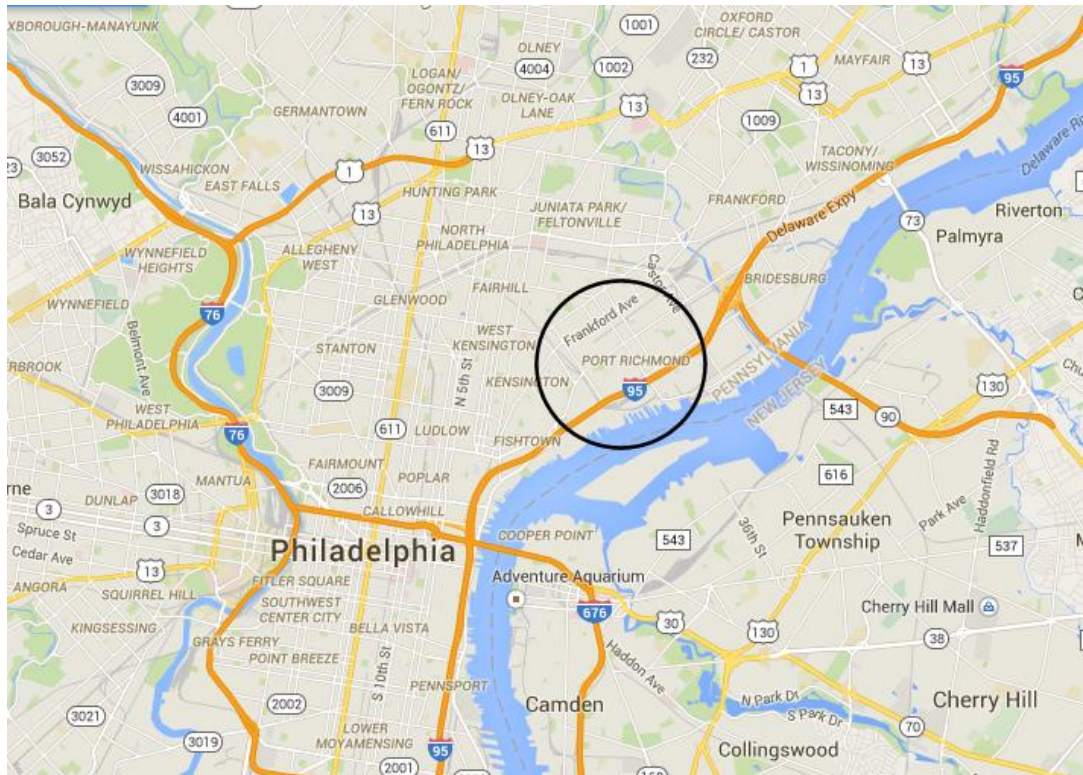
Christine Kuhnle was born in 1862 in the town of Nekargemund, Baden, Germany. Nekargemund is a few miles up the Neckar River from Heidelberg. Christine's first husband was a learned man by the name of Frederick Gossmann. Frederick had an uncle who had emigrated to Philadelphia where he was running a grocery store at the corner of Allegheny and Chatham Streets in Port Richmond. The uncle paid the expenses for Christine and her husband to come to Philadelphia as well.

Christine and Frederick emigrated to Philadelphia about 1885 and a year later had a daughter Christine (called 'Teen'). Frederick Gossmann died soon thereafter.

Mutual friends introduced Jacob Ackermann and Christine (nicknamed 'Jenie') Gossmann to each other and they married in 1888 at Philadelphia. Pastor Suckow performed the marriage as he had for Jacob's first marriage. Jacob and Christine already had two young children to raise, Harry and Teen, from their first marriages. Together they had seven additional children – Katharine, Jacob ('Jack'), Elizabeth (my grandmother), Caroline (Aunt Carrie), Mary, Emma (Aunt Em) and Edward (Uncle Fred). These are the Philadelphia relatives I knew growing up.



Jacob Ackermann was from Buggingen, Baden, southern Germany.
His second wife, Christine Kuhnle Gossmann, was from Nekargemund, Baden, Germany



Port Richmond Neighborhood, Northeast Philadelphia



Christine (Kuhnle) (Gossman) Ackermann (1862-1936)



Christine Ackerman

Liz had this framed photo of her mother sitting on her sewing machine when I was growing up.

Child of Jacob Ackermann and Annie Wepler

Harry (1885-1969) - had 2 children

Child of Christine Kuhnle and Jacob Gossmann

Christine "Teen" (1886-1966) – had 2 children.

Children of Christine Kuhnle Gossman and Jacob Ackermann

Katharine (1889-__) – had 1 child?

Jacob "Jack" (1891-1979) – no children

Elizabeth (1893-1974) – 1 child

Caroline "Carrie" (1895-1980 – 1 child

Mary (1899-1930) – 4 children of which one died young

Emma (1901-1993) – adopted 1 child

Edward "Fred" (1904-1964) - no children

More On the Family

Teen Gossman, whose father died while she was an infant, took the Ackerman surname from her mother's second husband.

Jacob Ackermann, second husband of Christine, died in 1910 at age 55. My grandmother was about age 17 at the time and her youngest siblings Emma and Fred were under the age of ten. Mother Christine died decades later in 1936. I have no photos of Jacob.

Three of the Ackerman children - Harry, Liz and Emma, left Philadelphia as adults. The six others stayed in Philadelphia for the duration of their lives, living in row homes in northeast Philadelphia not far from where they had grown up.

As with other new arrivals to this country, the ethnicity of the family were reinforced at home and at Sunday School, and other church functions, where everything was in German. I can recall my grandmother, Liz Ackerman, and her sister Caroline (Aunt Carrie) laughing as they sang a German song from their youth.

Harry Ackerman (1885-1969), son of Jacob Ackermann and first wife Annie Weppler:



Teen Ackerman (1886-1966), only child of Christine Kuhnle and first husband Frederick Gossmann:



Christine (center) with daughter Elizabeth, third child from Christine's second marriage to Jacob Ackermann, and daughter Teen, from Christine's previous marriage to Frederick Gossmann.



Elizabeth and half-sister Teen, 18 Nov 1965
[DES Slide]

Kate Ackerman (1889-1909), first child of Christine Kuhnle and second husband Jacob Ackerman:



Jacob 'Jack' Ackerman (1891-1979), 2nd child of Christine Kuhnle and Jacob Ackerman:



Caroline ‘Carrie’ Ackerman (1895-1980), 4th child of Christine Kuhnle and Jacob Ackerman:



Mary Ackerman (1899-1930), 5th child of Christine Kuhnle and Jacob Ackerman:



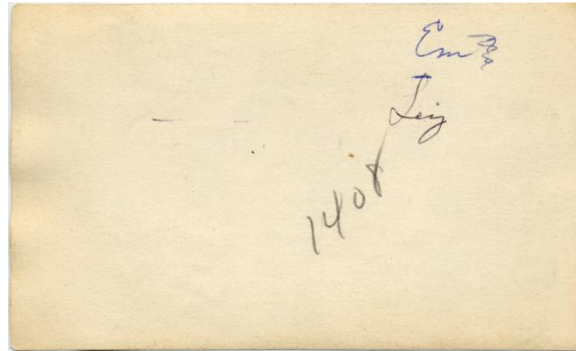
Christine (center). with daughters Elizabeth (1893-1974) and Mary (1899-1930)
and Mary’s grandsons William Jr. and Donald Turner, born in the 1920’s
[tin-type image]

Elizabeth Ackerman looks like my mother (her daughter) in this image

Emma Ackerman (1901-1993), 6th Child of Christine Kuhnle and Jacob Ackerman:



Emma and sister Elizabeth, with unknown niece



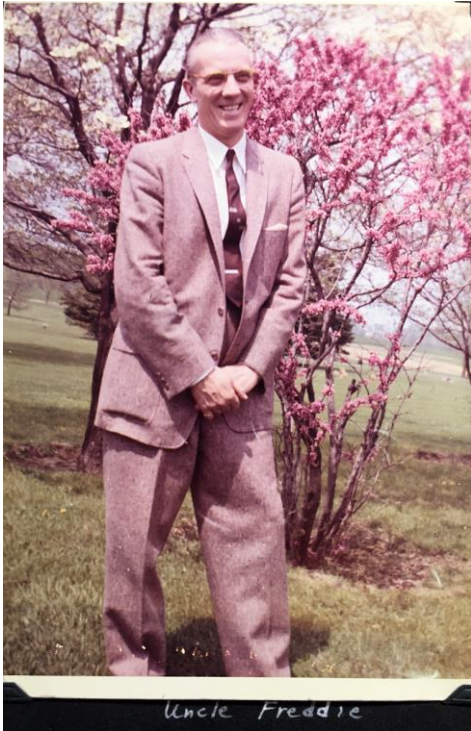


Mother Christine Ackerman with daughters Emma, Liz, Carrie and Mary
Ackerman home, 3172 Belgrade St., Philadelphia



Sisters Emma, Carrie & Liz
Aug, 1963

Edward 'Fred' Ackerman (1904-1964), 7th Child of Christine Kuhnle and Jacob Ackerman:



Fred Ackerman, Susan and myself, Frederick residence, 1959

Fred used to pretend to pull coins out of his ear. After his death, his wife pulled a large cent dated 1794 out of his bureau and gave it to me – now that was a neat trick!



The Ackermans - Carrie with husband Joe (rear), Liz with husband Frank, Fred Ackerman (in rear, his wife Adeline not shown) and half-brother Harry Ackerman (red shirt) with wife Bernie

Liz Ackerman

Elizabeth Ackerman was born Mary Elizabeth Ackerman in 1893. She was born in her parent's rental home in northeast Philadelphia with the help of a mid-wife.

Her family were members of St. Johns German Evangelical Reformed Church (St. Johannes Kirche) located at 3391 Frankford Avenue, on the S/E corner of Frankford Ave. and Ontario Streets.

Elizabeth was christened at the church as Maria Elizabethe, a month after her birth. Her godparents were George & Katharine Ohlschlager. She received her church confirmation at the church in 1908, at age 14, as Elizabeth Marie.

In 1909, her close circle of German friends from the church included future husband Frank Frederick. She was age 16, he was 19. They dated fourteen years until their marriage in 1923.

C 234550				APPL. NO. 15197-02
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE OF STATISTICS AND RESEARCH PHILADELPHIA, PA. FEE FOR THIS CERTIFICATE ONE DOLLAR				
RETURN OF BIRTHS, in the City of Philadelphia, under my care for the month of <u>September 1893</u>				
Made to the Health Officer in Conformity with the Act of Assembly.				
DATE OF BIRTH		NAME OF CHILD		
<u>Sept. 11th 1893</u>		<u>Mary Ackermann</u>		
Male	Female	White	Colored	PLACE OF BIRTH
				Number and Street
<u>F.</u>	<u>W.</u>			<u>2918 Victoria Street</u>
NAMES OF PARENTS			OCCUPATION OF FATHER	
<u>Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Ackermann</u>			-----	
Name and address of person making report.				
Signature		<u>Mrs. Sizzie Wild, Midwife</u>		
Residence		<u>3152 Salmon Street</u>	Filed <u>Oct. 7, 1893</u>	
I hereby Certify that the foregoing is a copy of a record of birth on file in this office.				
Date of Issue		<u>Nov 27, 1957</u>	<u>Miss M. Cannon</u> Registrar	
55-V-122				



Christening, St. John's Church, 1893

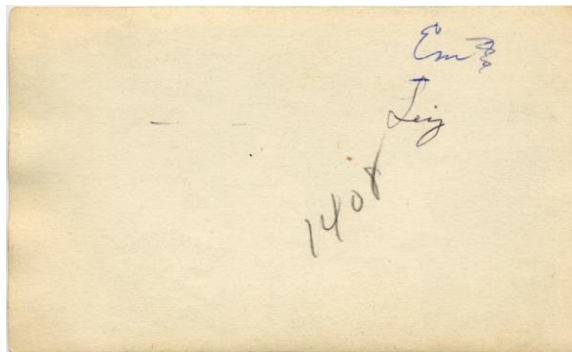


Elisabeth Marie Ackermann
geboren den 11^{ten} Sept. 1893 konfirmirt
den 12^{ten} April 1908 in der Deutschen
Ref. Johannes Kirche Phila.
Georg Müller, Pastor

Church Confirmation, St. John's Church, 1908
actually age 14

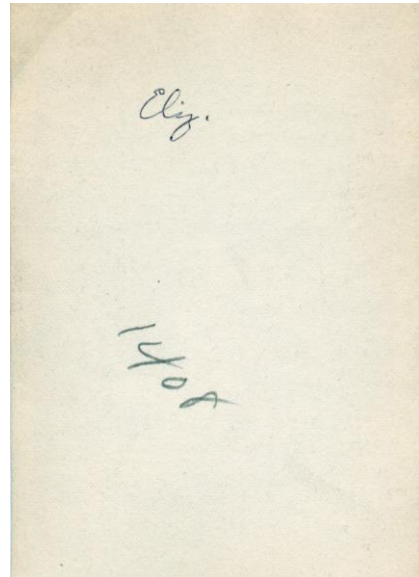
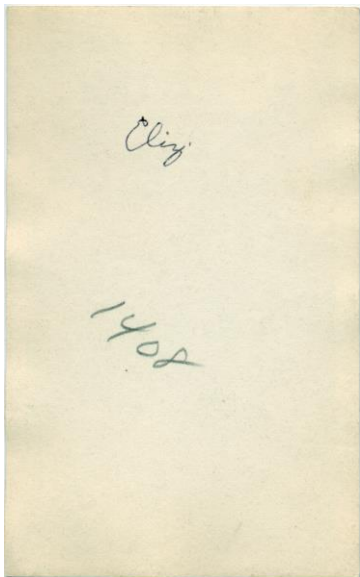


Certificate of Church Confirmation



Sisters Emma and Liz
and unnamed niece - probably Mildred Rexer, born 1917, or Elizabeth Rexer, born 1920.
Ackerman home, 3172 Belgrade St., Philadelphia, circa 1920's

Liz and Emma had a sister Mary who had daughters Mildred, Elizabeth and Jean, which explains the young girls that appear in some of the photos.



Elizabeth Ackerman, 3172 Belgrade Street, Philadelphia, circa 1920's

The Fredericks

Frank Frederick, husband of Liz Ackerman, grew up in Telford, a small town in a rural area about 30 miles north of Philadelphia. Frank's paternal and maternal ancestors had been in the Telford area for five-or six generations, dating back to the 1730's. All of Frank's ancestors had emigrated from a region of Germany called the Palatinate. In America, all of the marriages in Frank's family in the 1700's and 1800's had been within families of German descent in the Telford area.

By 1900, Frank's family was speaking English at home, but with a touch of the Pennsylvania Dutch accent common to the Telford/Souderton area. This differed from the family of his future wife - the Ackermans, who had emigrated from Germany to Philadelphia in the 1880's, and were speaking German at home.

The German Migration

The Germans are the largest group of immigrants to come to America, second only to the English. The German immigration began early in American history. The town of Germantown, a suburb of Philadelphia, was settled by the late 1600's.

In the 1700's, a unique, large-scale migration of German people began, all from one region of Germany called the Palatinate. Many of these Palatinate immigrants settled in Pennsylvania, and by 1770, one-third of the residents of Pennsylvania were of German descent. Frank's ancestors were part of this Palatinate migration. On my father's side, the Showalters were a part of this same Palatinate migration.

The term Pennsylvania Dutch [corrupted from Deutsch] refers to Palatinate immigrants, principally the Mennonites and Amish, who continue to practice their German religious customs today. Other German immigrants, who no longer have a strong German culture, are referred to as simply German Americans.

German immigration widened during the 1800's. Eight million additional Germans immigrated to the US involving all regions of Germany and spreading out across the continental US. After 1850, many of these immigrants stayed in America's cities instead of seeking farmland. One net result - the beer culture of Milwaukee. The family of Frank Frederick's future wife, the Ackermann's, were a part of this migration of the 1800's, emigrating from the Baden region of Germany to Philadelphia in the 1880's.

The Palatinate

With the Protestant Reformation of the 1500's and the increasing power of European states, the control of Europe by the Holy Roman Empire (Catholic church) began to be replaced by a fragmented struggle over power, religion and land by various European entities in the 1600's and 1700's.

In the 1700's, the map of Europe looked nothing like that of today. For example, the country of Germany did not exist. Instead, the German people lived in numerous separate states. One of the larger states was the Palatinate, located on the Rhine River in the southwest, just north of the Alsace region of France, and not far from Switzerland. The Palatinate became the home of protestants persecuted by Catholic Europe.

The government of the Palatinate offered limited religious freedom to Protestants in an attempt to re-populate war-torn lands. Protestant members of the Lutheran and German Reformed churches began to move there. Other Protestant sects came as well. Persecuted Mennonites, who had fled from German sections of Switzerland to the Alsace region of France, began relocating to the Palatinate. The Amish, a strict splinter group of the Mennonites, were located in Alsace and the Palatinate as well. And the protestant Huguenots, persecuted by France, also fled to the Alsace region and the Palatinate. These groups adopted the 'High German' language of the Palatinate. The ancestors of the Gerhart family on Frank Frederick's maternal side were said to include protestant French Huguenots from the Alsace region.

Many of the ancestors of Frank Frederick in America had been Mennonites –

“The Mennonites tended to live high moral lives characterized by industriousness, honesty, and hard work. They shunned profanity, swearing, drunkenness, or other deeds of "the flesh." They attempted to maintain peaceful relations with their fellowmen, were obedient to the government, and approached life with a religious intensity.”

[<http://www.swissmennonite.org/history/palatinate.html>]



Map of German Regions Today
[www.seawhy.com]

The Migration

The Palatinate was a tough place to live in the 1600's and early 1700's. The French repeatedly moved into the area, torching towns in the process. Spain, another Catholic country, did the same. The leaders of the Palatinate and neighboring German provinces were often at odds with one another and frequently changed allegiances. As a result, the prescribed religion of the Palatinate changed fifteen times over the course of 100 years. There were too many immigrants for the available land and the inhabitants were often on the run. And high taxes made it impossible to make ends meet. To top everything off, the winter of 1709/1710 was unusually cold, freezing the Rhine River, and resulting in starvation.

Desperate people began a migration down the Rhine River (the river flows to the north) to Rotterdam in Holland, where they were offered help by Protestant England, with thousands taking a boat to England, and ending up in tent cities around London.

In Pennsylvania, William Penn was in need of Protestant immigrants to populate the land and to build a strong economy. In England, his friend Queen Anne desired the same. Penn actually visited the Palatinate and implemented an advertising campaign there. The German farmers were renowned for their highly productive animal husbandry and agricultural practices.

The Palatine squatters who had been camped around London were sent to America and a flood of people back in the Palatinate were ready to follow. Thus, a unique 'chain' migration was set in place. 100,000 Germans would come to America from the Palatinate by 1750, including 2500 Mennonites and some Amish. Some additional Mennonites came directly from Holland as well.

The boat travel was brutal. The boat ride down the Rhine (north to Rotterdam, Netherlands) took several months, with hungry, sick people packed in boats, waiting for each local authority to approve passage. The passengers were ill-treated and taken advantage of. The trip across the Atlantic from Rotterdam to Philadelphia took an additional four weeks. Deadly typhoid fever became known as the Palatine fever.

The conditions under which the great mass of emigrants left the Old Land were a reflection of the times. Famine, unemployment, poverty, and the brutal arm of the law hastened the exodus, and the unwary were exploited and cheated at both ends of the journey and frequently bullied and starved aboard ship as well. But there is a sense of racial destiny in the march from the Old World to the New.

[<http://www.sunnetworks.net/~ggarman/palatine.html>]

The Invaders

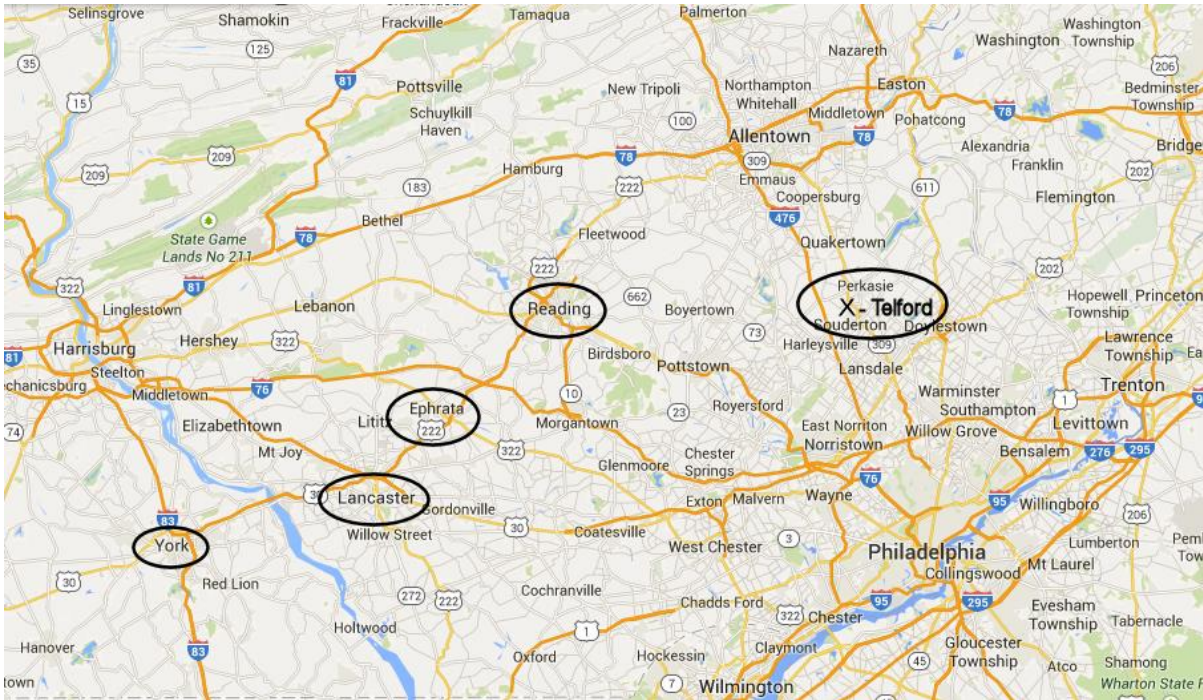
“Thousands of German emigrants followed their countrymen in the following decades to North America. In 1727, the newcomers were arriving in such great numbers that the English colonists in Pennsylvania were disturbed to see the steady flow of non-English settlers pouring through the port of Philadelphia. In order to keep this movement under control, the assembly passed a law in 1727 that all 'Palatines' be required to take an Oath of Allegiance to the British Crown. Between 1740 and 1756 there were 30,000 male adults who took the Oath of Allegiance.

A real mass migration had started. Large parts of the Country of Pennsylvania as well as the Northern part of Maryland soon had a 'thoroughly German character' as is stated in contemporary reports. ... Benjamin Franklin for example said. *Why should the Palatine Boors be suffered to swarm into our settlements, and by herding together establish their language and manners to the exclusion of ours? Why should Pennsylvania founded by Englishmen suffer to become a colony of foreigners who shortly will be so numerous as to Germanize us instead of Anglifying them..”*

[<http://www.claudeshawbell.com/genealogy/pa/gerimgrpa.html>]

The Geography

The Palatine emigrants settled in the undeveloped rural areas 20-60 miles around the Philadelphia suburbs, creating a wide area of farmland in the vicinity of the future towns of York, Lancaster, Reading, Telford, etc. Most were Lutheran or German Reformed with some Mennonites and Amish.



Frank's ancestors settled in the Perkiomen/Telford/Souderton area north of Philadelphia. Several of Frank's ancestors were well-documented Mennonites. Their country of origin prior to the Palatinate is difficult to determine – German, Swiss or the Alsace region of France? At any rate, the Germanic surnames of Frank's ancestors in Pennsylvania are undeniable – Frederick, Gerhart, Ziegler, Dettra, Renner, Meyer, Hendricks, Nase, Schmidt, Staudt, Delp, Zendt, Krey, Wildonger, Schumacher, Oberholtzer, OpDenGraeff, Godshall, Lindeman, Kuster and a Dutch (Holland) Mennonite by the name of Boorse. Wow!

Frank moved away from Telford at an early age, and I was never away of his German heritage.

[blank]

The Family of Frank Frederick

Frank Frederick, born 1890, was the eldest child of Morris Zendt Frederick and Annie Gerhart. Frank's younger brothers were Oscar, Jesse, LeRoy and Mark in descending order. The boys were followed by three gals – Estella, Viola and Sadie.

Frank (1890-1974) – had 1 child

Oscar (1892-1956) – 3 children

Jesse (1895-1963) – 1 child

LeRoy (1896-1967) – 1 child

Mark (1899-1985) – 11 children

Stella (1901-1964) – no children

Viola (1904-1990) – 5 children

Sadie (1906 - __) - no children

Father Morris Frederick died young at age 45 in 1915. His three girls, all born after the turn of the century, were still quite young at the time. The same early death of a father occurred in the family of Frank Frederick's future wife - Liz Ackerman, whose father died in 1910.

Morris Frederick did odd jobs, working for the local town, and later, working in a cigar factory. When Frank was old enough to work, Morris got his son a job at the cigar factory, and pocketed much of Frank's wages.



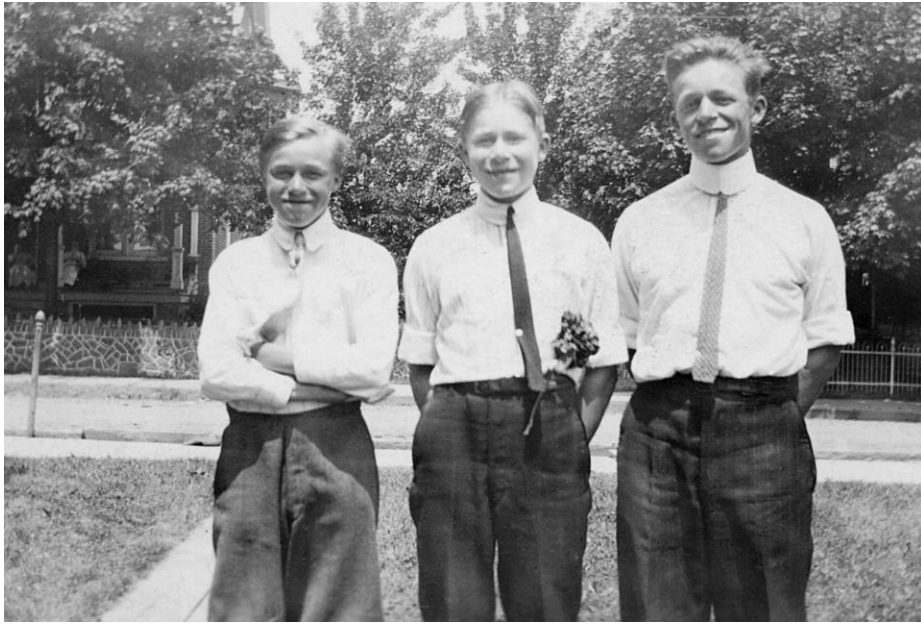
Morris Zendt Frederick



Frank's parents – Morris Zendt Frederick and Annie Gerhart



Annie (Gerhart) Frederick (1869-1925)
Poplar St.?, Telford



Frank photographed his younger brothers – Mark, LeRoy and Jesse, circa 1911



Annie Frederick with her daughters
(Frank's sisters) – Stella, Sadie and Viola, circa 1918



Oscar Frederick, another younger
brother of Frank,
with wife Mae Spicer, circa 1918



Mark, LeRoy, Jesse and Frank Frederick



Frank, Jesse, LeRoy and Mark with sisters Viola, Sadie & Stella

1962 Frederick Reunion [DES Slides]



Siblings Sadie, Jesse, Frank, Viola and Mark Frederick, 1965
Frank's 75th Birthday, Skinner Home, Woodbury, NJ [DES slide]



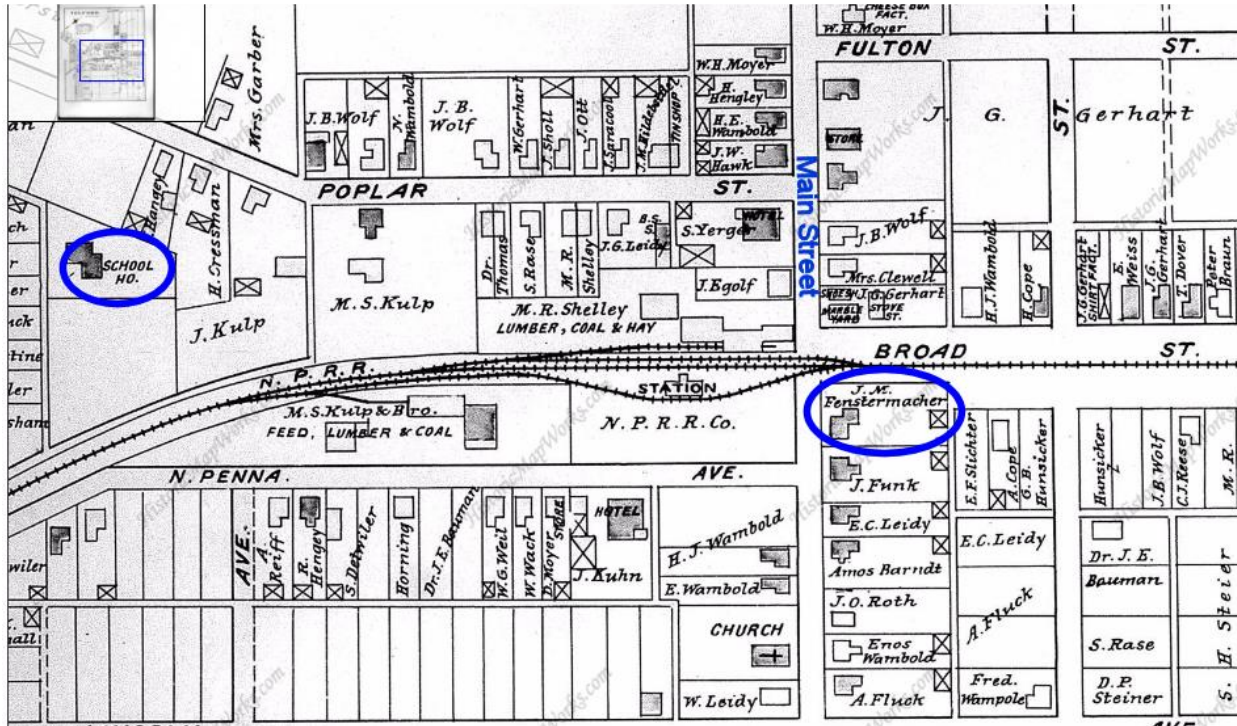
Siblings Sadie, Frank, Mark and Viola
Mark's 50th Wedding Anniversary, 1974
[DES slide]

Telford

The town of Telford is split between two Pennsylvania counties – Montgomery County to the west and Bucks County in the east. Main Street in downtown Telford is the dividing line. The town was originally divided into two boroughs - West Telford and Telford, to reflect the county split. Frank was born in West Telford.

The Fredericks were living on Poplar Street (today, W. Broad Street) in West Telford per the 1900 census. They were living on the west side of Main Street, near the intersection with W. Broad Street, per the 1910 census and on the east side of Main Street per the 1920 census.

One of their homes, likely the 1910 census address, appears in numerous photographs taken in the 1911 time frame. The home was brick, with a front porch. They had a small patio on the south side of the house, probably off the rear kitchen. The patio was surrounded by vines growing on a wooden lattice. A manual water pump from a well was located in this patio area.



Telford, PA – 1893
 [HistoricMapWorks.com]

Frank graduated from West Telford Grammar school in 1905 at age 14. He worked for a time at a cigar factory with his father, with the father pocketing most of his pay. The following year Frank moved out on his own, boarding and working at the barbershop of Mr. Fenstermacher in the center of town. Frank’s father was never the same to him after he moved out of his parent’s home.

Frank's Diary

Frank Frederick kept a diary for most of his life, beginning about age 14 (1905). He started keeping a second, financial diary beginning at age 27 in 1918, detailing his bank account, incoming pay, and outgoing expenses.

My Mother has summarized Frank's diaries. Her work, as well as surviving pages of Frank's diaries (most were disposed of), are contained in the Appendix. The diaries provide many details about Frank's life in Telford, and later Philadelphia.

Frank's diary begins -

"Some of my earliest memories are when we lived in the same house with Harry? Schwenk on 3rd St. south of the railroad. The field at the railroad was on fire at nite. Sleeping in bed and waking up with snow on the covers, eating next door with prayer before eating and hymns after eating, their daughter making ice cream with milk and snow. At six started to go to school. Joseph K. Bergey was my teacher. He had 3 classes. It was a 2 room brick L-shaped school with a large lot all around."

"During summers used to be with grandparent Fredericks at West Point [a small town south of Telford]. Milk was kept in a dark cellar. Uncle Elmer used to sneak down there and drink the cream off. All the aunts and uncles with families used to spend Xmas at West Point. Used to kill a rooster or two as a 25 lb. turkey was not enough."

School Days

Frank started school at age 6 in the fall of 1897. He attended a two room school. He was taught by Joseph Bergey in one room of the school for several years, and later 'graduated' to the second room of the school under Mr. Nampole. Frank's class consisted of just six students. Those students included a daughter of teacher Bergey, a daughter of teacher Nampole and a girl named Elsie Schwenk, whom his family had once shared a twin home with.

Frank finished out his schooling in a new school that was built on Poplar St. in front of the old building. Frank grew up in several different homes, usually with other families or relatives sharing the house. For a time, he lived in a twin home on Poplar St., across from the school. This is the address recorded by the census of 1900. The family of one of his mother's sisters, Elamina Bossert, lived in the other half of the twin.

1905, Grammar School Graduation

Frank graduated from the West Telford Grammar School at age 14 in 1905. I suppose that was about the eighth grade or so, though they had no separate grades. Frank graduated second in his class out of a total class of six students! and gave a salutation called "An Appeal".

Scarlet Fever Quarantine

Frank had been on track to graduate in the previous year of 1904, but early in his years of schooling, his family had been quarantined in their home for scarlet fever, most of Frank's siblings having come down with the disease. During the quarantine, the Board of Health and a neighbor supplied food to the family.

The house of Charles H. Price is quarantined on account of his oldest son having diphtheria.

Henry J. Wambold is still on the sick list, but is improving.

The quarantine was removed from the house of Harry Groff and the house was fumigated.

The quarantine sign was removed from the house of Morris Z. Frederick.

Typhoid Fever Quarantine
The Central News, Perkasio, PA; 14 April 1904

						Mamie G. Berges	Frank Frederick	Newton Swartz	Elsie Schwemok	Katie Siegler	Addie Wampole	
94	88	88	94	90	76	Spelling.						
90	78	90	80	85	85	Reading.						
95	92	94	90	88	94	Writing.						
90	90	98	95	60	62	Mental Arithmetic.						
76	68	65	63	72	50	Arithmetic.						
78	85	85	80	83	75	Geography.						
83	76	86	88	83	85	Grammar.						
85	95	80	62	81	65	History.						
88	82	70	75	80	82	Physiology.						
96	75	93	88	93	94	Drawing.						
82	79	78	84	80	73	Physical Geography.						
77	88	68	77	78	63	Civil Government.						
92	92	80	90	90	77	Literature.						
91	90	96	94	90	73	Algebra.						
$86\frac{3}{4}$	$84\frac{1}{4}$	$83\frac{3}{4}$	$82\frac{1}{4}$	$82\frac{5}{8}$	$75\frac{7}{8}$	Average.						

The above figures are the final results of an examination held on May 4, 1905 under County Superintendent J. Horace Landis.

Frank's Final School Exam Results, 1905; age 14



The commencement of the West Telford Grammar school will be held in the Chapel on June 10th. The graduating class is as follows: Mamie Bergey, Kate Ziegler, Elsie Schwenk, Addie Wampole, Frank Frederick, Newton Swartz. Prof. Winfield S. Hartzell, Principal of the West Bethlehem High School, and several others will make addresses. The Lansdale Orchestra will enliven the occasion with music.

The Central News, Perkasie, PA; 25 May, 1905

❖
=
ANNUAL
=
❖
❖
Commencement Exercises

...OF THE...

WEST TELFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL,

... IN THE UNION CHAPEL ...

On Saturday Evening, June 10th, 1905,

At 7.30 O'Clock.

PROGRAM:

Music,	-	-	-	-	Lansdale Orchestra.
Invocation,	-	-	-	-	Rev. C. R. Fetter.
Address of Welcome,	-	-	-	-	Rev. P. A. Laury.
Music,	-	-	-	-	Orchestra.
Salutatory, "An Appeal",	-	-	-	-	Frank R. Frederick.
Oration, "Character",	-	-	-	-	Addie H. Wampole.
Music,	-	-	-	-	Orchestra.
Oration, "In Khaki Clad",	-	-	-	-	Elsie O. Schwenck.
Oration, "The Keystone of the Union",	-	-	-	-	Newton E. Swartz.
Music,	-	-	-	-	Orchestra.
Class Presentations,	-	-	-	-	Katie G. Ziegler.
Address to the Graduates,	-	-	-	-	Prof. Winfield Hartzell.
Music,	-	-	-	-	Orchestra.
Valedictory, "Within the Temperate Zone",	-	-	-	-	Mamie G. Bergey.
Presentation of Diplomas,	-	-	-	-	Rev. C. R. Fetter.
Benediction.	-	-	-	-	
Music.	-	-	-	-	Orchestra

GRADUATES:

MAMIE G. BERGEY,	FRANK R. FREDERICK,
NEWTON E. SWARTZ,	ELSIE O. SCHWENCK,
KATIE G. ZIEGLER,	ADDIE H. WAMPOLE.

CLASS MOTTO—"Launched".
 CLASS FLOWER—American Beauty.
 CLASS COLORS—Purple and Gold.



1905 Graduation Class
Newspaper Photo



1905 Graduation Class
Original Photographer's Photo

1905, Church

Per his diary - "During the summer I studied the Heidelberg Catechism and on October 28 was baptized and confirmed by Jacob Rehm, Pastor, in the Trinity Reformed Church of Telford, Bucks County."



Certificate of Church Confirmation

1905, Cigar Factory

Later that year, Frank's father got him a job at a cigar factory where Frank stripped tobacco leaves for \$2-3 per week. *His father, who also worked there, took Frank's pay giving him an allowance of ten cents a week, sometimes a quarter.*

1906, Frank Moves Out On His Own

In March, Frank was walking to the Telford Post Office when a local barber by the name of Frank Fenstermacher stopped to talk to him. Fenstermacher had a barbershop on Main St., at the railroad crossing, and wanted Frank to work there six days a week, including evenings. The pay would be 25 cents per week, but Frank was also offered a room on the 3rd floor of the Fenstermacher home for boarding and meals with the family. Frank, age 15, accepted the opportunity to move out on his own.

Per Frank's diary – "When I got home to tell Father he got very angry. It was suppertime and Grandma Frederick and Mother were crying and no one could eat. *Finally, Father said I could go, but he was never the same to me after that.* I would come home Sundays after church and Sunday school, but he hardly spoke to me. I grew very much discouraged and I decided to travel to Philadelphia and then to the South and West."

I guess the disillusioned Frank wanted to see the country.

A New Life In Philadelphia (age 15)

Frank went to Philadelphia at age fifteen in 1906, and lived there until 1923, at age 32, when he relocated to the suburbs of South Jersey. The key to Philadelphia was that Frank's mother had four sisters and their families who had moved to Philadelphia – Aunt Amanda, Aunt Etta Smith, Aunt Elamina Bossert and Aunt Carrie. For most of his Philadelphia years, Frank would live with his aunts, particularly Aunt Elamina, all of whom lived near Frankford Avenue in the Port Richmond section of Philadelphia. Frank's maternal grandparents, Amanda and Jesse Gerhart, also relocated to Philadelphia, where they lived out the remainder of their lives with their daughter Elamina. Frank's parents and siblings did not move to Philadelphia and lived their lives in the Telford area 30 miles to the north.

Philadelphia offered an endless variety of unskilled work and Frank seems to have had no trouble moving from job to job, with his salary increasing from 25c per week to \$14/week in a few short years. Philadelphia was not far from Frank's parents 30 miles to the north in Telford - maybe an hour by train and somewhat longer by street trolley.

The Move from Telford to Philadelphia – In Frank's Own Words

April 24, 1906 – “I got up at 5 A.M., an hour earlier than usual. I packed a few clothes, left a note on my valise [suitcase stand] that I was going to Philadelphia, took the milk can over to the barbershop as usual, and with 30c in my pocket, started walking along the RR being a beautiful morning, fresh and cool. After walking as far as Gehman's trolley switch, below Souderton, a farmer gave me a lift on his milk buggy as far as Hatfield Station (where he was leaving his milk for the Milk Train) and I took the trolley for Chestnut Hill [Philadelphia], then down Germantown Ave. to Columbia Ave, and walked back to Aunt Carrie's at W. Dauphin St. who was surprised to see me.” [Aunt Carrie was a sister of Frank's mother, not to be confused with the Aunt Carrie who was a sister of Frank's future wife.]

Frank settled in with his Aunt Etta and her husband Harry Smith at 3413 Frankford Ave, in the Port Richmond section of Philadelphia. The Smiths had a son Harry Jr. and a grocery store. Aunt Amanda lived nearby at 4006 N. Reese Street.

April 27, 1906 – “Uncle Harry [Smith] took me to Carver's File Works on E/S Frankford Ave., near Alleghany, where I was given a job in the Forging Dept. Then gave me money to go home [to Telford] and get the rest of my clothes. [At Telford] I told mother I had a job and was staying at Aunt Etta's but would come home soon on a visit, then went to the cigar factory [where Frank had worked with his father] for my working certificate. *Father was ripping mad and was going to thrash me at first but finally, let me go.* I then took the keys to Fenstermacher's [the barbershop where Frank had lived] and left on the next trolley for Phila.”

April 30, 1906 - "Started working at Carver's File Works at \$3.00 per week in Forge-Hammer Dept."

May, 1906 - "Only worked a few weeks at Carver's when Delp [a relative] got me a job at \$6.00 per week at Robt. H. Foerderer's Inc. (Frankford Ave & the Creek) in the Checking Dept., counting skins of "Vici Kid" Leather.

Aunt Elamina [Elamina Bossert] moved to 2046 Russell St. near Aunt Etta's and after she was settled I went to board with her. But after a few months she moved to 2011 E. Tioga St. where I went too."

Winter, early 1907 - "Enrolled at Temple College for a combined bookkeeping and commercial course, 3 nights per week studying Bookkeeping - Arithmetic - Penmanship - Spelling - Modern English and Letterwriting - Commercial Law - Geography - It was hard work but I stuck the winter out."

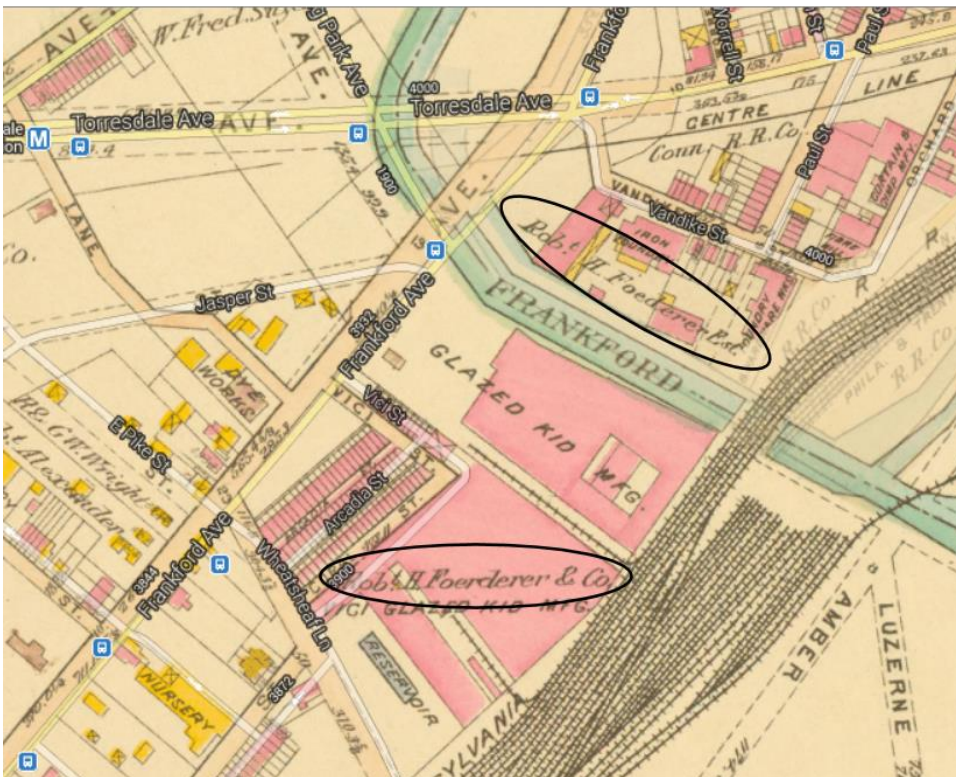
June, 1908 - "I left Foerderer's in June and was out of work until Aug 18 when I started at Bush & Terry's Rug Mills, Jasper & Ontario St., Phila in the Shipping Dept. at \$7.00 per week sewing burlap on the 9x12 and around bales of 27x30 & 27x50 Adminster Rugs. Before Xmas was transferred to the Setting Dept. where I supplied the spoolers with the yarn and fixed machines, later acting as Asst. Foreman. *It was strange to me at first as there were only girls in the Dept., except the foreman John Wilson & myself.*"

SPORTS MEN IN PHILADELPHIA
 Frank Frederick, of Philadelphia,
 spent Sunday with his parents.

Frank, of Philadelphia, visits his parents at Telford, 1906



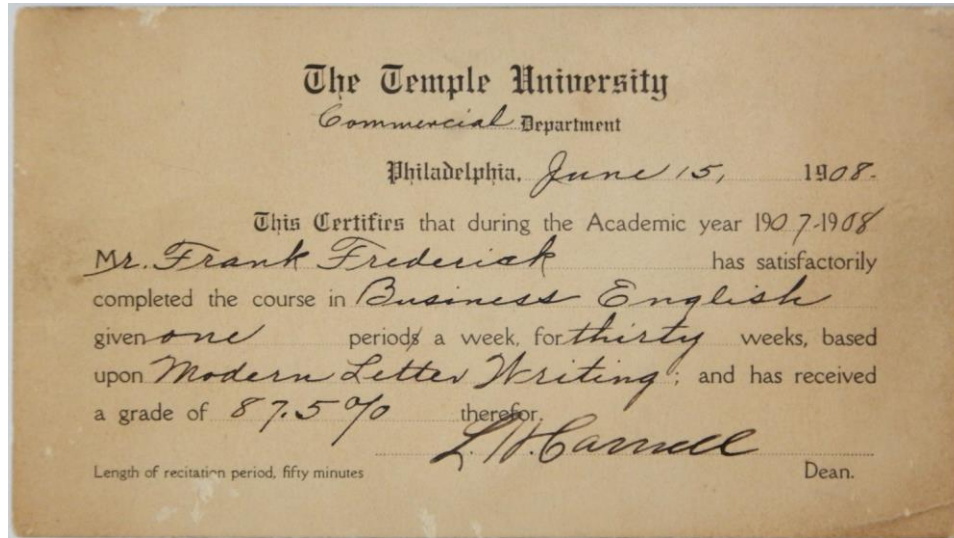
Carver's File Works



Robt H. Foerderer & Co

Temple University 1907-1908

Frank enrolled at Temple Night School in 1907, 3 nights a week, studying Bookkeeping, Arithmetic, Penmanship, Spelling, Modern English, Letterwriting, Commercial Law and Geography.



Frank enrolled in night school at Temple 1907-1908

St. John's Church - Frank Meets His Future Wife, Liz Ackerman

Nov, 1909 – “Became acquainted with some nice boys and girls since going to St. Johns German Evangelical Reformed Church and Sunday School at the S/E corner of Frankford Ave. and Ontario Street.”

St. Johns Church was located at 3391 Frankford Avenue, in the same neighborhood where Frank had been living with his aunts. The church provided Frank with a close circle of German friends from the neighborhood and lots of activities, including a basketball team. His circle of friends quickly grew to include Liz Ackerman, his future wife.

From Frank's Diary:

Nov 24, 1909 – **“Mother sent me a card to bring one of the girls Elizabeth Ackerman up any time I came up.”**

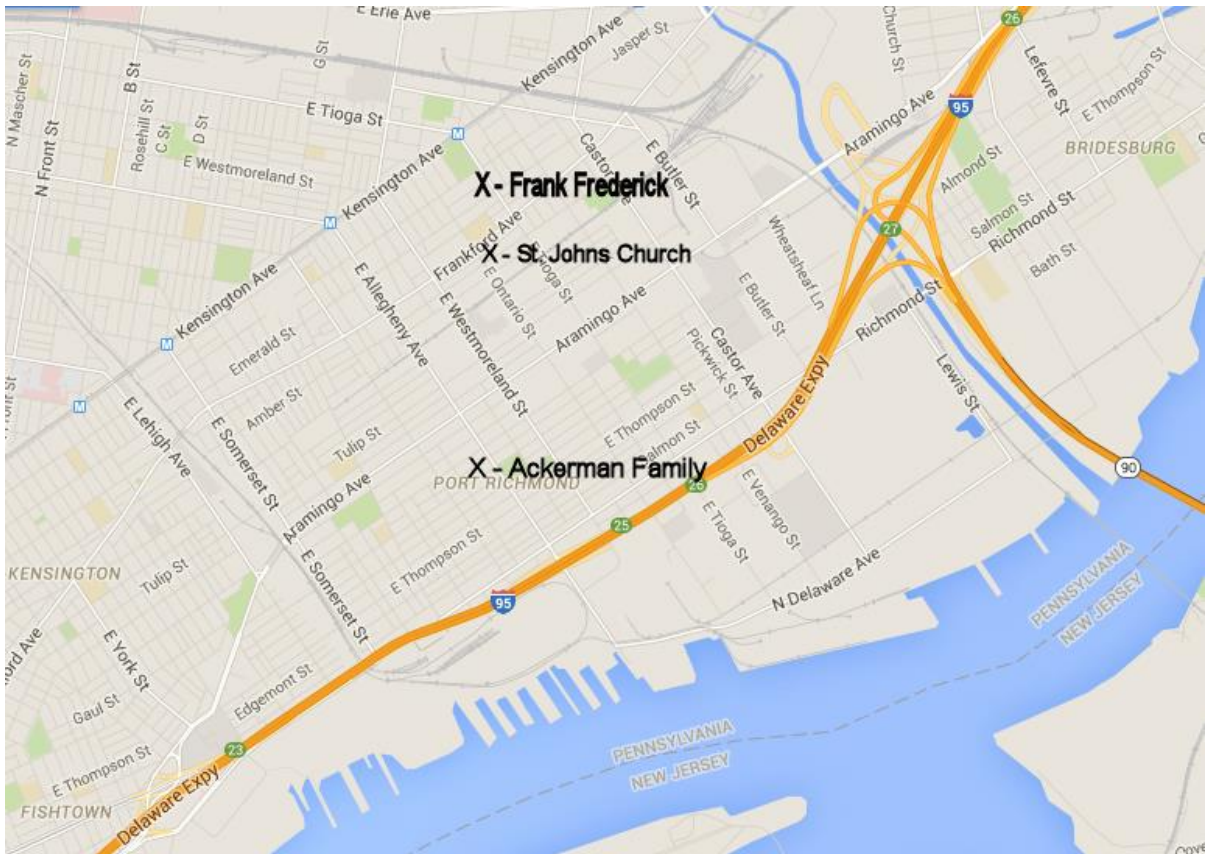
Frank had started attending St. Johns Church in 1909. The parents of Liz Ackerman had been attending St. John's for several decades. This is the church that the Ackermans were attending when Liz Ackerman was born in 1893, and the church where Liz was confirmed in 1908. The German Ackerman family referred to the church in German as St. Johannes Kirche. For Frank Frederick, it was simply St. Johns. Thus, Frank and Liz, both active in church Sunday School, met at St. John's. When they met, Frank was age 18, Liz age 16. They would date for 13 1/2 years and marry at St. Johns in 1923. While dating, she signed her name as 'Bess' or simply 'B'.

1910 Census

At Philadelphia, the 1910 census shows Frank living with his Aunt Elamina Bossert at 3484 Helen Street. Elamina's widowed mother, Amanda Gerhart (Frank's maternal grandmother), was living there as well, age 81.

The 1910 census shows that Frank was a spool man in a rug mill. Per his diary, he had been employed by Bush & Terry Rug Mill since 1908, rug mills being a large industry in Philadelphia at the time.

The 1910 census shows that the family of Frank's future wife – the Ackerman's, were living at 3172 Belgrade Street.



Port Richmond Neighborhood, Northeast Philadelphia

In 1910, Frank was living with his Aunt Elamina Bossert at 3484 Helen Street, Kensington.
Liz Ackerman and her family lived at 3172 Belgrade Street, Port Richmond.



3484 Helen Street, Kensington neighborhood, Northeast Philadelphia

Frank received his mail here in the years 1910-1916. This was the home of his Aunt Elamina. His Grandmother lived here as well.



3172 Belgrade Street, Port Richmond neighborhood, Philadelphia

The Ackerman family rented at this address for many years while Liz and her siblings were growing up in the years 1900 thru the 1920's.

—
GERMAN.

Bethlehem, Norris and Blair: Rev. F. W. Kratz, 2210 Dauphin. 10½ A.M., 7½ P.M.

Emanuel, Thirty-eighth and Baring: Rev. A. E. Hofer, 413 N. Thirty-eighth. 10½ A.M., 7½ P.M.

Emanuel, Bridesburg: Rev. John B. Forster, 2631 Weiser. 10 A.M., 1½, 7½ P.M.

Salem, Fairmount av. bel. Fourth: Rev. F. W. Berleman, 341 Fairmount av. 10¼ A.M., 7½ P.M.

St. John, Frankford and Ontario: Rev. John Voegelin, 3391 Frankford av.

St. Lucas, Twenty-sixth bel. Girard av.: Rev. M. F. Dumstrey, 921 N. Twenty-sixth.

St. Mark, Fifth ab. Huntingdon: Rev. G. A. Scheer, 2404 N. Sixth.

St. Matthew, Fifth ab. Venango: Rev. U. O. Silvius, 3725 N. Fifth.

St. Paulus, Wharton ab. Eighteenth: Rev. Philipp Vollmer, Ph. D., 1315 Ward. 10¼ A.M., 4 P.M.

Zion, Sixth ab. Girard av.: Rev. P. H. Dippel, 1230 N. Sixth. Rev. Nicholas Gehr, D. D., 2404 N. Sixth, pastor emeritus. 11¼ A.M., 7½ P.M.

Frank Frederick and Liz Ackerman

Frank and Liz, living less than a mile apart in northeast Philadelphia, met at St. John's Church and began dating in 1909. They and their circle of friends, almost all of German descent and members of St. Johns Church, appear in a large number of photographs taken in the 1911 time frame.

Their gal friends included:

Ida May Yaeck, lived at 1810 Lippincott Street [born 1893-died 1975, married William Whinney; had at least one child, Dorothy May Schmidt]

Lillian Leibert, 1812 Lippincott [1893-]

Frieda Pirman, 1830 Lippincott [md. William Wiestner].

Frank lived just a few blocks from the girls.

The neighborhood boys included:

Harry Brautigam, 3432 Braddock

Harry Brenner

Fred Burkle [1892-1967, md. 1921, Helen M. Krause]

Charles Lee

Frank and the guys, except Burkle, played together on the St. John's basketball team.

The explosion of photos taken in the 1911 time frame is partially due to the fact that Frank had purchased his first Kodak camera, a fact I only know because he was photographed carrying the camera in one of the images.



Liz & Lillian Leibert, undated

Baseball Outing, circa 1910



Both of these images likely taken on the same day

Baseball Outing (Close-Up)



Frank – Rear
Lower Right, friend and neighbor Ida Yaeck

Baseball Outing (continued)

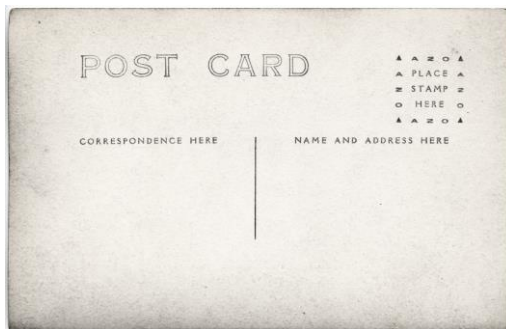


Ida Yaeck appears in both images

Baseball Outing (continued)



Ida Yaeck, second from left

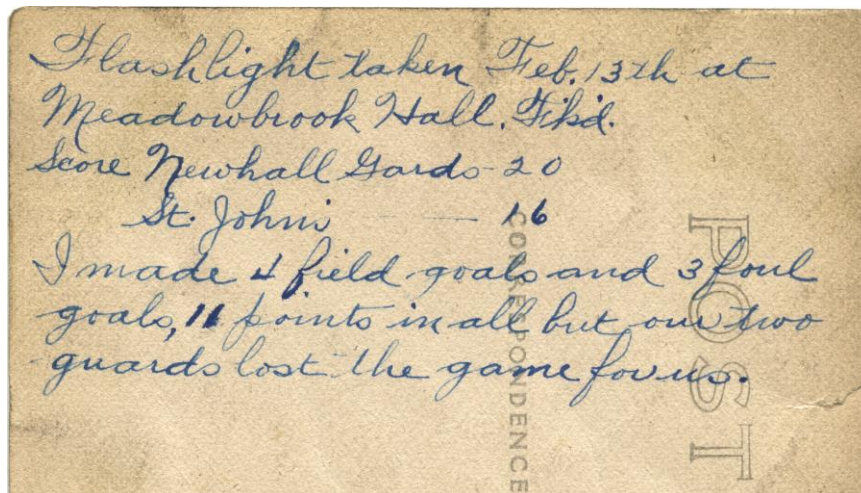


Rear of Images

St. Johns' Church Basketball, 1911



Frank and friends were active in the St. Johns basketball team



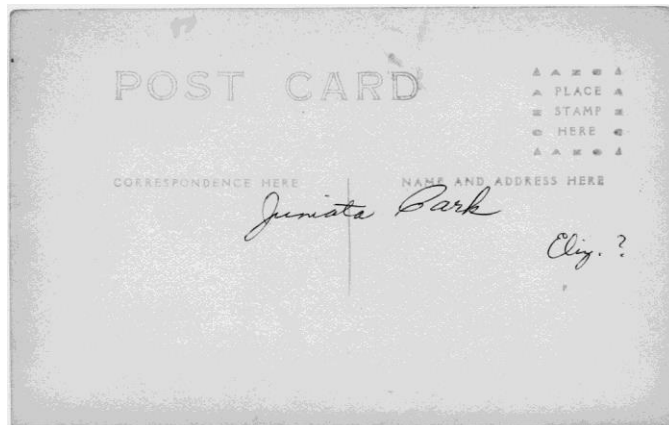
February 13, 1911

Frank scored 11 of his team's 16 points
"but our two guards lost the game for us"

Easter, Juniata Park, Philadelphia, circa 1911



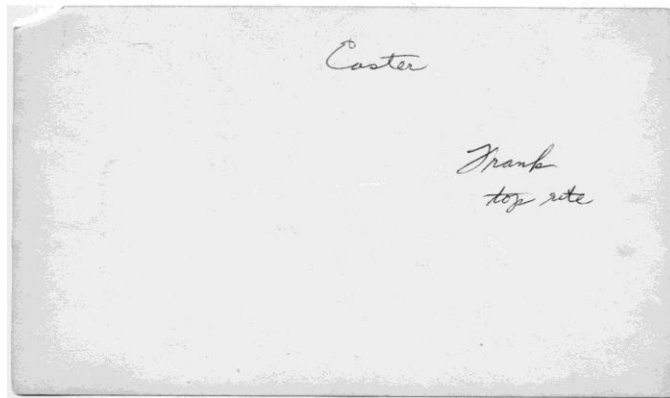
Fred Burkle's date (middle), Liz at right, guys in rear



Another Easter Outing



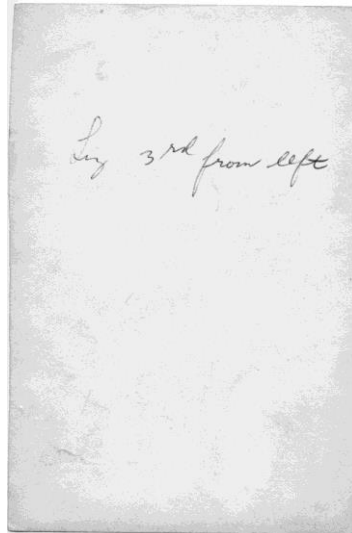
Guys – unknown person, Fred Burkle, Frank, Charles Lee and Harry Brautigam



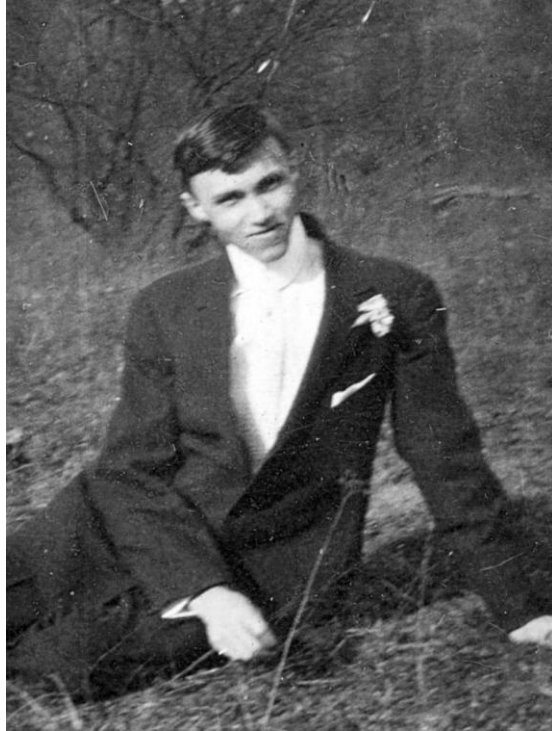
Another Easter Outing (continued)



Lillian Leibert and Liz, middle of upper row
Charles Lee, Fred Burkle and Harry Brautigam, lower row



Misc



Frank



Liz (same button dress as many other images)

Outing A, circa 1911



unknown person, Liz (button dress), Fred Burkle's date, Lillian Leibert
Fred Burkle, Harry Brenner, Harry Brautigam



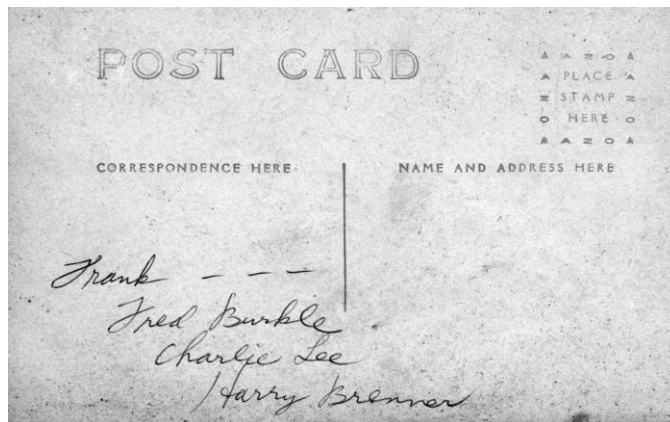
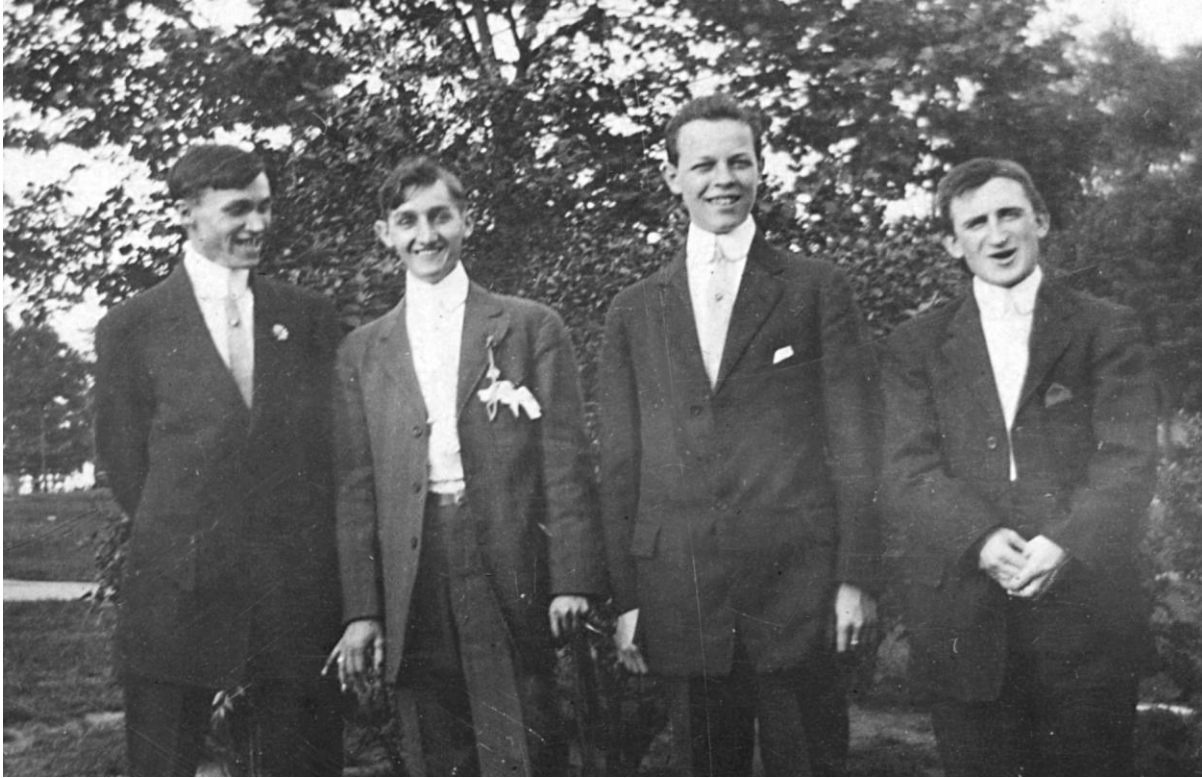
Outing B, circa 1911



Fred Burkle's date, Harry Brenner's date, Harry Brautigam's date and Liz. The gals are wearing the guys' jackets, so we know who was dating who.



Outing B (continued)



Frank Frederick, Fred Burkle, Harry Brautigam, Harry Brenner.

[Annette's writing, Charlie Lee looks more like Harry Brautigam]

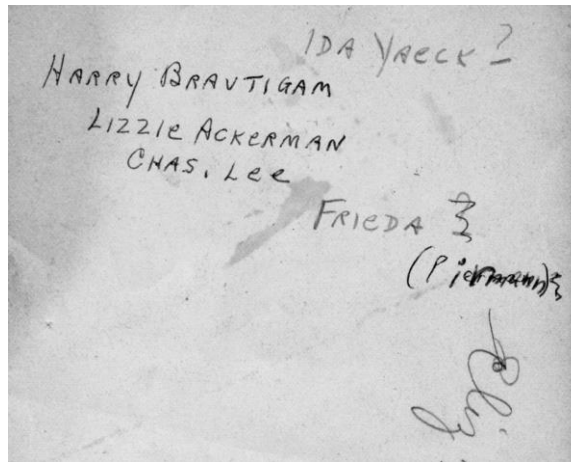
Outing C, circa 1911



Outing C (continued)



Ida Yaeck, Harry Brautigam, Liz Ackerman, Charlie Lee, Frieda Pirman



Outing C (continued)



Liz Harry Ida Charlie
Krautzger Jaesch Lee
Heida
Birmann

Farm Picnic, 30 May 1911



Frank & Liz with Fred Burkle & his date, 30 May 1911
Men In White

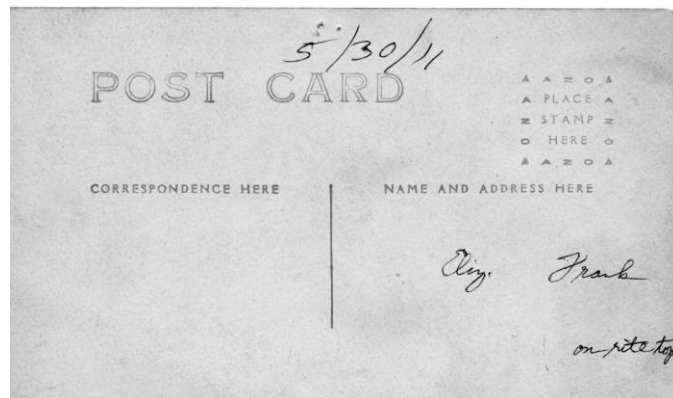
Frank is holding his Kodak Brownie box camera, circa 1910 model, probably the reason for the flurry of photos taken in the 1911 time frame.

Per Frank's diary, 5/30/1911 – 'Edith Press [unknown person] had our crowd up to their farm for a picnic.'

Farm Picnic (continued)



Some familiar faces, 30 May 1911:
Top – Ida Yaeck, Charlie Lee, Lillian Leibert
Middle - Fred Burkle and date, Elizabeth Ackerman and Frank Frederick
Foreground – Harry Brautigam

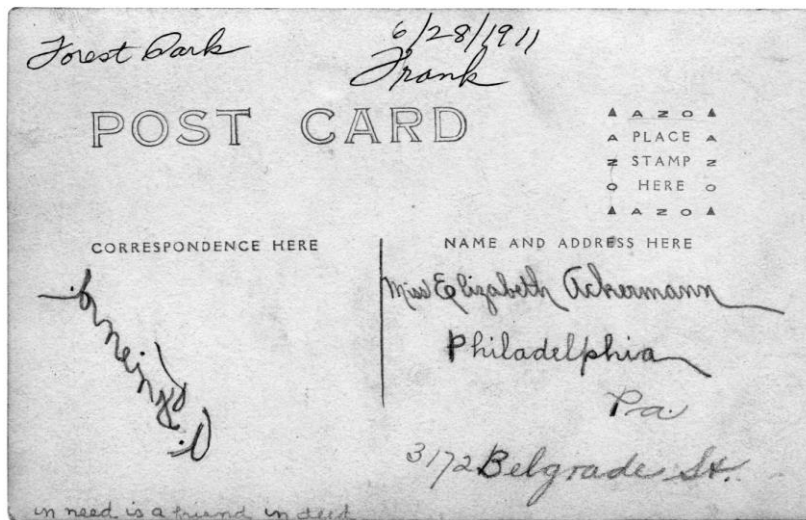


Annette's writing

Forest Park, 11 June 1911



Frank Frederick at Forest Park, near Telford, PA, probably on a weekend trip back home from Philadelphia

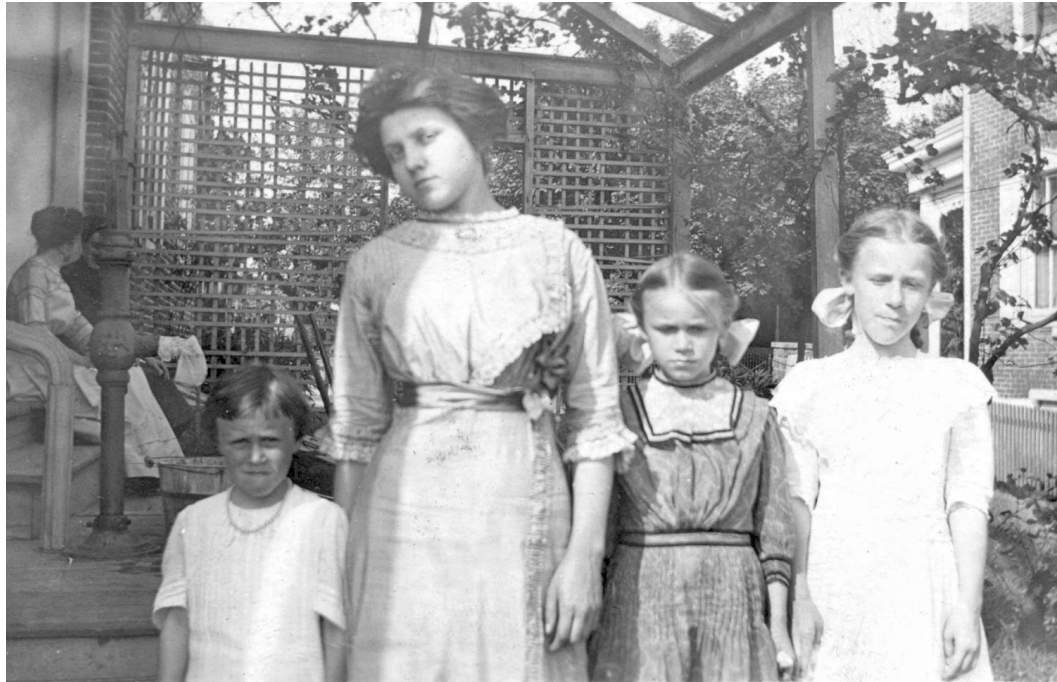


“A Friend In Need ...” [spelled backwards], June 1911

Per Frank’s diary, “Went to Forest Park on our Sunday School excursion.”

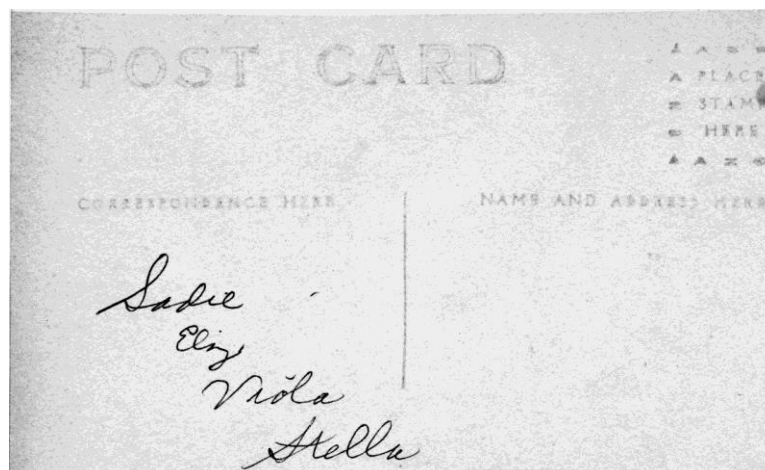
Home to Telford, PA - 4 Sep 1911

In 1911, Frank took Liz home to Telford to visit his mother and siblings. This was probably not the first time Liz met Frank's family as they had been dating since 1909, but this was the first time Frank had a camera. Frank and Liz made the trip with three friends, as it was not appropriate for the young couple to make the train trip alone. Frank mentions the trip in his diary and took some photos -- the photos are dated 4 September 1911.



Liz with the Frederick gals (youngest to oldest) – Sadie, Viola; Stella.
Patio on Side of Frederick home, Telford. 4 Sep. 1911

Note the outdoor well pump w/bucket behind Sadie.

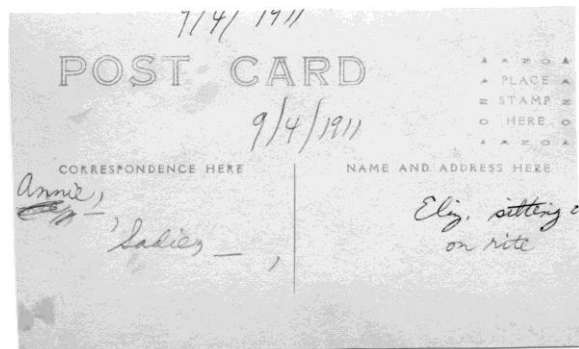


Trip To Telford, 1911 (continued)



At left - Annie Frederick (Frank certainly resembled his mother); Far right - Liz.
Middle - Fred Burkle, Lillian Leibert & Harry Brautigam, friends of Frank and Liz from Phila.
Lillian is holding Frank's young sister Sadie; a brother of Frank is hidden next to Liz.

Frederick Home, Main Street near Broad St., Telford, PA, 4 Sep. 1911

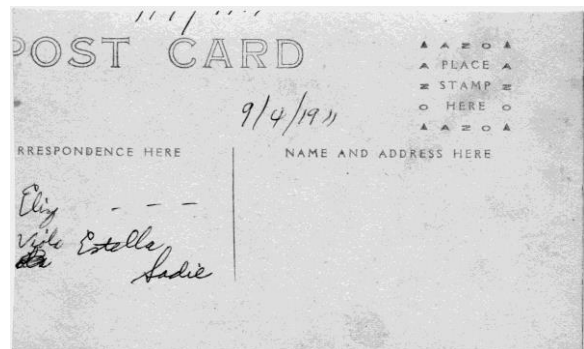


Trip To Telford, 1911 (continued)



Liz with friends Lillian Leibert, Harry Brautigam and Fred Burkle and Frank Frederick's young sisters – Viola, Stella and Sadie.

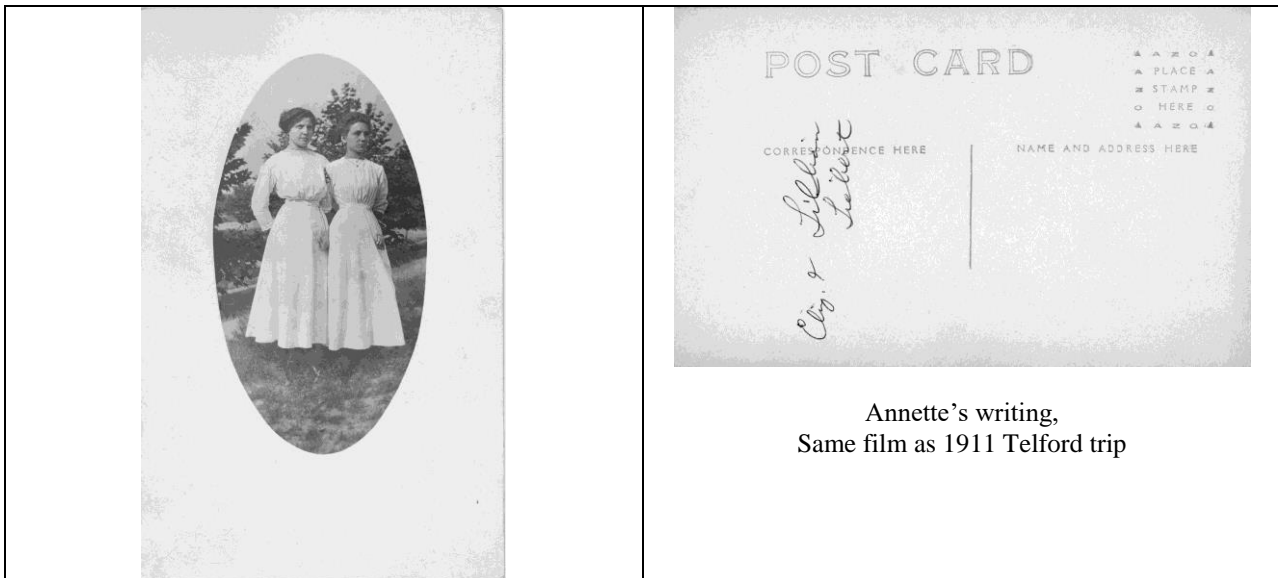
Side Patio of Frederick home, Telford. 4 Sep. 1911



Same Film As Telford Trip, 1911



Liz Ackerman and Lillian Leibert



Same Trip As Telford Trip, 1911



Annette's writing
Same film as 1911 Telford trip

Telford Trip, 1911



9/4/11
Ely. & Frank

Annette's writing

Telford Trip, Undated



Liz. Ackermann
at Godshall's Dam
Branch Creek
N. of Telford, Pa.

Liz with flowers, Telford, Date Unknown

Photo taken at the Godshall Dam at Meyer's Mill
on the East Branch of the Perkiomen Creek, Telford.

Telford Trip, Undated



Liz? and Frank

Probably the Cowpath Road crossing of the East Branch of the Perkiomen Creek,
near Godshall Dam.

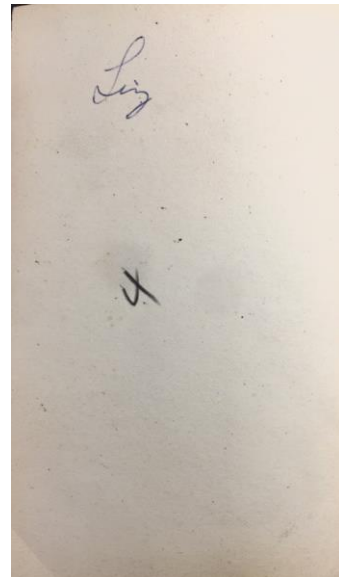
Misc



Liz, undated



1914?



Dads Did Not Live Long

April, 1910 – Jacob Ackerman, father of Liz Ackerman, dead at age 55.

Back To Frank's Diary

April 16, 1910 – “Went up home [Telford] – and admitted a member of Golden Rod, Castle #397, Knights of the Golden Eagle [a Masonic Temple organization]. I was sponsored by father.”

Dec 14, 1910 – “Jesse [Frank's brother] came down [to Phila.]. It was very cold but I took him to the Dazzleland to see moving pictures.”

Dazzleland was a large, 500-seat movie house at 2950 Frankford Ave.

Dec 25, 1910, Xmas Day in Telford – “Started snowing about 9 A.M. After dinner Oscar [Frank's brother] and I went roller-skating at Menlo Park [a town below Telford]. After Supper went to Xmas Services in Trinity Reformed Church. Only a few people attended. Snow was knee deep on the way home.”

Dec 27, 1910 – “returned home to good old 3469 Emerald Street.” [Philadelphia]

Mail was addressed to Frank at 3484 Helen St., Phila, from 12/23/1910 to 2/22/1915, the address of his Aunt Elamina Bossert. It is not clear when he lived at 3469 Emerald St.

Philadelphia, Manufacturing PowerHouse

Frank came of age during the explosion of blue-collar work in America's cities at the turn of the century. His dairy reflects his job opportunities and his rapidly increasing pay. Philadelphia was one of the leading manufacturing centers in the US at the time with all of the supporting shipyards and train facilities.

More From The Diary

Jan 21, 1911 – “B sent a note she could not go with us to my Basket Ball game tonite.”
Frank referred to his future wife, Liz Ackerman, as ‘B’ in his diary.

On February 13, Frank scored 11 of the 16 points as a captain and center forward on the basketball team of St. John’s Church.

Jan 30, 1911 – “Harry Dallison and I took a run over to York Rd. in the morning. In afternoon we all attended the Cheltenham Ave. Sunday School.”

June, 1912- “My last day working for Bush & Terry [Rug Mill]. My boss wanted me to do more work. I told him I was so busy now I could not see how I was to do even more. I also asked for a raise. We got into an argument so I told him I was quitting at noon.”

Oct, 1912 – “Got a job as Plumber’s Helper with Albert F. Yahn on Emerald St. Feels good to work again.”

Frank was living with his Aunt Elamina at 3484 Helen Street at the time.

Jan 1, 1913 – “Spent New Year’s Eve at B’s. This afternoon we went to Fred Burkle’s staying for Supper.” [Fred Burkle was a good friend of Liz and Frank – he gave a gift in honor of my parent’s wedding in 1952.]

Jan 9, 1913 – “Work is very slack and Yahn told me he could no longer keep me on. Got work at the Miller Lock Works, Frankford Ave. at \$6.00 a week assembling locks – but left after a few weeks.”

Mar 4, 1913 – “Woodrow Wilson sworn in as president – Started work with C.J. Matthews & Co. as helper on seasoning machine at \$7.00 per week – it wasn’t long before I was raised to \$8 per week.”

The Needle, X-Rays and Cocaine

July 4, 1913 – Frank, Fred Burkle and Lillian Leibert made another visit to Frank's family at Telford, probably also with Liz. They returned on the 6th.

While getting undressed at home, Frank stepped on a needle, about ½ inch in length, that lodged in his right foot between his big and second toe. On 8 July, he had an x-ray taken at Episcopal Hospital, at a time when x-rays were still experimental.

On July 10, he went twice to the hospital with doctors unsuccessfully probing for the needle and was finally admitted to the hospital in the Men's Ward. On 13 July, Dr. Whittaker found the needle after ¾ of an hour of probing.

“It sure was hot laying there and he used a lot of cocaine but the pain was almost unbearable, but I only moved the foot once when he first located the needle.”
Frank was released from the hospital at noon on 19 July after a stay of nine days.

Aug 9. 1913 – “Put shoes on for first time & went to see B.”

Feb 5, 1914 – “Admitted to Thespian Lodge #1167 I.O.O.F. [Independent Order of Odd Fellows] Meetings held at Amber & Allegheny Streets.”
The group did much work in support of homes for orphanages.

May 18, 1914 –

“Think of me when you are happy
Think of me when you are not,
In the depths of your affection,
Place one sweet forget-me-not. Bess”

July 25, 1914 – “B and I went to Atlantic City on the Shoemaker's Excursion. Very hot & cloudy most of the time.”

Death of Frank's Father, Morris Zendt Frederick, at age 45

Dec 13, 1914 – “Went to Telford – father seemed cheerful. Strongly expects to go back to work in a few weeks – but I do not think so as I believe his mind is affected.”

Dec 18, 1914 – “Mark [brother of Frank] wrote father was out of his mind & did not know a thing anymore”.

Dec 19, 1914 – “Went to Telford. Father did not know me – I hardly knew him either as he looked so different.”

Jan 1, 1915 – “At 5 pm rec'd telegram from Jess – there was no hope, to come at once. Stopped over to see B – thought I had plenty of time for the train but missed it – finally got up home about 10 pm. But father had died several hrs earlier. There was a lot of confusion for a while. Aunt Bella Gerhart & Uncle Elmer Frederick were there. Also the Pastor of Trinity Reformed Ch. Funeral was set for Wed. the 6th. After a short prayer by the Pastor, all left.”

Jan 2 1915 - “Left for Phila in afternoon and left a funeral notice in the Phila Inquirer Office.”

Jan 6, 1915 – “Some more confusion today – bad weather – everything is wet, icy & slushy. There was a short Service at the house & then proceeded to Trinity Reformed Ch. for a short Service. The pall bearers were from the KGE & IORM.” [KGE = Knights of the Golden Eagle, a Masonic organization that Frank and his dad belonged to.]

Death of Frank's Paternal Grandmother, Susanna Frederick

Feb 22, 1915 – “Rec'd notice Grandma Frederick died 2/20. Funeral to be held on Wed. Feb. 24.”

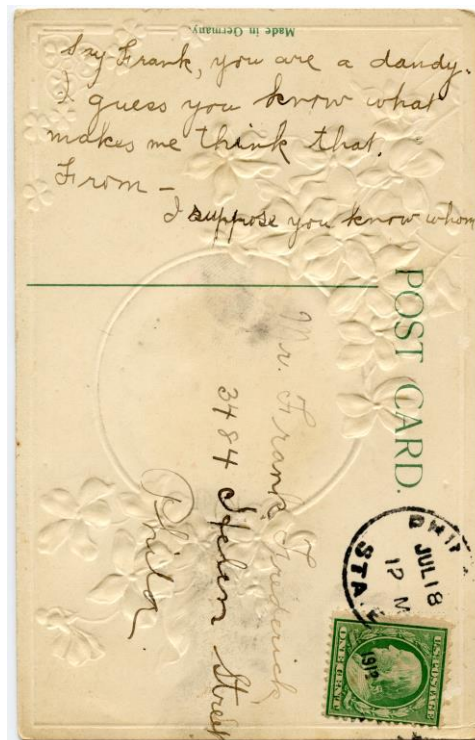
Feb 24, 1915 – “Rained when I got up – met Oscar [brother of Frank] at Chestnut Hill & took trolley to Ambler to Aunt Laura. Had short service –Leonard & Harvey Myers, Roy, Jess, Oscar & I were pall bearers [Roy, Jess and Oscar were brothers of Frank]. Took coffin out of the window – then by autos to the Towamencin Meeting House where there was a service.”

1915 was an early year for autos - no one in the family would have owned a car.

Mar 20, 1915 – “Public Sale today. House sold & some odds & ends. Had words with Oscar over selling a lamp.”

Liz and Frank Correspondence

Frank and Liz exchanged a large number of birthday, Easter and Christmas cards in the 1911-1913 time frame that are a remarkable historical record. Only a few are shown here:



1913

Confusion at Helen Street

In March of 1915, Frank took over the rental of 3484 Helen St. from his Aunt Elamina. Frank's entire family, including his mother and sisters from Telford, eventually joined him at that address. But Frank was caught by surprise when everyone moved out on Aug 2, a day earlier than planned, leaving Frank with a mess and no bed on which to spend the night:

Mar 26, 1915 – “Rented the house at 3484 Helen St.”

This was the home that Frank's Aunt Elamina had been renting for many years.

Mar 30, 1915 – “Aunt Elamina moved to 2034 Russell St.”

April 2, 1915 (Good Friday) – “Scrubbed & cleaned in A.M. Mark [Frank's brother] came with the beams after lunch. So we unloaded & fixed up a bed to sleep in.”

Apr 5, 1915 – “Mother & girls [Frank's sisters] came down – B was over for supper.”

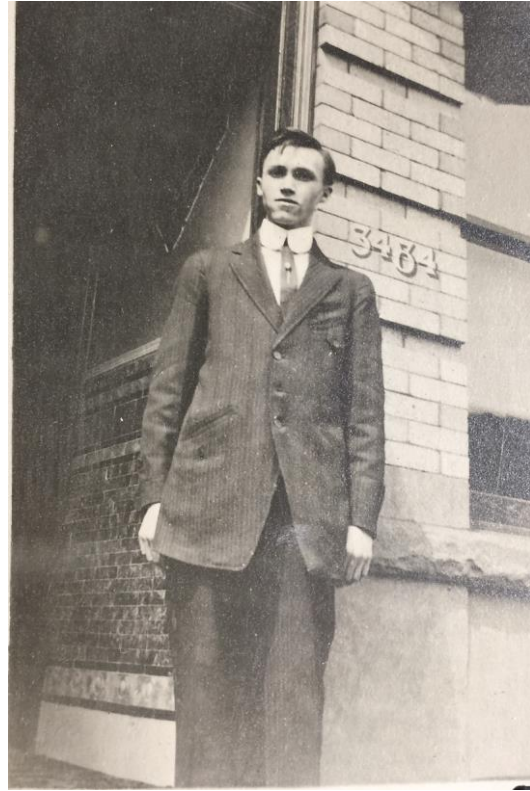
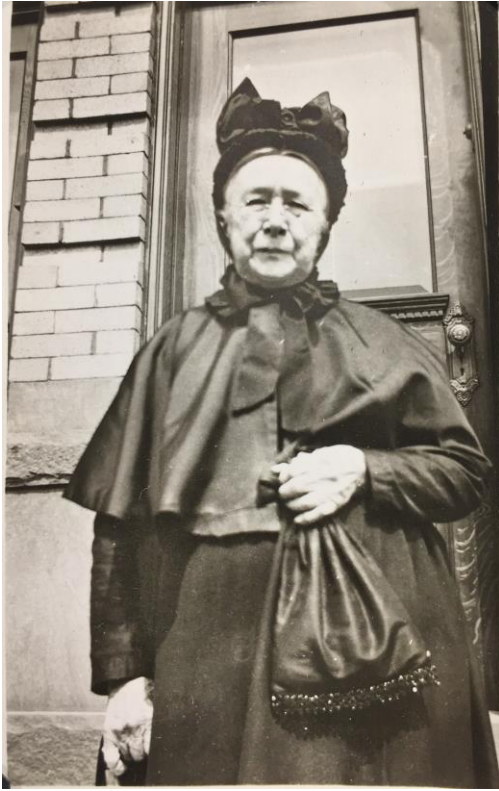
Apr 7, 1915 – “Jess came today – We are all together again except for Oscar and Roy, but feel it will not last long.” [Jess, Oscar. Mark and Roy were brothers of Frank.]

May 3, 1915 – “Mother, Sadie, Jess & Mark went to Telford.”

Aug 1, 1915 (Sunday) – “B's mother was here shortly before dinner. In the afternoon Mark took the tacks out of the hall carpet. B brought me an ashtray & a box of James Saltwater Taffy from Atlantic City. She told me mother & all were to move Tuesday.”

Aug 2, 1915 – “Arriving home from work found mother & all gone leaving my belongings scattered all over the floors. Had baked beans, crackers & sweet pickles for supper. Mother came in a while (I) was getting washed up. I could hardly talk. No place to eat or sleep. No one said a word to me about leaving me here, only B, (everything was done on the quiet). Said goodbye to Mother and then went to Aunt Elamina's, then to Russell Bossert's at 750 Willow St. and arranged to board there together with Jess.”

Sep 30, 1915 – “Elected Recording Secy of Thespian Lodge #1167 IOOF.”



3484 Helen St.,
Phila., Pa.
F. B. F.

Frank and grandmother Amanda Gerhart
3484 Helen Street, Philadelphia

Mar 11, 1916 – Frank moved to 1939 Wensley St. – Mrs. McBride’s boarding house.

Aug 31, 1916 – “Began work at Auto Car Co. at 25c per hour. Boarded at 31 Greenfield Ave., Ardmore, Pa.”

Ten years earlier, Frank had been earning 25c per week.

Feb 19, 1917 – Death of maternal grandmother Amanda (Nase) Gerhart.

Feb, 1917 – Frank relocates from Ardmore back to Philadelphia, boarding at 703 E. Willard Street.

Mail was sent to Willard Street thru Apr 7. Mail was sent to 3022 Emerald Street from 12/19/1917 thru 3/28/1918.

1917 – Frank begins working at **Cramp’s Shipyard** in Northeast Philadelphia. In May, he earned his highest monthly salary of the year - \$161.40.

Feb 9, 1918 – the War Dept. classified him as 1A, V-E-F. On March 26, he was downgraded to II-D.

1918 – Frank served in the Corona Encampment #287 I.O.O.F. of Pa, Thespian Lodge #1167.

1918 – Liz was still living at 3172 Belgrade St. with her family. She did sewing or trimmed hats for a living at the time.

World War I Draft Registration

Frank's 1917 WWI draft registration card shows that Frank was age 26 and single. He was now living at 703 Willard St. Frank had brown hair and brown eyes, a slender frame and was of medium height. He was not drafted.

Frank's draft card shows that Frank was now employed as a machinist by the William Cramp & Sons Shipbuilding Company.

Form 1 REGISTRATION CARD No. 156		REGISTRATION DISTRICT 37-7-19, A	
1	Name in full Frank Frederick 2515 26 <small>(Given name) (Family name) (Age, in years)</small>	1	Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? Med Slender, medium, or stout (which)? Slender
2	Home address 703 Willard Phila Pa <small>(No.) (Street) (City) (State)</small>	2	Color of eyes? Brown Color of hair? Brown Bald? No
3	Date of birth Nov 18 1890 <small>(Month) (Day) (Year)</small>	3	Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)?
4	Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? Citizen	I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:	
5	Where were you born? Telford Penn USA <small>(Town) (State) (Nation)</small>	yes	
6	If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?	William J. Faust <small>(Signature of Registrar)</small>	
7	What is your present trade, occupation, or office? machinist	Precinct 28	
8	By whom employed? Wm Cramp & Son	City or County Phila	
9	Where employed? Beakmon Harris st	State Pa	June 5 1917 <small>(Date of registration)</small>
10	Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? none		
11	Married or single (which)? single Race (specify which)? white		
12	What military service have you had? Rank _____; branch _____; years _____; Nation or State _____		
12	Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? None		
I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.			
Frank Frederick <small>(Signature of Registrant)</small>			

1917 Draft Registration Card

LOCAL BOARD FOR DIV. No. 30
 Local Board for PHILADELPHIA STATE OF PENNA.
 NOTICE OF CLASSIFICATION

I	II	III	IV	V
	D			

Frank Frederick Order No. 2515 Serial No. 266 has been classified by the ~~Local~~ Board ~~on original claim~~ in the classes under which letters are placed on the above schedule, and on the grounds indicated by such letters (see Form 1001-A for key to meaning of letters). This entitles him to a place in Class II and he has been so recorded on the Classification List of this Local Board. Appeals may be taken from classification by a Local Board, within five days from the date of this notice, by any person who filed a claim with this Local Board. Appeals may be taken from classification by a District Board within five days from the date of this notice only in certain cases specified in section _____ of Selective Service Regulations and when claimed by a person who filed a claim of classification with the District Board. To file an appeal it is only necessary to go to the office of the Local Board and write your claim of appeal in the place provided on the registrant's questionnaire.

MAR 25 1918 (Date) N. B. Keech Member of Local Board.

FORM 1005-P.M.G.O. (See Sec. 103, S. S. R.) 63-5133

WAR DEPARTMENT LOCAL BOARD FOR DIV. No. 30
 509 E. ALLEGHENY AV. PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.
 OFFICIAL BUSINESS PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.

PHILADELPHIA PA
 FEB 9 1918
 STATE

Frank Frederick,
 3022 Emerald Street,
 Philadelphia, Pa.

LOCAL BOARD FOR DIV. No. 30
 Local Board for PHILADELPHIA STATE OF PENNA.
 NOTICE OF CLASSIFICATION

I	II	III	IV	V
A				E.F.

Frank Frederick Order No. 2515 Serial No. 266 has been classified by the ~~Local~~ Board ~~on original claim~~ in the classes under which letters are placed on the above schedule, and on the grounds indicated by such letters (see Form 1001-A for key to meaning of letters). This entitles him to a place in Class 5 and he has been so recorded on the Classification List of this Local Board. Appeals may be taken from classification by a Local Board, within five days from the date of this notice, by any person who filed a claim with this Local Board. Appeals may be taken from classification by a District Board within five days from the date of this notice only in certain cases specified in section _____ of Selective Service Regulations and when claimed by a person who filed a claim of classification with the District Board. To file an appeal it is only necessary to go to the office of the Local Board and write your claim of appeal in the place provided on the registrant's questionnaire.

FEB 4 1918 (Date) Member of Local Board.

FORM 1005-P.M.G.O. (See Sec. 103, S. S. R.) 63-5133

WAR DEPARTMENT LOCAL BOARD FOR DIV. No. 30
 509 E. ALLEGHENY AV. PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.
 OFFICIAL BUSINESS PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.

PHILADELPHIA PA
 FEB 9 1918
 STATE

Frank Frederick
 3022 Emerald St.,
 Phila.

World War I Draft Classification
 Most Recent on Top

Wm. Cramp & Sons Shipbuilding Company

Frank was one of hundreds of people hired by Wm. Cramp & Sons to meet the shipbuilding needs of the war years (1917-1919).

The William Cramp & Sons Shipbuilding Company (1830-1927) was a huge complex on the Delaware River at the corner of Norris and Richmond Streets, just south of Port Richmond (in northeast Philadelphia). The shipyard extended inland into the Philadelphia neighborhood of Kensington.

The shipyard had been in existence for many decades and had seen shipbuilding technology transition from wooden ships powered by sail, to iron ships powered by steam, and finally, to steel ships powered by diesel. The shipyard was also home to an invention called the “slinky”. The shipyard site today is nothing but grassland. [www.planphilly.com]

At the turn of the century, Philadelphia was a manufacturing town. The two largest companies were the Baldwin Locomotive Works on North Broad Street and the Cramp Shipbuilding Company in Kensington [www.globalsecurity.com]. One of my paternal great-grandfathers - Warren Skinner, was a machinist at Baldwin in the early 1900's and my maternal grandfather, Frank Frederick, was a machinist at Cramp Shipbuilding. Later, during World War II, Warren Skinner's son – Earl Skinner, was a draftsman at a huge shipyard in Camden, NJ. This was the American Dream at work.

Frank Frederick's employment at Cramp Shipbuilding came to an end shortly after the end of World War I in 1919.



Cramps Shipyard, Northeast Philadelphia



“Machine Shop Liberty Sing.
Wm. Cramp & Sons S & E. B. [Ship and Engine Building] Co.
c1500, Aug. 30, 1918.”

I have included an arrow pointing at Frank.

[blank]

February 1919

Frank purchased his first home at 3018 ½ Emerald Street, Phila. for \$2650 in February of 1919. He evidently had some money from his job at Cramp Shipbuilding. Frank would sell his home in August of 1922 for \$1263, less than half the purchase price, to buy a home in South Jersey.



3018 ½ Emerald St. today

Kevin Skinner Editorial – this once nice, middle class neighborhood, which was repeated across Philadelphia and the rest of the country, is a testament to 40 years of mismanagement of this country – basically an undoing of the American dream.

April 6, 1920 – The war time jobs came to an end. Frank left Cramp Shipbuilding for a job at the Phila. Storage Battery Co. carrying battery acid in the Pasting Dept. This well-known company, later called Philco, made batteries for electric cars, among other things, and would later be a pioneer in radio and television equipment. They were located at 19th and Allegheny streets.

April 28, 1920 – Started work at Charles Minnick's Auto Repairing.

The Insurance Company of North America

October 19, 1920 – Started work as a clerk at the Insurance Company of North America for \$60 a month. The INA was one of the largest insurance companies in the United States.

Frank would work there for the next 36 years until his retirement. He commuted to their headquarters in Philadelphia by bus.

The Insurance Company of North America was initially located at 232 Walnut Street. In 1925, they opened a new 16-story headquarters at 1600 Arch Street. This building was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1978. [Wikipedia]

December 13, 1920 – Frank had 15 cents left for Xmas – he would be paid on the 25th. Elizabeth gave him a ‘swell’ shirt – his only Xmas gift.

Per his diary, Frank (age 30) was 5’4” and weighed 118 lbs.



Insurance Company of North America
1600 Arch Street, Philadelphia [Wikipedia]

Frieda Pirman and William Wiestner

Frank and Liz double-dated with friends Frieda Pirman and William Wiestner, a Philadelphia house painter. The two couples would be life-long friends, and eventually followed each other to homes in the suburbs of Woodbury Heights, NJ, where they were neighbors for decades. Frieda appears in some of the 1911 photos as shown on previous pages. Frieda and Wiestner married in 1912, eleven years before the marriage of Frank and Liz. After Frieda married Wiestner, she still accompanied Liz on female outings to Atlantic City.

I recall talking to Frieda Wiestner at the funeral of Liz in 1974.



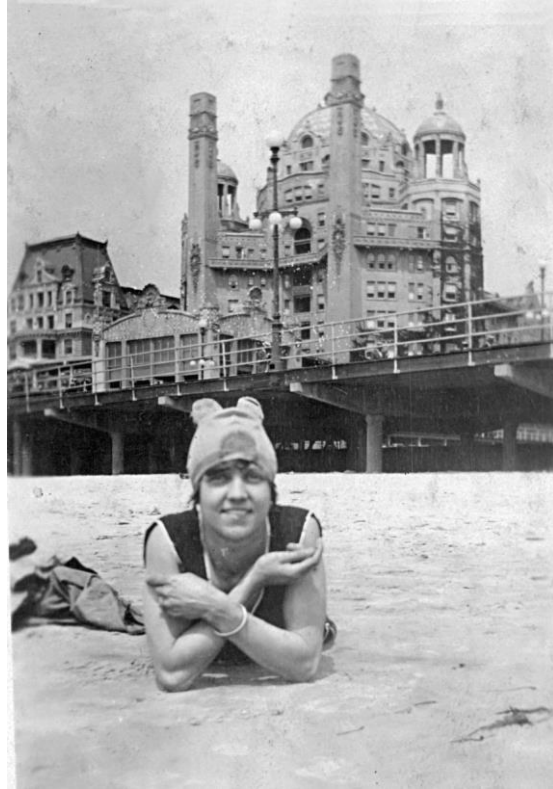
Frieda (Pirman) and William Wiestner, 1921 or 1922



Liz Ackerman and Frieda (Pirman) Wiestner, Atlantic City, 1921 or 1922



Liz Ackerman, Atlantic City, 1921 or 1922



Clay.
1921 or 2

Most of these photos taken at the beach in front of the Marlboro-Blenheim Hotel,
a hotel that survived until the casino era of the 1970's.



Liz Ackerman, Atlantic City, 1921 or 1922



Liz and Frieda, Atlantic City, 1921 or 1922



Frieda and Liz, Marlboro-Blenheim Hotel, Atlantic City, 1921 or 1922

Clearview Avenue, Woodbury Heights

Frieda and William Wiestner, close friends of Liz and Frank, moved from Philadelphia to the suburbs of South Jersey shortly after the 1920 census. They built a home on a new, small street called Clearview Avenue in the Glen Terrace development of Woodbury Heights.

Per my mother, Frank and Liz followed the Wiestners to Woodbury Heights. It is also written that Liz and Frank knew Samuel McCurdy, the proprietor of a small store in Woodbury Heights, who influenced them to make the move.

Woodbury Heights would have been a huge change from the row homes, tiny walled-in backyards, crowded streets, shops, industry and ethnic culture of Philadelphia. Although somewhat removed from the city, Woodbury Heights offered convenient train and bus transportation to Philadelphia.

In 1922, one year before Frank and Liz were married, Frank bought land across the street from the Wiestners in Woodbury Heights. He later purchased a second adjoining lot that doubled the size of his property. The frontage on Clearview Avenue was large enough for two homes though only one home would ever be built, and the lots were deep providing substantial land in the rear. Frank had a small bungalow-style home built on the land in 1922. According to my mother, Frank, a handyman (and former machinist), did some of the finishing work.

Photos show that Liz was present at the home site in 1922. No doubt, there was already an understanding that Frank was not moving to NJ alone. Frank and Liz moved into their new home after their marriage in 1923.

Frank and Liz would stay in this home the rest of their lives. Frank quickly went about the task of building an impressive garden in the backyard to produce fruits and vegetables, an activity that would be a life-long hobby and source of food.

Glen Terrace

A man by the name of Simon Snood purchased 200 acres of land in Woodbury Heights, South Jersey, in the early 1900's and began the development he called Glen Terrace. He sold spacious lots for as little as \$50 and built homes. A centerpiece of the development was the manmade Glen Terrace Lake – still a favorite spot in Woodbury Heights today.

The Glen Terrace development was marketed to residents of Philadelphia as an affordable and convenient means of living in the suburbs of the Garden State. A big selling point was the rapid commute to Philadelphia. Railroad tracks ran north through towns like Woodbury, Woodbury Heights, Wenonah, Pitman and Glassboro to the ferries that crossed the Delaware River to Philadelphia. According to Snood's advertising literature, an astonishing fifty-five trains ran daily with a commuting time from Woodbury Heights to downtown Philadelphia of 30 - 40 minutes. The commute included a connecting boat ride across the Delaware River between Camden and Philadelphia. The advertising literature referred to the train as being an "electric railway", indicating that non-polluting electric locomotives had already replaced steam locomotives on that railway, a trend that had just begun to be implemented in major metropolitan areas across the country.

Back to Frank' Diary

1922 - Rented Lot 199, 50' x 225' on Clearview Ave., Woodbury Heights, NJ for \$10 per month beginning March 18 for 24 months with an option to buy for a total of \$250 which he did.

June 22, 1922 – Started boarding at sister-in law Carrie and Joe Williman 4636 Salmon Street, Philadelphia.

Aug 4, 1922 – Sold his Emerald St. house in Philadelphia for a substantial loss of money – less than half the purchase price of a few years earlier. Prices had evidently collapsed with the end of the stimulus of the war time jobs.

Aug 10, 1922 – Agreement signed with Nielson-Carlson Co. to build a bungalow with no painting, heating or grading for \$3040 in Woodbury Heights.

Dec, 1922 – For Xmas, gave B perfume (\$4) and atomizer (\$3).

Mar, 1923 – Heating and plumbing was added to the new house for \$289. The home was heated with coal, later oil.

[blank]



Clearview Avenue, Woodbury Heights, NJ, 1922 [film batch #3]



Rear of Clearview Ave., 1923 at top [film batch #19] and Aug. 1, 1925 [film batch #50]
The grape vine on the trellis that I grew up with in the 1960's was already in place

Wedding of Frank and Liz

1922 – Liz gave Frank a white shirt to keep and wear when they got married.

April 20, 1923 – Frank purchased a wedding ring for \$11.50. Six rubbed silver Oneida teaspoons came with purchase of the wedding band. They had a diamond engagement ring and a gold wedding band.

April 30, 1923, Monday – They were married at St. John's Church, Philadelphia, the church where they had met in 1909. He was 32 and she was 29. They had been friendly for 13 ½ years and at times had seen each other daily.

Georgia

Sometime after their marriage, they visited Liz's sister Emma and her husband Lou Fleck, who had been transferred to Georgia by Sears. At the end of their week, Emma was ill and Liz stayed to care for her 8/29 through 9/24 while Frank went home to work.

The doctor said it was intestinal poisoning and Emma was weak, feverish, cold, numb and didn't want to be alone even when sleeping. Every other day B wrote home to Frank a long, loving letter, happy he let her stay and missing their garden. He sent her flowers, probably from the garden. They got mail twice daily.

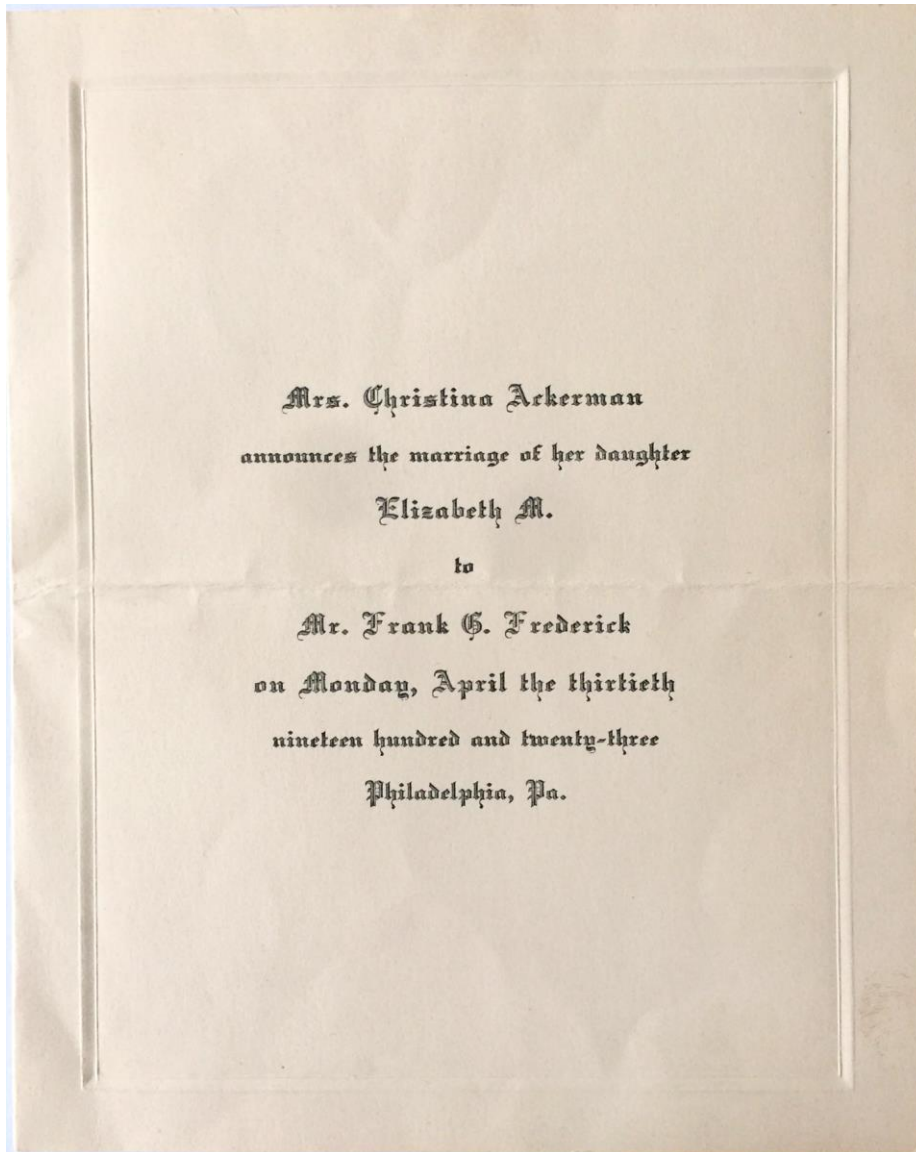
She sent Frank money, knowing he didn't have much, keeping \$2 for her return train trip home. The Flecks paid her expenses. She was happy with 2 pair silk stockings and bed sheets that Lou Fleck gave her from Sears.

1924 – Rented the lot next to his home with an option to buy for \$350 – which he did. The extra lot provided them with a large, beautiful yard. As of the year 2020, no one has yet to build on the vacant lot.

October, 1924 – Frank purchased a fireman's hat and a badge. He would be associated with the Woodbury Heights Fireman's Association for the rest of his life.

1925 – Frank's mother Annie Gerhart Frederick died at age 56.

1929 – Frank was a charter member of Kensington Lodge #255, IOOF of Pa, until resigning Nov 5, 1939.



Wedding Announcement



Church Certificate of Marriage

Frank Russell Gerhart Frederick and Elizabeth Mary Ackermann
Witnesses – Fred and Emma Ackermann (siblings to Liz)



8/8/26
Taken from the
sassafras trees looking
over to Reqnault's
chicken house. They
are standing among
the sweet potatoes
with the rows of
corn to their right
Spot has a bite
which he is vigorously
scratching

Elij. Frederick
Elij. Rexer
Spot

Liz in her backyard with niece Elizabeth Rexer (b. 1920)
and neighbor Reqnault's chicken house.
Frank's handwriting (and my mother's)



Liz Ackerman, backyard,
Woodbury Heights

Same dress/day as previous image



Frank and Liz Frederick, May 9, 1926, visiting Belgrade Ave., Phila., film batch #6 (top) and undated (below) at their Woodbury Heights home (film batch 7001).

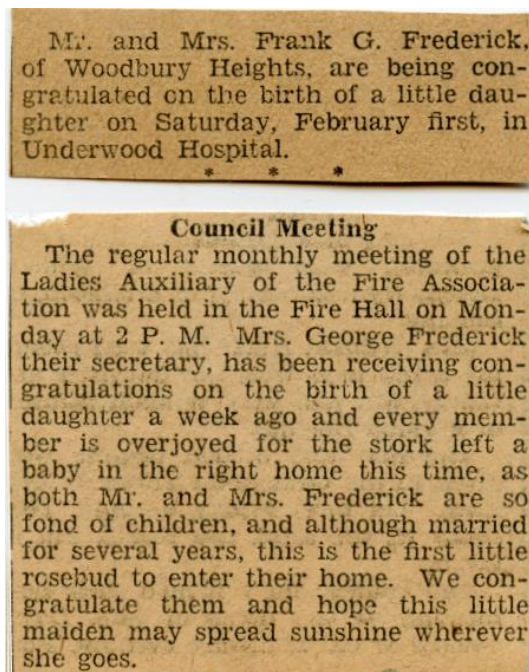


Frank with mother-in-law Christine and his neighbor Mrs. Reqnault.

Birth of a Child

Feb 1, 1930 – Annette Frederick born 9am Saturday morning – 6 lbs. 6 oz. Liz entered in the hospital with high blood pressure (which she would have problems with for the rest of her life) 1/27 and left 2/14 – almost 3 weeks. The bill was \$120 at a time when Frank was earning \$125 per month. Anna Elizabeth was baptized June 8, but her name was later changed to Annette.

My mother's birth must have been a surprising miracle for the aging Fredericks – Liz was age 36 and Frank was age 39. Liz and Frank had their child quite late in life and were eleven years older than the parents of my father. My mother grew up thinking that her conservative, forty-something parents were more like grandparents.



Feb 6, 1930 – B's sister, Mary Rexer, died at age 31 from a stroke leaving behind three daughters – Mildred, Elizabeth and Jean.

Oct 31, 1930 – Frank bowled a high of 420.

1930 Census

The census of 1930 shows that Frank, age 39 and Liz, age 36, had just had their one and only child, my mother. She was called Anna at birth and appears with that name in the census. She was renamed 'Annette' a few months later at her Christening, a name she much prefers.

The 1930 census shows that Frank was a clerk (mail clerk) with the Insurance Company of North America (today, CIGNA), a position he held from the end of WWI in 1920 until his retirement around 1955. The INA has quite a history and was founded at Independence Hall in Philadelphia in 1792. For much of Frank's career, the company was headquartered at 1600 Arch Street in center city.

Working in the mailroom, Frank loved to collect the cancelled stamps on the envelopes that came into the company from around the world. He amassed quite a collection, though the cancelled stamps had little intrinsic value. His collection was disposed of after his death. My mother also collected his stamps in her youth.

Frank commuted to work in Philadelphia by bus. The bus stop, on Woodbury Glassboro Road, was just a short walk down the street from his house. Frank and Liz also took the bus into Philadelphia for shopping. They did not own a car. The commute to Philadelphia would have been fairly easy, especially following the completion of the first bridge from NJ to Philadelphia, the "Delaware River Bridge" (today, called the Ben Franklin Bridge) in 1926. In the early days, it would have been easy for them to take the train as well, which was a little bit of a walk. Many trains went to and from Philadelphia each day from Woodbury Heights.



Mother and Daughter, 1930, Clearview Avenue, Woodbury Heights



Annette Skinner, 1935, Frederick Home, Clearview Avenue, dirt road

My mother recalls that the ice man delivered ice for their ice chest when she was growing up. They had no refrigerator. The ice chest is still in the family today.

Depression Years

In Feb of 1929, Frank's diary indicates he did not receive a paycheck and saw his salary of \$125/month reduced through August. By the end of 1930, the following year, his checking account balance had dropped to \$1.41.

January 10, 1931 – Daughter Annette's hands were burned on the oven.

May, 1931 - Liz joined First Presbyterian Church at Woodbury Heights with Frank. She eventually became a teacher in the church Junior Dept. and they walked to church every week in all weather. She became a member of the Mother's Club.

1932 - Frank raised rabbits during the Depression in the years 1932-1934 for some extra income. My mother recalls the cages behind the house sitting on legs above the ground. No money was made, so Liz made rabbit stew and my mother recalls a rabbit fur coat, hat and muff set when she was quite young.

Liz was superb with her sewing machine and made many of Annette's childhood clothes. Liz had been sewing since she was a child and had worked in her youth in Philadelphia sewing decorations on hats, or something like that. The sewing machine that she used, still in our possession today, had originally belonged to her mother.

Frank never lost his job during the Depression, and in 1935, managed to pay off two mortgages he had taken out to build his house back in 1923.

In 1936, he bought a 1928 Essex sedan from brother-in-law Jack Ackerman for \$25. Something was always wrong with it and he didn't have it very long. It was the only car he would ever own.

June 16, 1936 – B's mother Christine Ackermann died at age 74.

July of 1937, Frank rented their neighbor (Sommer's) trailer for \$10 parked in N. Wildwood for a vacation.

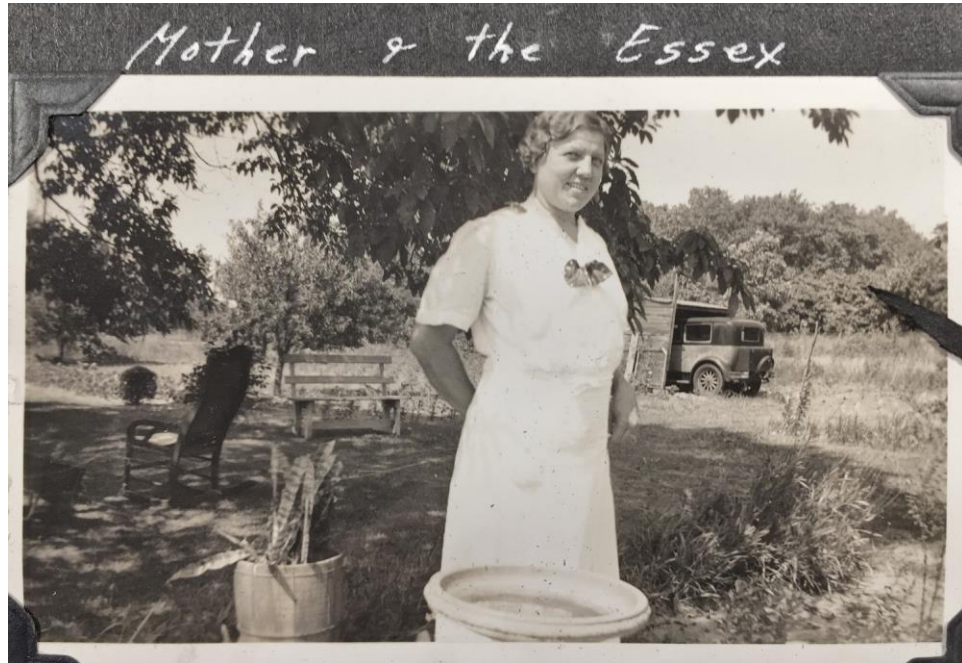
Mar 25, 1938 – Frank resigned as member of Board of Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of Woodbury Heights after serving for several years.

Nov 9, 1938 – Republican incumbent victory for Woodbury Heights Councilman Frederick.

1943 – License purchased for a stray named Lollipop, Annette's dog. They had previously had a dog Spot and cat Tibby, the cat having probably been killed by the neighbor Sommers to protect chickens.



9/11/32
a
2448



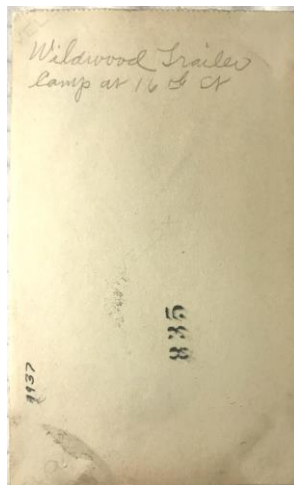
Liz and the Essex, 1936



Cousin "Babs" Barbara, Annette and the Essex, 1937



Liz, Annette and Tibby, 1937
Trailer Rental, 16th Street Trailer Park, Wildwood



The Fredericks rented the trailer from their neighbors – the Sommers. The trailer was parked at a trailer park in Wildwood. The Sommers had a daughter Helen who was in Annette Frederick’s class and a bridesmaid in Annette’s 1952 wedding. As an adult, Helen was a state congresswoman in the state of Washington.



A week in Wildwood, 1937

8/4/37
16TH ST. BEACH
No. WILDWOOD, N.J.
ANNETTE FREDERICK
AND MOTHER
1483



Ackerman Get-Together, Frederick Residence, 1932

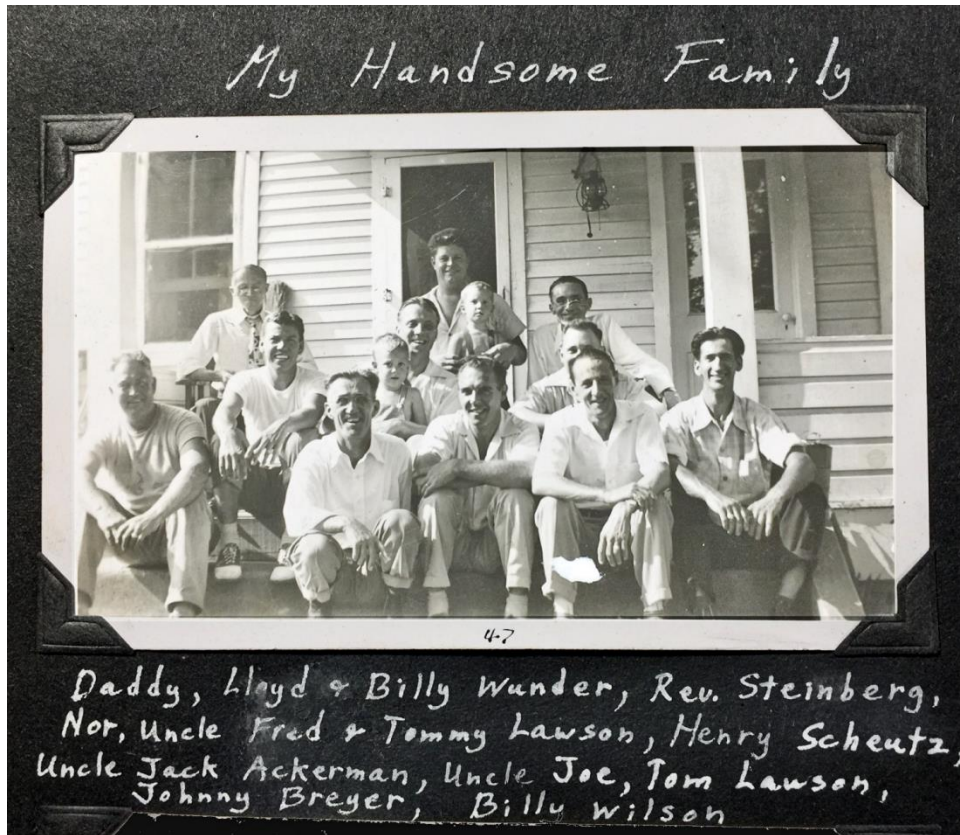
Annette loved the big family events she grew up with.
Most of those events were with the Ackerman relatives of her mother.

9/11/32
Mr. Fritz
Fred Fleck
~~Frank Ackerman~~
Fry
Carrie Fleck
Em
Norma Fleck
Lou
Carrie
Joe
?
Annette
Louise Fleck
dog



Another Ackerman Get-Together, Frederick Residence, 1940

Barbara Fleck
"Lollipop"
Annette
Mr. Fritz
Norma Fleck
Louis Fleck
Joe Williman
Jean Rexer
Norman Williman
Carrie Fleck
Emma Fleck
Frank Frederick
Carrie Williman
Eliz Frederick



Ackerman Get-Together, Frederick Residence, 1947

World War II and Mantua Metal Products

In 1943, Frank saw his monthly salary increase from \$125 to \$135, an annual salary of \$1600. He also earned a few dollars each year as an elected Republican on the city council of Woodbury Heights.

In 1943, Liz went back to work for the first time since her youth. She was hired by Mantua Metals, a company that was located just a short block behind the Frederick home. Liz earned a substantial salary there from 1943 to 1946, helping to make precision instruments for government war contracts. She earned \$1000 in 1943 and \$1400 in 1944. Her job ended in 1946 when production fell following the end of the war.

Mantua Metals, named for the nearby town of Mantua, had been started by local boy John Tyler who was its president. His son Norman was a Woodbury Height's grammar school classmate of my mother, Annette, in the 1930's. Mantua Metals perfected the small electric motors necessary for toy models, particularly model trains. Mantua Metals went on to become an important and enduring manufacturer of toy trains, particularly in the HO-scale, and helped to promote the HO-scale model railroading hobby that was so important to my father.

During WWII, Mantua ceased toy production to concentrate on war-related contracts. "Mantua's machines were operated twenty-four hours a day by three shifts of workers, like Liz, to turn out stainless steel scale map-reading rules and protractors for the Army and Navy, as well as beam compasses for the Army Air Corps."

After WWII, sales of Mantua's model railroad cars and 'ready-to-run' train sets boomed. Employment reached its peak about 1967 when the Woodbury Heights facility was once again running three shifts a day as it had during WWII and employing 500 workers.

In 1967, Mantua Metal was absorbed into the newly formed Tyco Industries [Tyler Company] with John Tyler as Chairman of the Board and son Norman (classmate of my mother) as President. [No relation to Tyco International – the well-known Swiss manufacturing company.]

In 1970, Tyco was purchased by Consolidated Foods. Employment at Woodbury Heights dwindled as production was shipped overseas. Consolidated tried to dump the facility, but the Tyler family repurchased it and once again started the production of train sets. The family closed the business a final time in 2001.

[Above copied/quoted from www.railstop.com/History/Mantua/MantuaHistory.asp.]



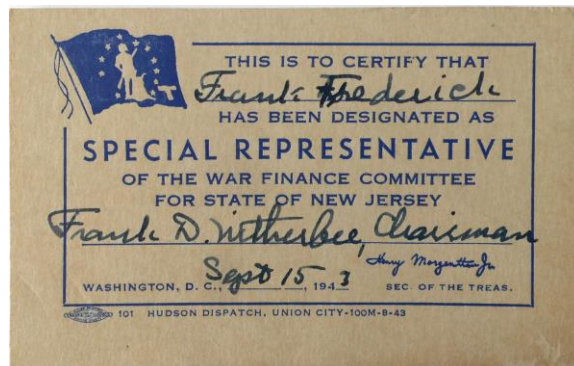
Liz Frederick w/protractors, Mantua Metals, WWII

Mantua Metals was located just a short walk from the Frederick home, not even a block away.

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after April 28, 1877 and on or before February 16, 1897)

SERIAL NUMBER U 244	1. NAME (Print) Frank G. Frederick <small>(First) (Middle) (Last)</small>	ORDER NUMBER
2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) Clearview Ave, Woodbury Heights, Glou, N.J. <small>(Number and street) (Town, township, village, or city) (County) (State)</small>		
[THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL]		
3. MAILING ADDRESS Same <small>[Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same insert word same.]</small>		
4. TELEPHONE	5. AGE IN YEARS 52 DATE OF BIRTH November 18 - 1890 <small>(Exchange) (Number) (Mo.) (Day) (Yr.)</small>	6. PLACE OF BIRTH Telford Pa. <small>(Town or county) (State or country)</small>
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Wife - Elizabeth A. Frederick - Same as above		
8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS Insurance Co. of North America		
9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS 1600 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa. <small>(Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)</small>		
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE		
D. S. S. Form 1 (Revised 4-1-42)	(over)	16-21630 Frank G. Frederick <small>(Registrant's signature)</small>

Frank's WWII Draft Registration
[ancestry.com]



Member, New Jersey War Finance Committee



Liz, Studio Photo, 1943



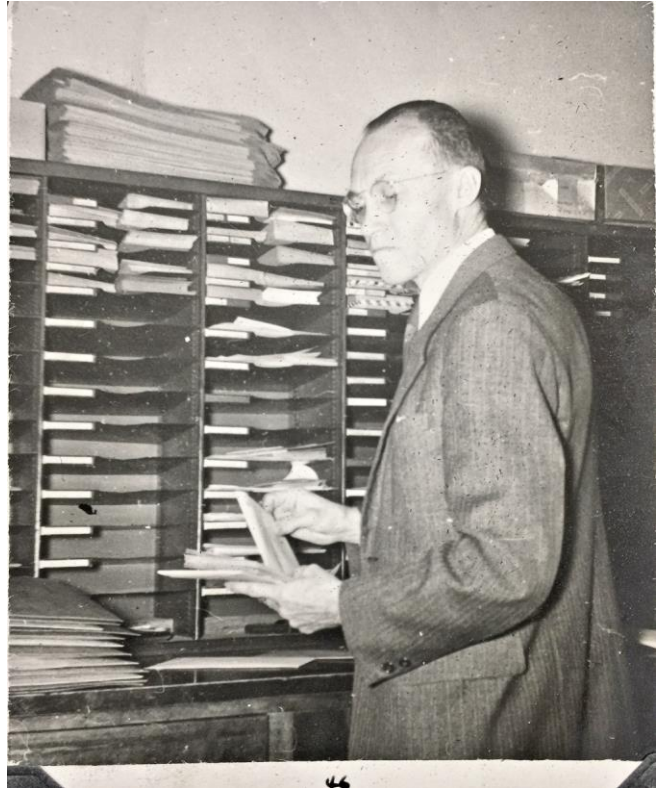
Annette, Studio Photo, 1943



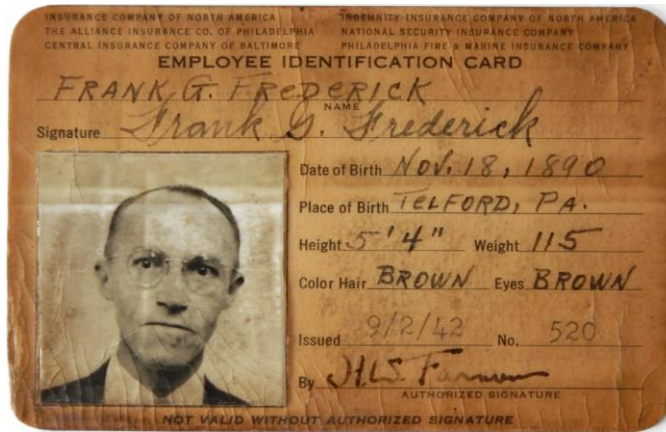
Frank, 25th Anniversary, Insurance Company of North America, 1945



1945 – 25 year anniversary,
Insurance Company of North America



1946, Frank at work in the Mail Room,
Insurance Company of North America



Employee ID Card – age 51, height 5' 4", 115 lbs.

Telephone

1947 – Frank and Liz had their first telephone installed.

Civic Associations – Things I Never Knew About Frank

Frank was a Republican Woodbury Heights councilman, serving 14 years from 1937 to 1952. In 1948, he was elected Council President, and reelected each year until 1952 when he resigned from the council.

He was designated as Special Representative of the War Finance Committee for the State of NJ.

Frank was active in firemen's associations up to the state level, and in 1954, was elected Treasurer of the Gloucester Co. Fireman's Assn. He continued to be active after his retirement in 1956.

When I was growing up, Frank was still doing bookkeeping work for the Woodbury Heights Fire Department. Frank had an oak secretary desk in the hallway between his bath and bedroom where he did all his work while standing. I have his wonderful antique oak desk today. My father recalls that Frank always wore his leather accounting visor when doing bookkeeping.

Frank served on the Board of Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of Woodbury Heights for several years beginning around 1935.

In 1954, he became Treasurer of the Gloucester County Fireman's Association.

while his opponent, William Carlone, polled 511. 11-9-38

Republicans Win Council Seats in Woodbury Heights

Republican incumbents were victors in the councilmanic fight at Woodbury Heights yesterday, while the Republican county ticket received substantial majorities in the borough.

Councilmen Frank G. Frederick received 277 votes and William B. Sibbits, 263, to defeat their Democratic opponents, William H. Jarrett, 210, and John Pisecco, 235.

1952?

Frederick Resigns As Councilman At Woodbury Heights

Frank G. Frederick last night submitted his resignation as a member of the Woodbury Heights borough council after serving 14 years as a member and a former president of that body. He is employed by an insurance company and said that the pressure of business was the reason for his retirement from council.

Councilman Wilbert Steward, in moving that the resignation be accepted with regrets, expressed the appreciation of council for the service rendered throughout the years by Mr. Frederick for the people of the borough.

Mayor Robert M. Orr stated that he was very sorry to receive the resignation and commended the excellent work Mr. Frederick had done as a member of the property committee. He said he will make an appointment to fill the vacancy at the next meeting of council on June 9.

Woodbury Daily

ESTABLISHED 1897

(U.P.)

WOODBURY, N. J., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1954

Gloucester County Firemen Provide Gifts for State Firemen's Home

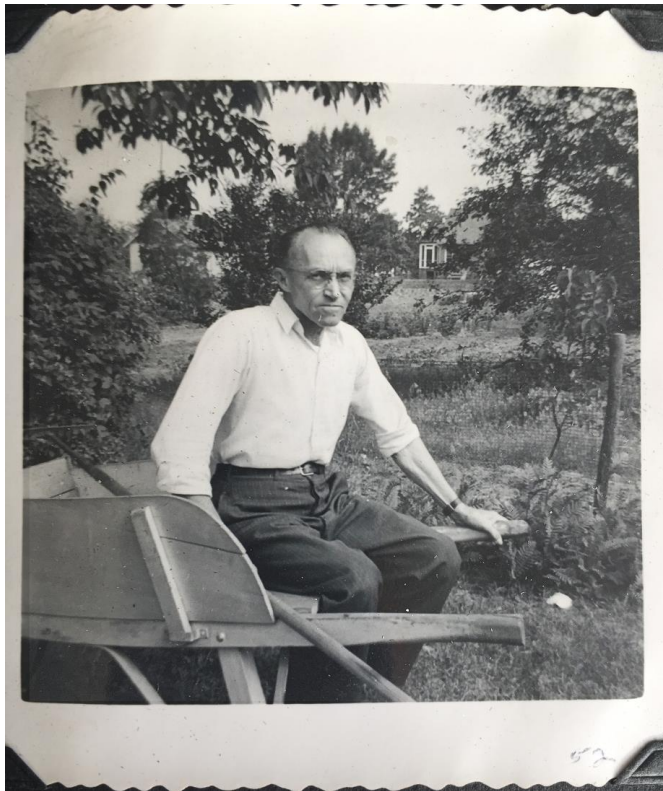


—Times - Fisler Photo

These gifts, which will be sent to guests living at the Firemen's Home, in Boonton, were provided at last night's meeting of the Gloucester County Firemen's Association at Clayton. Looking over the assortment of gift packages are, left to right: Fire Marshal John R. Williams, of National Park; Harry C. Viereck, of Wenonah; assistant secretary; President Clyde Shivery, of Gibbstown; Secretary Daniel Pote, of Paulsboro, a member of the board of managers of the home, and Treasurer Frank G. Frederick, of Woodbury Heights.



1951



Frank in his Garden, 1952

Daughter's Marriage, 1952

In May of 1952, daughter Annette married David Skinner at the Woodbury Heights Presbyterian Church, the Frederick's church where Liz assisted with Sunday School. On a limited budget, the Fredericks held a catered reception picnic in their back yard with tea sandwiches and a cake. There is movie footage of the wedding and reception.

The newlyweds spent their first night at the Frederick home and then honeymooned for a week in a cabin on a lake in the Poconos, where there were other couples doing the same thing. The lake is still there today though the cabins are long gone. One of the Skinner's friends built a ski house in the 1980's where the cabins had once stood.

At the time of their marriage, Dave had just completed his first year of military service out of college as one of the nation's first petroleum officers. He had been stationed at Bangor Air Force Base in Maine. During the time of his wedding and honeymoon, his military unit had packed up and relocated from Bangor to Alexandria Air Force Base in Louisiana.

Following the honeymoon, Dave and Annette drove to Bangor, Maine to pack his things up. They then drove to Louisiana where Dave rejoined his unit for his second and final year in the Air Force. Dave and Annette lived near the base in several apartments in homes in the Pineville neighborhood of Alexandria.

Trip to Louisiana, 1953

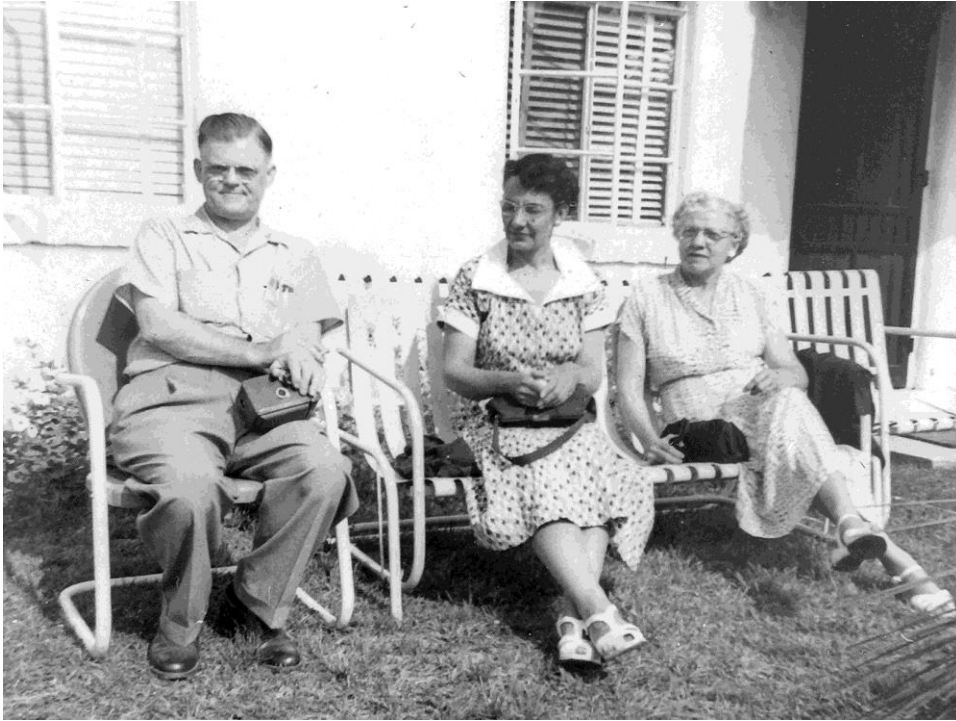
Dave and Annette spent one year at Alexandria Air Force Base in Louisiana from mid-1952 until mid-1953. In October of 1952, Dave's parents came to Louisiana to see them – not sure if the Skinners drove or flew by airplane.

In the spring of 1953, Dave's parents made a second trip to Louisiana. They drove and invited Annette's parents - Liz and Frank Frederick, along for the ride. They turned it into an extensive, three week vacation, including one week visiting their children at Alexandria.

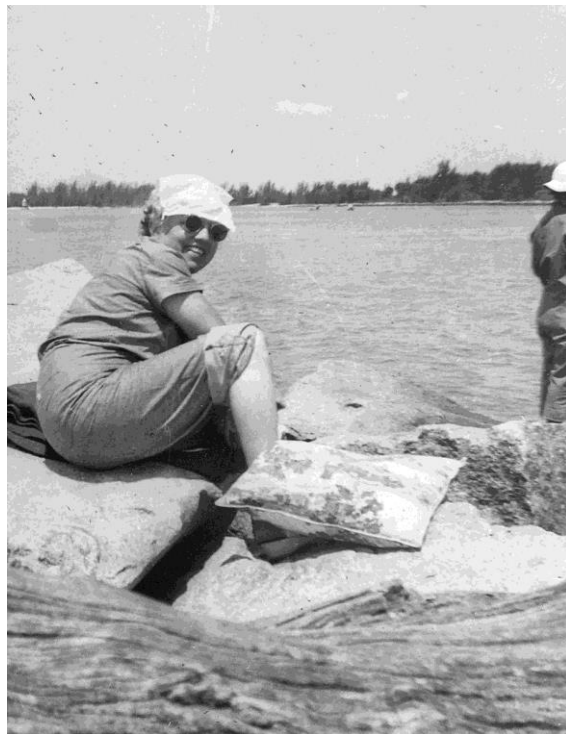
Photographs show that they visited Washington D.C. and Birmingham, Alabama on the drive down to Louisiana, and returned home via Florida, with stops at Marianna (Florida Panhandle), St. Petersburg, Ft. Pierce, Cocoa Beach, Daytona and Fort Augustine. They enjoyed some fishing along the way. Frank took some photos of the trip and Earl Skinner took movie footage.



Liz Frederick w/Lillian Skinner, 1953
Daytona Beach, FL



Marianna, Florida Panhandle, 1953, on the drive home
[Earl holding his movie camera]



Liz, Fishing at Ft. Pierce, FL, 1953



Frank, Cocoa Beach, Florida, 1953
[Earl's movie footage]



Liz and Lillian Fishing, Ft. Pierce, Florida, 1953
[Earl's Movie Footage]



The Fredericks and Skiners
Daytona Beach, Florida, 1953
[Earl's Movie Footage]



The Fredericks and Skinners
Daytona Beach, Florida, 1953
[Earl's Movie Footage]

Frank is showing off the six pack beer carton that he and Earl polished off.

Occasional Travels – No Car, No Problem

Liz and Frank visited Massachusetts every so often to visit her sister Emma Fleck. They always traveled with relatives who did the driving – usually her sister Carrie and husband Joe Williman, who lived in Philadelphia.

Emma was married to Louis Fleck and they had a daughter Barbara (1933-2019) who was 3 years younger than my mother Annette.

The families of Liz, Carrie and Emma seemed to have a lot of fun touring in Massachusetts. They spent time at Barkers Pond, Hill Pond, the Fitchburg Reservoir, Wachusett Mtn. and the seafaring town of Gloucester, among other places. Emma and husband Louis often came home to the Philadelphia area as well.

Emma's husband, Louis Fleck, worked most of his adult life for Sears. Louis was transferred by Sears from Philadelphia to Atlanta in the 1920's, and was transferred again to the Boston area in the 1930's. According to Barbara, Louis was transferred to Boston with another Philadelphia family, and two generations of the Philadelphia transplants were life-long friends.

Sadly, Louis Fleck died at a fairly young age in the 1940's. Sears provided Louis with a substantial death benefit, enabling Emma and daughter Barbara to live out comfortable lives. Emma and Barbara stayed in Massachusetts, except for a ten year stint in New Jersey or so, when they had a home in Cinnaminson, NJ, and a vacation home in Ocean City. They always had dogs – never cute ones.

Besides Massachusetts, the Fredericks did other touring as well. Photos show them at Lake Champlain in 1950, Niagara Falls in 1955 and Fredericksburg, VA in the early 1960's, all road trips with her sister Carrie (and Joe) Williman. The Fredericks also visited Louisiana, in 1953, with their Skinner in-laws. And they visited the Skinner home at Sanibel, FL in 1966, by train.



Joe Williman with Frank & Liz
Lake Champlain, 1950



Liz and Emma with niece Kathryn Turner (center)
Gloucester, Massachusetts, 1954
[Trip to Massachusetts to visit Emma]



Frank & Liz
Three Sisters Island, Niagara Falls, 1955

My Grandparents Become Grandparents

1954 and 1956 saw the births of the Frederick's two grandchildren – Kevin and Susan Skinner.



Liz Frederick, 1955, w/grandson Kevin
Skinner home - Clements Bridge Road, Deptford, NJ



Kevin in the Frederick master bedroom, Christmas, 1956
[photos on bureau – Annette on wall, David, Annette, Annette, Barbara and ?]



Susan in the Frederick living room, Christmas, 1956



Frank w/Susan, 1957
Skinner Home, Clements Bridge Road, Deptford, NJ

Retirement

1954- Liz earned a couple of dollars working at Baker Bros 5&10 in Woodbury.

July 1, 1956 – Frank retired. He last worked May 29 taking the month of June off for vacation. He had started with the Insurance Company of North America in 1920. During those 36 years, his pay had gone from \$60 to \$225 per month.

Pension from the Insurance Company of North America – \$90 plus \$ 87.90 for Social Security, B's S.S. was \$38.30 for a total family retirement of \$2594.40 per year.



Hey, We're Now In Color!
Susan and Kevin with Liz, Frederick Residence
[DES Slide]



Spring, 1957, Frederick Residence



2 Dec 1957, the appearance of the 'fish' glass bowl, Frederick Residence



Frederick Residence, 762 Clearview Avenue, Woodbury Heights, Spring 1958



Sledding With Frank
Frederick Yard, Winter of 1957/1958
[DES movie footage]



Halloween, 1957, Frederick Residence



Halloween, 1958, Frederick Residence
[DES Slides, Excellent Quality As Always]



1958, Frederick Dining Room

The Olden Years

The 1960's must have been tough on Frank and Liz. Born in the 1890's and living on a small fixed income in a world of inflation, they saw a country and a society going through rapid changes they could not have adapted to – a war in Southeast Asia that seemed to have no end and no victory, war protests, race riots in American cities, long hair, a collapse in dress codes, psychedelic rock, a drug culture, etc. They were ten years older than my other grandparents, and not having much money, were left to wilt away.

1961 – B had a heart attack and spent 19 days in hospital.

1963 – Liz and Frank were driven to Massachusetts for the wedding of their niece Barbara Fleck (daughter of Liz's sister Emma Fleck).

1965 – Frank's 75th birthday –his surviving siblings Mark, Jess, Sadie, and Viola, made a rare visit to my parent's house for a get-together. This was the first time I was really aware that Frank had siblings.

1966 – Frank and Beth took a train to Ft. Myers, Florida, at the invitation of their Skinner in-laws, for a vacation on Sanibel at the Skinner's new retirement home.

1967 – Frank was in the hospital for a month for the removal of a benign prostate cyst. That year he weighed 103 lbs.

1968 – B's 75th birthday party was a surprise held at daughter Annette's on Sep 15th. B's relatives included sister Carrie Williman and husband Joe, Adeline Ackerman (wife of B's deceased brother Fred) and Adeline's mother Mrs. Breyer and grand-niece Kathryn Turner and husband Bill. Frank's relatives included his brother Jess Frederick, sister Sadie Replogle, and sister Viola Greaser. Also present were Viola's son Russell Greaser, wife Cleta and son Joey.

1970 – Frank back in the hospital for trans-urethral resection of prostate, no malignancy.

1971 – B had a 'spell' in October and December.

1972 – Frank back in the hospital again for trans-urethral resection of prostate. 122 lbs., 5'1".



Emma with daughter Barbara
Barbara's Wedding to Vernon Tagtmeyer - 5 Oct 1963, Massachusetts



Frank w/daughter Annette



Liz with niece Barbara
[DES Slides]



Frank's 75th Birthday, Nov 1965
Skinner Home, Woodbury, NJ [DES Slides]



Frank's 75th Birthday, Nov 1965
Skinner Home, Woodbury, NJ [DES Slides]



Frank's 75th Birthday, Nov 1965
Frank's brother Mark Frederick at right
[DES Slides]



Frank and Liz took a train from Philadelphia to Ft. Myers to visit the new retirement home of their in-laws – Earl and Lillian Skinner, Sanibel, Florida, March 1966



Christmas, 1967, Skinner Home, Woodbury, NJ
[DES Slides]



Liz and Frank Frederick – Her 75th Birthday, 11 Sep 1968
Skinner Home, Woodbury, NJ [DES slide]

Ocean City, New Jersey

The Fredericks were frequent visitors to the Jersey shore during their lives, especially Ocean City. Liz's sister Carrie Williman had a vacation home in Ocean City. Carrie's son, Norman Williman and family, had a home there as well. And Emma Fleck, another sister of Liz and Carrie, also had a home at Ocean City. All just a few blocks from one another.

The Gold Dust Sisters



Liz, Carrie and Emma, Ocean City, 1957



Emma, Carrie and Liz with husbands Joe Williman and Frank Frederick,
touring Fredericksburg, VA, circa 1964



Carrie, Emma & Liz
Ocean City, circa 1967



Frank & Liz at the home of
Carrie & Joe Williman
circa 1970



Carrie, Emma & Liz, Williman Residence, 1971

50th Wedding Anniversary of Liz & Frank – April 30, 1973

Annette Skinner hosted a family reunion for her parents, including a dinner at a Woodbury restaurant. Attendees - **47 people** including Frank's siblings Mark, Sadie and Viola and B's siblings Carrie and Emma. There is surviving movie footage of this event. I was finally old enough to begin to understand the Frederick relatives that I had seen little of earlier in life.





1. Aunt Emma
Vernon
Polly
Nor
Hennie
Mother
Uncle Joe
Jean
Aunt Carrie
Tom
Mrs. Steinberg
Mildred
Elizabeth
Lloyd
2. add Barbara



50th Wedding Anniversary, April 30, 1973 – Relatives of Liz Frederick
Skinner Home, Woodbury, NJ
[DES photo, bottom]

lower image – Barbara and husband Vernon, Barbara's mother Emma, Nor Williman, Hennie & Jean Scheutz, Joe & Carrie Williman, Tom & Mildred Lawson



50th Wedding Anniversary, April 30, 1973 – Relatives of Frank Frederick
Skinner Home, Woodbury, NJ
[DES photo]

3. Marion Frederick
Aunt Sadie
Jean Daniels
Edith Frederick
Aunt Viola
Mark, Jr.
Leon Greaser
Ruth Greaser
Daddy
Mildred Frederick
Uncle Mark
Aunt Dora
Glenn Frederick
Bud Nyce
Jerry Ann Rollins
Leslie Rollins
Marilyn Frederick
Ken Frederick
George Frederick
Evelyn MacLellan
Lorraine Nyce
Lloyd MacLellan



Frank with Liz and his brother Mark Frederick



50th Wedding Anniversary, 1973



Liz Frederick (1893-Oct, 1974)
2 June 1974



Frank Frederick (1890-1975) w/daughter Annette
Susan Skinner's high school graduation, 19 June 1974



Bottom – Kevin with the Skinner and Frederick Grandparents
Susan Skinner's Woodbury Graduation, 19 June 1974
[DES slides]

This is the last image of my grandparents Frank and Liz Frederick.

Finale

1973 – Frank back in the hospital for trans-urethral prostate resection.

July 4, 1974 – B had a stroke – fell twice.

September 28, 1974 – B was taken to the hospital after sick and fainting, never to return home. She went from marred speech to a massive stroke to a coma, troublesome breathing. In a week she got easier, more color, less grimace, more smile, seemed to be coming out of it. After 2 weeks good, she deteriorated. With nothing more to be done in hospital she was moved to Cooper River Nursing Home in Pennsauken, NJ on 10/28. On 10/30 she was dead at age 81 from massive cerebral infarction, 6:20 am. My mother never mentioned a word to me of anything until her mother had died.

At her death, she was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Woodbury Heights, in its Laura Davenport Circle, Senior Citizen's Club and the firemen's Ladies Auxiliary. Jack Ackerman, a brother who had little contact with the family, wrote a poem about her which was published in the paper.

At the funeral, I met her life-long friend and neighbor, Frieda Wiestner. Frank and Liz had followed Frieda and her husband to Woodbury Heights from Philadelphia in the 1920's. Jack Ackerman, a long-lost brother of Liz who had stayed apart from the family, was at the funeral as well. The pallbearers included me.

Frank survived alone for one year after the death of Liz. He developed bladder cancer in addition to his on-going prostate problems. He was leading a life of loneliness in his home without his wife and I doubt he had anything to be happy about.

Frank's friends at the fire department would swing by every so often. On December 8, 1975, one year after Liz died, Frank died of cardiac arrest. He was age 85.

Mrs. Fulmer, a long-time neighbor across the street, had seen his light on in the wee hours. The following morning she couldn't get a response from his house or reach his daughter Annette, so she called Frank's friend and Woodbury Heights ambulance driver, Don Steward. Don was someone who used to check up on Frank every week or so. Don broke in the rear kitchen door and found Frank dead on the floor with the water running in the kitchen sink.

Arrangements were made with Davis Funeral Home with firemen as pallbearers. Frank was buried beside his wife Elizabeth in Eglington Memorial Cemetery, Lot 268, Sec. W, Garden of the Angel.

At the time of his death, Frank was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Woodbury Heights, Senior Citizens Club, Woodbury Heights Improvement, Protective & fire Assn. (2nd Vice President 1928, Treasurer 1928-1935), Secretary and Representative to Wood. Hts. Firemen's Relief Assn. (1937 –present), and a life member of the Gloucester County Firemen's Assn (Treasurer 1954-1957), Glouc. Co. Fire Chief's Assn., and NJ State Firemen's Assn. (1942-present). In the past, he had been a Borough Marshall and on the Board of Health, as well as serving on the Woodbury Heights city council, including council president.

Memories From My Youth

The view from the rear window of the home at the kitchen sink where Frank died faced the wonderful trees and gardens of vegetables and fruits that Frank had spent a lifetime tending to. My favorites were the endless green grapes on the vines, though the grapes had seeds that slowed down the eating. The grape vines were the first plants Frank had planted back in the 1020's. I also loved the blackberries and raspberries, especially the black raspberries that I have not had or seen little since then. Their basement included many bottles of pickled foods that his wife had preserved from his gardens. For Liz, it was a bit of a chore to support Frank's gardening hobby.

Liz and Frank had few material possessions. But they had a wonderful dining room filled with ornate oak furniture. I remember their TV of the early 1960's – a relic of the 1950's that consisted of a large, impressive, floor-standing wood cabinet with a couple of large knobs for the TV and radio, and a miniature (15"?) square TV screen. Poor reception and poor picture. They had the claw-foot bathtub in the bathroom– never had a shower. In their basement, they still had the old icebox (now in my father's office) and wringer-style washing machine, though both were thankfully out of service. Of course, this was back at a time when the material assets and wealth of the average person were little compared to today. Frank quietly saved some money that his wife was not aware of it – my dad found cash secured to the underside of his basement workbench after his death.

Frank once purchased a used car from his brother-in-law. Jack Ackerman, but that was short-lived. For the most part, Frank and Liz did not drive. It was easy to walk down their street and catch a bus, or in earlier years, a train, to Philadelphia for work or shopping

Frank and Liz only took a couple of vacations in their life. In 1937, they gave their neighbor a few dollars to rent a trailer at Wildwood for a brief vacation. They took a couple of trips to Massachusetts to visit Emma, a sister of Liz.

Liz and Frank also took two trips at the invitation of their Skinner in-laws. In 1953, Earl and Lillian Skinner invited them along for a tour of the east coast ending in a visit with their mutual children – Dave and Annette, at an Air Force base in Alexandria, Louisiana. A movie of the trip survives. In 1967, Frank and Liz took a train to Ft. Myers, Florida to visit the Skinners in their new home at Sanibel Island, Florida.

Liz Frederick was the most kind and loving person in our family. Per my mother:
'Beth was a well-liked, overly generous, motherly and talkative person. She opened their home to huge and full-of-fun family picnics and get-togethers. With sisters Carrie and Emma they were called the "Gold Dust Sisters." Her big chore was handling all the produce Frank raised – preserving, canning, jelly making, even making root beer. Everyone but Frank called her "Liz" or "Lizzie" and she hated those names, trying in vain to be called Beth or Betty or anything else.'

I do remember a few relatives calling her Aunt Beth. Most called her Liz. No one is really sure what Frank called her, or if he ever called her by name.

On Sundays, we would go over for a visit and she would cook a nice, traditional meal – chicken in gravy with mashed potatoes, etc. First time I ever tasted horseradish, which was served with beef. She had to use a match to light her stove, though the oven had a pilot light. She always served Neapolitan ice cream for dessert. The special treats for us kids were the junkets w/raisins that we would help to prepare prior to dinner. A secret supply of the best Fig Newtons I ever tasted were always in the red cookie can on the shelf along the cellar steps. If we dropped by for lunch, it was boiled hot dogs.

Liz was talkative, though never much in depth. She would say – "Oh jeez. Oh, how about that. Oh my goodness." Her talking dominates a tape recording that my Dad made of the family at Christmas, 1962. Liz was big-boned and larger than her husband,

After dinner, Liz and Frank would watch Liberace, and wonder at the outfits, or enjoy the musical entertainment of the Lawrence Welk show. My father purchased a portable, black and white TV on a stand for them about 1964 with a great picture, replacing their antique TV of the 1950's. A few years later, he replaced that with a color TV.

Per my mother:

Frank ‘was quiet, quick to speak when angry. No one ever knew his thoughts.’ Besides councilman, fireman and handyman, he was a gardener raising cherries, pears, gold and red apples, walnuts, blackberries, red and black raspberries, strawberries, purple and white grapes, vegetables, flowers. He enjoyed car trips with others. He saved everything (even ashes in a jar) and kept diaries. His excellent penmanship was sought by organizations. Saturday afternoon operas gave him a chance to nap.’

Frank was a quiet man and an incessant, methodical organizer. My mother and I certainly take after him. All three of us have endless scraps of notes, and diaries, and detailed, organizational tendencies that few others could relate to. I loved to explore Frank’s basement and attic which were chock full of historical relics carefully organized in jars, boxes and shelves like the back room of a museum – jars of nails, boxes of paper clips, thread, thread spools – everything imaginable filling a basement and attic. Old cloth was tacked over the front of each shelf to keep the dust off. . I once stumbled upon a cheap handgun and bullets that Frank had forgotten about. I took the handgun down to the living room to proudly wave to everyone - only time I ever saw Liz angry at her husband, or anyone for that matter.

Frank had a huge collection of domestic and foreign stamps that he had carefully removed from incoming envelopes during his many decades in the mail room of the Insurance Company of North America. The stamps were his largest collection of stuff, but were cancelled and cut out of envelopes, so had little intrinsic value.

Growing up, we often visited the families of the brother and sisters of my grandmother, Liz. Since my parents had no brothers or sisters, this was a big part of the family fun that I experienced as a kid. The Ackerman’s were lively and entertaining . Not only did we see them at their homes in Philadelphia, but we also saw them down the Jersey shore as well – the families of Aunt Emma and Aunt Carrie, as well Carrie’s son Norman, all owned homes in north Ocean City.

Aunt Em's Ocean City home was later purchased by my parents when Emma and her daughter Barbara moved back to Boston. My parents eventually tired of the experience of maintaining rental properties. In the 1970's, they had owned and rented Aunt Em's Ocean City house, plus a townhouse near Glassboro State College as well as the Frederick house in Woodbury Heights. They had also invested briefly in property on Sanibel, Florida. They divested themselves of all of this, being more work than income.

While I was very familiar with the family of Liz Frederick, Frank's siblings were another story. Growing up, I was never really aware Frank had a large family of brothers and sisters. I don't recall ever visiting Frank's relatives north of Philadelphia. And they did not travel much. I saw Frank's siblings just a couple of times in my life – most notably, at Frank's 75th birthday in 1965, Liz's 75th in 1968 and the Frederick 50th wedding anniversary in 1973.

The next time the family was together was at the wedding of my sister, Susan, to Martin Hernon in 1987. By that time, the generation of Liz and Frank were long gone, though some of their descendants were in attendance.

I decided to attend a Frederick family reunion with my parents, circa 2005, in the Telford area where Frank had been born. It was fun to meet my distant, but unknown relatives. My mother has remained in contact with surviving Frederick cousins – Ken and Bill Frederick.

My mother takes completely after her father, Frank, and resembles him. I suspect there is much of Frank in me as well, or I would not have taken the time to organize the family history in such obsessive detail.

Frank left behind a large quantity of antique silver dollars and other coins which were sold for \$66. Probably worth many times that. Long after Frank's death, my Dad had to clean up after cat debris in the Frederick basement, as a result of a tenant in the house. He stumbled upon \$160 of cash that Frank had hidden under his work bench.

Feb 13, 1983 – Annette and David Skinner made a material gift to the Presbyterian Church of Woodbury Heights totaling \$450 in honor of Frank and Liz Frederick, just a tiny portion of the donations my parents have contributed to the church over the past 50 years.

ESTATE OF FRANK G. AND ELIZABETH M. ACKERMAN FREDERICK
 PASSED TO ANNETTE E. FREDERICK SKINNER

Real estate: 759 Clearview Ave., Woodbury Heights, N. J. (1/1/76 value \$28,500.00, improvements were \$2,030.23, sold 5/31/85 for \$52,000.00, settlement fees \$4,206.07, depreciation and rents are unknown)	\$45,763.70
Household furniture and furnishings: net from sale of 837 items (unknown items sold later, donated or used)	1,726.06
I. N. A. stock shares value	2,418.25
I. N. A. Group Life Insurance	3,000.00
N. J. State Firemen's Assn.	1,400.00
Inheritance check from executor	4,740.16
Cash around house	159.86
Cash secret in workbench (\$247.32 yard sale 577.31 yard sale 383.31 50th anniversary .50 349.00 gifts 256.00 savings 3.50 Kennedy .01 66.00 silver 16.00 collectibles	1,898.95
4 ² cemetery lots	61,106. [?] 98

Frank had purchased two cemetery plots for him and his wife and two more for his daughter



My Grandparents - Earl and Lillian Skinner; Elizabeth and Frank Frederick

My 8th birthday, 14 June 1962, Home of Earl and Lillian, Walker Ave., Deptford
First photos taken with my birthday gift - Kodak Brownie camera.



Emma Fleck, sister of Liz Frederick and the last of the Ackerman siblings,
with David Hennon (b. 1992) - great/grandson of Liz.

Emma's home where her daughter Barbara also lived, Park Avenue, Arlington, MA; Christmas, 1992. Emma's husband, who had died young, had been transferred to MA as a driver for Sears in the 1930's.