

GLEN ROCK HISTORICAL & PRESERVATION SOCIETY PRESENTS:

GLEN ROCK HISTORY

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1994 GLEN ROCK TIME CAPSULE

Glen Rock was incorporated as an independent borough in 1894. As part of our Centennial celebration in 1994, a Time Capsule was buried near the flag pole in front of the Municipal Building. During the most recent renovations to the building, the Capsule was removed, with the intention to re-bury it once construction was completed.

However, it was discovered that the Capsule shell had been damaged at some point (not during its removal) and, because the contents had been

compromised, it was decided not to return it to the ground. The Historical Society, with help from the Glen Rock DPW, was able to open the Capsule to assess the condition of its contents. Unfortunately, there is bad news: water had seeped into the Capsule years ago and dampness and mold has damaged much of its contents. This issue of "Glen Rock History" is dedicated to what we found, using photos that were salvageable.



"Don't worry," you might say, "there is another Time Capsule buried behind the Rock." That Capsule went into the ground in 1969 and is due to be unearthed in 2044. But it is very likely that that Capsule has also been compromised: before it went into the ground, Councilman Benken opened the hermetically sealed tube so he could inspect the contents. Newspaper articles from the time describe how the contents were hurriedly jammed back inside with the top not properly re-sealed. So perhaps the take-away from all of this is that Time Capsules should be stored above ground, in a controlled environment, for best results.

1994 TIME CAPSULE FACTS

- * The Rindbrand Well Drilling Co. dug a 20 foot shaft to hold the Capsule
- * The Capsule cylinder itself was 24" long with a 6" diameter
- * Most of the contents are paper items (printed pieces and photographs) with a few additional prized possessions such as a red Centennial t-shirt and an 1894 penny donated by the Ronayne family
- * Water seepage negated the best efforts to preserve the material

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TIME CAPSULE PHOTOGRAPHS

Although the photographs placed in the Capsule were enclosed in archival protectors, they all suffered some extent of water damage. Some of the photos are completely lost, particularly the color ones, but a large number of them have only edge damage. It is fortunate that many of the Capsule photos were printed in black and white. These photos have been scanned and reprinted by the GRHPS.

Some things around town have not changed much since 1994:



Arboretum



Saddle River Park



Perry's Florist

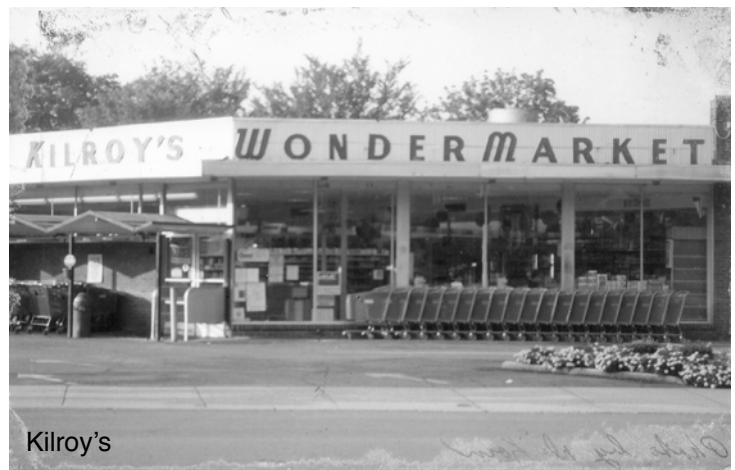


John's Boy Pizza

And some things have:



Municipal Kiddie Pool



Kilroy's

TOP HITS OF 1994

What was going on in the world in 1994? See if you remember any of these things:

- *Ace of Base* has #1 song, "The Sign"
- Top Movies: *Forrest Gump*; *The Lion King*; *The Shawshank Redemption*; *Pulp Fiction*
- William J. Clinton is the US President
- Newt Gingrich is Speaker of the House
- Nelson Mandela elected President of RSA
- Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Yasir Arafat, Shimon Peres & Yitzhak Rabin
- Cost of US first class stamp = \$0.29
- Massacre in Rwanda
- Russians attack Chechnya
- O. J. Simpson arrested in killings of Nicole Brown Simpson & Ronald Goldman
- US figure skater, Nancy Kerrigan, attacked
- Major League Baseball strike (no World Series held)
- NY Rangers win the Stanley Cup!
- Olympics held in Lillehammer, Norway
- Harry Styles and Justin Bieber are born
- Richard M. Nixon, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and Kurt Cobain pass away
- The People's Republic of China gets its first connection to the internet

AND GLEN ROCK, NEW JERSEY CELEBRATES ITS 100th BIRTHDAY!



Do you remember having to separate your plastics at the Recycling Center? In this photo, GRHPS members in 1994 are preparing plastic bottles to be baled.



Leo Brown, Anne Allen, Karen Mitchell, Barbara Schineller & Kay Tuite carefully remove the Capsule contents. (2014)

SO WHAT WAS INSIDE?

The Time Capsule was meant to remain in the ground until 2094, 100 years after burial. What mementos of 1994 were placed inside? The materials were collected by The Centennial co-chairs (Bella Fellig, Dave Sayles Sr., and Hal Knapp) as well as residents who donated photos, newsletters and other material representing their organizations, schools and neighborhoods. Congratulatory letters from Bill Clinton and New Jersey Governor Christine Todd Whitman were included. An autographed copy of Ron Onorato's Centennial play, a copy of the Centennial Song by Michael Ficocelli, a t-shirt, a Centennial flag, a coupon from Turvino's, a comic book, a pool badge, a library card, a button from the Glen Rock Volunteer Ambulance Corps - these were all carefully packed into the metal cylinder.

Nitrogen gas was pumped into the Capsule to replace oxygen, which is a prime factor in the deterioration of stored material. In the end, the most important factor in deciding what survived the unexpected water seepage was where the item was placed: items closer to the top of the cylinder, farthest from the hole in the base, fared much better than those closest to the water source.

A Centennial newsletter describes "a very special item": "All residents...had the opportunity to send their wishes to the future by signing a message on a special acid-free scroll. When unrolled, the scroll measures 32 feet and holds the salutations of over 200 people. The scroll is signed by young and old alike. Some of the wishes include good health, a cure for AIDS and cancer, a clean Earth, good schools and good government." This Wish List did not survive. But the wishes for love and peace, harmony and prosperity live on in spirit.

G.R.H.P.S.

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The GRHPS Mission Statement:

To heighten the public's awareness of, and
appreciation for, the history, growth and development
of Glen Rock, Bergen County, New Jersey.

Our next meeting is: Thursday, **December 18**, 2014
7:30 pm at the Main Line Station

Meetings are held on the THIRD Thursday of the
month, September through June.

The GRHPS can scan your original materials for our
collection so that you retain your treasures while we add
the information contained therein to our archives. Help
us continue to learn about our borough's past.

THE GRHPS IS A 501(c)3 ORGANIZATION. DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW.

MEMBERSHIP INFO

Please join us today

Regular \$10
Supporting \$25
Sustaining \$50+
Corporate \$100+

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Please send your check, payable to Glen Rock Historical &
Preservation Society, to:
GRHPS, P. O. Box 581, Glen Rock, NJ 07452-0581

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Address _____

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Come visit us!

MUSEUM AT THE STATION SCHEDULE

We will be open from 1 - 3 pm on the following dates:

December 28, 2014 January 25, 2015

February 22, 2015 March 29, 2015