

The South Jersey Culture  
& History Center  
Book List 🌿 Summer 2026

# The South Jersey Culture & History Center Book List 🌿 Summer 2026

**Y**es—Real Books in the Digital Age! Since 2013, Stockton University's South Jersey Culture & History Center has been bringing to life the rich stories of South Jersey in beautiful, high-quality print.

We launched with a vibrant republication of Alexander Barrington Irvine's entertaining *Atlantic City: Its Early & Modern History* (1868)—and we haven't stopped since. Today, our growing catalog features more than 40 titles dedicated exclusively to the history, culture, and character of southern New Jersey.

From rare, long-lost historical gems to fresh works by today's finest local authors and scholars, we deliver books that entertain, enlighten, and connect readers to this fascinating region. Each issue of *SoJourn*, our annual journal, provides must-read collections of compelling stories, hidden histories, and vibrant local voices.

What makes us special? Our unique student-staffed press. Talented Stockton interns work side-by-side with community authors, editors, and designers to produce professional, readable, and visually striking books.

Whether you're a history lover, passionate reader, or a bookseller looking for distinctive regional titles that celebrate South Jersey—these are books that matter. They don't just tell the story of our area . . . they bring it vividly to life.

*Discover the heart and soul of South Jersey. Start reading (and selling) these titles today.*



# Contents

5	New Releases
10	Pine Barrens
14	Nature
19	Public Facing Studies
23	Cities of South Jersey
27	Jewish Farming History
35	Memoirs
39	Literature
44	The Still Brothers
49	Stockton
52	SoJourn
55	Bjork Library, Special Collections
56	The editing interns
57	Sales Information

## New Releases

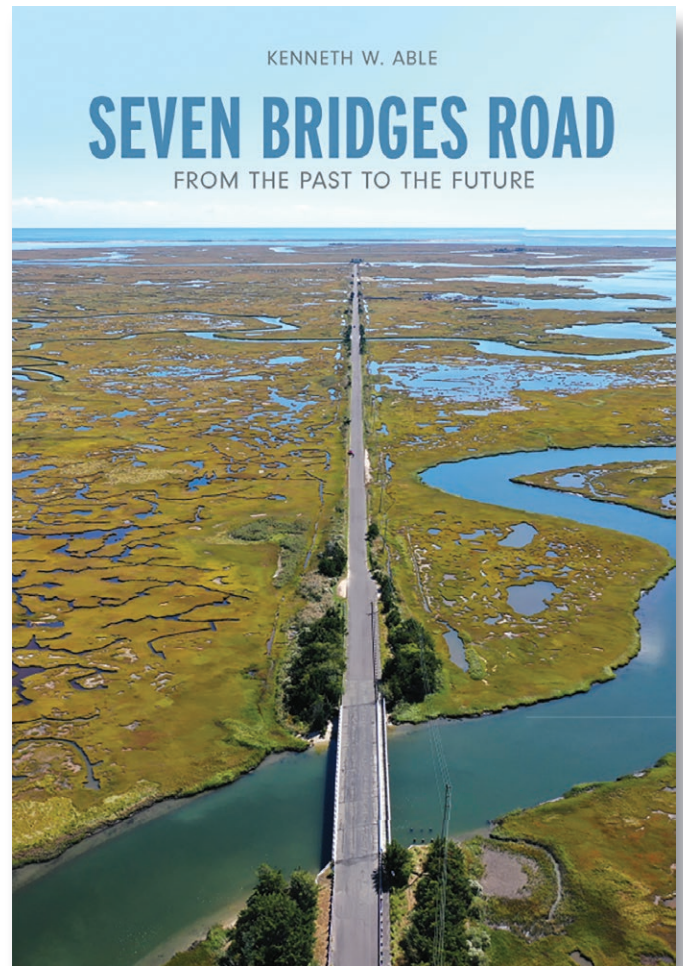
## Seven Bridges Road: *From the Past to the Future*

Kenneth W. Able

“... these meadows and islands provide an exceptional baseline for understanding the geology, structure, and function of New Jersey’s coastal landscapes, both back in time and into the future. This baseline is natural history.” (11)

A vivid cultural and environmental history of the Sheepshead Meadows area in the Mullica River Estuary. These meadows and adjacent islands form the 5,982-acre Great Bay Wildlife Management Area—a place that shares coastal New Jersey traits but stands apart through its exceptionally low human population and minimal man-made impacts. Its protected marshes and waterways rank among the most unique on the entire East Coast. Able chronicles this ecologically vital region from pre-European times to the present and offers timely insights into its future amid shifting climate patterns.

9781947889347. illustrated, index, paperback. \$35.95  
328 pages, 6 x 9  
Available late July

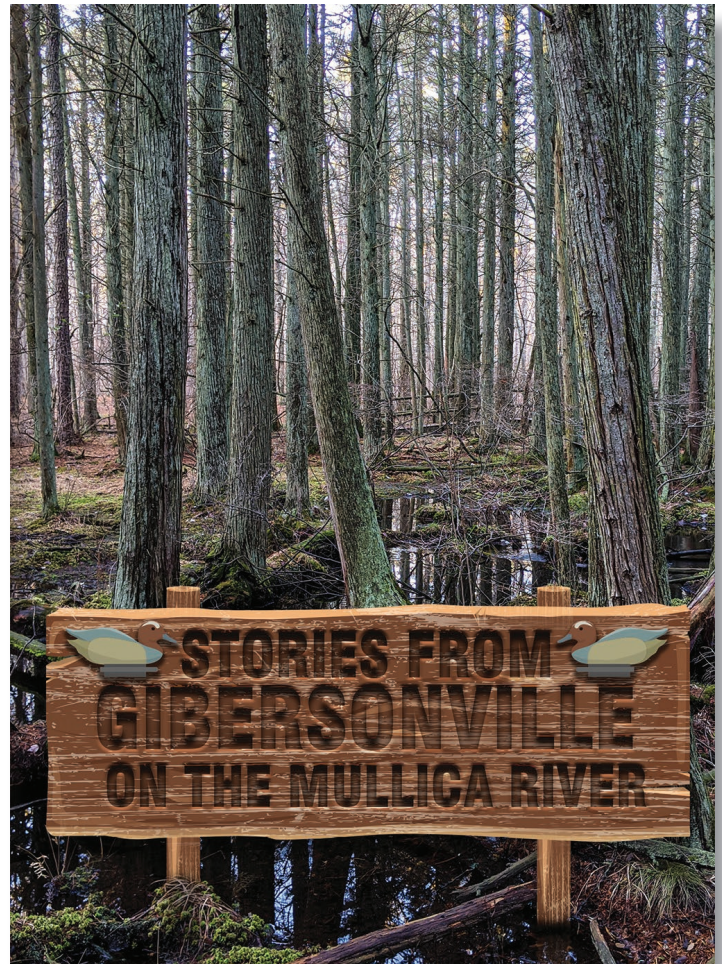


**Kenneth W. Able** is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Marine and Coastal Sciences at Rutgers University. He directed the Rutgers University Marine Field Station in Tuckerton from 1986 until his retirement in 2019. A leading estuarine ecologist, his research centers on the life history, habitat use, and recruitment of coastal fishes, especially in the Mullica River–Great Bay estuary. He earned his Ph.D. from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in 1974, joined Rutgers in 1977, and mentored many graduate students and post-doctoral researchers. Able led long-term monitoring programs examining the impacts of fisheries, habitat change, and climate on fish populations. His honors include the NOAA Nancy Foster Habitat Conservation Award and the American Fisheries Society’s Oscar Sette Award. He authored *Station 119: From Lifesaving to Marine Research*, *Beneath the Surface: Understanding Nature in the Mullica Valley Estuary* (winner of 2021 winner of non-fiction popular category: New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance). Able is a frequent contributor to *SoJourn*, writing public facing articles about the Mullica River and Great Bay estuary.

## Stories from Gibersonville on the Mullica River

Gary Giberson

“Alonzo Giberson, my grandfather, always called me Dorothy. It pissed me off! He thought it would make me curse him back. It did, and I did.”



Growing up in Port Republic, New Jersey, Gary Giberson sat spellbound at the table as generations of Gibersons swapped tall tales and true stories. Now it's his turn. In warm, witty, and deeply heartfelt pages, Gary brings to life two unforgettable characters: his grandfather Lonzo Giberson and his father Clem Giberson. Set against the wild beauty of Sooy's Landing Road, Swan Bay, and the untamed Mullica estuary—with side trips to the bright lights of Atlantic City—these stories burst with laughter, vivid detail, and quiet wisdom. They celebrate the unbreakable bond between family and the places that shape us, reminding us what it really means to belong.

**Gary Giberson** is a lifelong resident and dedicated public servant of Port Republic, New Jersey. He served as Mayor from 1985 until his retirement in April 2021, providing 36 years of steady leadership. Giberson began as a volunteer firefighter in 1953 and later served as Scout Master of Troop 61 until 1989. A respected historian and traditional artist, he is known for his decoy carving and regularly demonstrated the craft at Historic Smithville. He is also the creator of “Gary’s Garage,” a collection of vintage vehicles and local artifacts. Deeply committed to preserving Port Republic’s small-town character, Giberson was honored in the U.S. Congressional Record for his decades of service. His story “Swan Bay Jim” is featured in the 2025 issue of *SoJourn*.

9781947889323, paperback. \$16.95  
170 pages, 5 x 8  
Available late July

# Quaker Sons Go to War

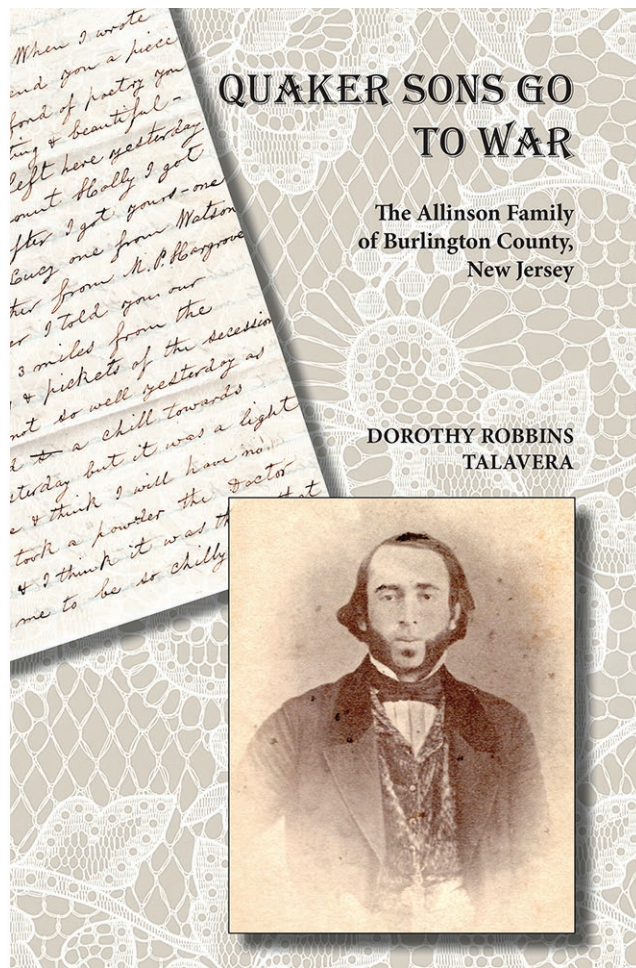
## *The Allinson Family of Burlington County, New Jersey*

Dorothy Robbins Talavera

“We were 3 months or more without any band of music we now have one of 17 pieces & we use it 4 or 5 time a day sometimes — We had a knapsack drill & review yesterday before Gen. Kearny in the large field by Fort Murphy — Next Thursday I learn we are to have a review or inspection by Gen. McClellan.” (79)

At the outbreak of the American Civil War, three brothers from a prominent New Jersey Quaker family faced a profound moral dilemma. Raised in the Society of Friends’ tradition of pacifism, they had to decide whether to uphold their faith’s peace testimony or take up arms to help end the enslavement of their fellow human beings. Based on letters written from the front and preserved by their family, *Quaker Sons Go to War* tells the true story of Joseph, D. C., and John—all descendants of early Quaker settlers who helped establish Burlington, New Jersey. Like so many of their neighbors, these ordinary men made extraordinary sacrifices in extraordinary times.

9781947889255, illustrated, index, paperback. \$16.95  
174 pages, 5 x 8

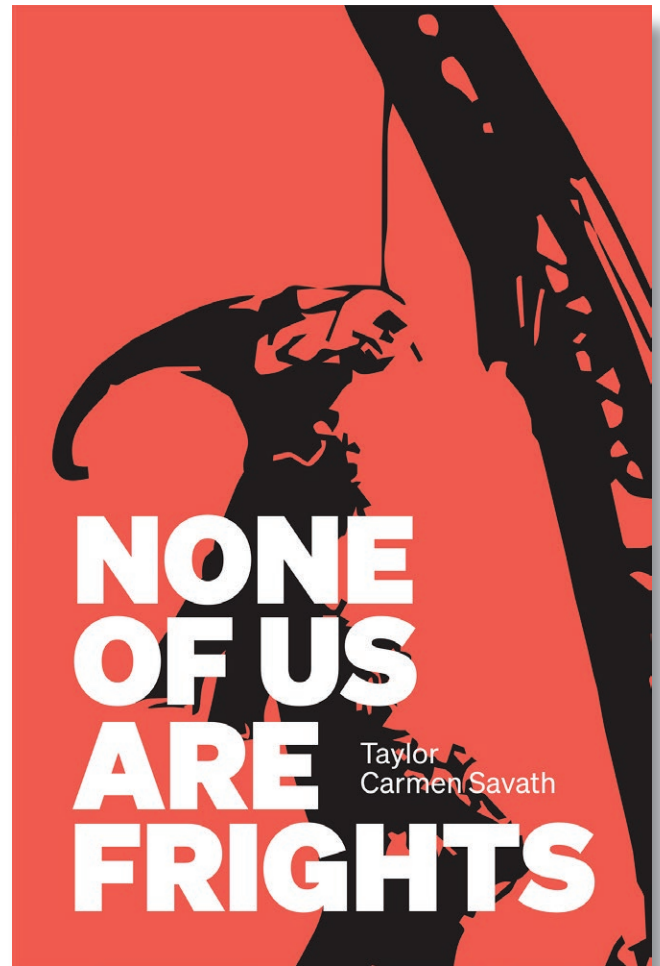


**Dorothy Robbins Talavera** is an author, historian, and storyteller dedicated to bringing her family’s past to life. After a career that included work at the White House and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, followed by teaching high school Spanish, she now focuses on preserving and sharing family history through primary sources. She has authored books and numerous articles that highlight the lives and legacies of her ancestors.

# None of Us Are Frights

Taylor Carmen Savath

“This is what I have done.  
I have learned to do tricks  
to claim a flourish  
a sleight of hand  
and call myself a tightrope walker” (9)



Ladies and gentlemen, step right up.

The fat lady and her tattooed man, who dare to love out loud. The children bought and sold before they're old enough to know the price. Taylor Carmen Savath brings us the circus not as a spectacle, but as witness. In poems that offer no relief and ask for none, she lets us hear the voices that smile for the crowd—voices living not of quiet desperation, but of dignity the big top was never meant to hold.

Peter E. Murphy, author of  
*You Too Were Once on Fire*

Taylor Carmen Savath is a poet, educator and fierce disability activist. She graduated from Stockton University with her BA in Literature in 2016 and with an MFA in Creative Writing from Fairleigh Dickinson University in 2022 where she was honored with the Director's Award in Poetry.

Taylor is active in outreach to the homeless in Atlantic City. In one Facebook post she wrote: “I hate this assumption that radicals and activists are joyless. You don't fight the good fight unless you have a reason. I know what it is to get a wheelchair for a student who desperately needs one. For a long time my favorite dress matched the pink of my wheelchair. There is so much of my life to love. That's the point. Disabled lives must not shrink or disappear. Fighting for our joy is the point.”

*We are not Frights* is Taylor's first published collection of poetry.

9781947889354, illustrated, paperback. \$16.95  
x + 49 pages, 9 x 6  
Available in late July

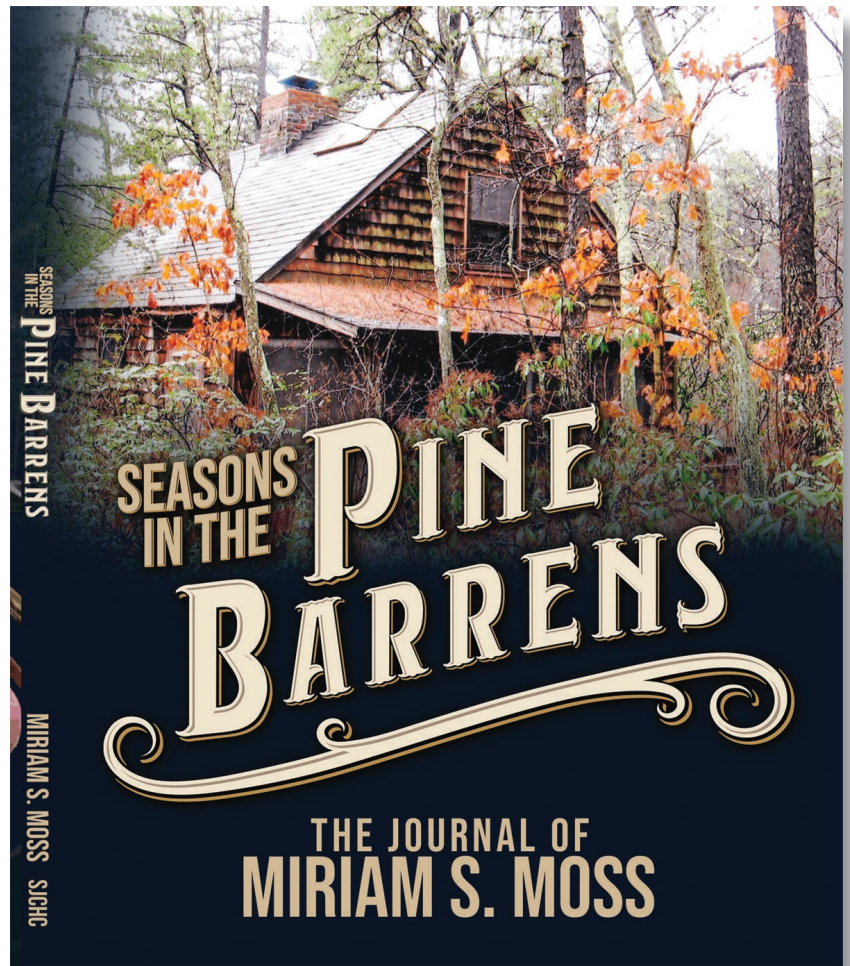
## Pine Barrens

Stockton University is located on 1600 acres of woodland in the southeastern reach of the Pine Barrens. Many of our publications capture the unique stories of this culturally and environmentally distinctive area, publishing works on folklore, historic industries, cultural pastimes and the ecology and geology of the Pines. We safeguard this extraordinary American heritage for future generations.

## Seasons in the Pine Barrens

Miriam S. Moss

“As I look at the dark grey water with small ripples, an occasional bit of leaf or of foam floats downstream. The flow of the stream seems to be the passage of time. Water and minutes go by, passing but never to return.” (11)



Miriam S. Moss spent years observing the natural world in New Jersey’s Pine Barrens and recording her thoughts in journals. From the 1970s to the 1990s she and her husband Sidney spent weekends in their primitive cabin on Ranco-cas Creek. These selections represent eloquent thoughts occasioned while quietly observing life and nature.

Miriam Moss was born and raised in suburban Philadelphia and had a career as a research sociologist and gerontologist, writing many published articles relating to issues connected with aging. While living and working in Philadelphia, she and her husband Sidney spent a great deal of time in their Pine Barrens cabin. Miriam has a wide variety of interests, including gardening, photography, birdwatching, and working to make the world a better place.

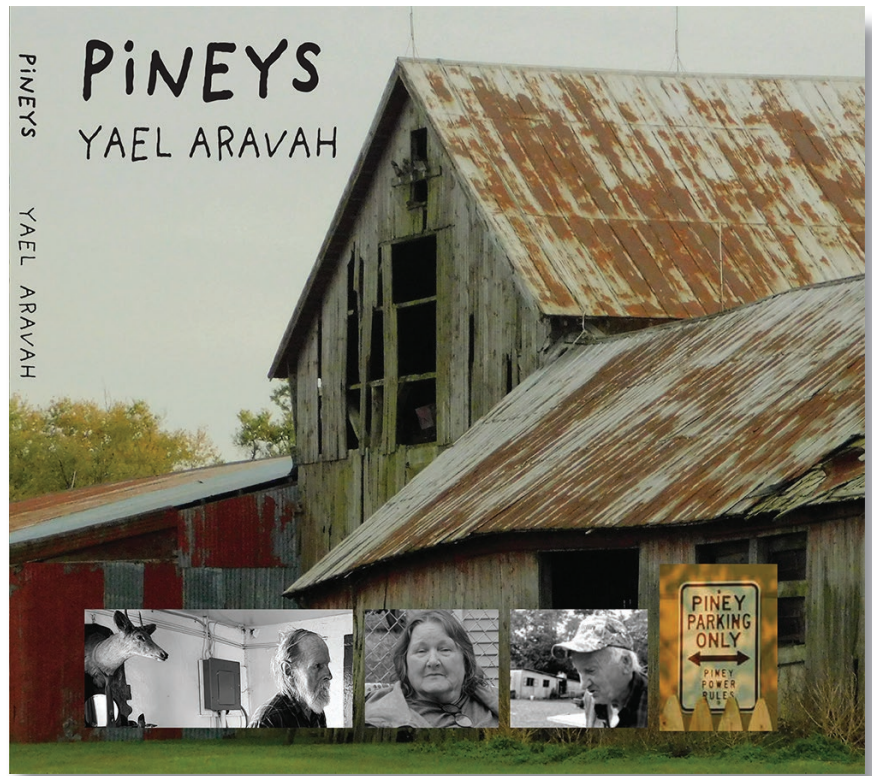
9781947889156, illustrated, paperback. \$26.00  
196 pages, 7.37 x 9

## Pineys

### *The People of the New Jersey Pine Barrens*

Yael Aravah

“Of course, I consider myself a Piney. I wouldn’t know what else to consider myself.”  
(21)



*Pineys: The People of the New Jersey Pine Barrens* offers an intimate portrait of life in the Pine Barrens through Yael Aravah’s striking photography and candid interviews. Moving beyond stereotypes, Aravah asks residents what it truly means to be a Piney. The result is a warm, authentic celebration of a unique culture—told by the people who live it and proudly call the Pines home.

**Yael Aravah** is an Israeli-born documentary filmmaker, photographer, and gallerist. Born in Jerusalem and raised in the Tel Aviv area, she lived in Israel, Los Angeles, and London before settling in Browns Mills in New Jersey’s Pine Barrens. Her work blends visual storytelling with a deep respect for place and community.

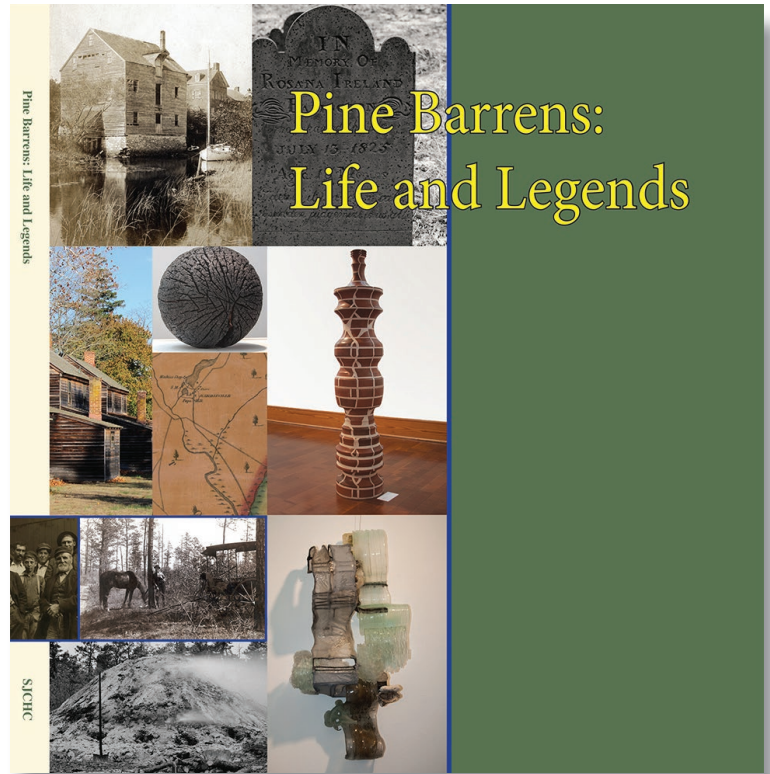
9781947889248, illustrated, paperback. \$22.95  
114 pages, 8 x 8

# Pine Barrens

## *Life and Legends*

Tom Kinsella and  
Paul W. Schopp

“Sam Giberson he was a man that ketched the Air Tune. He heared it a-playin’ in the air over his head—and he went right in the house and took his fiddle down and played the same tune. And before you could ever get him to play that, you had to get him ’bout half drunk. And talk about a tune—it would bring the tears in your eyes.” (79)



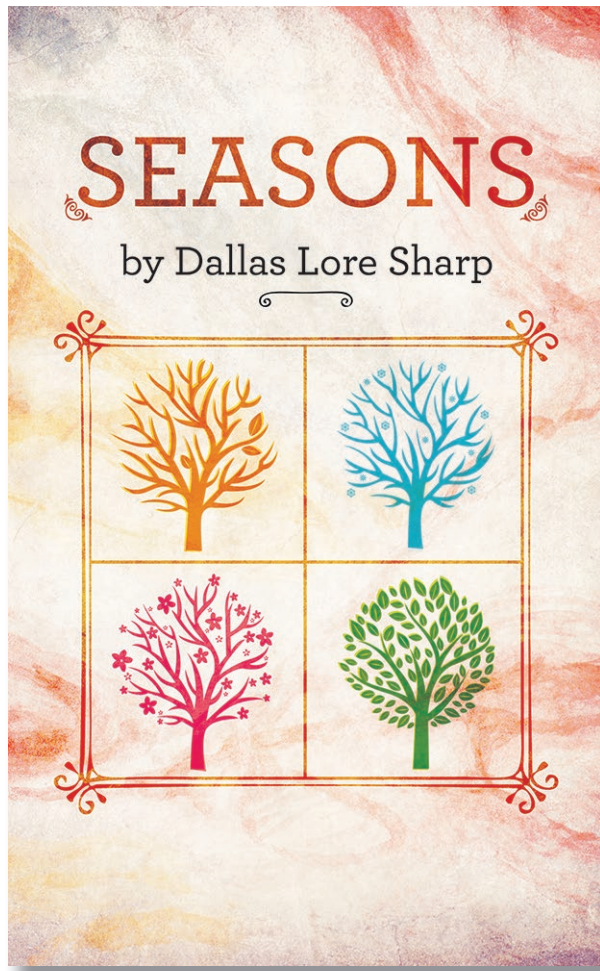
A richly illustrated guide to the culture and ecology of the Pine Barrens, from itinerant berry pickers and cedar miners to jug taverns and folklore. Originally published as the catalog for a 2015 Noyes Museum exhibition on life and leisure in the Pines, this book blends historical insight with striking contemporary artwork. It also features folk tales collected in the 1940s by renowned anthropologist Herbert Halpert, along with a rare photograph of legendary fiddler Sammy Buck Giberson.

**Tom Kinsella** is Distinguished Professor of Literature at Stockton University and Director of the South Jersey Culture & History Center. He was born and raised in Rochester, New York, and took more years than one might expect to recognize the splendors of South Jersey. He understands now.

**Paul W. Schopp**, as a historian with over 50 years of professional activity, has developed an interest in myriad history sectors, including the rise of transportation modalities, whether that constitutes waterborne, aerial, or land-based methods for moving people and cargo. Paul serves as the Assistant Director of the South Jersey Culture & History Center at Stockton University and as a managing editor of *SoJourn*.

9780988873148, illustrated, paperback. \$16.95  
108 pages, 8.5 x 9

Nature



**Seasons  
&  
The Nature of Things**

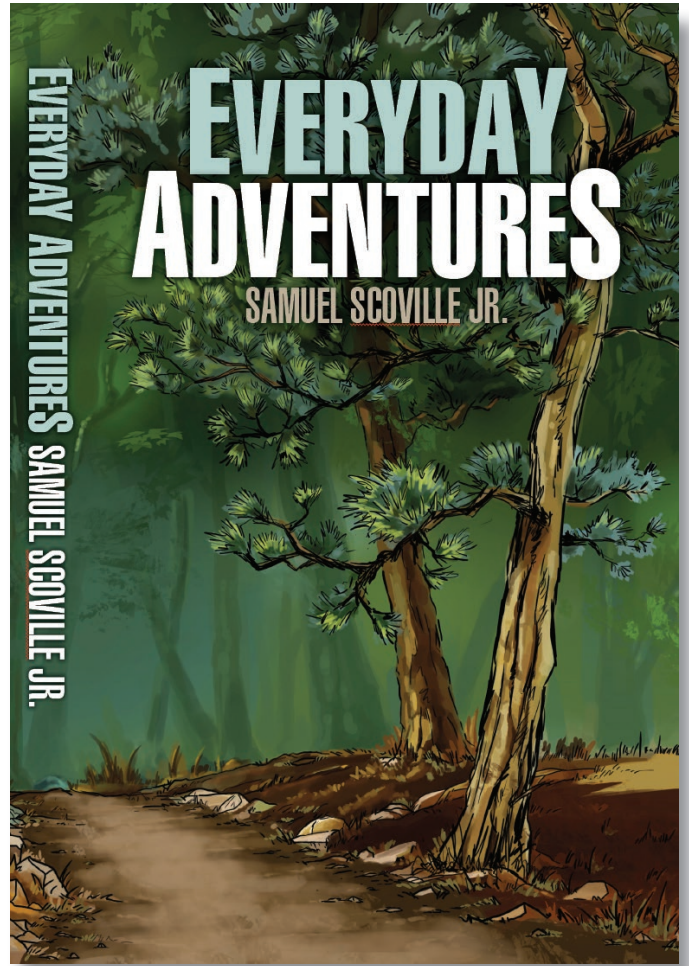
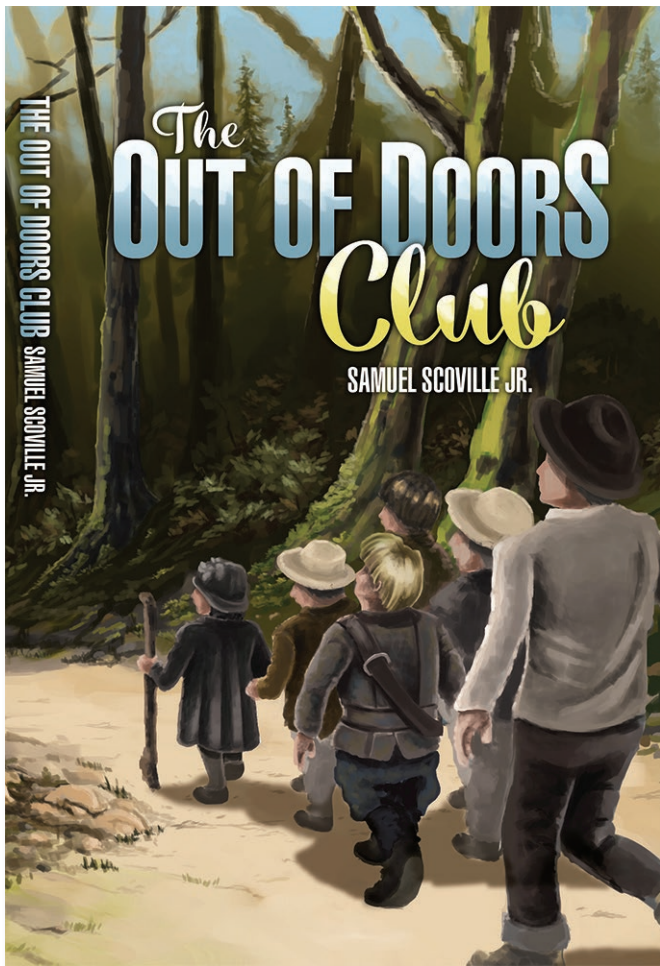
Dallas Lore Sharp

Born in 1870 in Haleyville, Cumberland County, Dallas Lore Sharp spent his boyhood roaming the woods along the Cohansey and Maurice Rivers. He grew into one of the most beloved nature writers of his era, with essays appearing in *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's*, and *The Century*. A rare and honest voice, Sharp wrote with near-mystic wonder about the ordinary wonders of the

natural world—whether a family of owls in an old apple tree or a common toad observed season after season. *Seasons* gathers his finest essays from the 1915 classic *The Whole Year Round*, with a new foreword by Renee Fern. *The Nature of Things* continues the collection with a second volume of Sharp's engaging and insightful work.

*Seasons*  
9781947889002, paperback. \$14.95  
158 pages, 5 x 8

*The Nature of Things*  
9780988873117, paperback. \$14.95  
179 pages, 5 x 8



**The Out of Doors Club  
&  
Everyday Adventures**  
Samuel Scoville Jr.

*The Our of Doors Club*

Follow the Band—a spirited group of young siblings—as their father leads them on imagination-filled hikes through fields, bogs, and forests. In twenty short essays, many set in the Pine Barrens, Samuel Scoville Jr. evokes simpler times when the world held fewer cares and walking through nature could be the highlight of a day. Trekking through the wilds and canoeing down rivers, the children discover amusing lessons about the natural world and life itself. Warm and nostalgic, this charming collection celebrates the gentle, loving bond between parents and children.

*The Out of Doors Club*  
9781947889903, paperback. \$14.95  
147 pages, 5 x 8

*Everyday Adventures*

Step into nature through twelve vivid essays filled with sharp detail and gentle wit. From hibernating mammals and snakes to delicate orchids, Scoville brings the natural world to life. Birds take center stage as he listens to their songs, searches for hidden nests, and quietly observes their daily routines. His adventures span Connecticut, the Berkshires, Pennsylvania, Delaware, the Pine Barrens, and northern Canada. Warm and inviting, these essays invite readers into everyday adventures of their own.

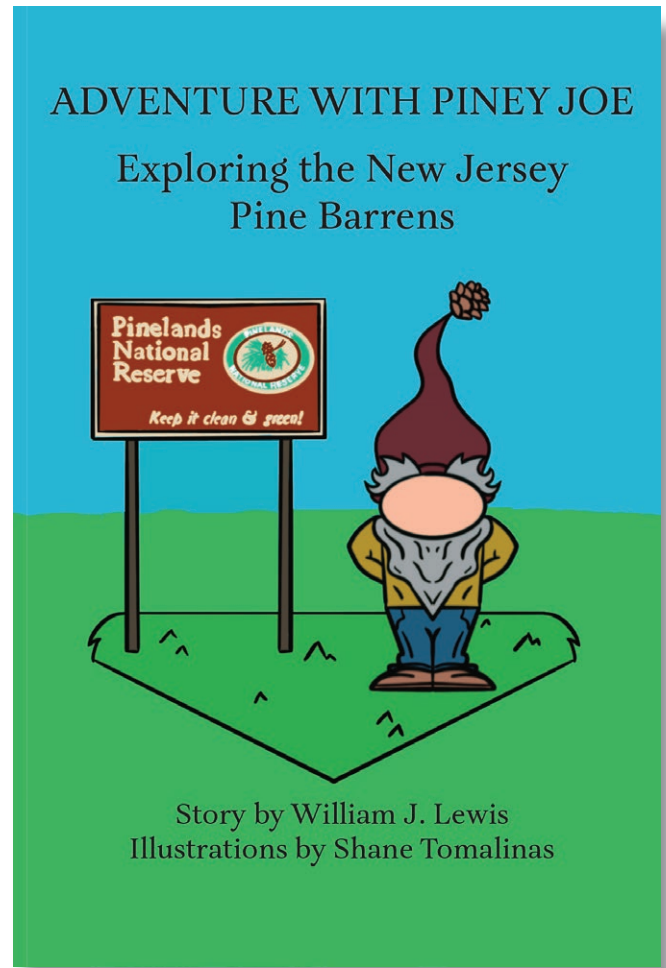
*Everyday Adventures*  
9780997669992, paperback. \$14.95  
252 pages, 5 x 8

# Adventure with Piney Joe

## Exploring the New Jersey Pine Barrens

William J. Lewis and Shane Tomalinas

“Putting some distance between us and our sleeping friend, Piney Joe goes on about the natural history of Evening Primrose, “The other name, Star Grass, isn’t really because the yellow flowers look like stars. Being well versed in the different stages of a plant is akin to some as knowing woods magic.” (33)



Take a walk through the New Jersey Pine Barrens with Piney Joe, a mischievous gnome who just might be the last of his kind. Part nature guide, part folklore adventure, *Adventure with Piney Joe* invites young readers to explore the wild beauty of the Pinelands National Reserve. Filled with colorful illustrations, fascinating facts, and a touch of humor, this fully illustrated book blends natural history with local legends while leading readers to real places they can visit. Complete with an illustrated trail map, it’s the perfect spark for outdoor exploration and a deeper appreciation of one of New Jersey’s most unique landscapes.

**William J. Lewis** is a lifelong resident of the New Jersey Pine Barrens and a proud third-generation Piney. A former U.S. Marine and Rider University graduate, he works for the federal government while dedicating much of his time to preserving Pine Barrens culture and history. He is the author of several books about Piney culture. Through his writing and his popular Piney Tribe social media platforms, he works to share the region’s rich heritage and inspire the next generation to explore and protect the Pines.

9781947889095, illustrated, paperback. \$19.95  
187 pages, 5 x 8

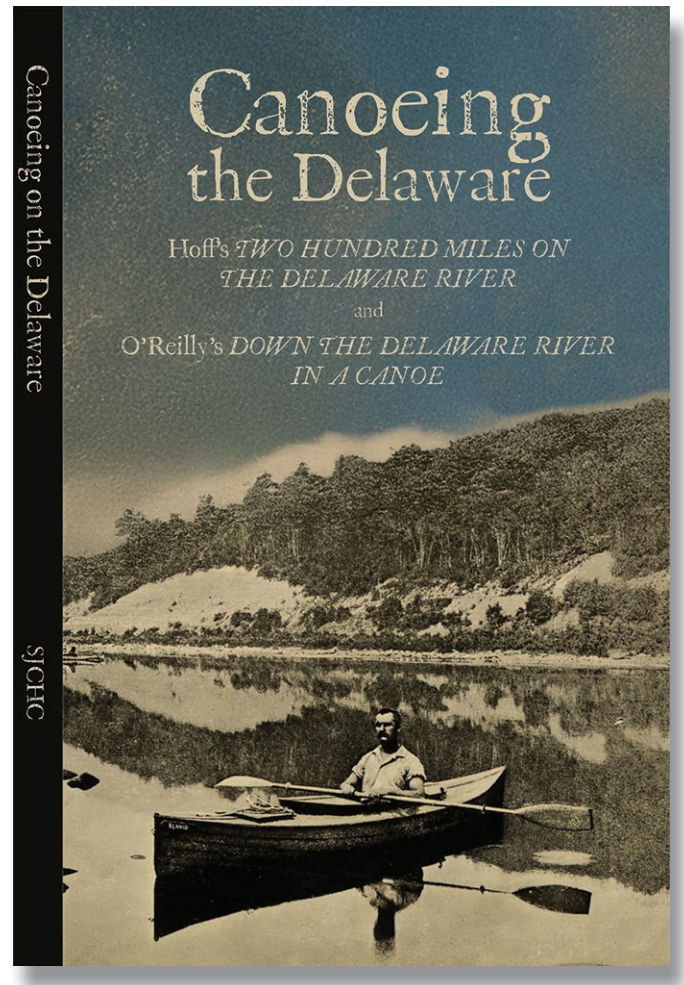
## Canoeing the Delaware

J. Wallace Hoff and John Boyle O'Reilly

“Cooper, in nosing along shore, had fallen in with a fisherman and found in him an interesting talker. He had been a raft pilot at Lackawaxen dam, taking rafts through for twelve shillings each. He also sounded the warning about Foul Rift, although he said we could make it if we were careful.” (104)

Embark on two separate journeys down the Delaware River in the 1890s with this engaging collection of river adventures. We've brought together J. Wallace Hoff's *Two Hundred Miles on the Delaware River* (1893) and John Boyle O'Reilly's *Down the Delaware River in a Canoe* (1890). With lively detail and good humor, each writer captures the river's changing character, the towns along its banks, and the colorful people they meet along the way. Part travelogue and part time capsule, *Canoeing the Delaware* celebrates friendship, resilience, and the simple joy of testing one's skill against an untamed waterway. Take a vacation to another time and place. The trip will do you good.

9781947889286, illustrated, paperback. \$16.95  
203 pages, 5 x 8



# Public Facing Studies

# PATTERNED BRICK ARCHITECTURE OF WEST NEW JERSEY

By Robert L. Thompson



## Patterned Brick Architecture of West New Jersey

Robert J. Thompson

Why does America's greatest concentration of patterned brick architecture appear in West New Jersey? In this illuminating study, architectural historian Robert L. Thompson traces the origins of this striking folk tradition from its English roots to its remarkable flourishing in the early American colonies. He explores both the practical needs and artistic ambitions behind these distinctive buildings and examines why West New Jersey became the epicenter of this enduring style. With fresh insights and original interpretations, Thompson offers a compelling new understanding of one of early America's most visually distinctive architectural traditions

**Robert L. Thompson** is an architectural historian and historic preservation specialist with decades of experience in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He has led major preservation projects and surveys involving hundreds of historic structures, including work in Burlington and Camden. A former director of Main Street Burlington and Camden's historic preservation specialist, Thompson has long focused on the region's colonial architecture. He is the author of *Burlington Biographies*.

9781947889187, illustrated, index, hardcover. \$49.95  
xxii + 194 pages, 11 x 8.5

# No Wild Rivers in South Jersey

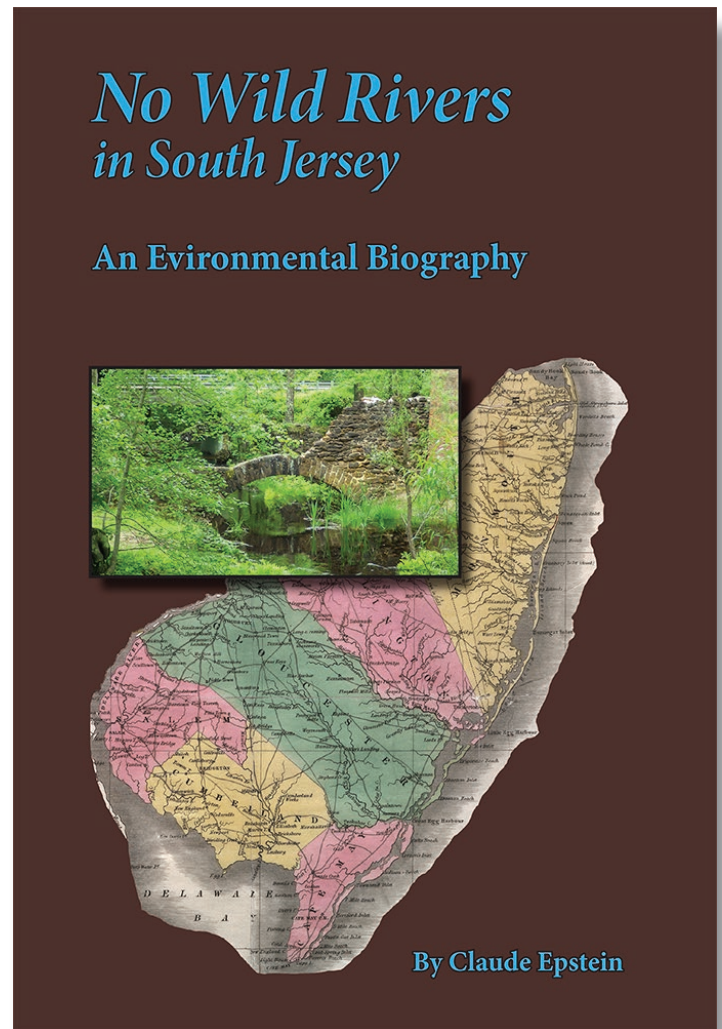
## *An Environmental Biography*

Claude Epstein

“In forty years of teaching, I often employed food analogies to describe geological processes. My students would leave my lectures ravenous. Yet these analogies made conceptualizing not immediately obvious geologic phenomena much clearer.” (33)

In this sweeping environmental history, longtime Stockton University professor Claude Epstein traces how human activity has fundamentally reshaped South Jersey’s rivers and streams. *No Wild Rivers* explores the profound impact of both indigenous land use and the dramatic transformations brought by successive waves of European settlement. Through careful research and thoughtful analysis, Epstein reveals how cultural adaptation, agriculture, and industry turned once-wild waterways into managed landscapes—offering a compelling look at the deep and lasting relationship between people and the region’s waters.

9781947889071, illustrated, index, hardcover. \$24.95  
453 pages, 6 x 9



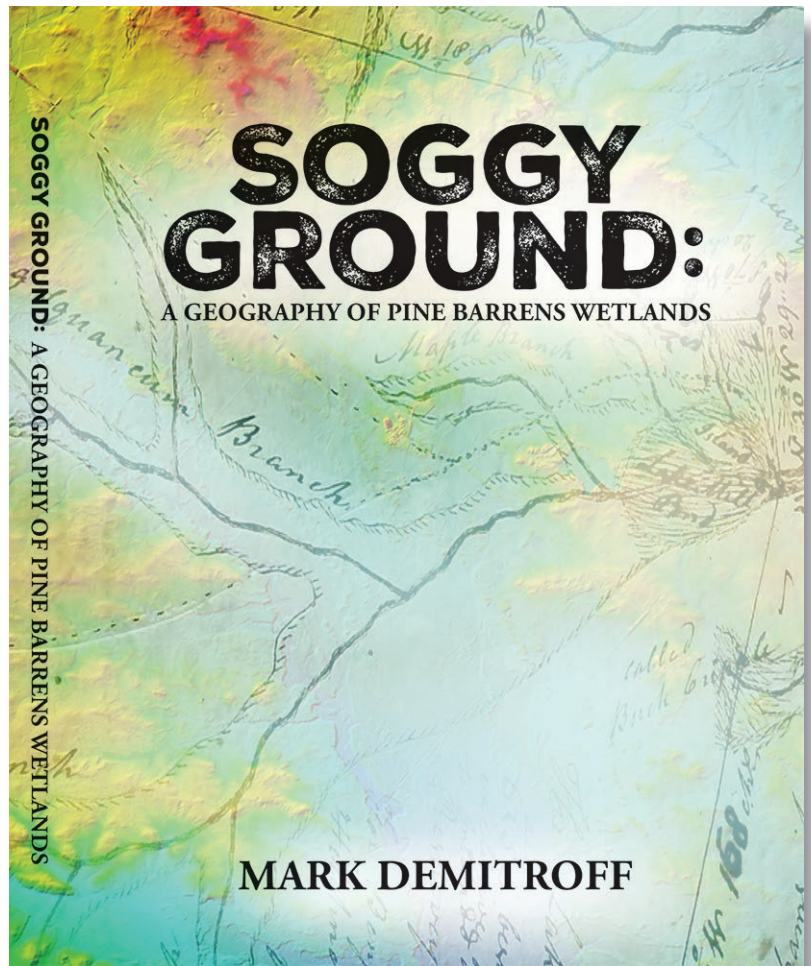
**Claude Epstein** is Professor Emeritus of Environmental Studies at Stockton University. A longtime scholar of regional environmental history, his research has focused on the relationship between human activity and the natural landscape of southern New Jersey. His work offers thoughtful insights into the cultural and environmental forces that have shaped South Jersey’s rivers and streams over time. His work has appeared in several issues of *SoJourn*.

# Soggy Ground

## *A Geography of Pine Barrens Wetlands*

Mark Demitroff

“The fourth spung, Horse Break Pond in Buena, is a little over 1.5 km away on the Egg Harbor trail. On a survey for a court case, the Egg Harbor Road again strikes the southeastern corner of a spung, heading Horse Break Branch. The site is purported to be adjacent to an early Swedish settlement, complete with a burying ground.” (196)



Mark Demitroff offers a fascinating and accessible guide to understanding the unique wetland landscapes of the New Jersey Pine Barrens. Drawing on his deep expertise, he reveals how little-known ice age landforms continue to shape the region today, providing vital habitat for rare plants and animals. Through vivid descriptions of spungs, cripples, blue holes, and savannahs, Demitroff shows how these features form an intricate geographic tapestry shaped by both natural processes and human history, inviting readers to see the Pine Barrens with fresh eyes.

Mark Demitroff is a geographer and educator specializing in the natural and cultural landscapes of the New Jersey Pine Barrens. With a deep interest in the region’s unique wetland environments and ice age landforms, he explores how these features have shaped both ecology and human history. Demitroff is known for his engaging presentations and encyclopedic knowledge of South Jersey. His work has appeared in several issues of *SoJourn*, and his advice to the editors of SJCHC have led to the republication of several important South Jersey titles.

9781947889217, illustrated, paperback. \$39.95  
273 pages, 8.5 x 11

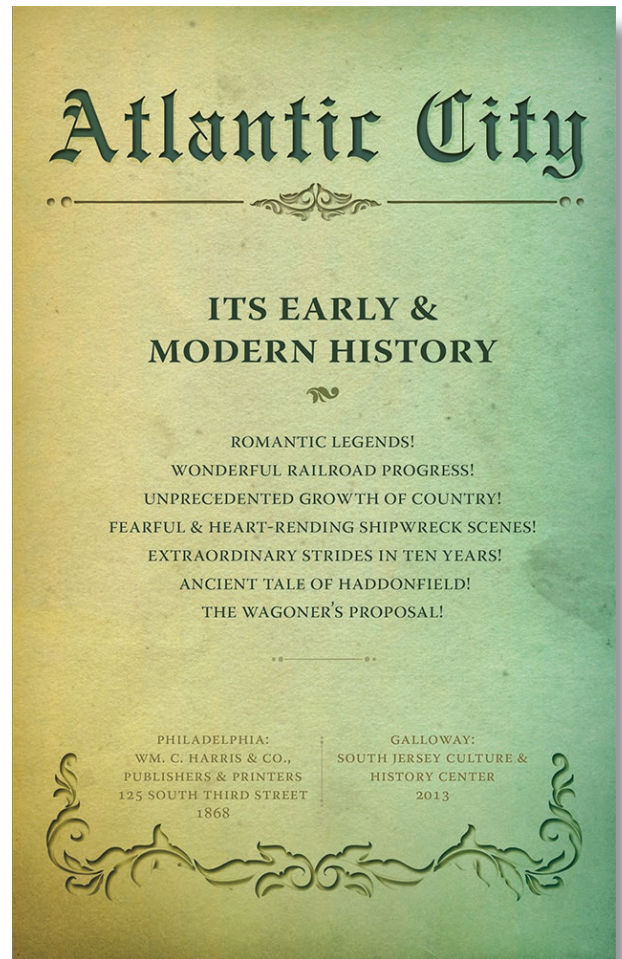
# Cities of South Jersey

# Atlantic City

## *Its Early & Modern History*

Alexander Barrington Irvine  
("Carnesworthe")

"Build your road, and the people will starve to death when they get to the beach," said a Jerseyman. "We shall bring over the iron track the food with which to feed them," was the reply of the Doctor. "Build your city, and the winter tides will sweep it away," said the same cent-saving specimen of humanity. But the settlers builded a city upon tiles, established barriers, and laughed away the terrors of old Neptune. "People the beach," said another, "and the mosquitoes will drive the summer residents in herds away." To which the Doctor answered: "The salt breeze from the sea will scatter your mosquito pests, and bring healthy cheeks impervious to their sting." (36)



First published in 1868, *Atlantic City: Its Early & Modern History* is the earliest known history of Atlantic City. Written by Alexander Barrington Irvine under the pseudonym "Carnesworthe," the book offers a vivid and often humorous account of the city's beginnings. By day an editor of a Philadelphia trade journal, Irvine blends a strong belief in free enterprise with romantic enthusiasm for Atlantic City's future, capturing the aspirations of its backers just fourteen years after the railroad arrived.

A classic example of mid-nineteenth-century railroad propaganda, the book mixes tales of shipwrecks and "Barnegat pirates" with financial details of the Camden & Atlantic Railroad and early population statistics—many of which later research has confirmed. Irvine's descriptions of the gently sloping beach and the vast salt marshes crossed to reach the shore carry a genuine sense of place. The volume also includes a fanciful tale of a love triangle involving a Delaware chief and the "Fair Ocean Maid."

9780988873100, illustrated, paperback. \$9.95  
95 pages, 5 x 8  
Also available in digital format \$1.99 (Amazon)

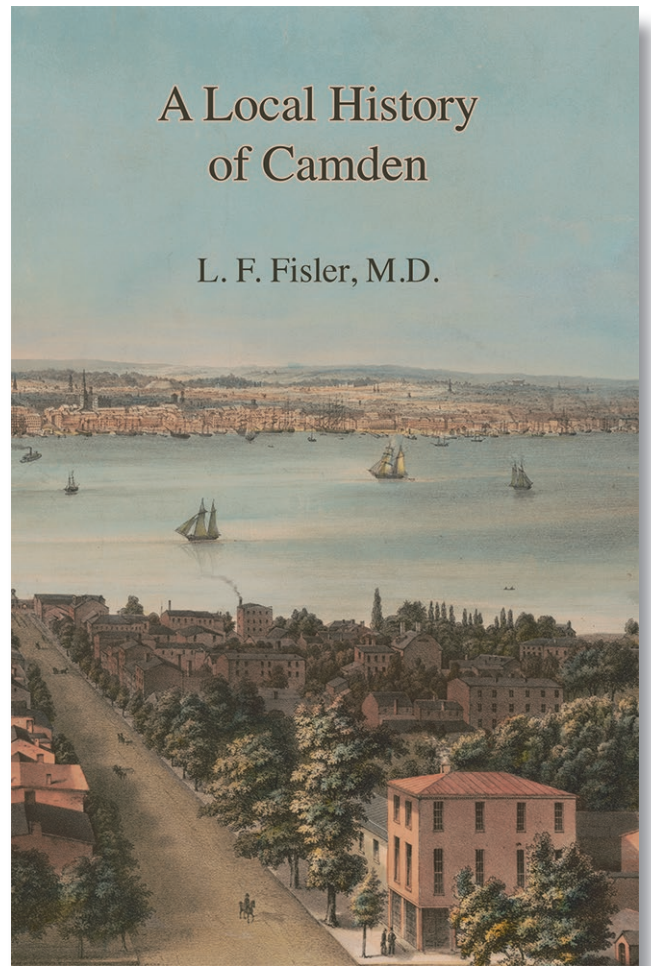
## A Local History of Camden

L. F. Fisler, M.D.

“This hotel, when occupied by George W. Hugg, was very ably kept, and did a very large and prosperous business. ‘Kaighn’s Point’ at that day, was a place of great resort for the citizens of Philadelphia during the summer season. It is said that Capt. Watmough, of the ‘Washington Guards,’ and Capt. James Page, of the ‘State Fencibles,’ often visited this cool and shady retreat, accompanied by Frank Johnson’s renowned ‘Black Band.’” (31)

First published as a pamphlet in 1858, Lorenzo F. Fisler’s *A Local History of Camden* is the earliest standalone history of the city. It traces Camden’s transformation from a modest colonial ferry landing into a growing urban center during the 1850s. Fisler provides detailed accounts of the city’s key institutions, including churches, schools, newspapers, ferries, public buildings, and municipal services such as the board of health, water department, and fire companies. This republication offers a valuable portrait of mid-nineteenth-century Camden on the threshold of major growth.

9781947889231, illustrated, paperback. \$9.95  
79 pages, 5 x 8

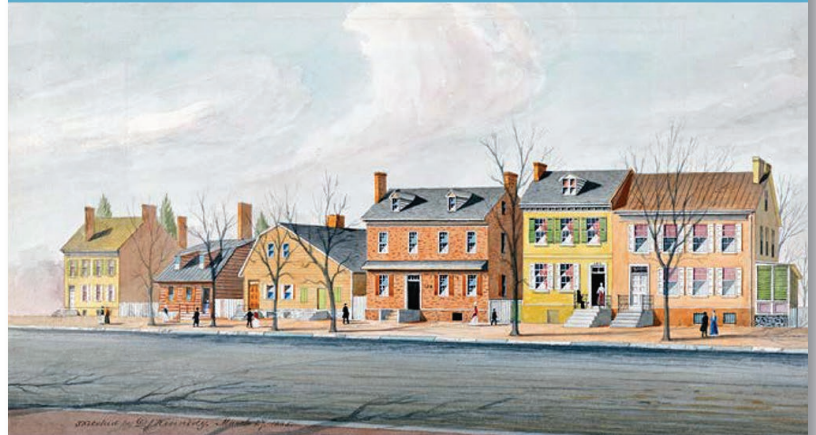


**Burlington Biographies**  
*A History of Burlington, New Jersey, Told Through the Lives and Times of its People*

Robert L. Thompson

**BURLINGTON BIOGRAPHIES:**

*A History of Burlington, New Jersey  
Told Through the Lives and Times of Its People.*



By Robert L. Thompson

Robert L. Thompson's *Burlington Biographies* presents a sweeping 558-page history of Burlington, New Jersey, from its founding by radical Quakers to modern times. Drawing on his experience as a historic preservation planner and his deep knowledge of architectural history and urban design, Thompson brings the city's story to life through forty-seven chapters centered on its people and institutions. With lively storytelling and extensive footnotes, this richly detailed work offers both general readers and scholars a compelling portrait of one of South Jersey's oldest communities.

**Robert L. Thompson** is a historian and historic preservation specialist with extensive experience in New Jersey. Formerly the Historic Preservation Planner for the City of Camden, he has deep expertise in architectural history and urban development. His work combines careful research with a strong interest in the people, buildings, and institutions that have shaped South Jersey's communities.

Very few copies of this limited printing remain.

978098887393, illustrated, index hardcover. \$29.95  
558 pages, 9.25 x 10.75

# Jewish Farming History

In the Pinelands of southern New Jersey, the founders of the Alliance Colony established the first successful Jewish farming community in America in 1882. They left behind systemic bigotry and harsh mistreatment in Tsarist Russia, hoping to establish better lives in the United States. With little experience, but great determination, they cultivated the land, raised and educated families, and participated in the American experiment. Over time, near the western shore of the Maurice River, the tight-knit communities of Norma, Alliance, and Brotmanville grew.

Stockton's Alliance Heritage Center (AHC) preserves the history and tells the stories of these and other Jewish farming communities in South Jersey. Since 2019, we have preserved historic documents within Stockton's Bjork Library Special Collections, making them available at the library and through our digital museum at [allianceheritagecenter.com](http://allianceheritagecenter.com).

## A Farmer's Daughter

### *Bluma*

Bluma Bayuk Rappoport Purmell and  
Felice Lewis Rovner

“When winter approached and the outside work diminished, Father and Mother began to do their winter chores. At his workbench, Father was repairing our shoes. From early spring, no self-respecting farm child would think of wearing shoes. First of all, we could not afford to waste valuable shoe leather; second, our winter-tortured feet demanded to be freed from their strait jackets to wiggle freely in the air. However, as the leaves turned, our feet had to be confined once more, to carry us to school.” (37)

Bluma Bayuk Rappoport Purmell lived a life of remarkable resilience and reinvention. A farm girl, nurse, nursing home operator, and wife of a prison doctor, she was also a world traveler, award-winning painter, speaker, and author. As the oldest living descendant of the founders of Alliance, New Jersey, she became a beloved figure and living legend in Atlantic City.

Born into a Jewish immigrant family that fled the violent pogroms of Tsarist Russia, Bluma's journey spanned more than a century. Her story moves from the hardships of farm life in rural New Jersey and the rigors of nursing school to two marriages and a lifetime of creative and professional achievement. Even in her nineties, she remained active and engaged, publishing her memoir at age 93. Throughout her long life, Bluma embodied integrity, brilliance, and deep human compassion.

9781947889125, illustrated, hardcover. \$29.95  
xvi + 301 pages, 6 x 9

## A Farmer's Daughter:

### *Bluma*



**Bluma Bayuk Rappoport Purmell**  
and Felice Lewis Rovner



*Thanksgiving Preparation.* This edition features color reproductions of thirteen of Bluma's “memory paintings” created late in life. It also includes numerous black-and-white photographs of Bluma and her family.

## Back to the Land

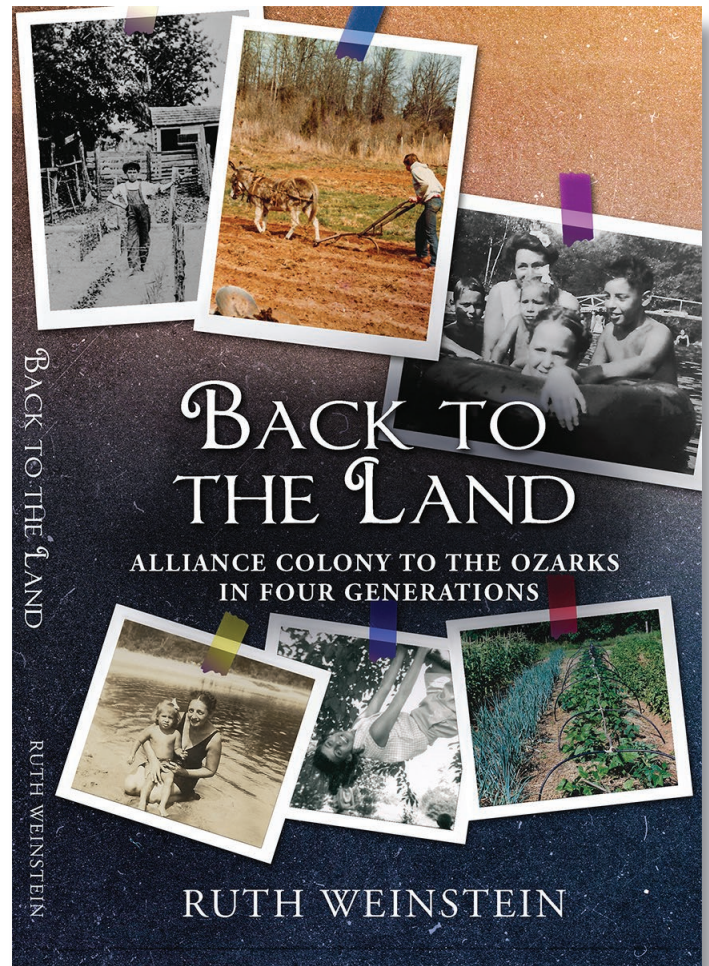
### *Alliance Colony to the Ozarks in Four Generations*

Ruth Weinstein

“The five people in the photo are in, on or behind an enormous truck tire inner tube, which hung in its relegated place in my grandfather’s garage for years. Fat, sleek and reflective as a seal, it bears two red rubber patches affixed to stem leaks on the tube. Looking at the photo all these years later, I can feel the edges of these patches against my fingers and smell the dust and heated rubber scent as the tube, made untouchable by the burning sun, is flung into the water.” (152)

Ruth Weinstein’s moving memoir offers an intimate portrait of life among the early Jewish settlers of the Alliance Colony. Drawing on her own decades of experience as a homesteader in the Arkansas Ozarks, Weinstein brings a grounded and insightful perspective to the challenges and rewards of rural life. Woven throughout are vivid memories of her childhood summers spent in Alliance and Vineland as a “summer kid.” The book also serves as a personal family history, highlighting the story of her grandfather, John Levin, who helped found the colony. With a foreword by Jay Greenblatt.

781947889989, illustrated, paperback. \$16.95  
225 pages, 6 x 9



**Ruth Weinstein** is a poet, crafter, and farmer who has lived for nearly fifty years on forty acres in Searcy County, Arkansas. Deeply rooted in the land, she draws on decades of homesteading experience to explore themes of resilience, belonging, and rural life.

# Growing American

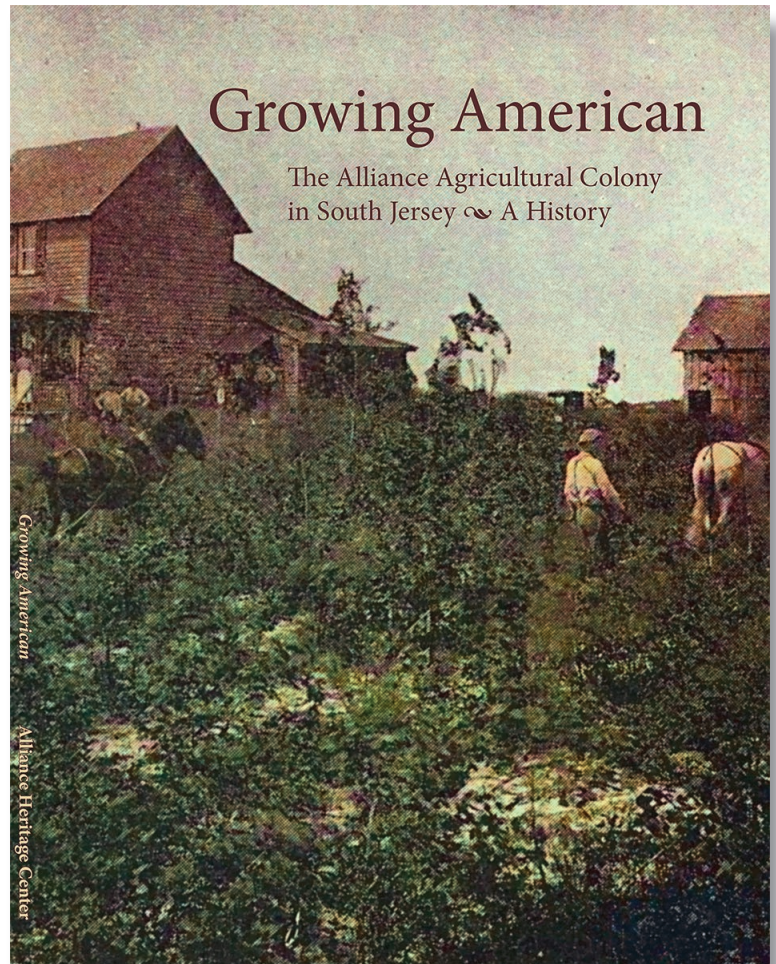
## *The Alliance Agricultural Colony in South Jersey, a History*

Tom Kinsella

“By November 1882, 60 houses were ready for occupancy. Sidney Bailey, an early colonist, describes them as ‘Shanties of fourteen feet square and fourteen feet high: a room and a garret, lined with one thin pine board and plastered inside, so that, along with other privations, the settlers suffered from cold in the winter and heat in the summer. The shacks were sold to us at one hundred and fifty dollars each.’” (21)

This well-researched and engaging book offers a clear and accessible introduction to the Alliance Colony, the first successful Jewish farming community established in the United States. Founded in 1882 by immigrants fleeing persecution in Russia, the colony grew into a thriving settlement in the southern New Jersey Pine-lands. Through historical detail and personal stories, the book traces its development into the neighboring villages of Norma, Alliance, and Brotmanville, highlighting the resilience, determination, and lasting legacy of these early Jewish pioneers.

9781947889088, illustrated, index, paperback. \$26.95  
111 pages, 8.5 x 11

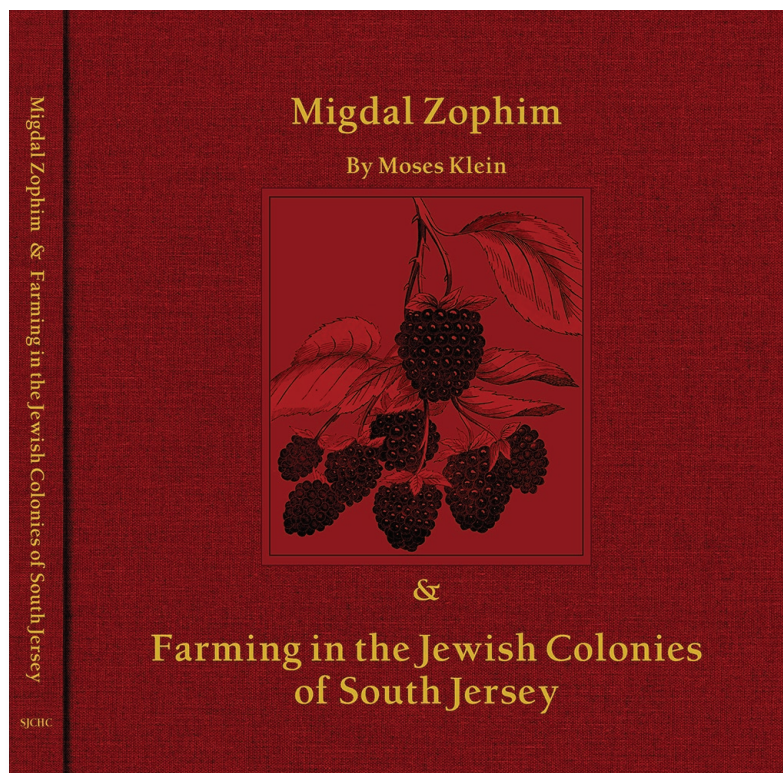


**Tom Kinsella** is the Elizabeth and Samuel Levin Director of the Alliance Heritage Center at Stockton University. A dedicated historian and preservationist, he has played a central role in preserving historic records and sharing the stories of the Alliance Colony and related settlements through exhibitions, digital collections, and publications that highlight the region's rich cultural heritage.

## Migdal Zophim & Farming in the Jewish Colonies of South Jersey

Moses Klein and others

“Without complaint or murmuring, we accept our situation as being necessary in the circumstances to teach us self dependence. We do certainly believe that with our knowledge gained by experience, we may even now begin to do right what we did not know at our first coming.” (119)



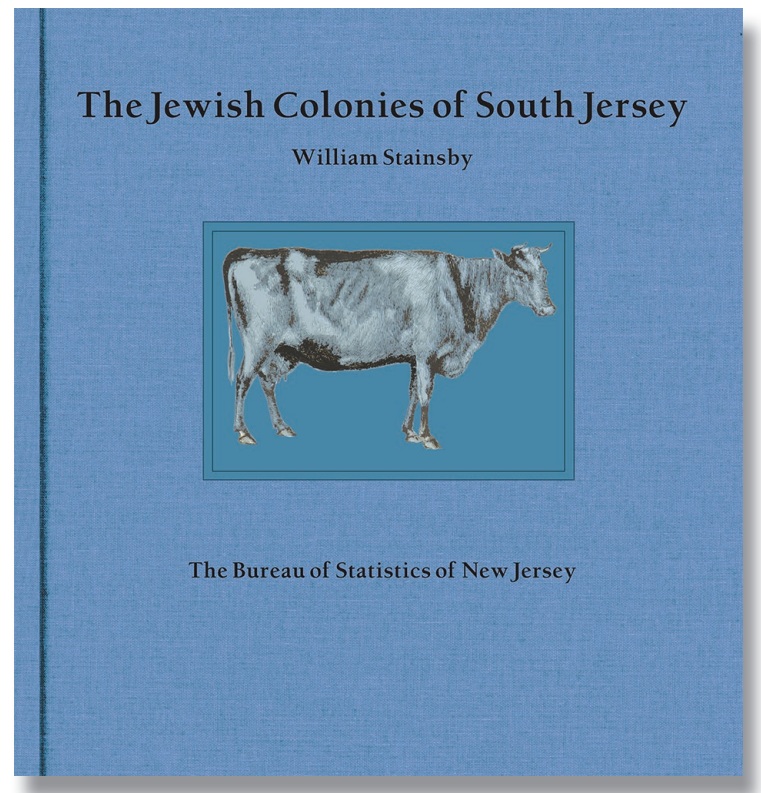
Moses Klein’s 1889 essay collection *Migdal Zophim* details the state of Jewish farming in 1889 in Palestine and the colonies in of southern New Jersey. Also included are contemporary reports on life in the Jewish agricultural colonies of Alliance, Rosenhayn, and Carmel from 1882 to 1907. Together, these writings offer a vivid and detailed portrait of the hopes and hardships of Jewish immigrants who fled violent pogroms in Eastern Europe and worked to build new lives as farmers in southern New Jersey. This edition includes twenty original photographs that have not been previously published.

9781947889897, illustrated, index, paperback. \$19.95  
xxiv + 266 pages, 8.5 x 9

# The Jewish Colonies of South Jersey

William Stainsby

“The farmers of Alliance have good stock, the cows especially being of the very best; the poultry also will compare favorably with any in this section of the State. As cows and poultry are prime factors in solving the problem of family subsistence, they receive a vast amount of care and attention.” (11–12)

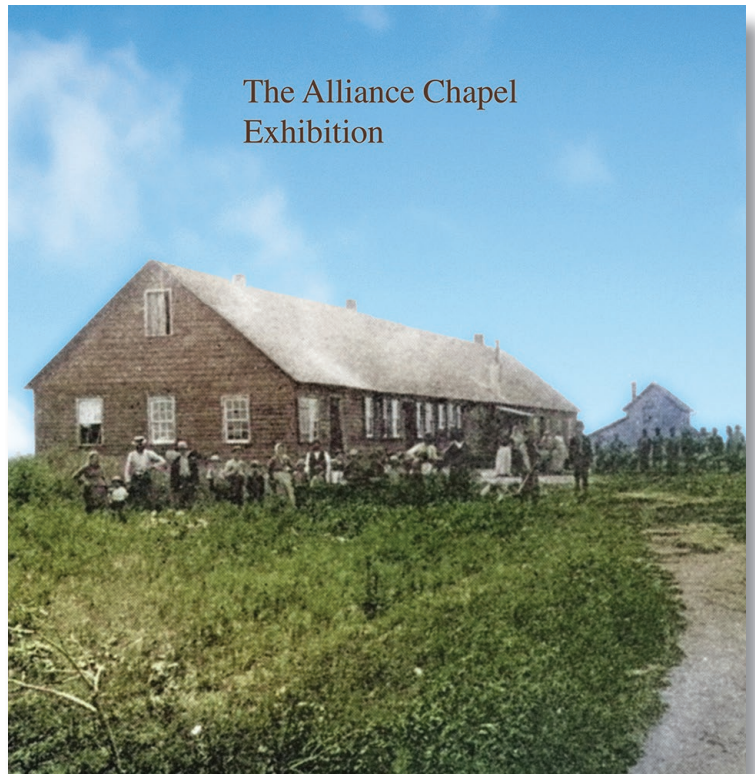


This 1901 report from the Bureau of Statistics of New Jersey offers a rare and valuable glimpse into life in the Jewish agricultural colonies of Alliance, Rosenhayn, Carmel and Woodbine in the decades after their founding by refugees fleeing pogroms in Eastern Europe. Its author, William Stainsby, was a longtime New Jersey politician who served as an alderman in Newark and represented Essex County in the State Senate before becoming Chief of the Bureau of Labor and Statistics. This volume serves as a companion to *Migdal Zophim & Farming in the Jewish Colonies of South Jersey*.

9781947889941, photographs, paperback. \$9.95  
53 pages, 8.5 x 9

## The Alliance Chapel Exhibition

“By the harvest of 1887, Alliance Colony, though not wealthy, was becoming self-sufficient. Farms were productive and livelihoods, adequate. In September, representatives from the Alliance Land Trust, who had succeeded the Hebrew Emigrant Aid Society, traveled from New York on an eagerly awaited visit.” (11)



Since its dedication on December 11, 1927, the Alliance Chapel, located beside the Alliance Cemetery, has served as a place for funeral services and community gatherings. In 1982, the Alliance Colony Foundation transferred the ark and bimah from the nearby Brotmanville Synagogue to the Chapel and installed a historical display telling the story of the Alliance Colony. In 2025, the display was renovated and expanded with support from the Mellon Foundation to provide greater historical context for visitors. This catalog documents the content and design of the newly renovated exhibition. With a foreword by Tom Kinsella.

9781947889293, illustrated, paperback. Free, write us for your copy  
60 pages, 8.5 x 9

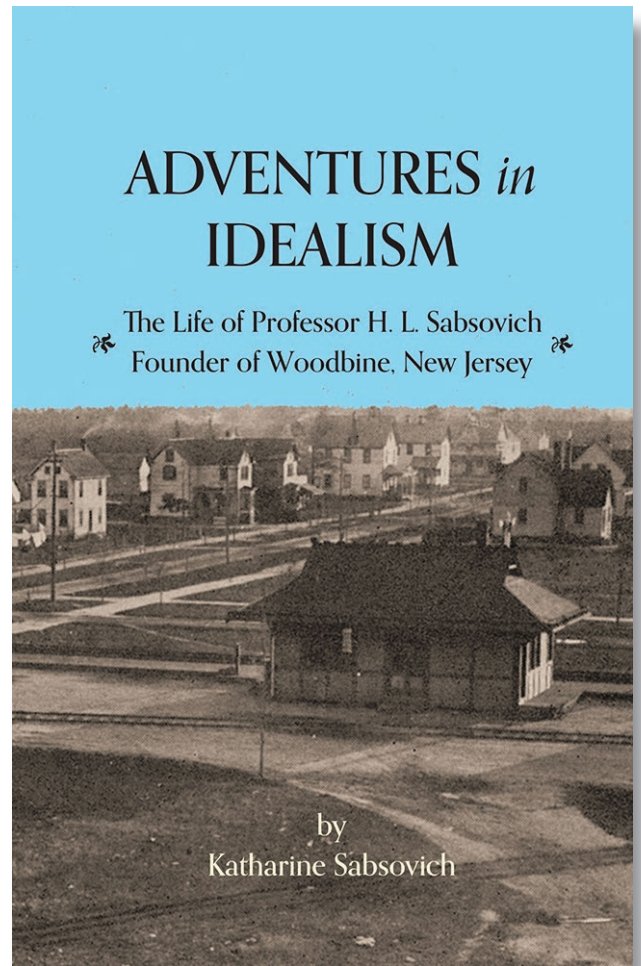
## Adventures in Idealism

### The Life of Professor H. L. Sabsovich

### Founder of Woodbine, New Jersey

Katharine Sabsovich

“Nearby, in front of the big barn, was a platform. We settled ourselves around it. Then, to the music of concertinas, mouth organs and balalaikas, accompanied by whistling and singing and clapping of hands from the whole crowd, they started. I have seen many a dancer in later years, but the pagan grace and joy of life expressed in every movement—the dash, the fire, the wonderful setting Nature provided, has never, to my mind, been excelled or equaled.” (49)



First published in 1922, *Adventures in Idealism* is the biography of H. L. Sabsovich (1861–1915), founder of Woodbine, New Jersey, and a leading champion of Jewish agricultural settlement in America. Forced to flee anti-Semitic Russia, Sabsovich arrived in the United States with his family and a strong conviction that farming could offer Russian Jews a healthy, dignified, and fulfilling way of life. He worked tirelessly to build strong communities and often expressed deep gratitude for the opportunities he found in his adopted country. This is the story of a man driven by idealism and a lifelong commitment to improving the lives of others.

Republished with original photos, new foreword and afterword, and additional historic photos of early Woodbine.

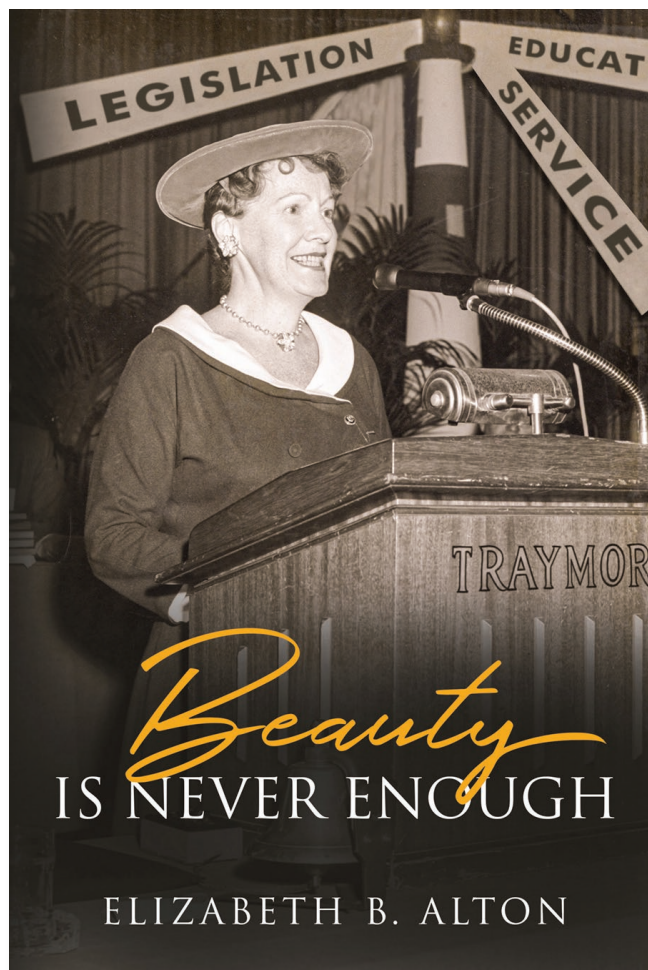
9781947889064, illustrated, index, paperback. \$15.95  
289 pages, 5 x 8

# Memoirs

## Beauty Is Never Enough

Elizabeth B. Alton

“We were following a rolling chair carrying a particularly popular beauty. I could see her in her long, woolen bathing suit all the way down to her knees, her legs covered with black non-transparent stockings. Her long, honey-blond hair bounced in the breeze as she energetically turned from side to side, blowing kisses and waving vigorously to her admirers in enthusiastic response to the tumultuous welcome she was receiving.” (13–14)



This is the memoir of Elizabeth B. Alton, an Atlantic City trailblazer whose remarkable life spanned much of the twentieth century. At just thirteen years old, she participated in the 1920 Atlantic City International Rolling Chair Parade, the event that gave rise to the Miss America Pageant. Alton recounts her childhood, marriage, and varied business ventures, while also detailing her extensive community service, including her work with the New Jersey Federation of Women’s Clubs and her role in the founding of Stockton University.

The heart of the book is her longtime association with the Miss America Pageant, offering an insider’s perspective on its earliest years through the mid-1990s. Throughout her career, Alton navigated the challenges of working in a male-dominated world while advocating for greater recognition of women. She lived by the belief that beauty alone is never enough.

9781947889057, illustrated, index, paperback. \$15.95  
463 pages, 6 x 9

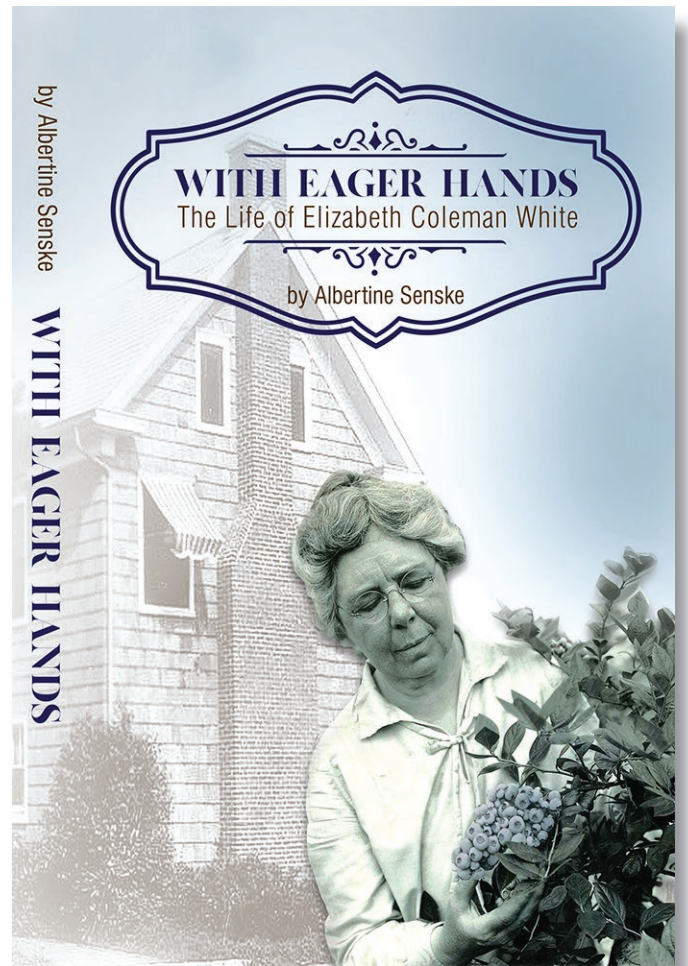
## With Eager Hands *The Life of Elizabeth Coleman White*

Albertine Senske

“In the morning the bogs were too wet to pick and I was free for a few hours. So father and I, in the buggy behind plump, brown Daisy, started off to see how picking progressed with our neighbors a few miles away.” (On first finding a Pine Barrens Gentian, 155)

Elizabeth Coleman White (1871–1954) stands as one of New Jersey’s most influential figures in agriculture and conservation. Working with botanist Frederick V. Coville, she played a pivotal role in developing the modern cultivated blueberry. A dedicated horticulturist, conservationist, and social advocate, White spent her life improving farming practices and living conditions across the state. Her legacy, along with that of her family, is preserved at Whitesbog Village, the former headquarters of Joseph J. White, Inc., once New Jersey’s largest cranberry farm. In this engaging account, Albertine Senske brings to life the rich and consequential story of Elizabeth Coleman White with warmth and enthusiasm.

9781947889026, photographs, paperback. \$15.95  
259 pages, 5 x 8

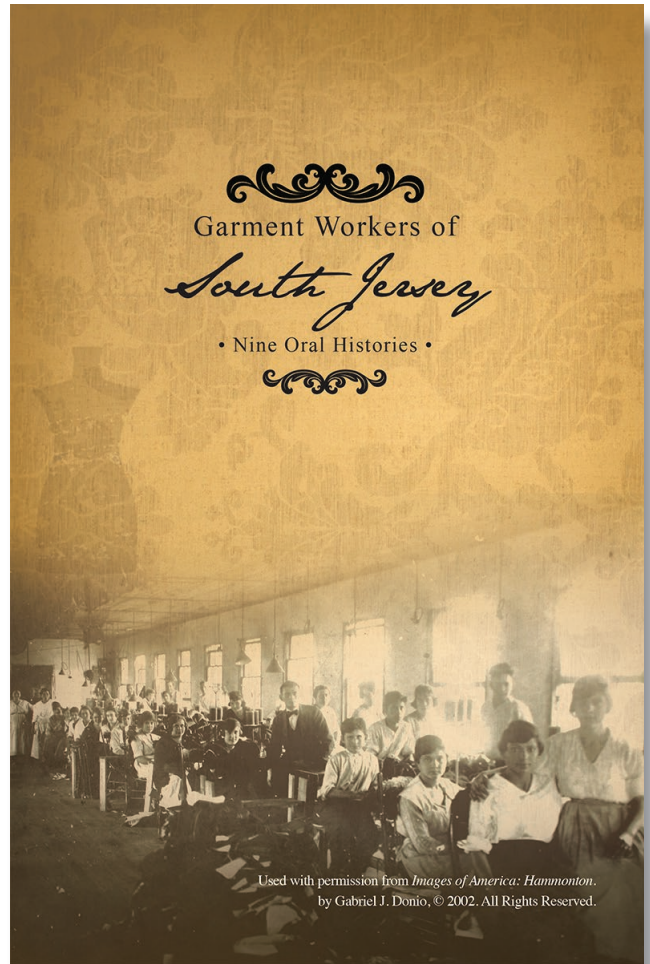


Albertine Senske served as archivist at the Whitesbog Preservation Trust in Browns Mills, New Jersey, in the New Jersey Pine Barrens. In that role, she worked to preserve and interpret the history of Whitesbog Village, with a particular focus on the life and legacy of Elizabeth Coleman White, the pioneering horticulturist known as the “Blueberry Queen.”

## Garment Workers of South Jersey

### *Nine Oral Histories*

“So, every piece of garment had a little ticket on it, which had a lot number on it and an amount of each bundle. Everything was called a bundle, tied up. And then we would bring all our tickets home and every Sunday night, I would do homework, with a pencil and paper, and total up how many I did, and then Monday morning you would bring your time sheet in.”  
(21)



For much of the twentieth century, the garment industry was a vital part of South Jersey’s economy. This collection of oral histories brings that world to life through the voices of those who lived it. Interviews with nine former garment workers and their family members, most of whom worked in the Town of Hammonton, reveal the daily realities of factory work alongside the demands of home and family. Their stories highlight the skill, pride, and resilience of craftspeople who found meaning in both their labor and the lives they built. With an introduction by Patricia Martinelli.

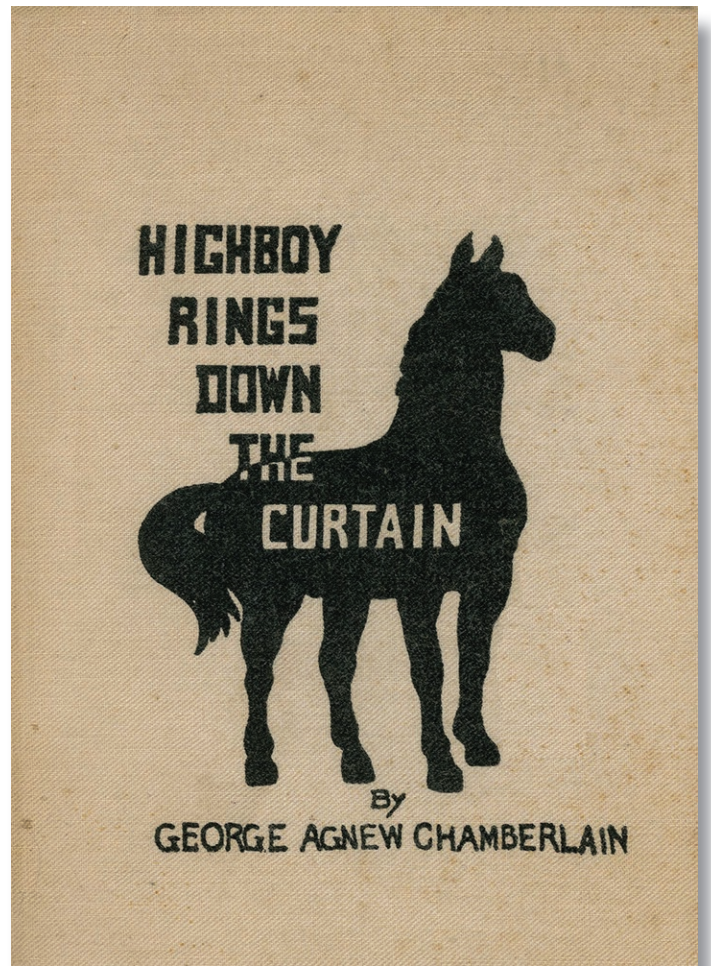
9780988873186, paperback. \$12.95  
85 pages, 6 x 9

# Literature

# Highboy Rings Down the Curtain

George Agnew Chamberlain

“The mere sight of pastern, gaskin or hock, withers or buttock, was enough for him to reconstruct an entire tragedy. It was as he had foreseen. No glimmer of hope came to light his eyes which were rapidly turning glassy with despair. As he was leaving the gate, however, a form, silhouetted against the evening sky on a near-by knoll, drew his attention only to throw him into a rage.” (9)



*Highboy Rings Down the Curtain* was George Agnew Chamberlain’s first story set in South Jersey. Originally published in *The Saturday Evening Post* in December 1922, it was later republished in expanded form by the *Bridgeton Evening News* in a limited edition of 300 copies. Despite its short length, the story proved popular and was included in several notable anthologies, including *The Sporting Spirit* (1925), *Hosses: An Anthology of Short Stories* (1937), *New Stories for Men* (1941 and 1943), and *Great Horse Stories* (1946).

George Agnew Chamberlain (1879–1966) was a prolific American author and diplomat with deep ties to South Jersey. Born in São Paulo, Brazil, to missionary parents, he came to the United States in 1891 and attended Lawrenceville School and Princeton University. After teaching and working in Brazil, he joined the U.S. consular service, serving in Brazil, Portuguese East Africa, and Mexico. He resigned in 1919 to write full time. From the 1920s until his death, Chamberlain lived in Salem County, New Jersey, where he purchased Lloyd’s Landing on Alloways Creek. There he wrote extensively about the people and landscapes of the region he called the Barrens.

Encouraged by local historian Jim Bergmann, the South Jersey Culture & History Center is republishing Chamberlain’s works as they enter the public domain. Bergmann’s extensive research papers on Chamberlain are being donated to Stockton University’s Special Collections.

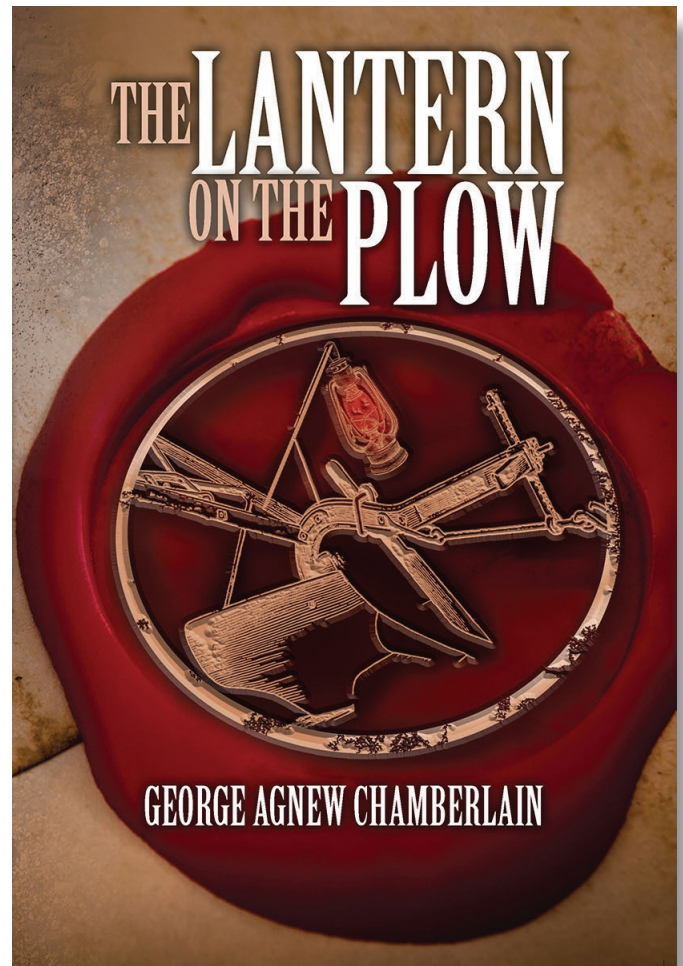
9781947889170, paperback. \$8.95  
47 pages, 5.5 x 7.5

## The Lantern on the Plow

George Agnew Chamberlain

“A tall spar of the rock upon which she stood, loosened by the seepage of the buried spring, leaned slowly outward, leaving a widening gap behind it. With her head twisted sharply on her shoulders, she saw that she was already too late. For an instant her eyes met Colter’s.

“Bob,” she gulped, ‘I fear no stars.’” (285)



George Agnew Chamberlain was a prolific and successful American novelist during the first half of the twentieth century. He authored dozens of books, seven of which were adapted into motion pictures. In *The Lantern on the Plow*, set in the rural landscape of southern New Jersey, Chamberlain follows the Sherborne family as they confront the challenges of a changing agricultural world. Through hardship, resilience, and quiet determination, the family’s story unfolds with both struggle and hard-won triumph. A compelling portrait of endurance and adaptation in a time of transformation.

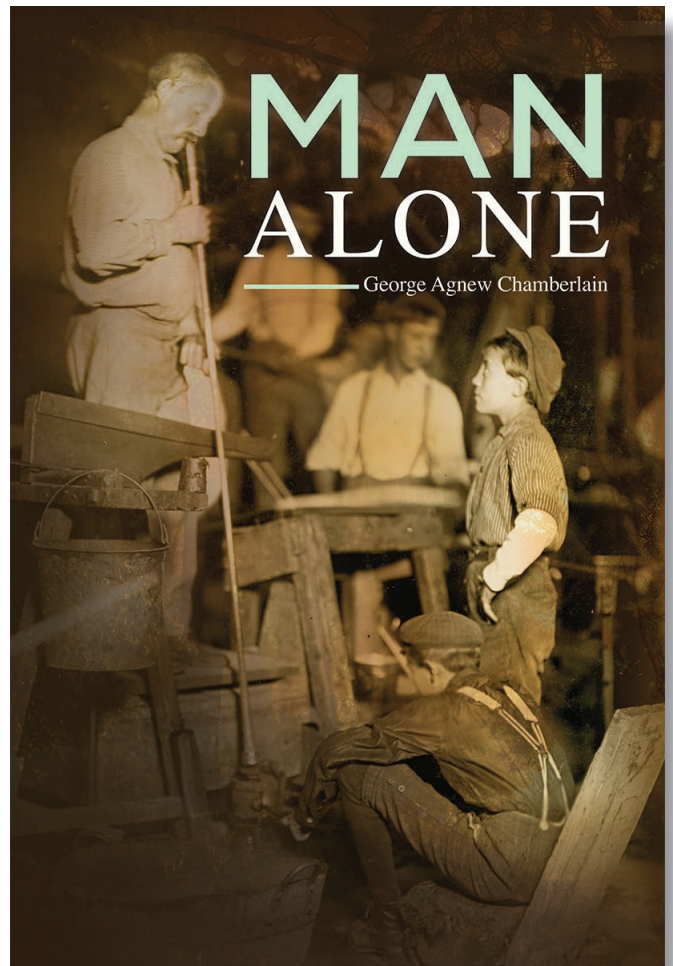
This SJCHC republication of Chamberlain’s second novel set in southern New Jersey includes a new foreword by Jim Bergmann.

9781947889194, paperback. \$19.95  
338 pages, 6 x 9

## Man Alone

George Agnew Chamberlain

“Confused by the clatter of the train, the man never thought to look up at the window. Thinking it was the engine driver who had called him, he became greatly excited and almost fell from his precarious perch in his efforts to meet an emergency for which his signal code made no provision; finally he pulled his rope violently. Far up the track Torquay saw the train come to a halt.” (35)



In George Agnew Chamberlain’s novel *Man Alone*, Thomas Strayton arrives in South Jersey carrying his young son, Torquay, on his shoulders. They have walked from northern New Jersey to begin a new life in Hopetown, a fictional stand-in for Bridgeton and its glassmaking industry. Bitter and disillusioned after his wife left him for another man, Thomas teaches his son a harsh lesson by smashing an apple to reveal its “black core,” declaring, “these be women.” The belief that women are “rotten at the core” casts a long shadow over Torquay’s life, one he must eventually confront and overcome. Woven through this personal drama is a vivid portrayal of South Jersey’s famous glass industry during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

This SJCHC republication of Chamberlain’s third novel set in southern New Jersey includes a new foreword by Jim Bergmann.

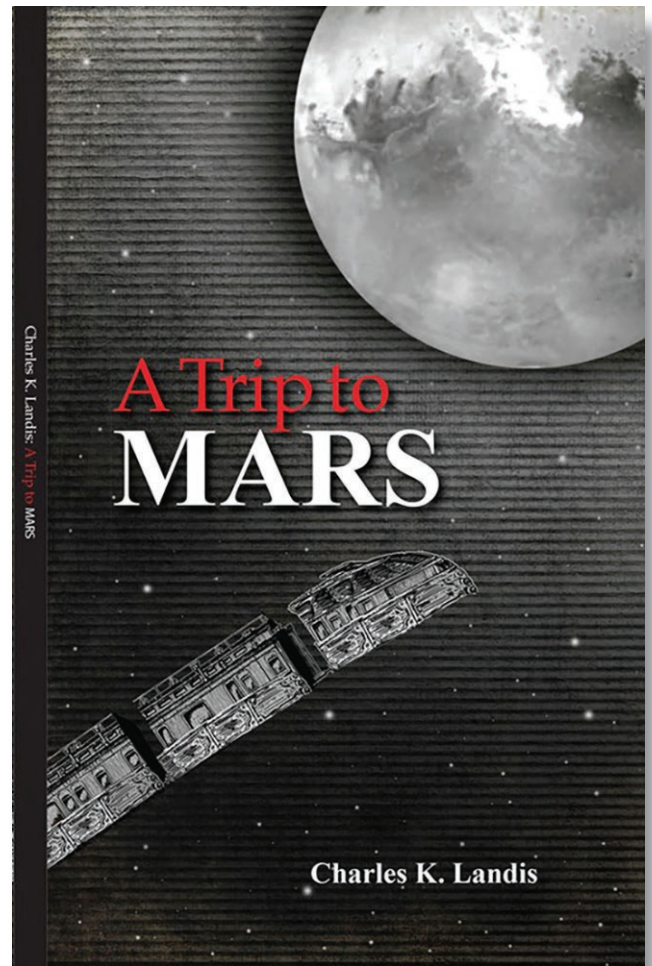
9781947889309, paperback. \$19.95  
231 pages, 6 x 9

## A Trip to Mars

Charles K. Landis

“It may be thought that by this time I should give the reader some account of the geography of the country into which we had fallen, and of the entire planet; also some account of the inhabitants, their manners and customs.

In truth, up to this time, we have known little or nothing. Our days and nights having been devoted to the study of the language and giving directions in the machine shops, and having up to this time been kept in comparative seclusion.” (77)



Charles K. Landis wrote this early work of science fiction around 1876 on an early typewriter. Blending thrilling adventure with pointed social commentary, the novel follows two intrepid travelers who journey to Mars. There, they explore its mysterious geography, confront terrifying monsters, and encounter an ancient Martian civilization whose wisdom offers lessons for a troubled Earth. Never before published, this rediscovered novel includes an introduction by Patricia Martinelli.

**Charles K. Landis** (1833–1900) was a visionary real estate developer and founder of Vineland and Sea Isle City in southern New Jersey. Born in Philadelphia and educated as a lawyer, he purchased large tracts of undeveloped land and transformed them into planned agricultural communities. A strong advocate of temperance, Landis imposed strict prohibitions on alcohol sales in the towns he founded. His ambitious vision helped shape the economic and social landscape of South Jersey during the late nineteenth century.

9780988873155, paperback. \$14.95  
136 pages, 5 x 8

## The Still Brothers

The South Jersey Culture & History Center is proud to partner with the Dr. James Still Historic Office Site and Education Center to republish titles about Dr. James Still and his family. Together, we aim to produce high-quality, affordable editions that make these important stories accessible to the public. Located in Medford, New Jersey, the Center preserves the legacy of Dr. Still—known as “The Black Doctor of the Pines”—by restoring his historic office, offering educational programs and tours, and conducting archaeological research.

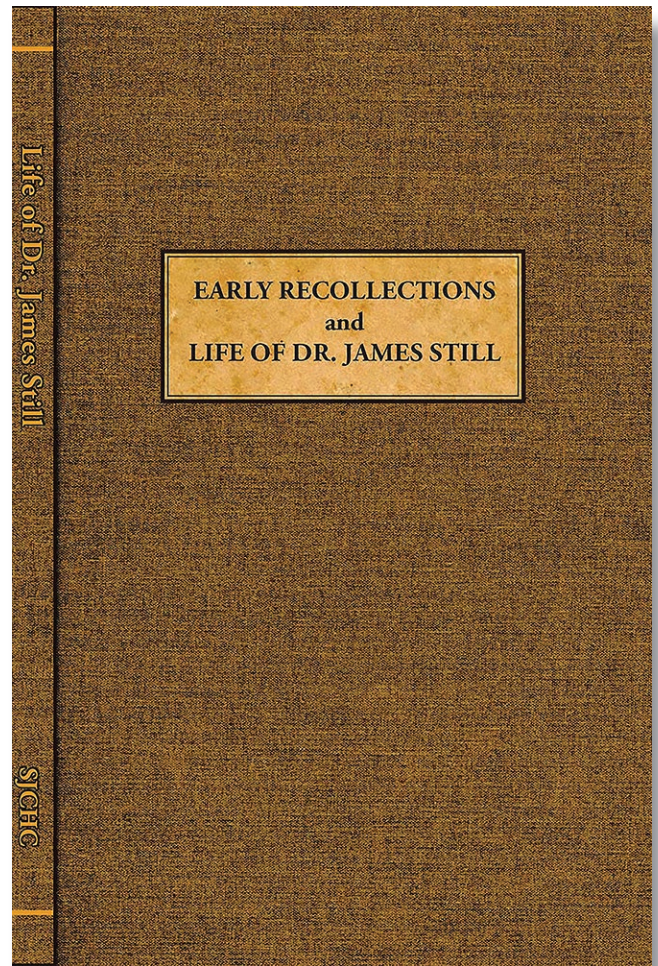
# Early Recollections and Life of Dr. James Still

James Still

“One of the daughters of this neighbor developed scrofula, and he had me visit her. I gave her medicine which soon cured her. I thought it no great thing, for it always seemed to me that all diseases were curable, and I wondered why the doctors did not cure them.” (43)

James Still (1812–1882) was a pioneering African American physician in nineteenth-century South Jersey. Born in Washington Township (now Shamong) to parents who had been enslaved, Still received little formal schooling yet taught himself medicine through dedicated study and practice. Despite facing poverty and racial prejudice, he built a large and successful medical practice, becoming one of the wealthiest men in the region. First published in 1877, his autobiography offers a powerful and inspiring account of self-determination, resilience, and faith.

9780988873162, paperback. \$14.95  
220 pages, 5 x 8



## William Still

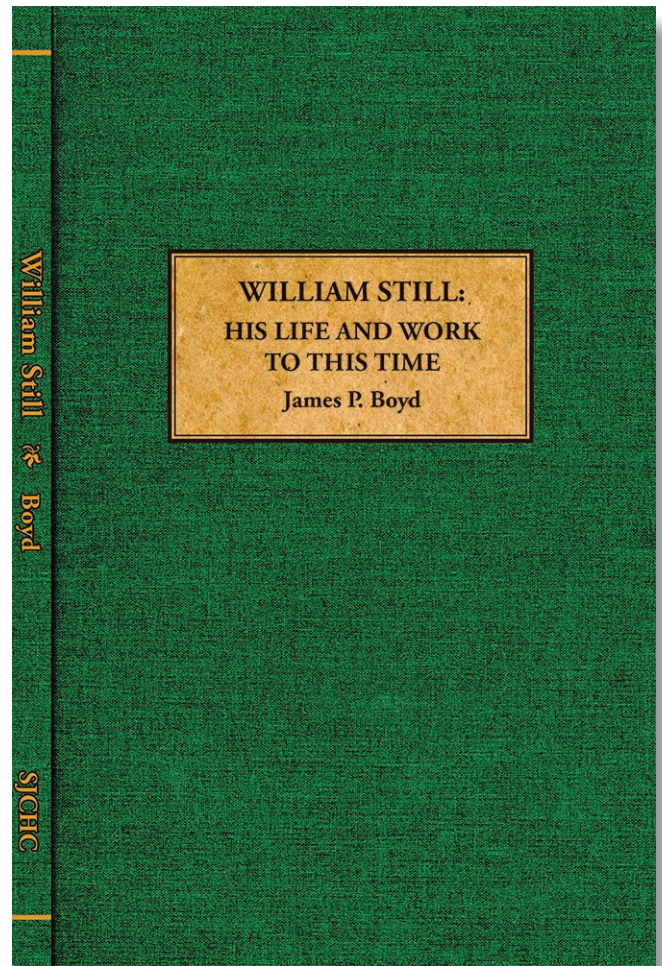
### *His Life and Work to this Time*

James P. Boyd

“The judge’s decision and the ‘rules’ have harassed me every moment since. I try to think of cannibals in heathen lands and traitors in the South, and wrongs generally, but it is all to no purpose; this car inhumanity sticks to me.” (108)

William Still, the younger brother of Dr. James Still, became known as the “Father of the Underground Railroad” for his tireless work assisting thousands of fugitive enslaved people and documenting their stories. This volume brings together James P. Boyd’s 1886 biography of William Still with selected excerpts from Still’s own landmark book, *The Underground Rail Road*, first published in 1872.

978099769954, paperback. \$14.95  
211 pages, 5 x 8



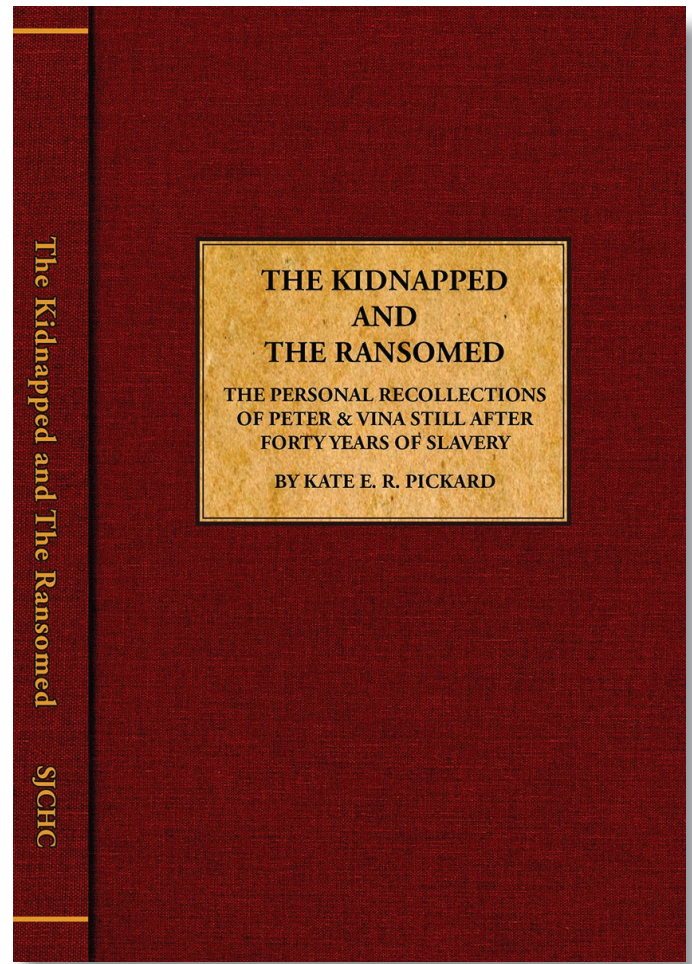
# The Kidnapped and The Ransomed

Kate E. R. Pickard

“Mr. Friedman,” said he, “I’ve got something I want to tell you, but it’s a great secret.”

“Well, Peter——”

“I’ve been a thinkin’ sir, I’d like to buy myself; and you’ve always dealt so fa’r with me, I didn’t know but you mought buy me, and then give me a chance.” (222)

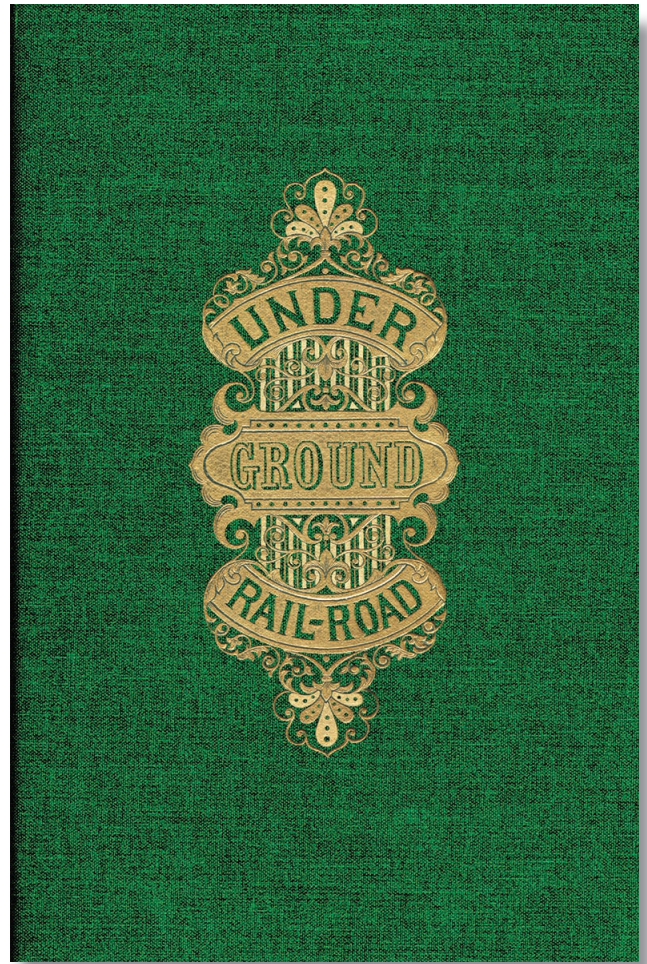


Subtitled “The Personal Recollections of Peter & Vina Still After Forty Years of Slavery,” this biography, first published in 1856, tells the powerful story of Peter Still, the older brother of James and William Still. Enslaved from birth, Peter eventually purchased his freedom and that of his family. His life, marked by hardship and quiet perseverance, stands as a moving testament to the resilience of the Still family and to the broader strength of African Americans during the era of slavery.

9781947889804, index paperback. \$18.95  
462 pages, 5 x 8

# The Underground Rail Road

William Still



William Still's *The Underground Rail Road* is filled with daring adventures and powerful true stories. These gripping accounts read like nineteenth-century spy novels, except they are real narratives drawn from one of the darkest chapters in American history. While Still's main goal in publishing them was to help families reunite after slavery ended, the stories also reveal the courage, intelligence, and resourcefulness of those who risked everything to escape bondage. Readers are introduced to Still's fellow Underground Railroad workers—conductors and operatives who helped guide people to freedom. These firsthand accounts offer a deeper understanding of what the enslaved endured and the extraordinary lengths they went to in pursuit of liberty.

SJCHC's republication of *The Underground Rail Road*, fully reset (not a facsimile), will be published in two volumes later this year.

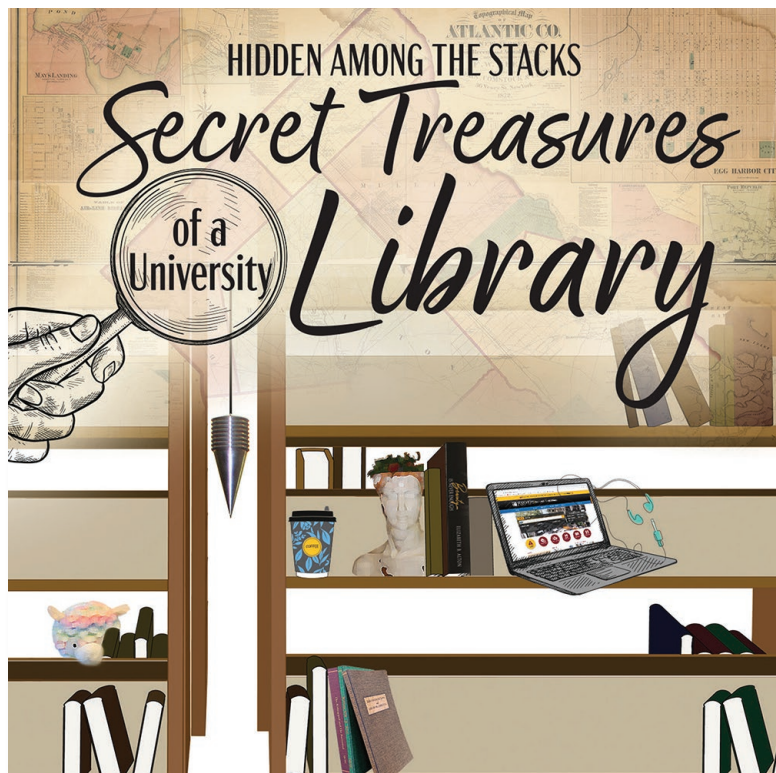
9781947889163, paperback. \$32.95  
842 pages, 5 x 8

# Stockton

Titles related to the history of Stockton University.

## Hidden Among the Stacks *Secret Treasures of a University Library*

“My task was straightforward enough: peruse Special Collections, search for a story or thread within the collection of my choice, and tease out a short documentary from there. Given my previous involvement with *Stockpot Literary Magazine* and *The Argo*, ever-insatiable hunger for feminist epistemologies, and penchant for all things ’70s (I write, as I gaze on the Ziggy Stardust shrine in my bedroom), it only seemed natural to see what *Heracane* and *Spirit of ’48*—Stockton State College’s Second-Wave feminist student publications—had to offer.” (22)



Step inside the Richard E. Bjork Library, the heart of Stockton University. This book captures a library in transformation—both in its physical space and its academic role. While much of the world moves digital, these pages gather essays, interviews, and historic images to document a pivotal moment. Like the Pine Barrens renewing itself each spring, the library is re-emerging with fresh purpose and deeper roots. Through staff voices and rare materials from Special Collections, this volume offers a vivid portrait of where the library has been and where it’s headed.

This is the work of many hands. Most contributors took part in the Senior Seminar in Literature taught by Tom Kinsella during spring 2024. You will find our work divided into short essays on notable South Jersey publications, interviews with library staff, and introductions to rare materials from Special Collections.

“Often when things are wiped clean with a new veneer, we lose the echoes of those who had been here before us. My hope is that they and their memories, what they gave to the library, will live on.”

Jaimelyn Lombardo, Resources Coordinator

“I had this feeling that when you walk into a job you should feel like, ‘Yes, I belong here and it is home,’ and that is what I felt when I came to Stockton to work as a Librarian.”

Cheyenne Riehl, Student Success Librarian

9781947889262, illustrated, index, paperback. \$29.95  
200 pages, 8 x 8

## Blogging 40

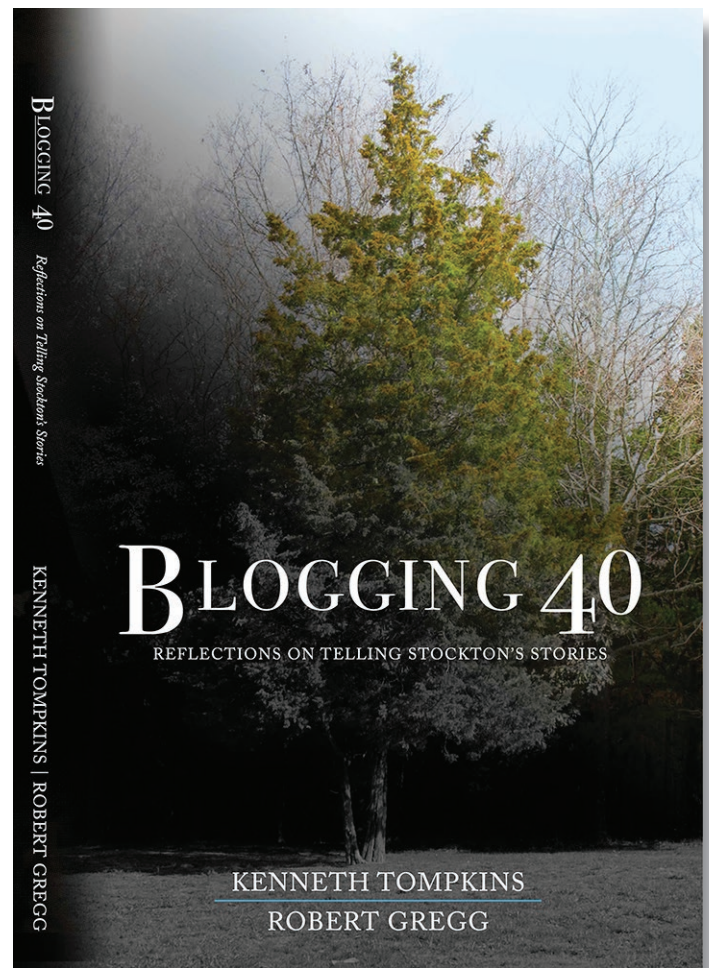
### *Reflections on Telling Stockton's Stories*

Kenneth Tompkins and Robert Gregg

“Wes Tilley’s ‘Examination of the Goals of Stockton College’ is a curious piece, but one of great magnitude, I believe, to Stockton. Tilley penned the 73-page manifesto in the Summer of 1973, in the immediate aftermath of having been fired by President Bjork from his position as the founding vice-president for academic affairs at the college.” (101)

This collection brings together forty-four essays that chronicle the creation of *Reaching 40* (2011), a comprehensive history of Stockton University. Written by the project’s authors, these pieces offer an inside look at the research and writing process. Originally published as blog posts, each essay explores a specific challenge or question the team faced while piecing together the institution’s story—from navigating archives and uncovering overlooked narratives to making difficult choices about what to include. Together, they provide a candid and thoughtful reflection on the craft of institutional history.

9781947889927, paperback. \$14.95  
226 pages, 5 x 8



**Kenneth Tompkins** served as the first Dean of General Studies at Stockton University. A key figure in the university’s early development, he helped shape its distinctive interdisciplinary curriculum and academic identity. Tompkins has written extensively on Stockton’s history and continues to contribute to the preservation and interpretation of the institution’s founding vision and values.

**Robert Gregg** is a historian and former Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities and of General Studies at Stockton University. Gregg has written widely on American and Atlantic history, with a particular interest in race, migration, and the development of higher education.

*SoJourn*



# SoJourn 2025

A journal devoted to the history, culture, and geography of South Jersey



## SoJourn

A journal devoted to the history, culture,  
and geography of South Jersey

## SoJourn Issues

From 2016 through 2021, SoJourn was published twice yearly, with issues containing approximately 10 articles and 100 pages. These earlier issues sell for \$18.00. Since 2022, expanded issues, with 15 to 16 articles and around 165 pages, are published yearly; the cost is \$24.00.

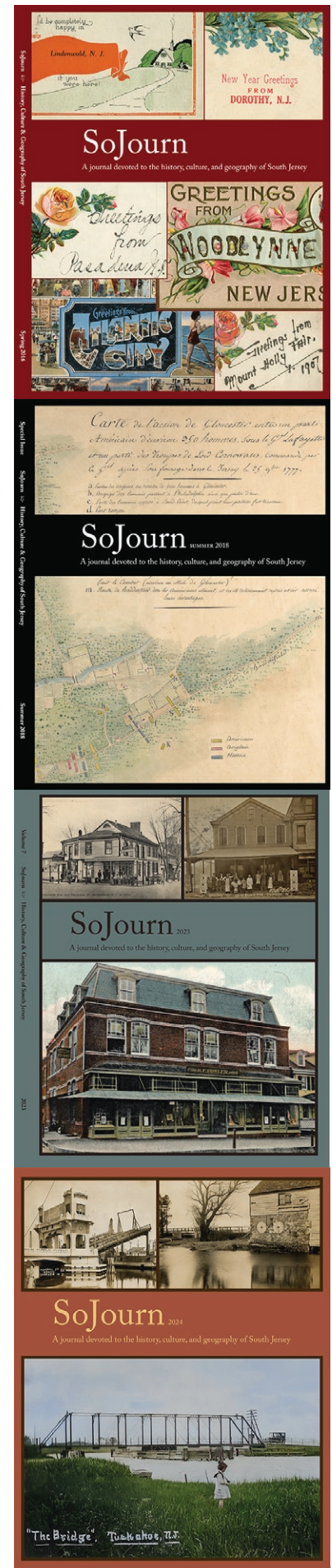
When the South Jersey Culture & History Center gained solid footing more than a decade ago, longtime South Jersey historian and Assistant Director Paul W. Schopp proposed launching a journal devoted to the region's history and culture. He pointed to the earlier *South Jersey Magazine*, edited by Shirley Bailey, as a model worth reviving. Drawing inspiration from the *Foxfire* books—in which students documented Appalachian traditions through interviews with elders—we envisioned a similar effort for South Jersey. By engaging local historians and involving Stockton students in research and editing, we have created a publication dedicated to preserving and sharing the stories of southern New Jersey. To date, the journal has published more than 1,700 pages focused on the eight southernmost counties of the state.

*SoJourn* balances scholarly research with accessible storytelling, documenting both well-known events and overlooked aspects of South Jersey's past and present. It covers a remarkably wide range of topics related to the history, culture, and environment of southern New Jersey.

The journal regularly features pieces on the American Revolution, such as “When Mad Anthony Came to South Jersey” and “Battle of Turtle Gut Inlet,” alongside stories of later conflicts like “Last Line of Defense: The Lumberton Nike Missile Base” and “The Great War and the Jersey Shore.” Industrial and economic history appears in articles like “Shinplasters: Economic Remnants of New Jersey’s Glass Industry” and “Manufacturing from Menhaden,” while environmental topics range from “Ghost Forests in the Mullica Valley: Indicators of Sea-Level Rise” and “The Unnatural History of South Jersey Lagoons” to wildfire studies and wildlife research on horseshoe crabs and red knots.

Cultural and folkloric subjects are also well represented, including “Strange Tracks: The Whitesbog Jersey Devil Hoax,” “Mysteries of the Tuckerton Mound,” and “Jarrad, Last of the Pineys.” Personal and community stories, such as “Where Blackberries Grew: Margaret Mead in Hammonton” and dramatic maritime accounts like “When the Gales of November Come Early,” further demonstrate the journal's blend of scholarly research and engaging storytelling. Together, these articles reveal both the depth and diversity of South Jersey's past.

Find a complete list of *SoJourn* articles here:  
[stockton.edu/sjhc/publications/sojourn1.html](http://stockton.edu/sjhc/publications/sojourn1.html)



*Bjork Library,  
Special Collections*



**Bjork Library Special Collections**  
at Stockton University  
*a new look*

Architectural rendering of the planned reading room for Stockton's Special Collections, opening in September 2026.

Since the summer of 2024, Stockton University's Richard E. Bjork Library has been undergoing a \$19.5 million renovation, scheduled for completion in September 2026—just in time for the new academic year. Special Collections, previously located on the lower level, will reopen on the top floor, near Stockton's Holocaust Resource Center and the Constantelos Hellenic Reading Room.

The renovated space will feature expanded and improved preservation stacks to house our growing collections, along with a new classroom-sized reading room that will offer better access for students and community members. The new location will significantly strengthen our ability to preserve and provide access to the history of southern New Jersey.

Special Collections holds a wide range of materials, including books, manuscripts, pamphlets, maps, photographs, audio and visual recordings, and more. Our

holdings include the Alliance Colony Heritage Collection, the Atlantic Blueberry Company Records, the Buzby's Chatsworth General Store Collection, the David C. Munn Collection, the William W. Leap Collection of South Jersey History, and the Stockton University Archives, among many, many others.

Special Collections actively seeks new collections that support research and reflect the diversity of Stockton University and the broader South Jersey community. Gifts that enhance the intellectual and historical value of our holdings are always welcome.

Special Collections hours are by appointment only, Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Exceptions are welcomed if arranged in advance. Email or call Special Collections curator Heather Perez.

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For more than a decade, the SJCHC directors have mentored Stockton interns in the essential skills of scholarly publishing, including editing, typography, and design. Through hands-on work with soon-to-be released titles, students gain valuable professional experience. Their careful attention to detail and fresh perspectives shape and refine our publications. We would not run our local history press successfully without them.

Most titles are available from Second Time Books in Mount Laurel, New Jersey, select local book stores, Amazon.com, and Barnes & Noble online. All texts are available directly through SJCHC.

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South Jersey Culture & History Center

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