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From the Editor

Our lead story takes us to nearby East Whiteland Township for an article by a local history buff, Mr. K. Varden Leasa. Varden is a descendant of the Malin family as well as the Brackbill family. Local residents may remember the Brackbill Farm Markets stores in Berwyn and Wayne, among other locations. You will hear more about the Brackbills in a future issue. Varden has performed extensive research to document the claims about George Washington made in his article, so be sure to read the accompanying notes and appendix.

Below is the earliest photograph of the Brackbill-Haldeman-Malin House, taken about 1870 when the farm was owned by Levi G. Griffith. The three men on the front porch are unidentified. The photograph was given to Cornelius Haldeman after his daughter Grace married Levi Griffith's grandson George Griffith Malin (probably by Levi's daughter, Elizabeth Griffith Malin).

On our back cover, the dramatic aerial view of the Devon Horse Show grounds was taken in 1927, shortly after the birth of Albert Cappelli, who is featured in the article titled *The Way We Were*. Albert's home on Grove Avenue, just off the right edge of the photograph, was destroyed in the great fireworks explosion of 1930. Some of the buildings of the fireworks company are visible at the top center of the photograph.

This image is from a source new to the Society. In 1924, pilot J. Victor Dallin, a former member of the Royal Air Force and veteran of the First World War, formed the Dallin Aerial Survey Company. Operating out of the Philadelphia Municipal Airport, his company was one of many during the era searching for business opportunities that utilized the nascent technology of the airplane. Dallin's company took thousands of aerial photographs throughout the Mid-Atlantic region, most in the Philadelphia area from 1924 to 1941. Delaware's Hagley Museum has approximately 16,000 glass negatives from Dallin's collection. The Society has purchased 60 digital images of photographs of the local area from the Hagley. You may expect to see more of these images in the future.



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TREDYFFRIN EASTTOWN HISTORY QUARTERLY



A Great Valley Legend — Where Did Washington Really Sleep?

The Way We Were — Oral Histories from Our Community

Excerpted from Vol. 45 No. 2 of the Tredyffrin Easttown History Quarterly

Back Cover: The Devon Horse Show grounds in 1927, a few years after the birth of Albert Cappelli, who would grow up on nearby Grove Avenue. Many of the buildings seen in the photograph are still standing. Others, along with the Cappelli home, were damaged or destroyed by the fireworks explosion of 1930. Founded in 1896, the Horse Show recently concluded its 2008 event. *Photograph by the Dallin Aerial Survey Company, courtesy of the Hagley Museum.*

