

---

# Point Pleasant Historical Society

## *History Term Paper*

---



Box 1273 Point Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742

APRIL 2017

*Our Meeting on April 10th will begin at 7:30PM*

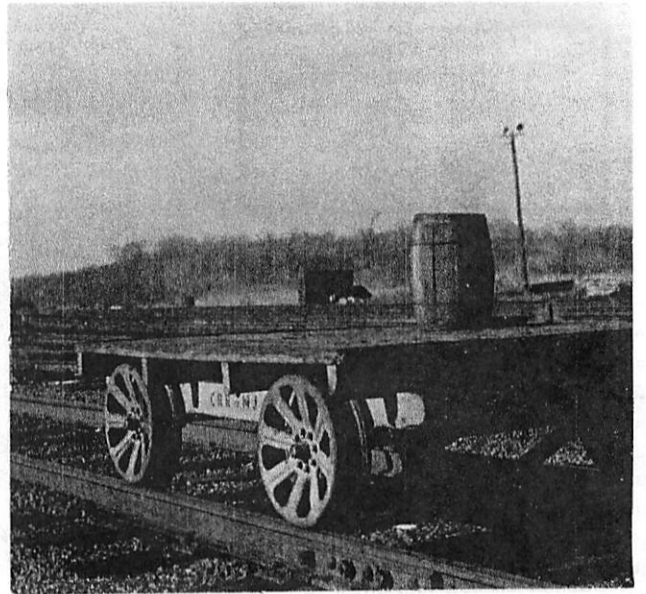
.....Our guest speaker is Professor Richard Veit, Chairman of the History & Anthropology Dept of Monmouth University. He will speak of Joseph Bonaparte's Pt. Breeze Palatial Estate, and the lavish gardens that he created in Bordentown, N.J. in the 1800's. Joseph was the older brother of Napoleon and a former King of both Naples and Spain.

### **Bay Head Train Loop**

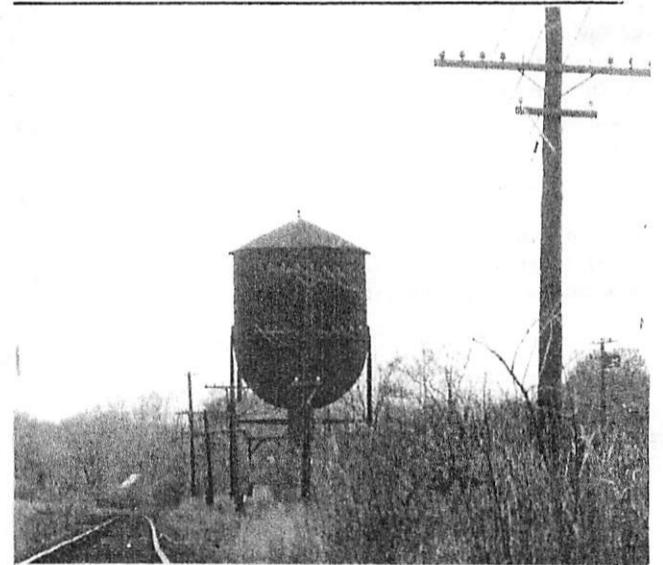
During my time as a youth in the 1940s and 1950s, my parents established a strictly enforced "no visit zone" which included the canal, the sand hills, and the loop. All three of these dangerous areas were within walking distance from our home in Point Pleasant Borough. The canal, with no fencing and its eroding banks, was an obvious danger place. The sand hills consisted of what seemed to be mountains of sand that were formed when the canal was dug. I guess the so called sand hill danger came from its proximity to the canal. The third danger zone that my parents established was the "train loop" in Bay Head. Quite obviously, the danger associated with the loop came from the many steam locomotives with their freight and passenger cars. The "Loop" as it was known by all the locals is the subject of this article.

In 1881, the Long Branch and Barnegat Bay Railroad was built from Point Pleasant to Bay Head. In 1882 an agreement split the property between CNJ and the PRR. Of significance is the fact that steam engines were the norm in the Point Pleasant-Bay Head area right up to the 1950s. Ultimately, the two railroads merged into Conrail in 1976, and has since become the New Jersey Transit System. As a point of reference, the actual route distance between Penn Station in New York and the Bay Head Junction, amounts to 66.6 miles. The Bay Head Station lies just south of the Point Pleasant Beach Station, and is the southern terminus of the North Jersey Coast Line of the New Jersey Transit. The aforementioned terminus is a balloon reversing loop which allows incoming, south bound trains to enter the loop and ultimately leave the same loop in the opposite north bound direction. The big advantage to balloon loops is the fact that trains do not have to be reversed or uncoupled. In the case of the Bay Head loop, which was constructed in 1918, the south bound trains curved sharply to the right after passing the train station on Osborne Avenue.

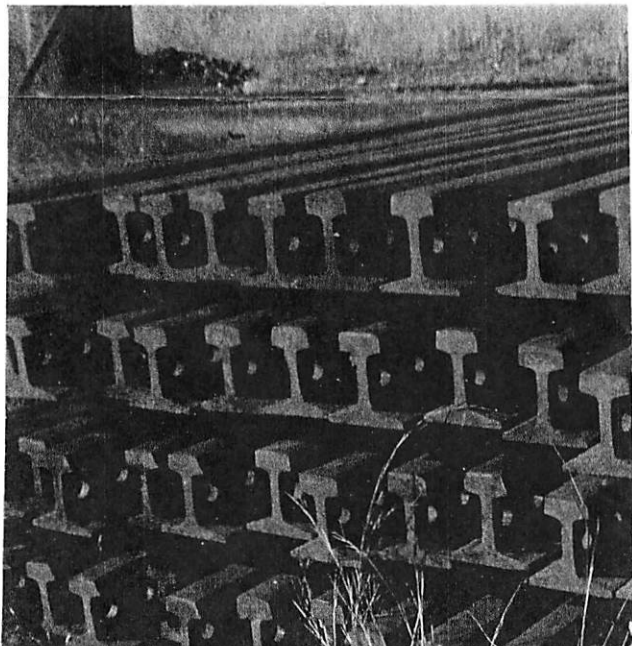
Tim Clayton



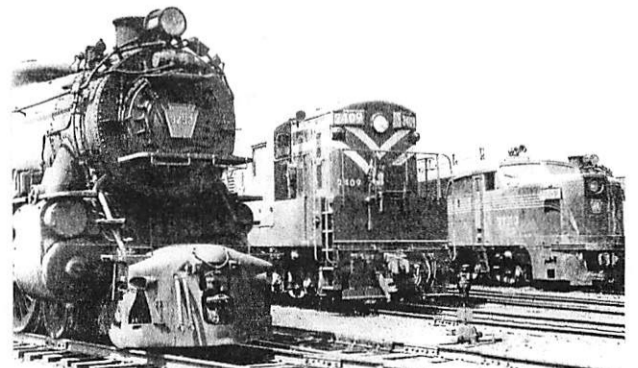
Small utility car ready for transport.



Water tower to make steam for locomotives



Stack of new track to replace old track.



These photos were added to Tim Clayton's Story. They were taken about the same time.

Point Pleasant  
Historical Society  
Phone: 732-892-3091  
E: ppphistoricalsociety@gmail.com  
Website: Pointpleasanthistory.com

Point Pleasant Historical Society  
P. O. Box 1273  
Point Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742

## LOCAL BITS and PIECES

DEC 13, 1877  
Point Pleasant.

A new hotel is to be built here this winter, on the Sidney Forman estate. It is to be four stories in height, and its dimensions 45 by 100 feet. It will require 90,000 brick for the foundation.

There is a general desire manifested here for the accomplishment of the long-talked-of enterprise of building the short line of railroad required to connect the village of Squan with Toms River.

Diphtheria is very prevalent in our midst at present. Mr. Riley Johnson lost three children from this disease last week.

Large catches of codfish have been made in this vicinity the past week. They have been selling in our village at 4 cents per pound.

Taylee Allen is stocking a new store, and will engage in the hardware business.

Some of our folks favor changing the name of Brick township to "Sand township." Judging from the condition of our roads, this would not be an inappropriate name. Y. A. D.

APR. 8, 1875  
Point Pleasant.

The damaged goods from the steamship Queen, were disposed of at Point Pleasant, Ocean County, week before last. In many instances the prices received exceeded the market price for the same line of goods. One hundred and eighty yards of Brussels carpet were sold for \$1.33 per yard. The proceeds of the sale were about \$2,000, there being no less than 500 people present.

Work upon the Squan new bridge, which had been suspended on account of the cold weather, has been resumed, and is being vigorously pushed.

Prospects of a lively season are becoming visible. Four new houses are under contract, and in prospect of erection.

An extensive revival of religion is in progress, among the Protestant Methodists of Point Pleasant.



Who is this lovely lady ?

MISS MARIE E. WATKINS  
(Special to The Press)  
POINT PLEASANT BEACH.  
—  
Miss Marie E. Watkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Watkins, 28 Forman avenue, Point Pleasant Beach, who enlisted in the navy nurses corps, July 1943, was graduated recently from the St. Francis hospital, Trenton. Miss Watkins is a graduate of the St. Peter's grammar school and the Point Pleasant Beach high school, class of 1941. She entered the St. Francis hospital School of Nursing September, 1941, and received her cap and bib in March, 1941. Miss Watkins will remain at St. Francis until September. Before her graduation, Miss Watkins was affiliated for three months at Mount Hope retreat, Baltimore, Md., where she studied psychiatry.

DEC. 3, 1874  
Point Pleasant.

Point Pleasant mourns. Another of her fine and estimable citizens has travelled over the river of death. Judge John S. Forman, died on Tuesday evening, at the ripe old age of 82. He was a man universally beloved and respected. Warm hearted and liberal minded, he won hosts of friends wherever he went, and he will now be missed by the whole community. In the course of his life he filled many offices of public trust, and among others, he filled the position of County Judge of Ocean for five years to general acceptance. His family have our hearty sympathy in this their hour of bereavement. The friends and Relatives of the deceased, are invited to attend the funeral, which will take place on Saturday, Dec 5, at 12 m. at the residence of his son, Sidney T. Forman, Point Pleasant.

A horse belonging to Capt. John Arnold, of Point Pleasant, fell dead at the corner of Main and South Streets, on Tuesday morning, while being driven to a farm wagon. Sheriff Haudrickson kindly offered the use of a horse but the offer was declined. -- Dem.

Don't forget  
your dues  
for 2017

### THE TAX POEM

Tax his land, Tax his bed, Tax the table at which he's fed.  
Tax his tractor, Tax his mule, teach him taxes are the rule.  
Tax his work, Tax his pay, he works for peanuts anyway.  
Tax his cow, Tax his goat, Tax his pants, Tax his coat.  
Tax his ties, Tax his shirt, Tax his work, Tax his dirt.  
Tax his tobacco, Tax his drink, Tax him if he tries to think.  
Tax his cigars, Tax his beers, if he cries, Tax his tears.  
Tax his car, Tax his gas, find other ways to tax his ...  
Tax all he has, then let him know, you won't be done  
Til he has no dough.  
When he hollers, Tax him some more, Tax him  
Til he's good and sore.  
Tax his coffin, Tax his grave, Tax the sod in which he's laid.  
Put these words upon his tomb, "Taxes drove me to my doom".  
When he's gone don't relax, it's time for the inheritance tax.  
From the 2010 St. Petersburg Paradise News