



The Historic Village at Allaire

The Village Star

	Fall 2026	
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FALL COLORS ARE POPPING UP AROUND THE VILLAGE

"The natural beauty of Howell Works, the winding brooks with their rustic bridges, the green woods with their tall ancestral trees, the grounds all scrupulously clean and neatly preserved by him with tender care were the delight of Hal Allaire and his many friends, both young and old who were permitted to visit the place." - Excerpt from *The Howell Iron Works and The Romance of Allaire*, by Halsted H. Wainwright

The Historic Village At Allaire
4263 Atlantic Avenue
Farmingdale NJ 07727
www.allairevillage.org

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From Left to Right Clockwise: A new display being set up in the museum, a spread of treats at the Allaire Legacy Awards, scary visitors celebrating Halloween.

A Note from the Editor:

Autumn is the best time to visit the village. There are not only a ton of fun events like the Fall Festival and Night of Frights, but the village also looks like a fairy tale under the fall foliage. This autumn, take a walk through the village and don't forget to grab a treat from our newly refreshed bakery.

Felicity Bennett
Museum Collections Manager, Editor





The Village Star

Letter from the Executive Director

HELLO FALL!

I encourage and welcome all to come out this season and experience the wonders of YOUR Historic Village at Allaire. We have so many programs and activities to enjoy for the remainder of 2026! They include Fall Harvest Festival, Night of Frights, Craft Shows, Flea Markets, and much more. Get immersed in the crafts that are demonstrated every Saturday and Sunday by our volunteers at the historic Carpenter Shop, Blacksmith Shop, and Wheelwright Shop. The Manager's House usually has a cooking demonstration using its 1750 open-hearth fireplace. The General Store is stocked with holiday merchandise early this year and certainly includes an array of period reproductions, NJ handmade items, and NEW Allaire Village branded accessories.

Quilts! Examples of our historic quilt collection will be on display within our Enameling Building Exhibition Hall. And be sure to watch for a re-opening of our Village Bakery with its refreshed historic interior that blends old with new seamlessly. Allaire is where memories are made, and experiences are offered for every generation to enjoy. Please be sure to check our Calendar of Events. Remember, we are open Friday to Sunday through November, 11 am to 4 pm!

Most importantly all our events and experiences would not be possible at The Historic Village at Allaire without your patronage! What does that mean? All proceeds generated through ticket admissions, retail sales at our Bakery and General Store, donations, memberships, Chapel rentals, etc. all go to directly sustain the Historic Village at Allaire. We are always grateful for YOUR visit and shopping! I often say – it takes a village to run a village. I am proud of the Allaire Village management staff that coordinate the events, staffing, historical interpretation, educational programming, demonstrations, and bring visibility to keep our village's 12 original structures and 40-acre historic district alive! We do an enormous amount with a small professional and passionate museum management staff and volunteers.

So, a heartfelt thank you to each of you and all those that make Allaire – "Allaire." Your membership, donations, vendor fees, continued support, and time are what help make Allaire a meaningful place. Because of your generosity, people can come together, share experiences, learn from one another, and feel connected to something larger than themselves.

As we move through Fall and into the November and December holiday season, may Allaire be a place where you can pause, refresh, and renew while discovering the many wonders that make your village experience special.

Allaire is more than a historic site – it is a community built through shared memories, treasured traditions, lifelong learning, and the connections formed between people. Together, we help bring the past to life and create new memories that will continue to shine for generations to come. I look forward to seeing you out and about!

Hance Morton Sitkus, CPA, Executive Director



The Lakewood Hotel, Lakewood, N.J. as it looked in 1903.

A “Trip” to Allaire, 1903 by Kevin O’Brien

New York society columns were abuzz in 1903 with the exploits of Mrs. Fannie P. Snow, the esteemed wife of Elbridge Snow Jr.

January 15, 1903, was a cold day in New York City. Mrs. Snow was anxious to travel to the luxurious Lakewood Hotel (built by Macy’s founder Nathan Straus) to reunite with her two young children.

The little boy and the very ill little girl were ordered there by the family’s doctor, along “with their nurse and a trained nurse” to take advantage of the better air away from 1903 New York City (“Mrs. Snow’s Auto Trip”).

The adventure began with Mrs. Snow, her friend Miss White, and Harry the chauffeur. As they pulled away at noon, a black cat crossed their path, possibly a harbinger of bad things to come (“All Night in an Automobile”). Creative and imaginative driving by Harry would be required to get to Lakewood in winter, as it was a 79 mile, seven hour trip over unpaved and unmarked roads.

They missed the Staten Island ferry for an hour delay right at the start. Upon reaching the Jersey side of the river, one tire was punctured entering New Brunswick and another as they left the town, Harry fixing both. Reaching Keyport at 7 p.m., Harry noticed leaks in both the gasoline and the water tanks. Repairing both on the fly, they pressed on. Between Deal and Asbury Park, the main pump failed, and the water tank lost all its precious liquid. No buildings were in sight, only a frozen pond that appeared to have gaps in the surface for ice harvesting. On hands and knees, the resourceful Harry crawled out and retrieved the needed water, allowing them to get to Asbury Park at 11 p.m. (“Mrs. Snow’s Auto Trip”).

Miss White decided to end her journey at this late hour and was dropped off at her mother’s residence in Eatontown.

An hour navigation mistake near Allentown and a broken muffler to boot, the duo rolled into “that creepy old place,” the deserted Village at Allaire, at 4a.m.

Harry roused Mr. DeLisle, the proprietor of The Hall, a restaurant/inn, once the old carpenter shop, at the so called deserted Village of Allaire. DeLisle, shouting from an upstairs window, would not allow them to enter or telephone ahead to the Lakewood Hotel. Later saying, "The chauffeur got me up and when I opened the window, he said 'we want a room'. There was only one woman in the automobile. It was four o'clock, and I thought it funny that respectable people should be fooling around at that hour of the morning in an automobile."

Mrs. Snow was incredulous at this response since she had hosted numerous dinners and luncheons at this very establishment the previous summer.

Having emptied the whiskey flask and leaving Mrs. Snow bundled in furs in the disabled vehicle, Harry walked to Thompson's farm a half mile down the road. He got Mr. Thompson to hitch up a team of horses to tow the auto and its occupants over 8 miles of rough wagon trails, to the Lakewood Hotel. The eight mile trip took two hours, getting Mrs. Snow and Harry there at 6 a.m. ("All Night in an Auto").

Mr. Snow, upon arriving at the hotel on Saturday, went to Allaire and told Mr. DeLisle "what he thought of him for refusing...shelter" to his wife and chauffeur on that cold and bitter night ("Mrs. Snow's Auto Trip").

Historical Notes:

Mr. Snow's full name was Elbridge Gerry Snow Jr. His family named him after Elbridge Gerry, signer of the Declaration of Independence. He was the founding father who would not sign the original Constitution because it did not contain the Bill of Rights.

Then in 1812, as governor of Massachusetts, attempted to redraw state senate districts into highly irregular shapes. An artist added wings, claws, and a tail making it look like a salamander, prompting an editor to call it a Gerry-mander. Thus, forever branding this type of political maneuvering as Gerrymandering. (Trickey, Eric. "Where Did the Term 'Gerrymander' Come from").

Resources:

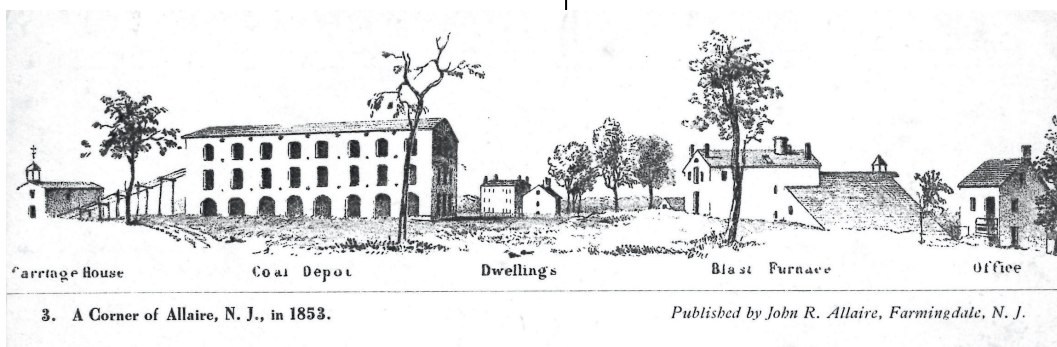
"All Night in an Auto", Lakewood Citizen, 23 Jan. 1903.

"All Night in an Automobile", New York Times, 19 Jan. 1903.

Doyle, Jim. *Historic stagecoach route from New York to Lakewood*. Facebook 2021

"Mrs. Snow's Auto Trip". New York Times, 20 Jan. 1903

AI assisted historical background on Gerrymandering and Mr. and Mrs. Snow.



Select Events at Allaire

Autumn Events

Allaire Village is open Friday to Sunday on Non-Event days from 11am to 4pm. Village Buildings, Historic Homes, and Retail Shops are open. 19th-century trade demos and tours are available. Admission is \$5 per person ages 4 and up on Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free on Fridays. If you are interested in free admission and other perks, check out our membership program. More info available at allairevillage.org, click the "Get Involved" tab!

Monday, September 7th:
Wednesday, September 9th:

Village Closed for Labor Day

Homeschool Day

Experience life as an 1830's child.
\$10 per person, ages 5 and up. 11am to 4pm

Saturday, September 19th
Sunday, September 20th:

Fall Harvest Festival

Two days of fall fun featuring vendors, live music, and more. \$12 adults, \$6 children ages 4 to 10.

Saturday, October 3rd:

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow by Neill Hartley

Located in the Allaire Chapel. Two shows 6pm and 7:30pm. Purchase tickets online.

SEVEN SCARY NIGHTS!!!!

Friday, October 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th:
Saturday, October 10th, 17th, 24th:

Halloween Night of Frights

6pm to 9pm. \$20 adults, \$15 ages 4 to 12. Children must be accompanied by adult!

Sunday, October 18th, 25th:

Allaire Ghost Tours

\$50 per person. Tours at 6pm and 8:30pm.
Ages 12 and up ONLY.

Sunday, November 22nd:

Day of Thanks - Featuring "Open the Vault"

\$5 per person. 11am-3pm. Open the Vault to Allaire museum pieces at 1pm in the Chapel.

Friday, December 11th, 18th:
Saturday, December 12th, 19th:

Christmas VIP Lantern Tours

\$45 per person. 4:30pm to 6pm guided tour.
Advanced tickets required. Not recommended for ages under 12.

Friday, December 11th, 18th:
Saturday, December 12th, 19th:

Holiday Evening Stroll

6pm to 8:30pm self-guided. Tree Lighting at 7pm. \$12 per person, ages 3 and up.

Sunday, December 13th, 20th:

Christmas at Allaire

11am to 4pm. Christmas in the 1800s, carolers, Santa Claus, and more! \$12 per person ages 4 and up. Ages 3 and under FREE!

To see our full calendar of events, purchase vendor spaces or tickets, or to find out more information please visit us online at allairevillage.org.



Markets & More

September 13th - Wheat Weaving
November 15th - Scherenschnitte (German Art of Paper Cutting)

History Kids Club is designed for ages 5 through 12. Kids can learn about history through hands-on activities. Held once a month on Sunday from 1 pm to 3 pm. Pre-registration on Eventbrite is required, all workshops are \$12 per person. The following is our theme for this month.

Last of the season! More sessions will arrive next spring in Febraury

Saturday, September 26th - Fall Craft and Vendor Show

Saturday, November 14th - Holiday Craft and Vendor Show

Saturday, September 5th

Saturday, November 7th

\$5 a person ages 11 and up

NEW!

Saturday, December 5th

Vendor Sign-ups available at

***For tickets and more
information, check out our
Allaire Village Eventbrite Page!
Scan our QR code to see more!***



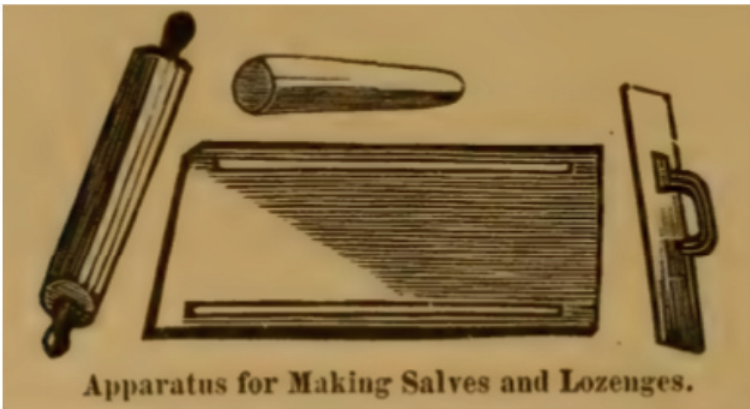


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The Rise of Domestic Medicine: Home Apothecary Remedies

By Gillian Byrnes, Allaire Village Intern, Johns Hopkins University

Life in the nineteenth century was primarily self-sustaining. In addition to cultivating the land, handmaking clothes, and utilizing natural resources, medicine was prepared at home. Most professional medicine at the time was scarce and unattainable; thus, most homes turned to the practice of domestic medicine. It was common for most households to have a collection of guidebooks containing recipes for everyday life, including homemaking, cooking, agriculture, and medicine. Most of the ingredients were readily available for making these at-home remedies. Often, they required only standard kitchen tools and common herbs. Domestic medicine was mainly prepared by women using resources from their gardens and land, sometimes mixed with other essential ingredients available at the general store.



Chase, A.W. (1800). Dr. Chase's Recipes or Information for Everybody: An Invaluable Collection of Over One Thousand Practical Recipes.

Allaire's time in New Jersey coincided with Jacksonian America. During this era, there was a surge of ideas in domestic medicine,

referred to as Thomsonianism, named after Samuel Thomson. Thomsonianism was a medicinal movement largely rooted in herbalism and naturalism. During the 1830s, most people were typically able to access, acquire, and administer botanical medicines. This made them "their own physician. Thomsonianism had great appeal to the common man of Jacksonian America" (McDonnell, n.d.). Likewise, domestic medicine devised the idea that "every man [was] his own doctor" (Moss, 1922). These ideas reflect the self-sustaining habits of the time period.

All Healing Salve -
5- Common sized flat turnips
5 Gts. of water. Boil soft
and skim them -
Handful of Milnet - / Buds
Handful " Balm of Gilead
Handful " Heal. all
Handful " Elder bark
Handful " Garden mallard
Handful " Night-shade
Small quantity of winter
green.
Boil it to a quart, then
strain it. Add
4 lbs Lard. 3 lbs. Beeswax
1/2 lb. Rosin. Then boil the
water out. 1 pt. ole. rum.
and strain to cool.

"All Healing Salve", The Historic Village at Allaire, Archives

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Foreman's Cottage Garden at Allaire Village

Domestic medicine was growing in practice as these “remedies and procedures were not so radically different from those of physicians” (Larkin, 1989). At a time when professional medicine was not yet properly established, it was common for families to take on the responsibility themselves, with only the elite having the resources to summon a doctor for a house call. At this time, rising practitioners specializing in botanical remedies challenged physicians practicing conventional medicine,

as many of them claimed this herbal approach was safer than bloodletting and other antiquated practices.

The rise of guidebooks such as John Gunn’s *Domestic Medicine or Poor Man’s Friend* in 1836 helped expand the field of domestic medicine by making it even more accessible to the everyday person. Another resource from the time was Dr. Chase’s *Recipes or Information for Everybody: An Invaluable Collection of Over One Thousand Practical Recipes from 1800*. This guidebook was advertised as being universally applicable to everyone, as the cover page reads: “Every mother needs it to understand and cure the diseases peculiar to childhood; every sick person needs it to know how to regain their health; every well person needs it to know how to preserve their health” (Chase, 1800).

An additional resource for practical home remedies, other than books, was word of mouth. As with any other subject, basic medicinal knowledge was shared from person to person and generation to generation, becoming an essential part of every household. It was likely that most families had their own essential versions of recipes, or receipts, each with a basic understanding of ingredients that would help heal a wide range of ailments, from simple symptoms to more complex illnesses. These included headaches, stomach pain, inflammation, sore throat, cough, jaundice, and malaria, among others.



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Medical Department.

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mass by using $\frac{1}{2}$ dr. of the soft extract of mandrake and a few drops of anise oil, then roll out into 3 grain pills.

Dose.—Two pills taken at bed time will generally operate by morning; but there are those that will require three, whilst one pill every night on retiring will be found the best corrective of the liver of anything now in use, for common cases; but in very bad cases where the pill does not arouse the liver to action, take the following :

4. **Liver Pills for Obstinate Cases.**—Tinctures of mandrake and blue flag roots, of each 1 oz.; and of calvers root, 2 oza. Dose.—For adults, 1 tea-spoon every 3 to 5 hours, increasing the dose gradually until you reach two or three tea-spoons, if the mouth does not become sore and the stomach not sickened nor the bowels moved too freely.

These drops are especially applicable in liver and spleen enlargements, and cases of very long standing disease of these organs; and in such cases it may be well to use externally, over the liver and spleen, especially if there is believed to be ulceration, the following :

5. **Ointment for Ulcerated Liver, Ague Cake, etc.**—Take a good handful of smartweed, wormwood, and the bark of sumac root; boil all together to get the strength, then strain and boil down carefully to about $\frac{1}{2}$ pt., adding lard $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and simmering together; when nearly cool add a tea-spoon of spirits of turpentine.

Apply at night, by rubbing it over the liver or other organ which may have pain or disease located upon it, heating it well by the stove or by a heated iron, putting it on, rubbing, and heating it in three or four times each application.

Dr. Chase's Recipes or Information for Everybody: An Invaluable Collection of Over One Thousand Practical Recipes.

The Household Cyclopaedia of General Information Containing Over A Thousand Recipes, published in 1881, lists a variety of homegrown cures and herbal remedies for coughs and colds, among other ailments, including a receipt for expectorant pills used to relieve mucus. "Take dried squill root, in fine powder, 1 scruple; gum ammoniac, cardamom seeds in powder, extract of licorice, each 1 drachm. Form them into a mass with simple syrup" (Hartshorne, 1881). Another useful receipt is an "emulsion for a cold. Take milk of almonds, 1 ounce; syrup of tolu, 2 drachms; rose-water, 2 drachms. Make a draught" (Hartshorne, 1881).

Dr. Chase's Recipes or Information for Everybody: An Invaluable Collection of Over One Thousand Practical Recipes contains a receipt for "bitters for chronic rheumatism.

Take prickly-ash berries, spikenard root, yellow poplar, and dog-wood bark, each $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; all pulverized and put into a gallon jug, and fill it up with brandy" (Chase, 1800). An additional example is a receipt for an "ointment for ulcerated liver. Take a good handful of smartweed, wormwood, and the bark of sumac root; boil all together, then strain and boil to about $\frac{1}{2}$ pt., adding lard $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and simmering together; add a teaspoon of spirits of turpentine" (Chase, 1800). Another receipt in this collection is for cathartic syrup, a laxative. "Take senna leaf, 1 oz.; jalapeño, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; butternut, the inner bark of the root, dried, 2 ozs.; peppermint leaf, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; fennel seed, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz; alcohol, $\frac{1}{2}$ pt.; water, $1\frac{1}{2}$ pts.; sugar, 2 lbs.; let it stand 2 weeks, then strain" (Chase, 1800).

By using resources growing in one's own backyard, domestic medicine proved to be an attainable method for households to cultivate their own health. Families and neighbors could share resources, thus creating a community-led endeavor. With the use of native herbs, "several ancient healing traditions remained intertwined in 19th-century healing practices" (Kay, 1922).



Resources:

Mandusic McDonnell, K. (n.d.). *Medicine of Jacksonian America*. Conner Prairie. Retrieved from the Conner Prairie Interactive History Park.



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Moss, Kay. (1922). *Medical Matters Interpreted: The Home Practice of Physick*. Proceedings of the 1992 Conference and Annual Meeting. Schiele Museum.

Larkin, Jack. (1989). *The Reshaping of Everyday Life: 1790-1840 – An Essential History of How Ordinary Americans Lived, Worked, and Built Their World (Everyday Life in America)*. Harper Perennial.

Chase, A.W. (1800). *Dr. Chase's Recipes or Information for Everybody: An Invaluable Collection of Over One Thousand Practical Recipes*. Chicago: Thompson & Thomas.

Hartshorne, Henry (1881). *The Household Cyclopedia of General Information Containing Over A Thousand Recipes*.



**Visit the General Store for the custom
"Jules at Allaire" themed Accessories!**

Property Deeds of 19th-Century America Through Written Records

**By Annabel S. Ramos,
Allaire Village Intern, Ramapo College**

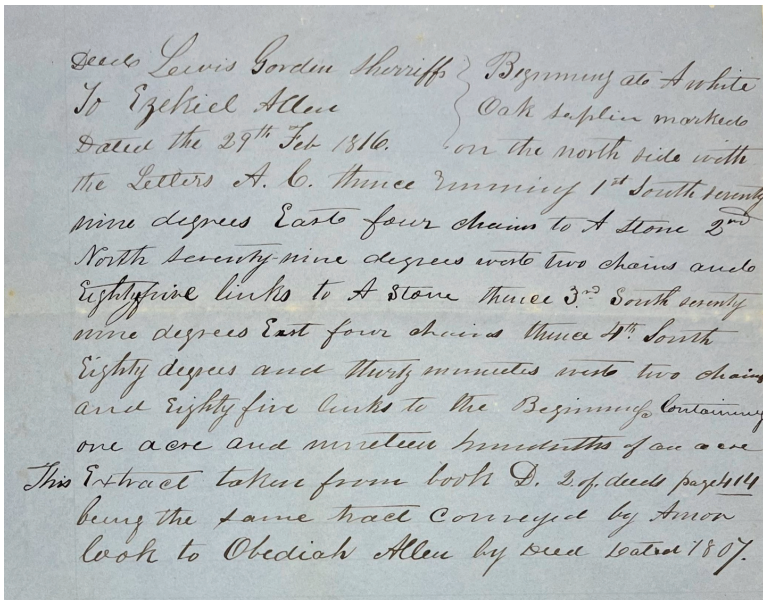
While in modern-day America property lines are determined through satellite images and electronic surveying devices, the historical process of determining property lines manually consisted of tedious procedures completed by teams of professionals. These historic methods were recorded through property deeds and land disputes that were written down and saved. Deeds such as these often determined the status of a property, such as the amount an individual owned, was selling, or inheriting. Through the recorded deeds, a lot can be learned about the methods in which property lines were determined in 19th-century America.

These written records often consisted of specific instructions from the surveyor general that described the total property. The descriptions often used cardinal directions, distance, angles, and specific landmarks to describe the borders of each property. For example, these documents will often refer to and describe a landmark such as a tree or large stone that is marked in order to provide more notable guidelines. Landmarks like these often served as a visual starting point for the directions given.



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Additionally, these letters often contained specific terminology in order to convey the precise measurements and directions given by the surveyor. The language used in these documents also reflects the vocabulary of the 19th century. The distances described were articulated through a set amount of "links" and "chains" in a given direction. For example, a deed might have read, "East four chains to a stone."



Howell Iron Works Extract of Land (1816)

This referred to the sections of the surveyor's chain, also known as Gunter's chain, after Edmund Gunter, who invented the tool in 1620 (Smithsonian, n.d.). This tool helped the surveyors determine distance in a specific direction or between landmarks, using a system of connected links. Additionally, the surveyors relied on other tools as well, such as a compass, in order to convey direction. The surveyors' tools became an essential part of their occupation.



Surveyor's Chain 1850-1926 (Smithsonian, n.d.)

With the use of these tools, the surveying profession had a respected role in the 1800s and still plays an important role today in helping historians map and understand historical properties.

The written records of property deeds from Allaire Village display the different surveying methods of the 19th century while also displaying changes in property ownership. The records show the property owned by James P. Allaire, the founder, providing context in understanding other aspects of the village's history. These documents display the thousands of acres owned by Allaire, along with showing the history of the land belonging to the Howell Iron Works company.

While these documents are valuable to local communities, the surveying practice holds a more extensive history. For instance, during the medieval period, maps did not use angles but instead only used direct measurements to convey distance within a property (Price, 1955).



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This differs from the surveying methods of the 19th century, where angles played a valuable role. Furthermore, things continued to advance after this time period. Following the invention of the surveyor's chain, other tools that served a similar function emerged, such as the metal tape that was able to account for more precise measurements (Smith et.al., 2012). From the compass to the surveyor's chain to the metal tape, each new tool helped surveyors account for more accurate results.

Now, land disputes and transfers are still recorded through documented contracts, although the methods in which the property is surveyed have changed drastically. With technological advancements accounting for more, the modern methods look different from those of the 19th century. Today, satellite triangulation and electronic distance measurement devices are used to provide an even more precise location by accounting for other variables such as the earth's curve (Smith et.al., 2012).



Global Navigation Satellite System (NASA, 1992)

Despite this new transition, the tedious practice of 19th-century rural America plays a valuable role in understanding historical records, property, and ownership. It also provides a new perspective on how property lines are determined today, and the role that they may play in our future.



References:

Global Navigation Satellite System. (1992) NASA Earth Data.

Price, D. J. (1955). *Medieval Land Surveying and Topographical Maps.* The Geographical Journal, 121(1), 1-7.

Smith, J. M., Stevens, J., & Bianchetti, R. A. (2012). *Mapping Our Changing World.* The Pennsylvania State University.

Surveyor's Chain. (n.d.) Smithsonian National Museum of American History.





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Hal Allaire is buried locally in Atlantic View Cemetery in Manasquan, NJ.

A Spooky Place can Provide Knowledge: Why You Should Visit Your Local Cemetery for Historical Research

By Felicity Bennett, Museum Collections Manager

This October, when you're in the mood for a haunt, try visiting your local historic cemetery. These final resting spots are not just for memorializing those who are gone, they also provide historic and genealogical information!

Grave markers and church records provide a wealth of information to those doing family research and genealogy. Besides getting the dates and names correct, the location and size of the grave can provide important context to their social and financial life. You can also learn about local history and see people that you hear about in museums or history books. Many graveyards and cemeteries have informational signs memorializing famous people, historic events, and more. In my own visits, I learned about witches, shipwrecks, and the American founding fathers.

Visiting a grave can help you feel connected to someone who lived 100s of years ago, seeing the dates in person of someone who isn't famous or "important" makes you realize how old something is. They were living ordinary lives, as you did, just in the 1600s.

Remember that cemeteries and graveyards don't have to be places of fear or sadness; many were once used as green spaces before public parks were common. Victorians often had picnics over the graves of their loved ones as a way to connect with family. But please remember to be respectful, especially in active cemeteries; keep the space clean, and don't interrupt mourners.



THE HISTORIC VILLAGE AT ALLAIRE

FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL

TWO FUN DAYS!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

11AM TO 4PM

EACH DAY



Celebrate the Fall Season at Allaire Village!

Over 50 Craft Vendors * Live Music * Glitter Tattoos
Historic Craft & Fine Art Demonstrations * Food Trucks
Pie Baking Contests * Crafts for Kids * Stilt Walker
Scavenger Hunt for Prizes * Meet the Villagers
Fall Decor & More * Bakery, General Store & Historic
Buildings OPEN!

*Introducing "Jules at Allaire"
custom accessories
at the General Store!*

ADMISSION each day

\$12 per adult

\$6 per child (ages 4-10 years)

3 & under free



**Located within Allaire State Park
4263 Atlantic Ave
Farmingdale, NJ 07727**



732-919-3500



www.allairevillage.org



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A Thank You To Our Annual Sponsors & Grantors



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the historic district located within Allaire State Park.

Thank you for your support!

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