

## **A Journey Down Penfield Road: Part Three by Jay Taber and Friends**

***Part Three:*** Jay continues his narrative from the May newsletter and heads west on Walworth-Penfield Road. If anyone can add other names and dates to the story let us know.

NOTE: House numbers throughout Wayne County were changed in the mid 1970's for simplification and emergency response purposes. The numbers in parentheses are the original numbers that are no longer used. The road was originally called Rochester Road.

**Right of Way/Teresa Drive/Orchard View Estates:** In 2004 the right of way between #2151/53 and #2139 became Teresa Drive, one of the entrances to Orchard View Estates subdivision which is being developed on property formerly owned by George and Carrie Wignall.

**2139 – (44):** The house was originally located at #2119. It was moved here when George and Carrie purchased acreage and the house in 1905, and decided to build their home on the site. Before the sidewalks were redone, cracks were visible in the concrete from the move.

It was home to Bill and Jenny VanLare and daughter Cornelia; Bill worked for George Wignall. From May 1955 until May 1956, Mary Jane Cauwels and her new husband, Arnold Devlin, rented the house for a year.

Later it was home to Leon and Violet Skorinko and their three daughters, JoEllen, Cindy, and Celia. (Note: The Skorinkos later asked Harold and Richard Schultz to build them a raised ranch at #2097; they lived there for several years.)

Warren and Sandy Fernaays, and children Tara and Norman purchased it in the early 1970's. It remained in the Fernaays family until June 1999, when it was sold to Doug Tierson.

**2129 – (50):** Bob and Bertha Wignall lived in the next house since I can remember. They were married in July 1920. The house was built in 1922 for them as a wedding gift and they lived with George and Carrie (Bob's uncle and aunt) next door at #2119 while it was under construction. Records show that George and Carrie conveyed this property to Bob and Bertha on March 10, 1952.

Bob and Bertha had two children – Janice Wignall Mitchell and Robert L. In the mid-50's Bob and Bertha moved back into "the big house" to care for George and Carrie, and they rented their home to Howard and Hazel Jeffery and later three young men.

Ed and Mary Simpson and their girls – Jean and Barbara – also lived there. They moved to 28 Church Street in July 1964 after the deaths of the senior Wignalls, and Robert and Bertha returned to #2129. Robert died in 1981 and the following year current owners Dave and Martha Lynch purchased the property from his widow. Their children, Joanna, Adam, and Elizabeth, were raised there.

**2119 – (56):** George and Carrie Wignall purchased approximately 150 acres on both sides of Penfield Road in 1905, and completed construction of their home in 1910.

Much of the area to the north was planted with apple trees. A dry house and coopering shed (where barrels were made to transport the fruit to market) were built in this area. Many area residents worked on the fruit farm during harvest season.

After their deaths, a three-day auction was held to dispose of all household and farm equipment. The property was sold September 1964 to Harold and Helen Schultz and their three children, Wayne, Diane, and Kevin; they previously lived around the corner at 28 Church Street.

In July 1975, Harold and Helen sold the house and acreage on the north side of the road to George and Sara Heller and their children – Anne Marie, Jennifer, Kevin, and Vicki – of 32 Orchard Street. The Hellers sold 14.42 acres in 1998 to Peter Duda of Trident Development. They later sold the remaining acreage to Phil

Nothnagle, who re-sold it in September 2002 to Orchard View Development, LLC, consisting of Peter, Tony Evans and Roman Dopilka.

In September 1991 the Hellers sold the house to its current owners, Sonny and Dorothy French.



**2139 Penfield Road**



**2129 Penfield Road**



**2119 Penfield Road**

Our trip now crosses Penfield Road and we return east.

**2100 - (61):** Across the road from #2119 is #2100. The land from the east of the professional building to Church Street was part of the Wignall farm and planted as sweet cherry and apple orchards for many years.

In early 1971, 14 acres were purchased from Harold Schultz by Robert J. Stanton, Esquire, and Thomas C. Stevens, D.D.S. On a portion of that land the Walworth Professional Building was erected and opened for business on November 1, 1971.

Original occupants of the building were: 1) Law office of Robert J. Stanton, Esquire, 2) Dental office of Thomas C. Stevens, D.D.S., 3) Walworth Insurance Agency owned by Ronald Buyck, and 4) Walker Realty owned by Gordon Walker.

On the upper floor, the law office owned by Robert Stanton had several associates over the years including Earl Ledden, Jay Walsh, Wayne VanDerByl and Christopher Mumford. Chris eventually purchased the practice and operated it there until he moved his office to Ontario. At various times the space has been occupied by Sterling Realty, Out Serv, McDonald/Albrecht Counseling, and Abundant Heart Home Care.

The dental office in the south end of the upper level is still occupied by Dr. Stevens, who purchased the building in 1985.

The north end of the lower level was occupied by Walworth Insurance Agency for 29 years and is presently occupied by attorney Denise Munson, Esquire. The south end of the building was initially occupied by Walworth Medical Futures, a group formed by local citizens to encourage a physician to practice in the town. Through the U.S. Public Health Service, Gary Lamphere, M.D., and Mark Goldstein, M.D., were here for two-year periods and then the practice was sold to Martin Jenzer, M.D., who was here for 8 years.

The practice was then sold to Dr. Dufner and a group of physicians from Newark Wayne Hospital. For the last ten years, the space has been rented by Beth Platt Associates, a medical billing agency. Other occupants of the lower level over the years have been Al Kaper Builder, Maritz Motivational Co., and Russell C. Campbell Co.

Stanton and Stevens sold 2.9 acres of the back portion with frontage on Church Street, to the Walworth Fire Dept. in 1973 for construction of a new firehouse.

The remainder of the land between the professional building and the gas station was sold to Roman Dopilka of Connecticut in 2003. He also co-owns the area being developed on the north side of the road as Orchard View Estates.

**2166:** When we moved here there was a vacant lot at the corner of Penfield Road and Church Street. On May 14, 1969 Harold and Richard Schultz sold the property to Seaway Stations to be used for a gas station. Seaway later merged with United Refining of Warren, PA, who operates it as a Kwik Fill/Red Apple gas station/convenience store.

*To be continued*



**2100 Penfield Road**



**The Walworth Fire Department**



**2166 Penfield Road**