

SKINNER FAMILY CHEAT SHEET:

Children of Richard Skinner Jr. [1823-1908] and Elizabeth Ann Corson [1828-1896]:

- I. William Henry 'Harry' Skinner [1846-1935, Age 88] - Mary Elizabeth 'Lizzie' Sparks [1851-1926, Age 75]
 - A. Ursula Skinner [1873-1965, Age 91] - Horace Hammell Thoman [1871-1925, Age 53]
 1. Ralph Hammell Thoman [1895-1965] - Marie Allison Maitland [1891-1967]
 2. Marion Elizabeth Thoman [1902-] - Arthur Abercrombie Smith [1903-1977]
 - B. George 'Warren' Skinner [1877-1970, Age 93] - Viola 'May' Cawley [1875-1963, Age 87], adopted (raised) by Mary S. Dare and husband Joseph Leap
 1. Harry 'Earl' Skinner [1901-1990, Age 88] - Lillian Showalter [1903-1996, Age 92]
 2. Mary 'Gladys' Skinner [1909-1994, Age 85] - William Campbell Hughlett [1908-2003, Age 95]
 - C. Lora Skinner [1879-1957, Age 77] - Charles Corson Sheppard [1882-1957, Age 74]
 1. Charles Francis Sheppard [1906-199_] - Sarah Helen Adams [1905-]
 - D. Omar Skinner [1882-1886, Age 3]
 - E. Elizabeth Rice Skinner [1887-1975, Age 88] - Franklin Marsden Ungerbuehler [1884-1960, Age 76]
 1. Marsden Ungerbuehler [1910-?] - Evelyn ____ []
 2. Ben C Ungerbuehler [1912-1993, Age 81]
 - F. Franklin Skinner – died infancy
 - G. Tubor Skinner – died infancy
- II. Mary Swope Skinner [1848-1868] - Isaac King [1848-1872]
 - A. Charles King []
- III. Anna Frances Skinner [1849-1937] - Arthur Richmond Henry [1846-1899]
 - A. Melvin King Henry [1870-] - Margaret Van Horne [] No Issue
 - B. Estelle Henry [1872-1874]
 - C. Forest Richard Henry [1875-1911] - Lillie May Chew [1880-1962]
 - D. Alvernon Cooper Henry [1878-1957] - Lillie Van Dusen Taylor [1880-1958]
 - E. Elizabeth Skinner Henry [1881-1964] - Howard Meridith Walton [1881-1969]
 1. Irma Elizabeth Walton [1905-] – (h1) Walter Wilson Stevens [1902-]
 1. Irma Elizabeth Walton [1905-] – (h2) George Wolfe Welshko [1909-]
 2. Ruth Walton [1906-]
 - F. William Curtis Henry [1884-] - Catherine Colebaugh [-1918, Age 32]
 - G. Ethyl Henry [1887-] - William Henry Burgin []
- IV. Ella Corson Skinner [1851-1919] - Millard F Lloyd []
- V. Mizeal Corson Skinner [1855-1856]
- VI. Ida May Skinner [1856-1934] - Charles Henry Locke [1851-1922]
- VII. Florinda May Skinner [1861 Or 1862-1938] - Louis Napoleon Shreve [1861-19_]
 - A. Blande R Shreve [1882-1956] - Flora Long [1881-1959]
 1. Thelma Shreve [1904-1972] – August Rehm [1900-1974]
 2. Blande Shreve Jr. [b. 1919]
 - B. Bessie May Shreve [1888-1927] - John Roy Doughty []
 1. John Roy Doughty Jr. []
 - C. Beatrice Shreve [1900-] – (h1) Russell Kengle and (h2) George T Johnson

William Harrison⁴ Skinner (Richard Jr.³, Richard Sr.², John¹):

WILLIAM HARRISON SKINNER ("Harry")

Son of Richard Skinner, Jr. and Elizabeth Ann Corson

b. Aug 16, 1846 Harrison Twp., Glou. Co., NJ [KDS note - 1847 per the 1900 census]
 d. April 5, 1935, age 88, at home of daughter Elizabeth Ungerbuehler, Wilmington, DE
 Buried Manahath Cem., Glassboro, NJ (pub. 4/10/1935, Wood. Const., Woodbury, NJ)
 m. Dec 21, 1871 Gloucester City, NJ by Rev. Henry Reeves (pub. Wood. Const. 1/17/1872)

William H. Skinner, died April 5, 1935; Will dated Apr 6, 1927; Probated May 18, 1935, Vol. W, p195: wife - not mentioned; children: Ursula Thoman, George Warren Skinner, Laura Sheppard (Lora), Elizabeth Ungerbuehler; Executors - Ursula Thoman, George Warren Skinner

w. MARY ELIZABETH SPARKS ("Lizzie")

Daughter of Robert C. Sparks and Mary Rice of Gloucester City, NJ

Robert Sparks was a Glassboro builder. [HES]

b. July 29, 1851 [KDS note – July, 1850 per the 1850 census.]
 d. Oct 19, 1926 at home, Main St., Glassboro, NJ, buried Manahath Cem. 10/25/1926
 (pub. Wood. Const., 10/27/1926)

CHILDREN:

1. URSULA A. SKINNER

b. Dec 7, 1873 Glassboro, NJ
 d. Jan 23, 1965 **age 91**, Woodbury, NJ, buried Manahath Cem., Glassboro, NJ
 (pub. Woodbury Times, 1/28/1965) Davis, F. D.
 m. July 10, 1893 Monday evening at the residence of the bride's father, William Skinner
 (pub. Glou. Co. Dem., Glassboro News 7/13/1893)

h. HORACE HAMMEL THOMAN, son of Frederick G____ Thoman and Matilda Ann Thompson

b. Aug 12, 1871 Glassboro, NJ

d. Aug 5, 1925 Woodbury, NJ, buried Manahath Cem., L. N. Shreve, F.D.

2. GEORGE WARREN SKINNER

b. Feb 8, 1877 Glassboro, NJ
 d. Aug 22, 1970 **age 93**, Sanibel Island, FL, buried Manahath Cem.
 m. 1900 per Philadelphia records [KDS]

w. VIOLA MAY LEAP adopted dau. of Mary S. Dare and Joseph Leap

b. May 19, 1875

d. Jan 1, 1963 **age 87**, Camden, NJ, Lady of Lourdes Hosp., buried Manahath Cem.

3. LORA (ELLORA) SKINNER

b. Nov 25, 1879 Glassboro, NJ

d. Mar 24, 1957 Elmer, NJ, buried Wilmington, DE

m. Jun 14, 1905, Wed. Evening at home of bride, Glassboro, NJ
by Rev. S.M. Nichols (pub. Glou. Co. Dem. 6/22/1905)

h. CHARLES CORSON SHEPPARD, of Wilmington, DE

b. Jul 18, 1882 Quinton, [Salem Co.] NJ

d. Mar 24, 1957 Elmer, NJ, both killed in same auto accident, buried Wilmington, DE
Charles Corson Sheppard was employed as a Railway Mail Clerk, living at
Wilmington, DE

[Per DES, their Packard pulled out from a stop sign in Elmer. Fast car broad sided &
killed both.]

Child:**Charles Francis Sheppard**

b. Jun 30, 1906 Wilmington, DE

Per records of the Glassboro Methodist Episcopal Church, baptized at home in June,
1907, indicating that his mother Lora still had Glassboro connections. [KDS]

d. living 1966 19 Perry Rd, Bloomfield, NJ

m. Jun 20, 1937 Accomack, Accomack Co., VA

w. Sarah Helen Adams

b. Oct 31, 1905 Gargotha, Accomack Co., VA

d. living 1966

child: Paul Adams Sheppard

Ref: Card file Room 202 Woodbury Court House, NJ

Mrs. Gladys Hughlett, 611 Orchard, Lansdowne, PA

Mrs. Elizabeth Ungerbuehler, 107 Gordy Place, New Castle, DE

Mrs. Helen Babcock Jacobus, 62 Fortieth St, Irvington, NJ 07111

4. OMAR SKINNER

b. Oct. 1882 Glassboro, NJ

d. May 11, 1886 age 3 years 7 months Glassboro, NJ, buried Manahath Cem. (pub.
Wood. Const. 6/2/1886; Jacob Iszard, M.D.)

Died of a fractured skull - fell and hit back of head [HES]

5. ELIZABETH RICE SKINNER

[HES – ‘Aunt Beth’]

b. Feb 25, 1887 Glassboro, NJ

living 1966

d. May, 1975 **age 88**

Last lived New Castle Township, New Castle Co., DE, zip 19720 [KDS per Social Security death records.]

m. May 16, 1908 Saturday by Rev. S. Lee Gaul, Methodist minister at the Methodist parsonage, 29th & York Sts., Phila., PA

h. FRANKLIN MARSDEN UNGERBUEHLER,

son of William Ungerbuehler and Amelia ____

b. Aug 28, 1884 [KDS per WWI & WWII draft registration cards.]

d. September 8, 1960 [Ungerbuehler family records]

Children:**1. Charles Marsden Ungerbuehler** ('Marsden')

b. May 6, 1910, Dorranceton, Wilkes Barre, PA [KDS, family bible record]

living 1966, 107 Gordy Place, Llangollen Estates, New Castle, DE

w. **Evelyn** ____

children: Marsden Jr. - twice married [HES]

Marsden Jr. was called Sonny, later Chuck and now Marsden [Dick Hughlett]

2. Benjamin Clair Ungerbuehler

b. Sep 1, 1912, Wilmington, DE [KDS, family bible record and Social Security death records.]

living 1966, Blue Rock Manor, North Wilmington, DE

d. Feb 1, 1993 [KDS per Social Security death records.]

w. **Dorothy** ____ ('Dot')

b. Aug 7, 1915 [KDS per Social Security death records.]

d. Dec., 1993 [KDS per Social Security death records.]

children: Richard, Jane - both married [HES]

Ref: Mrs. Elizabeth R. Skinner Ungerbuehler

6. FRANKLIN SKINNER - died in infancy**7. TUBOR SKINNER** - died in infancy

References for above:

Mrs. Elizabeth R. Skinner Ungerbuehler, 107 Gordy Place, Llangollen Estates, New Castle, DE

Mrs. Gladys Skinner Hughlett, 611 Orchard Way, Lansdowne, PA

Manahath Cemetery, Glassboro, NJ

Mr. Charles Francis Sheppard, 19 Perry Rd., Bloomfield, NJ

All of the above information per files of VEM dated 7/1/1976/VEM and 3/21/1966, except as noted otherwise within brackets [].

COMMENTARY:

Harry Skinner was born in 1846 and his wife Lizzie in 1851. Harry was the son of two generations of Skinners who had been active in the Methodist Church. Harry's grandfather, Richard Skinner Senior, was a farmer and one-time tavern-keeper who had become a devout religious convert. Richard Sr. went on to become a Methodist minister, serving rural congregations in Gloucester County, South Jersey. By the time of his death, he was a well-known and well-regarded Methodist Church Elder. His son, Richard Skinner Junior, graduated from a Methodist seminary but opted to become a school teacher. Richard Jr. still found time to be active in the Methodist Church – he was a class leader at the Richwood Methodist church and led the choir at the Glassboro Methodist Church. Richard taught singing lessons on the side as well.

Harry Skinner, son of schoolteacher Richard Jr., was also active in the Glassboro Methodist Church. A 1921 newspaper article commemorating the 50th wedding anniversary of Harry and wife Lizzie Skinner chronicled Harry's service to the church -

Tenor in the church choir for 40-plus years [family records say 55 years at death]
 Secretary of the Sunday School for 20 years
 Church librarian for 16 years,
 Church janitor for 15 years [his wife Lizzie did dusting there when younger].
 Steward of Communion for 12 years
 Active church membership for 59 years [going back to age 16 in 1862].

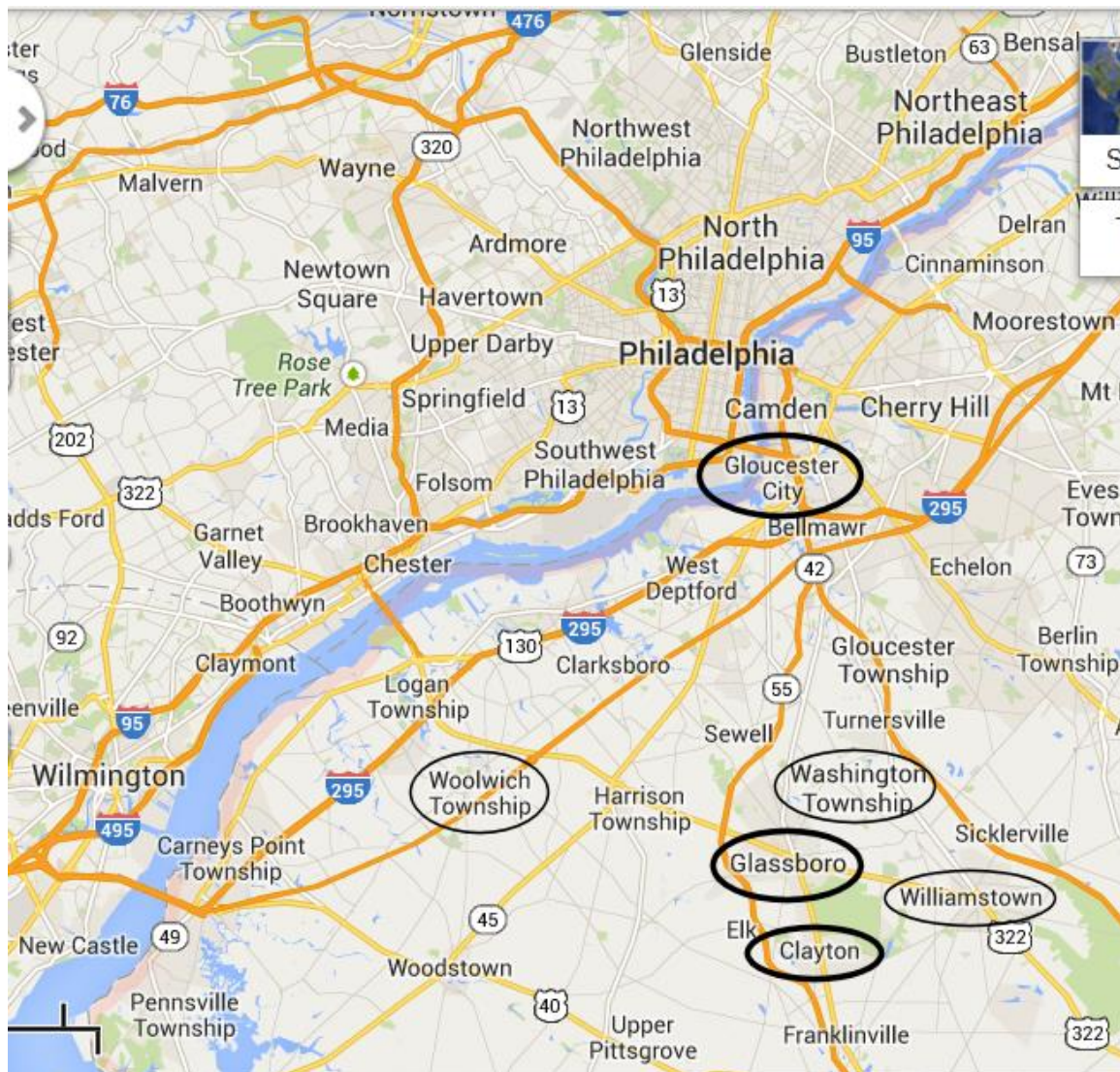
The Methodist religion was a dominant religion in South Jersey at the turn of the century. The town of Pitman Grove, close to the Skinner residence at Glassboro, had evolved from a Methodist summer camp in the 1880's.

The Glassboro Methodist Church, called the Methodist Episcopal Church at the time, was built 1855 and remained standing until 1976. The tall clock tower of the church was a Glassboro landmark. The church property, located on Academy Street, sat behind the home owned by Harry and Lizzie Skinner on Main Street in the first several decades of the 20th century. The home next door to the Skinners served as the church parsonage – the living quarters of successive Methodist ministers.

Harry Skinner

Harry Skinner grew up on his father's farm in Harrison Township (town of Richwood). This was land originally owned by Harry's great/grandparents, John Skinner and Patience Hanisey (or Hennessey), of the Revolutionary War era.

By the time of the **1870 census**, Harry's father had relocated the family from Richwood to nearby Clayton. Clayton, like neighboring Glassboro, was a rapidly growing glassblowing town that had grown from five homes in 1850 to 1500 persons in 1867. Harry, who turned age 24 in 1870, had moved out of his parent's home by that time of the 1870 census and was working as a laborer on the Clayton farm of the Iszard family. Harry had probably already met his future wife – Lizzie Sparks, whose family were also Clayton residents. Harry and Lizzie were married in 1871. He was age 25; She was 20.

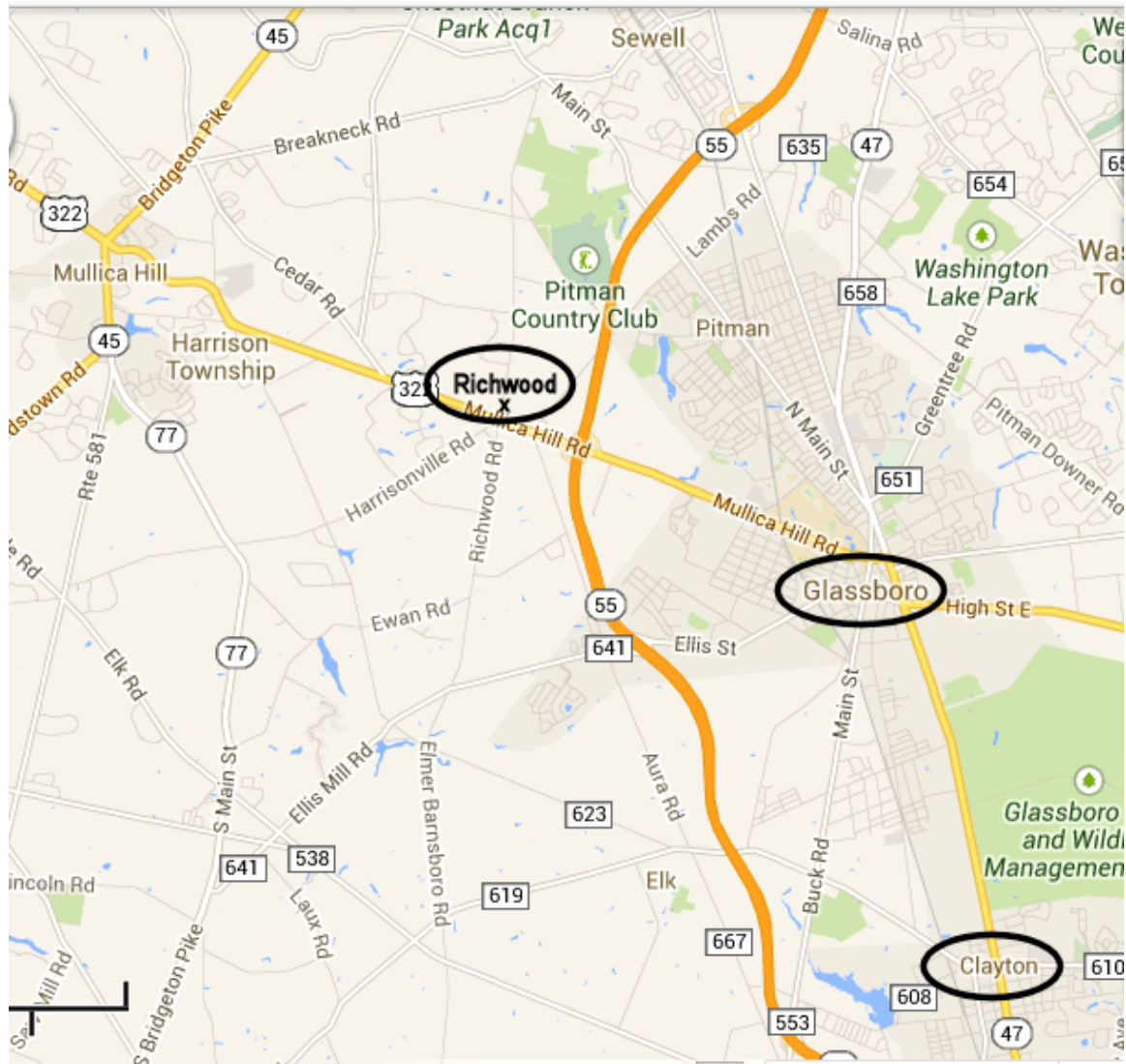


Glassboro, NJ and vicinity [google.com]

The families of Harry Skinner and Lizzie Sparks were living in **Clayton** when the two met, circa 1870.

Lizzie's parents had previously lived in **Washington Township** (1850) and Monroe Township (1860), Monroe Twp. being an area that includes the town of **Williamstown**. Her father's second wife was from **Woolwich Township**.

Harry and Lizzie were married in the city of **Gloucester** and lived their lives in **Glassboro**.



Glassboro and vicinity [google.com]

The parents of Harry Skinner lived at **Richwood** and later **Clayton**.
Harry and wife lived their lives at **Glassboro**.

Lizzie Sparks

Lizzie Sparks was born Mary Elizabeth Sparks in 1850. She was the daughter of Robert C. Sparks (b. 1815) and his first wife Mary Rice (b. 1825). My grandfather, Earl Skinner (b. 1901), had said that Robert had been a Glassboro homebuilder, though Earl was born too late to have known his great/grandfather. Census records confirm that Robert Sparks was a ‘home carpenter’.

Robert Sparks and family had been living in Washington Township, just northeast of Glassboro, per the 1850 census. They were living a few miles away in Monroe Township per the 1860 census. Robert Sparks’ first wife may have died, as he remarried in 1864 to Harriet Batten of Greenwich Twp. (Swedesboro). By 1870, the Sparks family had resettled in Clayton Township, south of Glassboro. This brought Lizzie Sparks in contact with future husband Harry Skinner, whose family had relocated to Clayton as well.

The 1870 census shows Robert Sparks, age 55, and his second wife Harriet living in Clayton with four children. Two of the children – daughter Lizzie Sparks, age 20, and her older brother George were from their father’s first marriage and were now adults. Another son of the first marriage – Helems Sparks, was married and living next door to the family. The Sparks family also included two young children from their father’s second marriage.

Marriage, 1871

Shortly after the 1870 census, Lizzie Sparks moved out on her own, moving 12 miles north of her parents’ home in Clayton to Gloucester City, a suburb of Camden.

Lizzie Sparks and Harry Skinner were married in 1871 at Gloucester City. They were married by Presbyterian minister Henry Reeves.

Glassboro

Lizzie and Harry settled in at Glassboro after their marriage in 1871, where they would reside for most of the rest of their lives.

People were beginning to move to settled areas like Glassboro, giving up the large plots of land and agricultural life of their ancestors. People in Glassboro still raised some crops on their small city lots, but the emphasis was now on odd jobs and skilled crafts to earn money – the precursors to blue-collar work. Glassboro in particular, a glass-making town going back to the early 1800’s, was attracting a diverse group of tradesman as it grew to become the most populous town in Gloucester County.

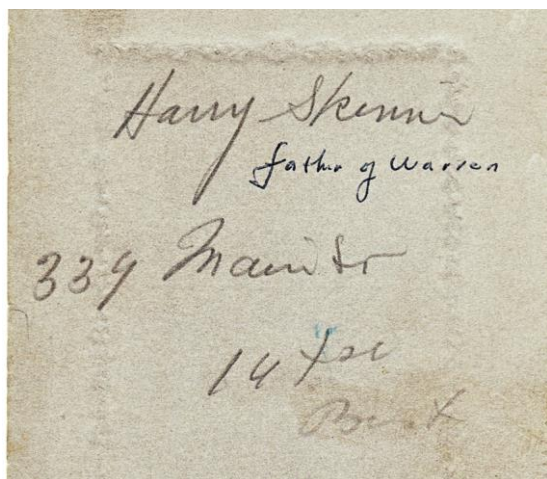


William Harrison "Harry" Skinner
(1846-1935)

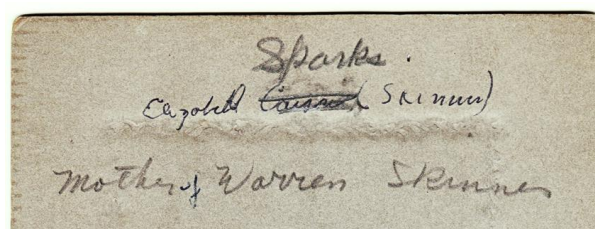


Lizzie (Sparks) Skinner
(1851-1926)

The photos are a matched set.



Photographer's writing; Earl's printing



Earl's printing overwritten by Lillian

Note - Harry and Lizzie moved to 339 Main St.,
Glassboro, between the census of 1900 and 1905.

Bible Marriage Record

This is a loose page found in the surviving bible of Harry's mother - Elizabeth Corson Skinner. The bible was passed down to Harry's daughter, Elizabeth Ungerbuehler, with whom Harry lived in his later years. The bible is one of several items that I retrieved from the estate of Elizabeth Ungerbuehler. The marriage record was a page taken from an older, earlier bible.

The marriage record is written in one hand - probably that of the minister, except for the name of Haddie Heritage, which was added later in pencil.

Marriage witnesses - C.W. Corson, Ella Skinner, C. Warner, Haddie Heritage

C.W. Corson would be Charles W. Corson, b. Dec 11, 1841. Charles was a younger brother to Harry Skinner's mother, Elizabeth (Corson) Skinner. Per the 1870 census, Charles Corson, age 29, was living and working on the Clayton farm of his sister Elizabeth and her husband Richard Skinner Jr. (Harry Skinner's parents).

Ella Skinner is a sister to Harry, later becoming Ella Skinner Lloyd.

Haddie Heritage may have been Harriet Heritage, a neighbor of Harry's grandfather – Richard Skinner Sr. Harriet and her husband William were prominent Methodists in the first half of the 1800's as was Richard Skinner Sr. These families were founding members of the Methodist Church at Richwood.

Minister - Henry Reeves

Henry Reeves was a long-time clergyman who resided in the city of Gloucester and appears in census records extending from 1870 to 1910. The census records indicate he was Presbyterian.



Marriage Record of Harry Skinner and Lizzie Sparks, 1871
(loose page found in the bible of Harry's mother)

The wedding took place at the town of Gloucester City, just south of Camden, NJ.

1870's

Harry and Lizzie Skinner saw the birth of their first three children in the 1870's – Ursula, Warren and Lora

1880 Census

The census shows the Skinners living in Glassboro. Harry, age 32, was a laborer and wife Lizzie was a housekeeper. Harry represented the first generation of Skinners who did not live on a farm as an adult, though he raised crops in his city lot.

The census shows that the parents of Harry Skinner, as well as the father of Lizzie, who had remarried, had all moved from their respective homes in Clayton to homes in Glassboro. At Glassboro, the parents of Harry and Lizzie were nearly neighbors to one another

1880's

Harry and Lizzie saw the birth of four more children in the 1880's – Omar, Elizabeth, Franklin and Tubor. Omar died of a fractured skull at age 3. Franklin and Tubor died at birth. The surviving children of Harry and Lizzie were son Warren and three gals - Ursula, Lora and Elizabeth.

1885 State Census

The state census shows Harry and Lizzie with children Ursula, Warren, Elora and Omar. Harry and Lizzie had apparently started to refer to their son, George Warren Skinner, by his middle name of Warren. Warren continued to use his middle name for the remainder of his life.

Marriage of Ursula - 1893

Ursula, eldest daughter of Harry and Lizzie, married Horace Thoman in 1893 at age 20. The wedding took place at the Skinner home on Main Street in Glassboro. This was likely 355 Main Street, the same home they were living in at the time of the later census records of 1895 and 1900,

Horace's parents were Fred and Matilda Thoman. Father Fred was a pharmacist who had run a drug store out of his home in the city of Camden per the 1880 census. Camden Business Directories show him at the corner of 5th and Pine in the years 1887 and 1888. Not long after, he moved his store and residence to Glassboro.

The Thomans ran a pharmacy out of their home in Glassboro from the 1890's until sometime after the census of 1910. Like the Skinners, the Thomans lived on Main Street. Their property was located on the west side of Main Street, the second home south of the intersection with New Street. The Thomans had two children – both males. Son Horace Thoman would have gotten to know the three Skinner gals very well and married the eldest, Ursula, in 1893.

Ursula and husband Horace stayed in Glassboro a few years after their marriage in 1893, where they were recorded in the state census of 1895. Ursula sang in the choir of the Glassboro Methodist Church, just like her father Harry and grandfather Richard Skinner Jr.

The father of Horace Thoman had been a pharmacist. Horace choose the occupation of watchmaker and opened a jewelry store in Glassboro. By the census of 1900, Horace and Ursula had relocated their home and business to the town of Woodbury.

Horace died prematurely in his fifties in 1925 and the business passed to his son Ralph Thoman. Ralph lived on Curtis Street in Woodbury. His jewelry store, started by his father and located on Broad Street in the theatre building, was a Woodbury fixture for many decades and well known to my parents.

1895 State Census

The state census of 1895 shows Harry and Lizzie Skinner living at Glassboro. They were renting at 355 Main Street.

Harry was surrounded by many relatives on Main Street. His daughter Ursula and her husband Horace Thoman lived across the street, later relocating to Woodbury. Horace's parents (census family #399) had their home and pharmacy across the street as well.

Ella Lloyd, one of Harry;s four sisters, lived across the street. Rennie Shreve (family #133), another sister of Harry, lived a few blocks down Main Street. Rennie's husband ran a prosperous mortuary business at that address, a business that would survive for most of the 20th century. Forrest Henry, son of a third sister Fannie Henry, lived with the Shreves. Forrest learned the mortuary business from his uncle Louis Shreve and would later become a mortician at Berlin, NJ.

Richard Skinner Jr. and Elizabeth Skinner (census family #398) – the aging parents of Harry and his four sisters, were living on Main Street as well. They were under the care of their daughter Ella Lloyd. Elizabeth died in 1896. At that time, Richard was moved to the care of his daughter Rennie Shreve (family #399 in the census).

Guide To Map On Following Page

Harry Skinner and family lived in Glassboro per the federal census of 1880, address unknown.

Skinner1 – The census records of 1895 and 1900 show the Skinners renting at **355 Main Street**. The home was the first home on Main Street north of the Whitney Glass Works..

Skinner2 - The census records of 1905, 1910 and 1920 show the Skinners at **339 Main Street**, a home that they owned. This equates to an address of 66 N. Main Street today - the system of street addressing having changed sometime between 1920 and 1930. The home was on the east side of Main Street, the second home south of the intersection with New Street. The corner home next door to the Skinners was the Methodist parsonage. Various ministers lived there from 1900 to 1930. Per cousin Marion Smith, the Skinner home had a deep lot and garden. The deep lot is confirmed by Google maps. Real estate records suggest that the Skinner home was replaced by a new home in 1925. However, historical photos and the detailed Sanborn insurance maps of the time show that the home standing today is relatively unchanged from the home the Skinners occupied in the early years of the 20th century.

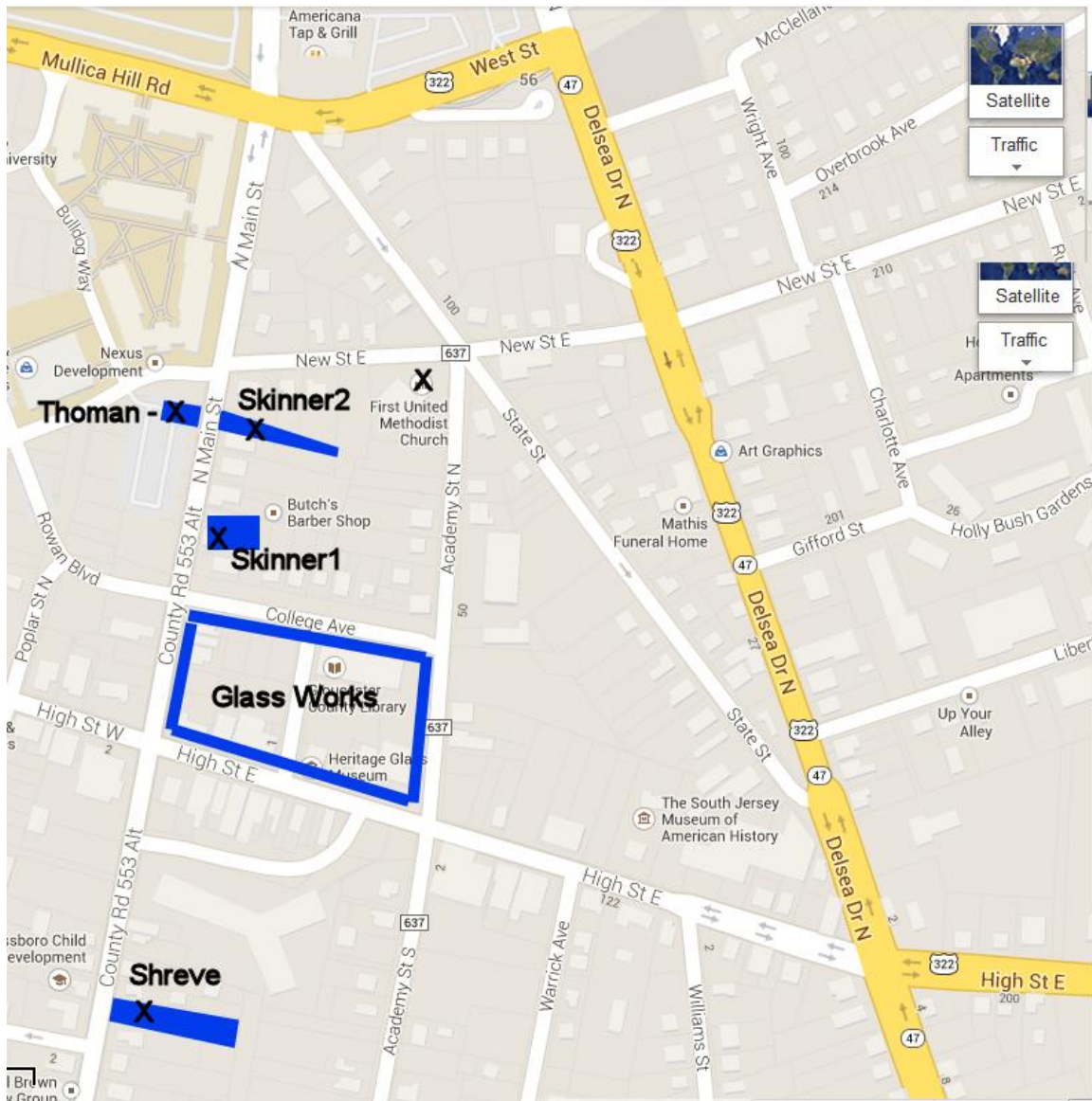
The recollections of my grandfather Earl Skinner, his wife Lillian and his cousin Marion Smith that pertain to Harry Skinner all involve the Skinner home at 339 Main Street.

Church - Harry and wife Lizzie were active in the Glassboro Methodist Church, like two previous generations of Skinners. The church stood at the corner of New and Academy Streets, on the block behind the Skinner home. The historic structure was built in 1855 and removed in 1976. A new church was built on the same parcel of land, just a few feet away.

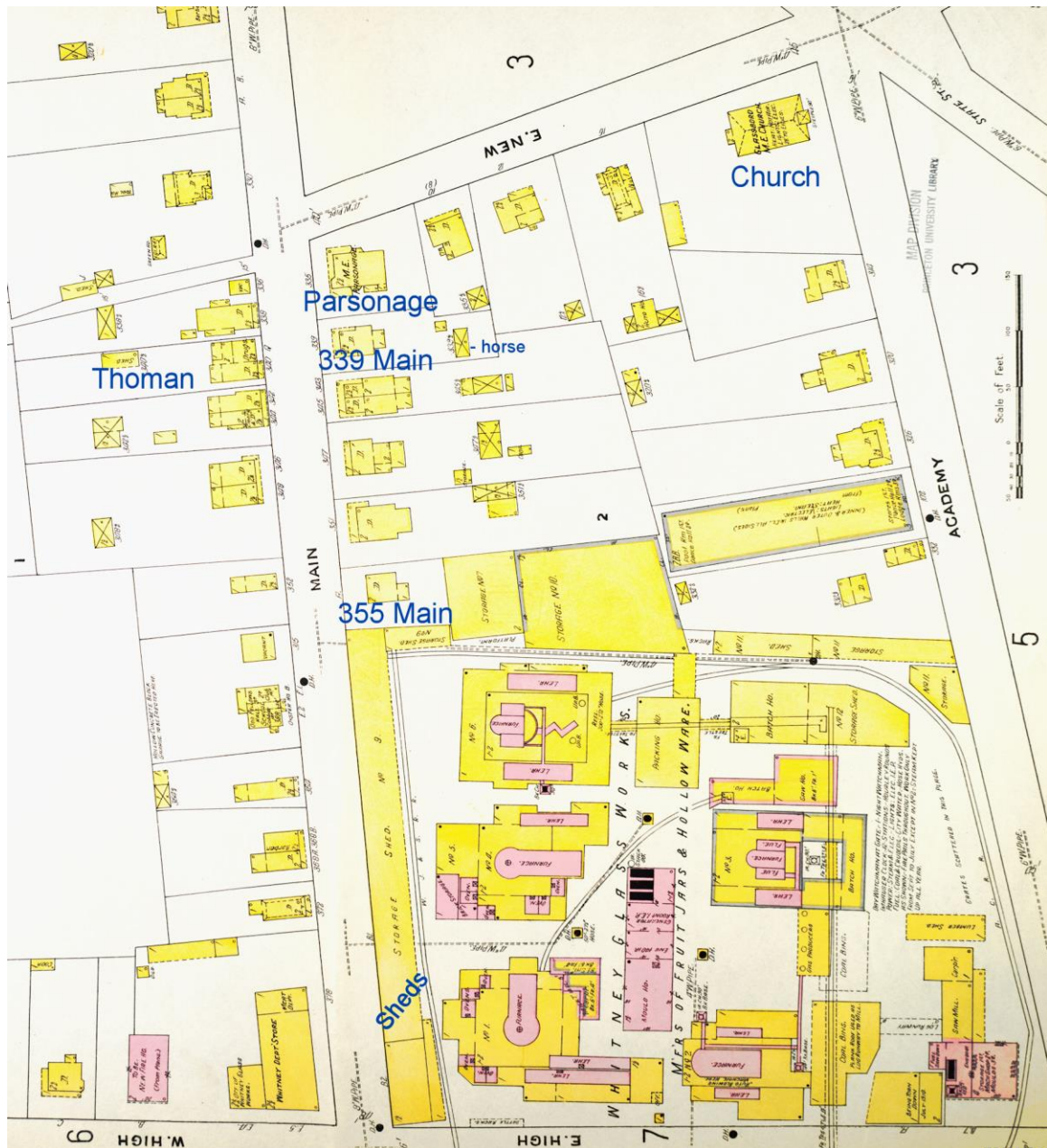
Thoman – By the 1890's, Horace Thoman had moved his residence and drug store from Camden, NJ to Main Street in Glassboro. The Glassboro address was 346 Main, which equates to an address of 61 North Main today. Horace, a son of the Thomans, married Harry Skinner's eldest child, Ursula, in 1893.

The Thoman home and pharmacy was a fixture in Glassboro for many decades. The building was sold to John Dilks, an optometrist, by the time of the 1920 census. The structure was torn down in 2013.

Shreve - Harry Skinner's sister, Rennie, married Louis Shreve, who ran a funeral home out of his house at **433 Main Street**. This equates to an address of 36 S. Main St. today. The Shreve property included a second home where their son Blande would eventually live [431 Main Street; 34 S. Main Street today]. A railroad spur that serviced the Whitney Glass Works bordered the rear of the Shreve property. The Shreves made a living filling Glassboro's Manahath Cemetery with Skinner relatives, including Horace Thoman in 1925. By 1930, the Shreve funeral business was shared between Louis Shreve, son Blande Shreve and son-in-law Russell Kengle, husband of Beatrice Shreve. A funeral home continued to exist at the site throughout much of the 20th century. The Shreve home, built 1890, was occupied by the Shreve family until 1970 and is still there today.

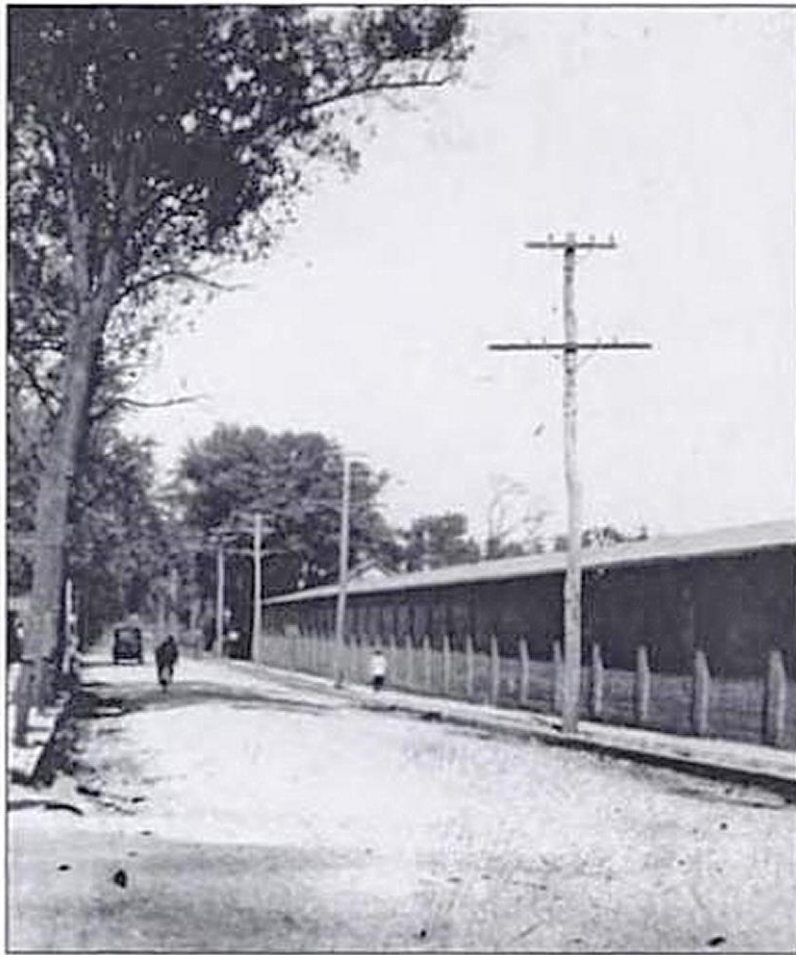


Glassboro [google.com]



Detailed House Drawings

Sanborn Insurance Map. 1910,
[libweb5.princeton.edu]

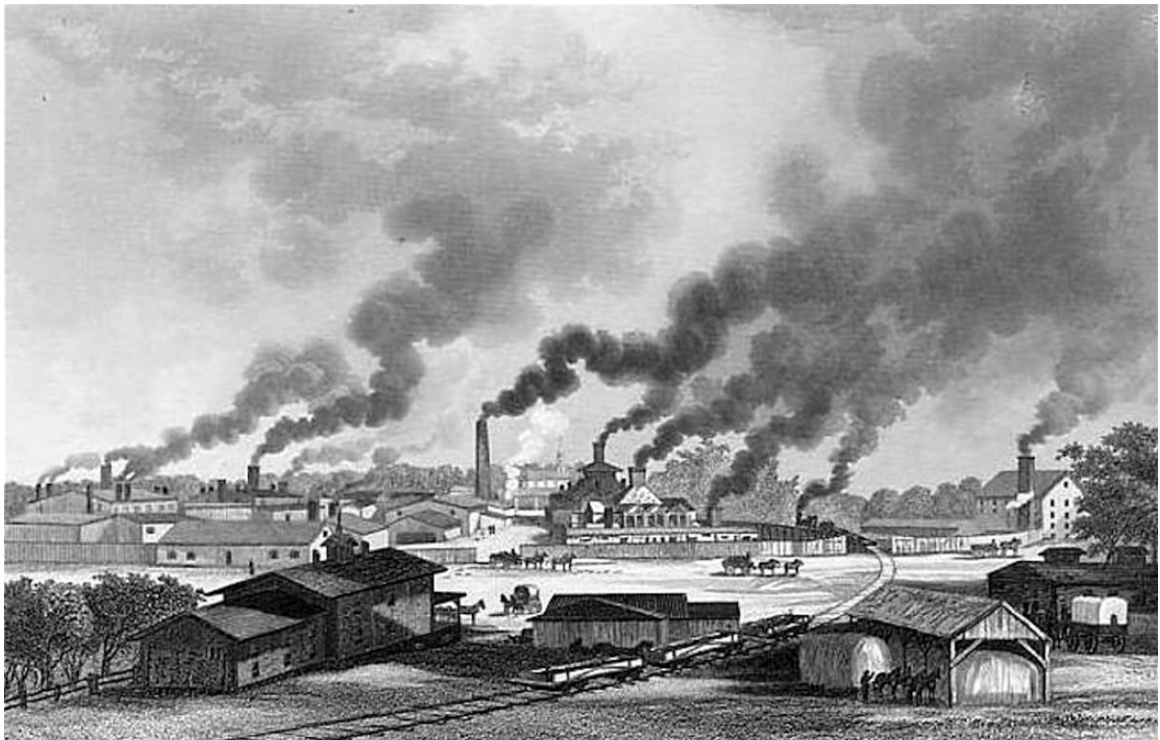


Main Street, Glassboro, 1915
[Google Books – Glassboro by Robert W. Sands, Jr.]

Looking north up Main Street from the corner of Main and High Streets;
The storage sheds of the Whitney Glass Works are at right.

The Skinners were living about a block up on the right.

In 1915, Main Street is still unpaved, but someone is on a bicycle.



Whitney Glass Works, guessing 1870's, Glassboro, NJ
[www.oldsouthjerseyglass.com]

High Street is the open area in the middle of the image running left-to-right
The steeple of the Glassboro Methodist church is barely visible in the center-rear.



Sketch of Whitney Glass Works, Glassboro, NJ, 1875
[www.ettc.net]

High Street is in the foreground and intersects with Main Street at the left.
The Skinner and Thomans lived a few homes up Main Street from the Whitney Glass Works,
and the Shreves lived a few homes down Main Street from the glass works.

The distinctive church steeple of the Methodist church, one block over from Main Street, is
somewhat visible in the far upper right, above.



Methodist Episcopal Church, circa 1900
[Google Books – Glassboro by Robert W. Sands, Jr.]

Located at Academy and New Streets,
just behind the Skinner home of the early 1900's.

1900 Census

The 1900 census shows that Harry Skinner and family were renting at 355 Main St., Glassboro, unchanged from the state census of 1895.

The Skinner children were still living at home, with the exception of eldest child Ursula, who had moved to Woodbury with husband Horace Thoman.

The census shows that Harry Skinner, age 55, and his son Warren, age 23, were “**wooden strap makers**”. Strap-making was one of the many misc. labor jobs that Harry did during his life. Strap-making relates to the fabrication of barrel hoops for sale to coopers (barrel-makers) by collecting young wood saplings and slicing the wood into long, thin straps.

Daughter Lora, age 20, was a handkerchief inspector - there were many clothing mills in Glassboro at the time. Youngest daughter Elizabeth was just 13 years of age.

The Marriages of Ursula, Warren, Lora and Elizabeth Skinner

Eldest child Ursula Skinner married Horace Thoman in 1893.

Warren Skinner, the only son of Lizzie and Harry Skinner, married Viola May Leap in late 1900. Warren and May were recorded as being members of the Glassboro Methodist Episcopal Church as single persons in the late 1890's, and again as a married couple in the early 1900's.

Third child Lora (Elora) Skinner married Charles Corson Sheppard in 1905. She was age 24, he was 23. Charles was born in Salem Co., NJ, but grew up in Wilmington, Delaware. I would not be surprised if the two were ‘kissing cousins’ – Lora’s paternal grandmother was named Elizabeth Corson and Charles Corson Sheppard was a Corson as well. As with elder sister Ursula, Lora Skinner’s wedding took place at the Skinner home in Glassboro. The marriage was recorded in the records of the Glassboro Methodist Episcopal Church.

Elizabeth Skinner, the youngest surviving child of Lizzie and Harry Skinner, married Franklin Ungerbuehler in 1908. Franklin was from Philadelphia and the wedding took place near his home at a Methodist Church located at 29th and York Streets, near Fairmont Park in northwest Philly.

State Census of 1905

Some time between 1900 and 1905, the Skinners left their rental at 355 Main Street and purchased a home at 339 Main Street. This computes to an address of 66 N. Main Street today – the system of street addresses having changed sometime between the 1920 and 1930. [Lo and behold, 66 Main is the same address told to me by my grandfather Earl Skinner in the 1970's.]

Per the state census, daughters Lora and Elizabeth are still living at home. Ursula and Warren, who are married, are long gone.

339 Main Street

The Skinners lived at 339 Main Street until well into the 1920's.

The home next door to the Skinner home, just to the north at the intersection of Main and New Streets, was the Methodist Church parsonage – the home provided for the church minister. The census records of 1910, 1920 and 1930 all show a Methodist minister living at the address.

The home and pharmacy of Fred and Matilda Thoman was directly across the street. The eldest Skinner child – Ursula, had married a son of the Thomans.

All of the memories of Harry and Lizzie Skinner that were told to me growing up revolve around the address of 339 Main Street – the memories conveyed to me by Skinner granddaughter Marion Smith (born 1902 to Ursula Thoman), by grandson Earl Skinner (born 1901 to Warren Skinner) and by Earl's wife Lillian (b. 1903).

Lillian recalled that the Methodist church minister lived next door to the Skinners – to the right as you walked out of the Skinner house and at the corner of Main Street and a side street (New Street). She recalled that the Thoman pharmacy was across the street and that the Shreve funeral home and residence was farther down Main Street. This is the arrangement recorded by the 1910 and 1920 census records. She recalls the Skinner home had a deep lot and a garden.

Today, real estate records show that the home that sits at 339 Main was built in 1924, suggesting that the home occupied by the Skinners had been torn down. However, I believe the building standing today is still the original home. The interior photo taken in 1921, the exterior photo taken in the early 1900's, and the Sanborn insurance maps from 1895 thru 1910 all depict a home identical to the home on the property today. I have no doubt, however, that a change in home ownership may have occurred in 1924, with Lizzie suffering from dementia and dying in 1926.

This Skinner home is still standing today, at least for now, in the shadows of the large-scale development that has taken place in the last few years in Glassboro.

1910 Census

The census shows that Lizzie was age 59. Harry was age 65. The census shows Harry's occupation as being a farmer – he was growing crops in his backyard.

All four of the Skinner children – Ursula, Warren, Lora and Elizabeth, were now married and living in other towns. Ursula and husband Horace Thoman were living at Woodbury. Warren and wife May were living at Philadelphia. Lora and husband Charles Sheppard were living at Wilmington, Delaware. And Elizabeth and Franklin Ungerbuehler were living at Philadelphia. The Ungerbuehlers would later leave Philadelphia and move to the Richardson Park section of Wilmington, Delaware, relocating within a few blocks of Elizabeth's sister, Lora Sheppard.

1913 Directory

Harry Skinner living at 339 Main Street; Occupation – janitor at the Methodist Episcopal Church. Wife – Elizabeth;

1920 Census

Per the 1920 census - Harry, age 73, was a church janitor, and had probably served in that capacity on a part-time basis for many years. Lizzie was age 69. Lillian Skinner had told me that Harry had been the church custodian for a long time and that Lizzie had done dusting there when she was younger.

The 1920 and 1930 census records show that the Shreves still had their home and funeral business on Main Street. The 1930 census shows that the business was split among Louis Shreve, his son Blande Shreve and his son-in-law Russell Kengle, husband of Louis's daughter Beatrice. The Shreve home remains today. The Shreve property included a second home where his son Blande and family lived.

The Thoman Property

The Thomans are an integral part of the Skinner story. By the time of the 1920 census, the aging Fred and Maltilda Thoman had sold their home and pharmacy across the street from the Skinners to an optometrist named John Dilks.

The old Thoman home stood intact until 2013, when it was torn down. At that time, the sleepy town of Glassboro saw a huge amount of development surrounding the expansion of Rowan University coupled with the movement of Gloucester County's premier hospital to Glassboro from Woodbury. The Woodbury hospital, now closed, was where my mother and I were born.

In 2013, all of the properties on the west side of Main Street were leveled to create a parking lot, and the lot has now been developed into condos, apartments and businesses that now extend many blocks west from Main Street.

The Skinner home, on the east side of Main Street, is just a few feet from the demolition hammer.

The Shreves

Rennie, a sister of Harry Skinner, married Louis Napoleon Shreve, a Glassboro undertaker. Louis Shreve ran the funeral business out of his home. The Shreves lived at 433 Main St. (equates to 36 South Main St. today) per the census records of 1900, 1910 and 1920.

The Shreve home was located on the east side of Main Street, several homes south of the intersection of Main with High Street. Their home was located south of the Whitney Glass Works. The Skinners and Thomans lived a few blocks north of the Shreves, and north of the glass works.

The Shreve property included a second home where their son Blande would eventually live [431 Main Street; 34 S. Main Street today]. The property also included a building in the rear that serves as a large garage today. A railroad spur that serviced the Whitney Glass Works ran along the rear property line. That right-of-way is still there today.

The Shreve's took care of Richard Skinner Jr. (1823-1908), the father of Harry Skinner and Rennie Shreve, in Richard's later years. As a result, Shreve descendants have Richard Skinner's remaining effects, including his Civil War pistol and a letter dating to the Civil War [per Shreve descendant Linda Adams].

The Shreve family handled many of the funerals and burials in the Skinner family, including Horace Thoman in 1925 (husband of Ursula Skinner) and Mary S. Leap in 1920, foster mother of Warren Skinner's wife (Warren was the son of Harry Skinner) in 1920.

By 1930, the Shreve funeral business was shared between Louis Shreve, son Blande Shreve and son-in-law Russell Kengle, husband of Beatrice Shreve. A funeral home continued to exist at the site throughout much of the 20th century. The Shreve home, built 1890, was occupied by the Shreve family until 1970 and is still there today.



Skinner Home, 66 Main Street, Glassboro
[Google Streetview. 2014]

The house to the left was the Methodist parsonage for the first several decades of the 20th century. That house sits at the corner of Main and New Streets.



Methodist Parsonage (foreground) with the Skinner home to the right
[top, book, Glassboro, by Robert Sands Jr.; bottom, Google Streetview 2014]

Twilight Years

Per grandson Earl Skinner - Lizzie contracted scarlet fever later in life affecting her memory. Lizzie died in 1926 at age 75. The Skinner homestead at 337 Main Street was sold some time before the 1930 census.

Harry Skinner, now a widower, was moved to the care of his youngest child Elizabeth Ungerbuehler. The Ungerbuehlers had moved from Philadelphia to the Richardson Park section of Wilmington, Delaware, by the time of the 1930 census. Harry is missing from the 1930 census but would have been living with daughter Elizabeth at that time.

Harry Skinner died at Wilmington, Delaware in 1935 at age 88. Many of Harry's photos came into the possession of his daughter Elizabeth. In turn, I procured the photos from Elizabeth's estate following her death in 1973 (thank you Ben Ungerbuehler!).



Lizzie Skinner with daughter Elizabeth Skinner, circa 1897

[from the estate of Ursula Thoman, courtesy of Vicki Snyder]



Harry and Lizzie Skinner, 1921

50th Anniversary Photo that was published with the newspaper article that follows.

This photo was taken in their home at 339 Main Street, Glassboro.

The door behind them on the left led to the stairs to the second floor.

The door on the right led to the wrap-around porch.

Lizzie's feet are not touching the floor.

I think this was the picture of
my parents 50th anniversary
taken the next day. In our home
in Glasboro- Main St next door to
the Parsonage-

They are sitting in front of our door
leading out to the very front ^{Hall way} door.
On the side of my Mother you can
see part of a door - which goes on
the porch (front) next to the Parsonage.
On the left of the door on Pops side
goes up to 2nd floor.

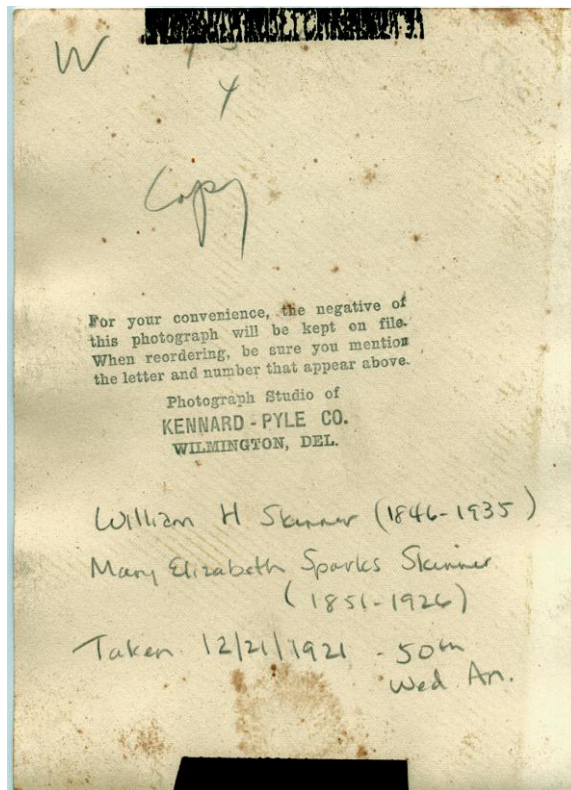
2

[from the estate of Ursula Thoman, courtesy of Vicki Snyder]



Harry and Lizzie Skinner, 1921

50th Wedding Anniversary.
Taken in their backyard



[from the estate of Ursula Thoman, courtesy of Vicki Snyder]

Photo must have been taken by their daughter Elizabeth Ungerbuehler, who lived in Wilmington, DE. Kennard-Pyle was the large Wilmington department store where you did not touch the merchandise except with the help of a clerk.

Skinner Height [estimated]:

Harry Skinner – 5' 0"

Lizzie, wife to Harry – 4' 2" at best

son Warren Skinner – 5' 5" – thank goodness, married a tall wife.


grandson Earl Skinner – 5' 9"

David Skinner – almost 5' 11"

Kevin Skinner – almost 5' 10"

THE NORTH AMER

NEWS OF NEW JERSEY



CELEBRATE GOLDEN WEDDING AT CHURCH

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Skinner last night held a reception at the Glassboro Methodist Episcopal Church to mark their fiftieth wedding anniversary. He has sung in the church choir more than forty years.

**OLD CHOIR SINGER
AND WIFE HONORED**

As Published in The North American newspaper, Philadelphia, 1921
(remainder of article – see next page)

OLD CHOIR SINGER AND WIFE HONORED

Pair Have Golden Wedding Reception at Methodist Church

GLASSBORO, N. J., Dec. 20.—Recognition of a remarkable record of church activity for a layman was given tonight at a public reception held in the First Methodist Episcopal Church for Mr. and Mrs. William H. Skinner, in celebration of their golden wedding anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Skinner were married at Gloucester on December 21, 1871. Mr. Skinner has always been a resident of Glassboro, being a great-grandson of Jacob Swope, one of the earliest settlers of the town. He was born within a short distance of the house where he and his wife have lived for half a century.

Mr. Skinner's father was a music teacher and the son has been a tenor singer in the Methodist church choir for more than forty years. He was also secretary of the Sunday school for twenty years and librarian sixteen years. He has been janitor of the church for the last fifteen years and also steward of communion for twelve years. His active membership in this church extends over a period of fifty-nine years.

The Rev. DeWitt C. Cobb, pastor of the church, extended the congratulations of the congregation to the pair at tonight's reception, which was attended by about 250 persons. There was a program of entertainment and refreshments were served in the basement of the church.

Mr. and Mrs. Skinner have had seven children, four of whom are now living. They are Mrs. H. H. Thoman, Woodbury; Mrs. C. C. Sheppard, Wilmington, Del.; Mrs. Franklin Ungerbuehler, Philadelphia, and George Warren Skinner, Norwood, Pa.

[from the estate of Ursula Thoman, courtesy of Vicki Snyder]

Golden Wedding For Glassboro Couple

**Mr. and Mrs. W. Harry Skinner Celebrate Event in First M. E. Church—
About 200 Relatives and Friends
Join in Festivities**

Mr. and Mrs. W. Harry Skinner celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in the First M. E. Church on Wednesday evening. About 200 relatives and friends joined then in the festivities of the joyous event. It was fitting that the event should be held in the church in which the couple have took so prominent a part—recognition of a remarkable church record for a layman and his wife.

Promptly at 8 o'clock to the strains of the wedding march played by Prof. Archer F. Livezey, organist of the church, the "bride and groom" and the wedding party wended their way to the church altar, there to again plight their wedding vows. The Rev. De Witt C. Cobb, their pastor, performed the ceremony. The wedding party consisted of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Skinner—sons and daughters, their wives and husbands.

Mr. Cobb used the regular marriage ceremony, but with a special adaptation for the occasion. "If any think they are not of age, let them now speak, or forever hold their peace," he said. He told them to try for another fifty years.

The "newly weds" then received congratulations of the guests, and enjoyed a program arranged for the occasion. A quartette, consisting of W. D. Chew, Charles Richards, Dr. C. D. Shute and Frank R. Stangr, sang several selections, among them "The Wayside Cross," which was especially fine. George W. Arnold favored with

some selections on the Victrola.

On behalf of the church, Prof. D. T. Steelman presented Mr. and Mrs. Skinner with \$100 in gold. Prof. Steelman extended the congratulations of the congregation, and paid a fine tribute to their character and usefulness. Wesley D. Chew sang a solo, and Miss Grace Carney presented a gift of money on behalf of the choir, of which Mr. Skinner has been a member for 46 years. Mrs. Ethlyn P. Sturgess read an original poem composed for the occasion—"The Golden Wedding." Miss Carney gave a vocal solo.

Mr. Skinner in his characteristic and pleasing way responded to the requests to "tell them all about it." The story was interesting. Fifty years ago on his wedding day, Wesley D. Chew was the man who shaved Mr. Skinner. He performed the same duty on his golden wedding day, and took a prominent part in the program.

Refreshments were served in the basement of the church.

Mr. Skinner has always been a resident of Glassboro, being a great grandson of Jacob Swope, one of the earliest settlers, and was born within a short distance of the house where he and his wife have lived for half a century. He was secretary of the Sunday School for 20 years and librarian 16 years. He was janitor of the church 15 years and also a steward of communion 12 years. His active membership in this one church extends over a period of 59 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Skinner were married on December 21, 1871, at Gloucester by the Rev. Henry Reeves. They have had seven children, four of whom are living. They are: Mrs. H. H. Thoman, Woodbury; Mrs. C. C. Sheppard, Wilmington, Del.; Mrs. Franklin Ungerbuehler, Philadelphia, and George Warren Skinner, Norwood, Pa.

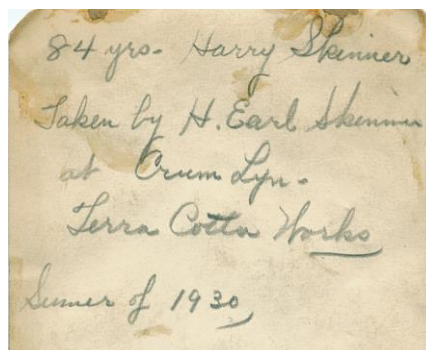
A family reunion was held on Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Skinner, of Garfield avenue. A family dinner was held in the evening, and after dinner the evening was spent in an old-fashioned song service. Mr. Skinner's father, Henry Skinner, who is eighty-six years old, has been a leading tenor singer in his home church choir, and nearly all the members of the families were members of the choir. The family included Harry Skinner and his daughter, Mrs. H. H. Thoman, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Thoman and Horace, of Woodbury, N. J.; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ungerbueheler and sons, Benjamin and Morrison, of Richardson Park, Wilmington; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sheppherd and son Francis, of Wilmington; Mr. and Mrs. Earl Skinner and Miss Gladys Skinner, of Norwood, and Thomas Greer, of Prospect Park.

“Old Fashioned Song Service” - The Skinner Music Gene

Chester Times, Sep. 17, 1929

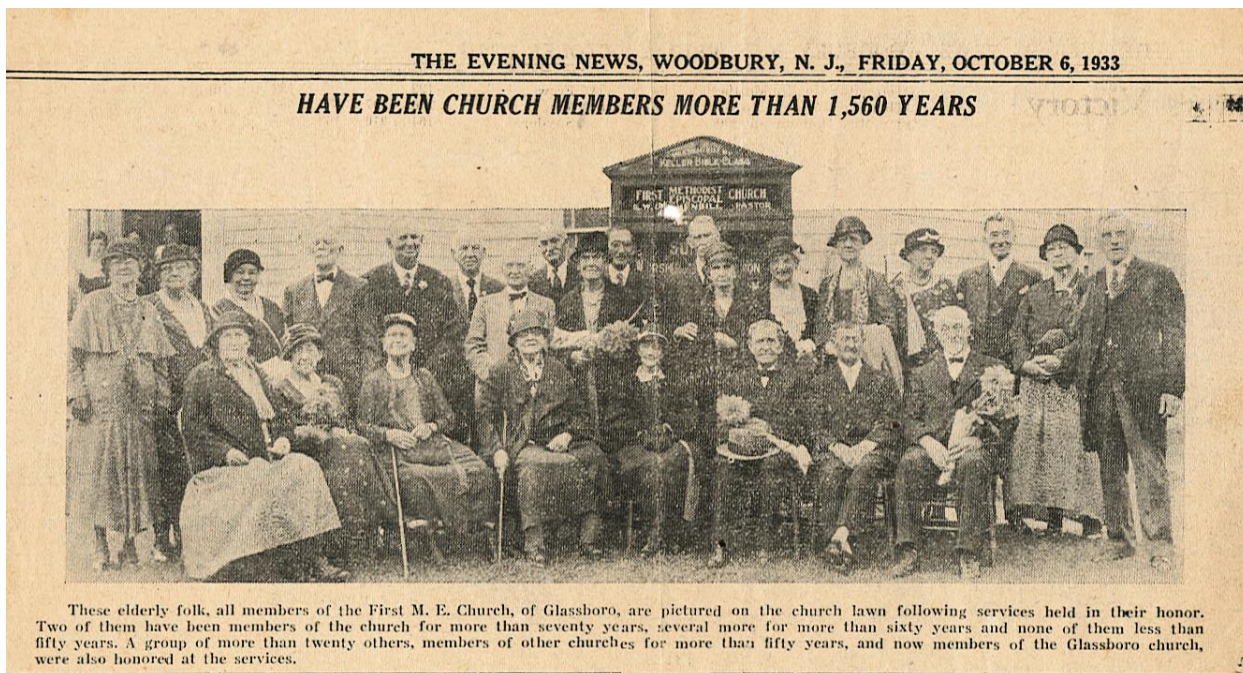


Harry Skinner, age 84, Summer of 1930



[Photo from estate of Ursula Thoman with Ursula's writing.
Same photo also came from the estate of her sister Elizabeth Ungerbuehler.]

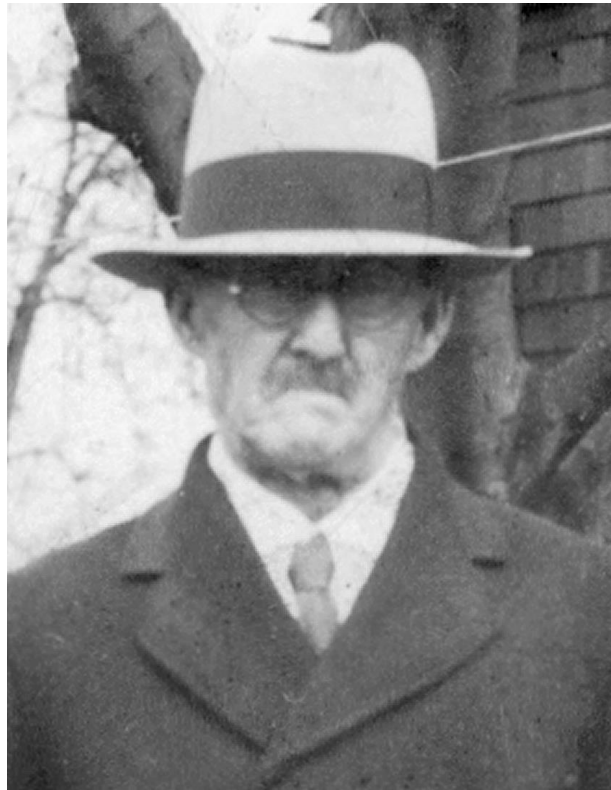
Taken by grandson Earl Skinner at Earl's place of employment -
O. W. Ketcham Terra Cotta Works, Crum Lynne, PA.
This photo was taken on the curved driveway leading to Ketcham's main Admin. Bldg.
The Pennsy train tracks (today Amtrak) are on the hill in the rear.



1933 – Recognition of 50+ Year Church Members
Glassboro Methodist Church

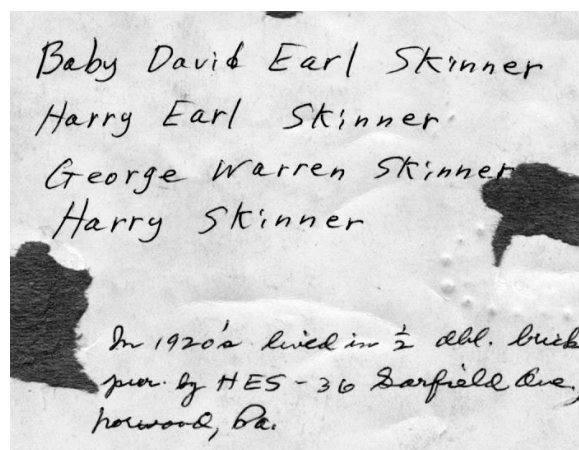
Harry Skinner (bottom row, second from right), born 1846, at age 87,
would have been a church member for 70+ years.

Many of these same people appear in a birthday photo
taken decades earlier in 1906 with Harry's father (see files for Richard Skinner Jr.)



Harry Skinner, circa 1933
Enlargement From Following Image

Rear of Following Image:



“In 1920’s lived in ½ double brick purchased by HES – 36 Garfield Ave., Norwood, PA”

[Annette’s printing and writing. Photo from estate of Earl Skinner]



Four Generations, Four Hats
Circa 1933, based upon the age of young David (born Nov, 1929)

Home of grandson Earl Skinner, Garfield Ave., Norwood, PA

[Image from the estate of Earl Skinner
Identical image from estate of Marion Smith, courtesy of Vicki Snyder]

Harry and Earl - Buddies

Harry Skinner's grandchildren included Earl Skinner (born 1901), my grandfather. Earl grew up in Philadelphia, but his parents frequently brought him over to Glassboro on Saturdays to visit his grandparents Harry and Lizzie. According to Earl's wife, Lillian, young Earl and his grandfather Harry were 'buddy-buddy'. Earl would go with Harry to the barbershop where, as was common custom, Harry's shaving mug was stored. The shaving mug remains in the family today.

There were several barbershops located in the homes on Main Street in Glassboro. George Schmagel had a barbershop at 427 Main St., three homes south of the Shreve residence, per the 1910 census. Most likely, Harry Skinner and grandson Earl went to the barbershop of another German – Frederick Louis Pullman.

Pullman immigrated to the US in 1872 and opened his barbershop in Glassboro in the late 1800's. The business existed at least thirty years through the 1930 census. The Pullman barbershop and home were located at 320 Main (equates to 105 North Main St. today) and was three to four homes north of the Thoman pharmacy on the west side of Main. This was across the street from the two homes that Harry Skinner and family had lived in on Main Street (255 and 337 Main Street per the old address system).



Harry's Shaving Mug

**Note from Lillian Skinner to son David concerning Harry Skinner's shaving mug and razor, Harry being great-grandfather to David.
Printed corrections by Earl Skinner, husband to Lillian:**

Dear David:
 your Great Grandfather and
 Great Grand mother Skinner,
 Harrison, Nick named Harry and
 (Elizabeth?) Harry went to barber
 shop Saturday Morning to get his
 shave using this mug & straight
 razor. Little Harry Earl was
 at his house most week ends
 from Phila. and was quite Buddy Buddy
 with his Grandfather. Got a lolly pop
 at the barbers - This Couple had 4 children
 Ursula - ~~Lora~~ - Elizabeth and Geo. Warren.
 Ursula had, Horace, and ~~Marion~~ ^{Marion}.
 Lora - Paul and Charles Francis.
 Marsden and Ben. ^{George Warren had Harry Earl & Gladys.}
 first son he should be named Harry!!!

* Gladys.

"Dear David: Your great grandfather and great grandmother Skinner, Harrison, nicknamed Harry and (Elizabeth?) Harry went to barber shop Saturday morning to get his shave using this mug & straight razor. Little Harry Earl was at his house most weekends from Phila and was quite Buddy Buddy with his grandfather. Got a lollypop at the barbers - this couple had 4 children Ursula, Lora, Elizabeth and Geo. Warren. Ursula had Horace and Marion. Lora - Paul and Charles Francis. Elizabeth - Marsden and Ben. George Warren had Harry Earl & Gladys. When Kevin has his first son he should be named Harry!!!"

Harry and Earl – Same Names But Name Games

My grandfather – Harry Earl Skinner, was named after his grandfather, Harry Skinner. Earl, however, never used the first name of Harry. Instead, he used his middle name of Earl and wrote his name as ‘H. Earl Skinner’. Grandfather Harry also went by his middle name – Harry was actually born William Harrison Skinner. And Warren Skinner, son of Harry and father of Earl, also used his middle name as he was born George Warren Skinner.

Strap-Maker

My grandfather, Earl Skinner, often spoke about Harry Skinner (his grandfather). Earl referred to Harry as being a hoop-maker (barrel hoops) and told me he had all kinds of interesting barrels of items in his basement. Cousin Marion Smith (born 1902), another grandchild of Harry, told me that Harry used to go to PA for a month at a time to cut ‘straps’ - another reference to hoop-making.

The art of preparing wood to be used as barrel hoops was called ‘strap-making’ or the ‘hoop pole trade’. Young, flexible wood was collected from the forests. Different types of wood were used to make the wooden straps for various types of barrels. The timber was split several times lengthwise and then placed in a shaving jig in which a shaver was used to create the long, thin straps that would become barrel hoops. The completed straps were bundled and sold to the barrel-makers. The barrel-makers (coopers) would wrap the straps around the barrel staves, cut them to length, and notch them to secure them in place.

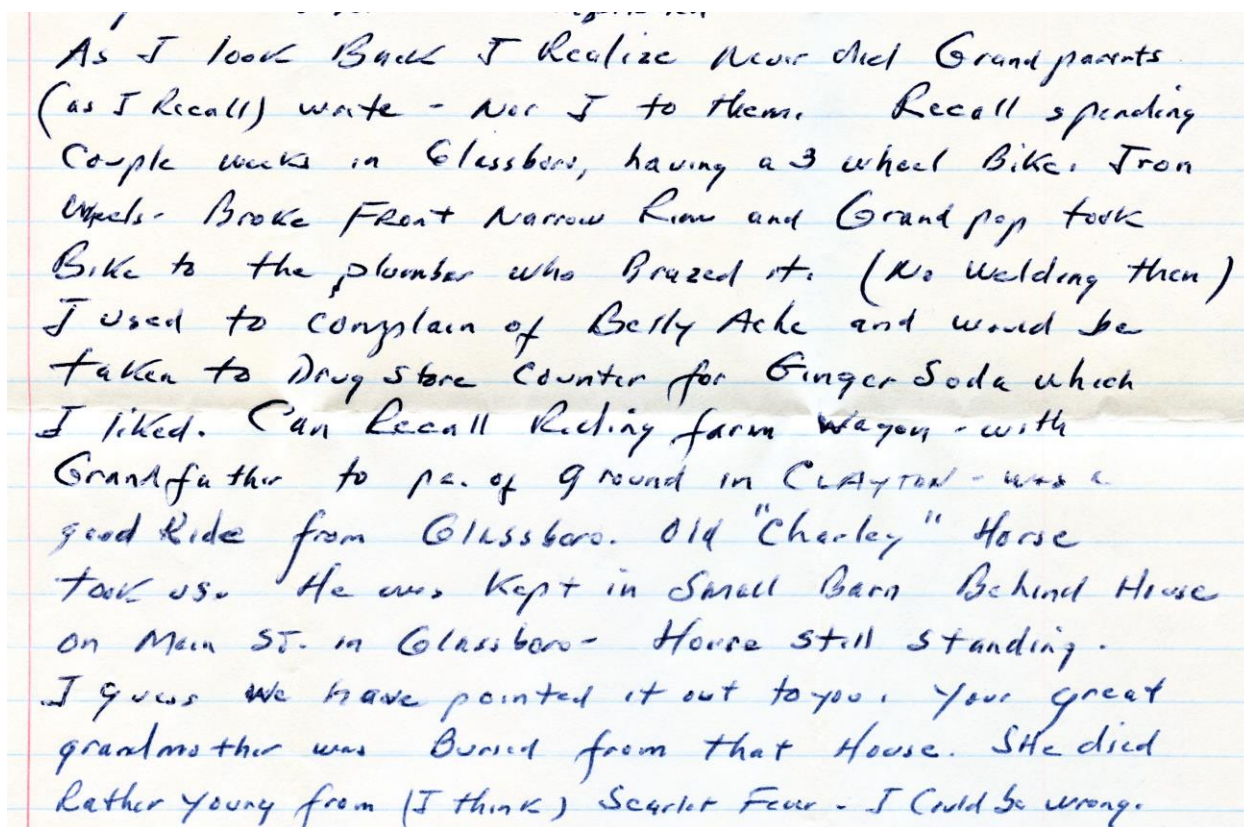
Barrels were the primary means by which most goods were stored and transported at the time - barrels of sugar, flour, oysters, etc. The making of the wooden straps (barrel hoops) required lengthy trips to the woods. The person that made the straps was usually a different person than the cooper – the person who utilized the straps to construct the various types and sizes of barrels.

The records show that three generations of Skinners had been strap-makers, perhaps sharing the same shaving jig. The 1880 census shows that Harry’s father – Richard Skinner Jr., was engaged in the hoop pole trade. Twenty years later, the census of 1900 shows that Harry and son Warren were ‘strap makers’. For young Warren, born 1877, it was just a temporary job of his youth. Two of the grandchildren of Harry Skinner – Earl Skinner (b. 1901) and Marion Thoman (b. 1902), both recalled that Harry was a strap-maker.

Charlie Horse and Reminiscences of Earl Skinner

Harry Skinner had a horse – named Charlie Horse, well into the twentieth century. The horse was kept in a small structure behind their Glassboro home.

Two of his grandchild – Earl Skinner and Marion Smith, both recalled the horse to me.



As I look back I realize never did Grandparents (as I recall) write - nor I to them. Recall spending couple weeks in Glassboro, having a 3 wheel Bike. Iron wheels. Broke front narrow rim and Grand pop took Bike to the plumber who brazed it. (No welding then) I used to complain of Belly Ache and would be taken to Drug store counter for Ginger Soda which I liked. Can Recall Riding farm wagon - with Grandfather to pc. of ground in CLAYTON - was a good ride from Glassboro. Old "Charley" Horse took us. He was kept in small Barn Behind House on Main St. in Glassboro - House still standing. I guess we have pointed it out to you. Your great grandmother was Buried from that House. She died rather young from (I think) Scarlet Fever - I could be wrong.

Correspondence From Earl Skinner To Me, 26 June 1979

‘As I look back, I realize never did grandparents (as I recall) write – nor I to them. Recall spending couple weeks in Glassboro, having a 3-wheel bike. Iron wheels. Broke front narrow rim and grandpop took bike to the plumber who brazed it (no welding then). I used to complain of belly aches and would be taken to drug store counter for ginger soda which I liked. Can recall riding farm wagon with grandfather to piece of ground in Clayton. Was a good ride from Glassboro. Old “Charley” horse took us. He was kept in small barn behind house on Main St. in Glassboro. House still standing. I guess we have pointed it out to you. Your great grandmother was buried from that house. She died rather young from (I think) scarlet fever – I could be wrong.’

Recollections of Marion Smith (Daughter of Ursula Thoman and granddaughter of Harry Skinner) per my 1995 visit with her:

Both Harry and Lizzie were very short people. Lizzie used to ride trains for the half-price children's fare.

Harry Skinner had a horse named "Charlie" that he kept at his Main St. house. Marion Smith recalls mistakenly calling her cousin Charles Sheppard - "Charlie Horse".

Marion recalls that Harry and Lizzie lost three sons, which is verified by the Family Tree. Marion recalled that the grief-stricken parents took a posthumous photograph of the eldest child that died who was "about a year old at death." Marion would be referring to the death of Omar, who died at three years of age in 1886. Harry certainly seems to have had a camera at an early point in time - the images that follow include an amateur photo taken about 1887 inside his home.

Sparks Genealogy

Lizzie Skinner, wife of Harry Skinner, was the daughter of Robert C. Sparks (1815 - 1896) and his first wife Mary Rice (born 1825) of Camden Co., NJ.

Robert and Mary Sparks had three children:

George (born circa 1841)

Helems (born circa 1845)

Mary Elizabeth 'Lizzie' (born 1851)

Robert Sparks and family were living in Washington Township, just northeast of Glassboro, per the 1850 census. They were living a few miles away in Monroe Township (Chews Landing) per the 1860 census. Robert Sparks' first wife may have died, as he remarried in 1864 to Harriet Batten (1835 – 1882) of Woolwich Twp. (daughter of Thomas Batten and Margaret Miller). It was Harriet's second marriage as well, having previously been married to James Lock (b. 1833) with child Ann Lock (b. 1859).

By 1870, Robert Sparks and his second wife were living in Clayton Township, south of Glassboro. Two of the three children of Robert's first marriage were still living at home – George and Lizzie (future wife of Harry Skinner), though they were adults. The other child of Robert's first marriage - Helems Sparks, was married and living next door. The Sparks household also included very young children from their father's second marriage - the second set of children for both Robert and his second wife Harriet. The children included Jennie Sparks who is discussed several pages forward.

Son Helems Sparks was a product of the first Sparks marriage. The census of June, 1870 shows Helems V. Sparks, his wife Sarah, born circa 1848, and one month old child Mary E. Sparks. Helems and family were living next door to his father Robert Sparks at Clayton. Father and son were homebuilders. Helems and his young family do not appear in records after 1870.

The records of the Glassboro Methodist Episcopal Church show that Helems H. Sparks of Glassboro, age 25, married Sallie A. Dunellen? (Sallie Dnellen per state records) of Mullica Hill, age 21 on July 8, 1869. The wedding took place at the church parsonage. Sallie is called 'Sarah' in the 1870 census.

The Sparks Siblings – Lizzie (wife of Harry Skinner) & brother Helems Sparks:



Lizzie Sparks Skinner (born 1851)



Helems Sparks (born 1844 or 1845)
[tin-type]

Lizzie Sparks was a small person and the photographs suggest that her brother Helems, and her step-sister Jennie, were likewise.

The Family of Helems V. Sparks, brother of Lizzie (Sparks) Skinner:



“Helems Sparks’ Wife”
Sarah “Sallie” Sparks, b. circa 1848
[Hand-colored cheeks, both Helems and wife]



Helems V. Sparks (b. circa 1844)
[tintype]



Unknown, but same cardstock frame as that of
wife, above left.

Likely Mary E. Sparks, b. May, 1870

Woman and child images are small, high-
quality tintypes called ‘gem tintypes’ mounted
behind the window of a cardstock frame. These
studio photos differed from the lower-quality
tintypes sold at fairs and carnivals. This may
be the oldest image in my collection.

Photos from estate of Elizabeth Ungerbuehler

Jennie Sparks

Jennie Sparks, born in 1869, was the daughter of Robert Sparks and his second wife Harriet. She is one of the young children living in the Sparks household per the 1870 census at Clayton. Jennie was a half-sister to George, Helems and Lizzie – the older children from Robert's first marriage. Jennie, pictured below, married George E. Giberson and lived in Gloucester Co., NJ.



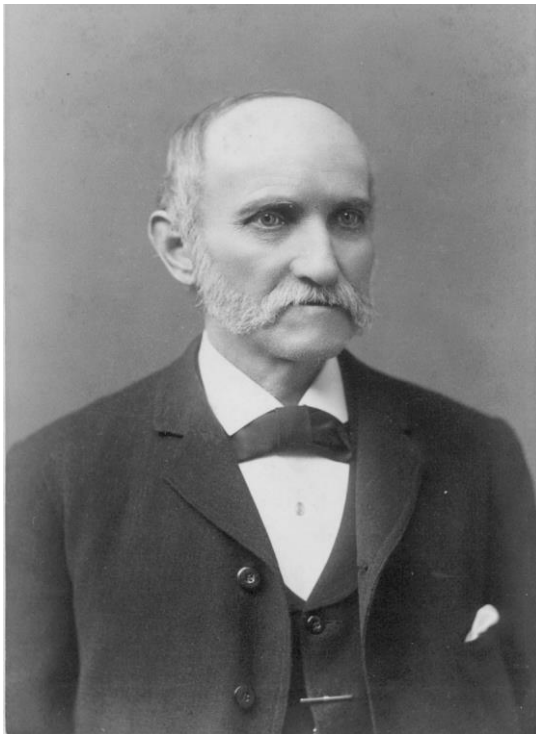
Jennie Sparks Giberson
[Fearn Studios, Haddonfield]

Lillian's writing

Food for Thought – Rice

Lizzie Sparks, wife of Harry Skinner, was the daughter of Robert Sparks (born 1815) and his first wife Mary Rice (born 1825).

Mary Rice had a brother Edwin C. Rice (born 1827). Edwin's wife was named Christiana (born 1837). Ed Rice, who lived at Bridgeton, Cumberland Co., was no doubt related to the prominent Rice shipbuilding family of Bridgeton, one of numerous shipbuilders in South Jersey that made schooners to satisfy the large need for oysters that were harvested from the Delaware Bay in the 1800's and early 1900's.



‘Uncle Ed Rice’ of Bridgton, NJ

[Service Studios – Bridgeton, NJ]



‘Aunt Chris Rice’

[Service Studios – Bridgeton, NJ]

From estate of Elizabeth Ungerbuehler
Ed and Chris would be uncle and aunt to Lizzie (Sparks) Skinner.

The Thomans, Shepherds and Ungerbuehlers

Harry and Lizzie Skinner had just one son, Warren Skinner, who is covered in detail elsewhere – reference the [Family Record for Warren Skinner](#).

Here are some thoughts about the families of the daughters of Harry and Lizzie Skinner – The **Thomans, Sheppards and Ungerbuehlers**:

The Thomans

Ursula Skinner (1873-1965), eldest child of Harry and Lizzie, married Horace Thoman (1871-1925). Horace's parents were Matilda Ann Thompson and Frederick George Thoman. Horace's parents had a home and pharmacy across the street from the Skinners on Main St. in Glassboro at the turn of the century. There are numerous surviving photographs of the Thoman family, and their ancestors include Benjamin Ross, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Reference the [Family Record of the Thomans](#).

Horace Thoman married the girl across the street – Ursula Skinner. Horace, a watchmaker, opened a jewelry store in Glassboro in the 1890's and later Woodbury, by 1900. The Thomans had two children – Ralph and Marion. Ralph (1895-1965) continued his father's jewelry business at Woodbury. He lived in Woodbury and his store was on South Broad Street in the movie theatre building, a store that was well known to my parents. Ralph had one child – Horace Thoman, who was a Woodbury dentist when I was growing up.

Marion (Thoman) Smith (1902-2004!), brother of jeweler Ralph Thoman, was a cousin of my grandparents and worked on Cooper Street in Woodbury when I was growing up. She was an independent woman who had left her cheating husband as a young woman. I saw her every now and then when I was in Woodbury High School in the early 1970's. She was well known to my parents and grandparents.

In 1995, my father and I visited Marion at her daughter's house. I was surprised to see that the 'working woman' of my youth was now 93 years of age. She was frail, but had perfect memory. Her light skin and eyes reminded me very much of her mother's brother, Warren Skinner – my great/grandfather. Marion was able to provide interesting information that is presented in these files.

My father and I visited her again in 2002, but she was not really aware of us. Marion faded like a flower and died 2004 at age 101.

Children of Harry and Lizzie Skinner – Ursula, Warren, Lora & Elizabeth (bottom right):



The Sheppards

Lora Skinner, second daughter of Harry and Lizzie Skinner, married Charles Sheppard. Charles was born in 1882 in Salem Co., NJ, but his family had moved to Wilmington, Delaware where he was young. Per the 1900 census, 17 year old Charles was an apprentice glass blower, same occupation as his father.

Not sure how Charles Sheppard of Wilmington, Delaware and Lora Skinner of Glassboro, NJ would have met, but they married in 1905 at the Skinner home in Glassboro. Five years later, the 1910 census shows that Lora and Charles were living with his parents in Wilmington. The census shows that Charles, then age 27, was a U.S. Postal Service mail clerk assigned to the railroads. This is the job he would hold for the remainder of his career. His nephew, Earl Skinner (my grandfather), had the same job for a time in his teens (circa 1920), a job he probably got with the help of his Uncle Charles. The 1910 census shows that that the one and only child of the Sheppards had been born, Charles Frances Sheppard, who was 3 years of age at the time.

Per the next census of 1920, Charles and Lora had purchased a home at Wilmington. The parents of Charles were still living with them. Ten years later, the 1930 census shows that they had relocated to a different home, just off Maryland Avenue in the Richardson Park section of Wilmington. Lora's sister – Elizabeth (Skinner) Ungerbuehler and family had moved from Philadelphia and were living just a few blocks away.

Lora and Charles Sheppard were filmed at the 1952 wedding of my parents, Annette and David Skinner. I never met them, as they died in a horrific auto accident in 1957 near Elmer, NJ.

I did know their son, Francis Sheppard. Francis, a first cousin to my grandfather Earl Skinner, was good friends with Earl and wife Lillian. Francis and his wife Sarah (Adams) visited the Skinners at Sanibel, Fl, in the 1970's and 1980's every so often. And Earl and Lillian made a point of visiting Francis and his wife Sarah when the Skinners traveled north from Florida once a year or so.

Francis and wife Sarah also visited my parents at Woodbury every so often until the death of Francis in the 1980's. His wife Sarah and son Paul (grandson of Lora and Charles) continued to visit us at Woodbury a few more times after that. We have all lost contact in recent years. I know that Paul resides in north/central New Jersey.

The Ungerbuehlers

Elizabeth Skinner, youngest daughter of Harry and Lizzie Skinner, married Franklin Ungerbuehler. Franklin was born and raised in north Philadelphia and was of German ancestry.

Not sure how Elizabeth met a Philadelphia guy, but I would not be surprised if she or her sister Lora were commuting to Philadelphia to work. Elizabeth Skinner and Franklin Ungerbuehler were married in 1908 at a Methodist Church near Franklin's home in Philadelphia. Elizabeth, unlike her older sisters Lora and Ursula, was not married at the Skinner home in Glassboro, NJ.

Elizabeth and Franklin settled in at Philadelphia. He was a foreman or manager at various different textile firms during the course of his life. In the 1920's, the family relocated to the Richardson Park section of Wilmington, Delaware, just a short distance from Elizabeth's sister – Lora (Skinner) Sheppard.

Franklin's WWII draft card (1942) shows that the Ungerbuehlers were now living south of Wilmington on (Old) State Road in New Castle. This would be the home I remember from my youth in the 1960's. The home was a distinctive home that sat by itself on a hill on the west side of Rt. 13, south of the intersection with the Pulaski Highway. We passed the house every now and then and my Dad would always point it out. Rt. 13 was the main corridor up and down the east coast of the US before the advent of I-95 in the 1970's, and we traveled it many times.

I never met Franklin Ungerbuehler. I met Elizabeth one time – in 1960, one day after the death of her husband Franklin. On that day, my grandfather (Earl Skinner) drove me down to the home of Elizabeth's son, Marsden (Earl's uncle), in Delaware. Marsden then drove us next door to his parent's house on the hill. Only time I was ever in the Ungerbuehler home and the only time I met Elizabeth. A few days later, my Dad attended Franklin's funeral.

Following the death of her husband, Elizabeth (Skinner) Ungerbuehler was moved to the care of her son Marsden, and later, to the care of her younger son Ben.

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