



Gaslight News

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Historical Society of Riverton

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Founded 1970

Riverton, NJ 08075

Incorporated 1978

Phonograph demo and presentation May 5th



Edison phonograph, c. 1898
<http://tmbw.net/wiki/images/a/a0/EdisonPhonograph.jpg>

The Historical Society of Riverton will meet on Monday, May 5th, 2008, at 7:30 PM for a general meeting and free program in the Media Center of Riverton School at Fifth and Howard Streets.

Riverton resident and phonograph collector Mark Lewis will present an informative and entertaining program on the history and evolution of the phonograph, along with recordings from the years 1895-1945.

Collection started with flea market find

Mr. Lewis bought his first Victrola at a flea market in 1995 and was intrigued with the machine's mechanics. His interest and collection has grown considerably since then, and he now also repairs and sells phonographs. He owns more than a dozen phonographs of different sizes and makes. He will demonstrate several types of phonographs during the presentation, particularly those of Edison, Victor, and Columbia.

A hands-on program

This will be a hands-on program - not only will attendees be able to listen to recordings on the old phonographs, they will get the opportunity to operate the machines.

-PRISCILLA TAYLOR



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It started with the "Wizard"

Join us to learn more about the first phonograph which was invented in 1877 by Thomas Edison in Menlo Park, New Jersey and Eldridge Johnson's Victor Talking Machine Company which was established in Camden in 1900.

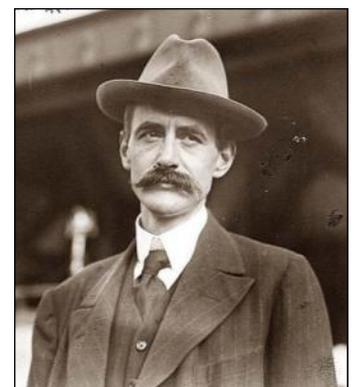
Lloyd Carpenter Griscom

"An American Diplomat of the New Type"

Riverton is the proud home to a number of famous authors, artists, captains of industry and politicians. One of the most adventurous families from Riverton may well be the Griscom clan led by Clement Acton and his son Lloyd Carpenter Griscom. Both father and son became two highly successful and colorful international characters of the early twentieth century.

Hugh Williard wrote "An American Diplomat of the New Type" for *Putnam's Magazine* in 1909 two months after Ambassador

Griscom's resignation from his post as United States Ambassador to Italy. At the age of thirty-seven Ambassador Griscom served with distinction in diplomatic posts in England, Turkey, Persia, Japan, Brazil and Italy.



Lloyd C. Griscom
<http://www.old-picture.com/american-history-1900-1930s/Griscom-Lloyd.htm>

See GRISCOM on 4

**PART TWO OF A
TWO PART ARTICLE BY
MRS. PATRICIA SOLIN**

Former school librarian, current Vice President of the Riverton Free Library Association Board, and HSR member, Mrs. Patricia Solin has been a Riverton resident with her husband, Barry and four children for over 24 years. Here is the second installment of her debut article for the *Gaslight News*.



406 Main Street - former Marcy family residence and now home to the Solin family.

Genealogy and Internet Searching: A Beginner's Guide: Part Two

One day, about ten years after we had bought our home at 406 Main Street, I answered a knock at our door. There I found a gentleman who introduced himself by pointing to the historic sign on our home - Dr. Alexander Marcy, Jr. House. He said, "That's me!" which certainly confused me as Dr. Marcy had passed away some sixty years before. Then he explained, "Dr. Marcy was my grandfather, and I grew up in this house. My name is Alexander Marcy Crowell." He said he was a sailor and didn't know when he'd next be in the area to see his childhood friends or his home again, so he asked if I didn't mind if he looked around. Yes, I invited him to tour his former home.

An unexpected visitor reminisces and sparks the author's curiosity

Marcy, as he was called, walked among my four children's scattered toys, and reminisced about the house. I told him that the snowmen that he and his brother had drawn still remains under the wallpaper in our bedroom, along with the childish graffiti, "A. Marcy is a dope!" He told me of their Victory Garden, and how wonderful it was to grow up in Riverton. I told him that we felt the same, and were glad that we shared his home. It was a great visit. Since that time I have wanted to learn more about the Marcy family, the original caretakers of our home.



Marcy family and friends

In the previous issue of *The Gaslight News*, I described my Internet search techniques and my attempt to find public domain articles about Alexander Marcy, Jr. and his family. I found a wealth of information about the family and was able to construct a small but interesting insight to their history.

Piecing the puzzle of family history

From the Bible records that were left with the house, I saw that Virgil MD Marcy had presented the book to Alexander Marcy, Jr. on February 7th, 1884. But Alexander Marcy was listed as Junior, so who was Virgil and what of Alexander Marcy, Sr.? Could I find any other information about their family roots? My Internet search provided me with a great deal of information, the primary sources for this history. Please visit the *Gaslight News*' website, gaslightnews.homestead.com, where active links will take you directly to the websites listed in the column at the end on this article.

The family Bible and information from the property deed stated that Alexander Marcy (Jr.) (b. 1859) married Mary Ann Mecray (b.1864), date unknown, but that date could have been when the Bible was gifted in 1884. Mary Ann and Alex had five children, with two of the boys dying at the age of five, and the third boy at the age of three. Two children, Hannah Mecray Marcy and Marjorie Sumner Marcy married and lived to adulthood. The younger sister, Marjorie, married James Gardner Crowell, Jr. Marjorie and Hannah inherited the Riverton house (from the deed) after their mother died in 1928, followed by Alexander Marcy in 1934 (from their Bible). Gardner and Marjorie purchased Hannah's share and had a family of two sons while at 406 Main Street. We purchased the home from Mr. Crowell in 1983.

Gardner Crowell shares delightful oral history

Mr. Crowell provided some insight to the family when we purchased the house. We were delighted that he shared a brief oral history about our house while touring each of the rooms. For example, he mentioned

that a second floor balcony facing the South side of the house was warm enough, even in winter, to be used by “the girls” to dry their hair. (He had converted it to a bathroom). Just below that balcony was a wrap-around porch with a side entrance. Patients were to enter a waiting room that would be closed off from the house by pocket doors. This room was adjacent to Mr. Crowell’s music room, where he had a baby grand piano. However, Dr. Marcy had used that first floor turret room as his exam room. The call bell for “next patient” remains on the wall. When Dr. Marcy was able to afford it, he purchased the house next door, which became his clinic. The call bell, conveniently located on the floor under the carpet near where the lady of the house would sit in the dining room, was used to call for the “Trusty Servant” whose room was up the back stairs on the third floor, signified by a charming door knocker. No, neither the bell nor the trusty servant is currently in working order!

Not only are oral histories one benefit of being able to purchase a house from a long-time owner, but also the serendipity of finding “lost” objects around the property. Over the years we have found old medicine bottles in the yard, a piece of stained glass still edged in lead, an old sword, pottery, a china toy, and even a delicate piece of a greeting card that had fallen behind a fireplace mantel. These are just a sample of our “buried treasures.”

After moving to The Evergreens in Moorestown, Mr. Crowell passed in the spring of 1986.

Typical family records available

So what of the history of their families? What can we learn that is readily already on the Internet and available in public records?

The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints had excellent records about the family. These dates and names are from

marriage and U.S Census Records, which can be highly reliable. It showed that Virgil M.D. Marcy was born Jan. 5, 1823 in Cold Spring NJ, whose father was Samuel S. Marcy, who was born in CT. Virgil, 26, married Mary Jane Bennett, 22 on Nov. 19, 1848 in Cape May, NJ. Also listed was their son, Alexander Marcy, born in 1859 in NJ (from 1880 U.S. Census), with Virgil being the head of the household. Virgil, 57 was listed as being an allopathic physician in Cape May.

To recap:

- Samuel S. Marcy, born in CT, had a son named Virgil.
- Virgil was born in 1823, was a doctor and married in 1848, Mary J. Bennett (b.1826).
- Alexander, born in 1859, was a medical student in 1880, living in Virgil Marcy’s household. –This man was the previous owner of our home!

Now the timeline seems to get complicated, but interesting! At the same website as above, another Alexander Marcy was listed in 1878 as living in Camden at age 42 and born in 1838, whose mother and father were born in NJ. The *New Jersey Archives & Records Management NJARM, Archives Collection Guides*, found that a medical certificate was issued to Alexander Marcy of Camden County, granted by the Medical Society of NJ on January 27th, 1863. He, like Alexander, Jr. appears to be a doctor and practicing in the same area, but a generation apart.

- There’s another Alexander Marcy who was born in 1838, based upon the 1880 U.S. Census, in addition to Alexander “Jr.” (b.1859).
- Alexander Marcy lived in Camden in 1880; no profession listed at the age of 42, but had received his medical certificate in 1863 at age 25.
- The *RootsWeb* site states that Alexander Marcy married Hanna(h) Ann



The call bell for “next patient” remains on the wall. ... The call bell... was used to call for the “Trusty Servant” whose room was up the back stairs on the third floor, signified by a charming door knocker. No, neither the bell nor the trusty servant is currently in working order!



Virgil Marcy presented the family Bible to Alexander Marcy, Jr. on February 7th, 1884.



J. Gardner Crowell discussed the upcoming 1976 Bicentennial with a reporter in his living room at 406 Main St.

Mr. Gerald Weaber, past vice president of the Historical Society of Riverton, former editor the *Gaslight News*, and the webmaster of our Web site, has again written a piece which will surely give readers new appreciation of our rich cultural past.

“Griscom is more aggravatingly leisurely but he has a most audacious humor and talks to the natives in a way that fills them with pleasure...”

Three Gringos in Venezuela by Richard Harding Davis

GRISCOM from 1

Griscom named “Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary”

Born in Riverton to an international shipping magnate, Clement Acton Griscom, Lloyd excelled in solving complex foreign trade disputes in the many diplomatic posts he served from 1899 to 1909. Lloyd C. Griscom, as the *Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary* to Japan, resolved a diplomatic incident created by American author and war correspondent Jack London in 1904. London wrote several novels set during the 1897 Klondike gold rush including *The Call of the Wild* in 1903 and *White Fang* in 1906, among countless other books and short stories.

Assists author Jack London

Griscom’s close friend, Richard Harding Davis, a Philadelphia author, playwright and fellow adventurer, asked Griscom to negotiate with the Japanese government after the arrest of Jack London who was arrested several times for taking photographs of military operations. Japan was mobilizing for war with Russia and they believed London to be a Russian spy. By means of his razor sharp logic Mr. Griscom capably negotiated a favorable resolution to the confiscation of Mr. London’s camera. A humorous account of the Jack London incident is posted on the historical society web site.

Three Gringos in Venezuela

A very personal glimpse into the life and character of Lloyd C. Griscom is available on the internet site of the University of Virginia Library in the letter collection, *Adventures and Letters of Richard Harding Davis, 1864-1916*. Mr. Davis chronicled his adventures with his friends, Somers Somerset and Lloyd C. Griscom, on a ‘leisurely



Richard Harding Davis
www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/jharding.htm

trip’ to Central and South America. The trio’s journey to South America began early in the year of 1895 without a set itinerary and took them down rivers rarely traveled by Americans in the late 19th century.

Davis tells a colorful story of their trip sailing from New Orleans, “...bent on having a good time, and as many adventures as possible.” One letter describes the Governor of Belize lending the three men boats to explore the river region.

“We struck a beautiful place today called Livingston where we went ashore and photographed the army in which there was no boy older than eighteen and most of them under ten. It was quite like Africa, the homes were all thatched and the children all naked and the women mostly so. We took lots of photographs and got on most excellently with the natives who thought we were as funny as we thought them... Griscom is more aggravatingly leisurely but he has a most audacious humor and talks to the natives in a way that fills them with pleasure...”

Davis remarked after sailing home from Venezuela, “...there is not much more to tell except that I was never so glad to set my face home as I am now and even the roughness of this trip cannot squelch my joy. It seems to me as if years had passed since we left and to think we are only three days off from Sandy Hook seems much too wonderfully good to be possible. Some day when we have dined alone together at Laurent's I will tell you the long story of how Somers and Gris came to be decorated with the Order of the Bust of Bolivar the Liberator of Venezuela of the 4th class...”

The South American exploits of Davis, Griscom and Somerset were published by Harper Brothers in 1896 titled “*Three Gringos in Venezuela*” as an illustrated account of a journey through Venezuela, Panama, Nicaragua, Honduras and British Honduras.

If Walls Could Talk

If your Riverton walls could talk, what would they say? In many of our historic houses, it seems that the walls hold volumes of kept secrets - some that can help determine the date of our homes.

When I purchased my first Riverton house a few decades ago, we were eager to change the home's décor to suit our tastes. The previous owners had spent a good quarter century making improvements and were rightly proud of their home. As newlyweds, however, we were anxious to update the color scheme.

With Thanksgiving approaching, our decorating plan had a real deadline. Our moment of truth came under the guise of a rented wallpaper steamer. We took off yards and yards of wallpaper in the kitchen and hall and were exhausted by the time we reached the dining room. But what to our wallpaper weary eyes appeared but a scattering of signatures on the bare plastered wall!

We were surprised and elated to find three sets of hand-scrolled and dated signatures - the earliest indicated 1925. We quickly surmised that the signatures could belong to former owners of our dear house as the most recent signature was that of the person from whom we purchased the house. A deed search conducted later confirmed our guess as the house was constructed, purchased and occupied in 1925 - by one of the people whose signature appeared on our dining room wall.

Since we planned to use new wallpaper on the wall, our decision regarding what to do about the signatures was easy - we added our own scripts to the wall with our purchase date, took pictures of the signatures, and hung the new paper.

Years later, after selling that house, my second Riverton house provided another discovery of delight. After steaming away layers of wallpaper in the master bedroom,

I was thrilled to see a beautiful cursive signature emerge beneath the paste - "H. C. Ness, Paperhanger, 1908".

I did a deed search on this house as well - Mr. Ness's signature helped to determine when a structure first occupied my property. A search through Riverton's census of 1900 and 1910, however, turned up nary a mention of Mr. Ness. Although his personal residence remains a mystery, his talents as a paperhanger were in a demand as other Riverton homeowners have reported finding his signature on their walls.

Earlier this year, I received a phone call from one of our members who purchased the residence of Professor Charles Cleveland, one of the founders of Riverton. The house has an interesting history as it was moved from its original location on Bank Avenue to its present site on Penn Street.

The new owner and his wife were in the process of taking down old wallpaper when they were surprised by what lay underneath: a full-scale drawing complete with names and dates. Putting the pieces of this puzzle together fortunately was easy as HSR board member Elsie Wright Waters grew up in the house. Elsie believes that her mother, artist Lenore Wright (b.1885), drew the illustrations. Lenore's brother was Arthur Wright. The Wright family moved into the house in 1888.

So, there are secrets to the past in our old Riverton houses. Some are still waiting to be discovered. The credo is not buyer beware, but buyer be aware! If you have a mystery on your Riverton walls, we'd like to hear about it. If you make a discovery, please take a picture of your finding.

-PRISCILLA TAYLOR

Priscilla Taylor, President of the HSR, writes that this is the last Gaslight issue until September. If you need to reach her over the summer, she can be found on the baseball fields cheering on her freshman son.



Coddington's paint and wallpaper business, Riverton, circa 1920's. Could Mr. H. C. Ness, paperhanger, be in this photo?



Hidden wall art discovered by Mr. & Mrs. Ron Cesaretti, current owners of Professor Charles Cleveland's house



McDermott's Handy and Irish dancers get a hand from an appreciative crowd

On March 17th the talented Kathy DeAngelo and Dennis Gormley collaborated with their daughter Emma, other musicians, and two spirited Irish dancers to deliver a St. Patrick's Day feast for the eyes and ears



PHOTO BY C. CARUSO

to those attending the free program at the Porch Club.

-JMC

Thank you to Mr. C. Caruso for generously providing photo coverage.



PHOTO BY C. CARUSO



-JMC

Other treats included Mrs. Phyllis Rodgers' famous scones.



PHOTO BY C. CARUSO

Riverton reminisces



PHOTO BY GERALD WEAVER

408 Main St.

Several readers pointed out that before Dr. Marcy occupied the home now occupied by Mrs. Patricia Solin, Dr. Rodgers treated patients from the clinic located next door at 408 Main.

Mr. Carl McDermott writes, "...the article brought memories of my own family." He explains that he is the youngest grandson of Rachael Rieger— his mother's mother. In 1927 she and Dr. Rodgers had a maternity home at 408 Main St. The entire 2nd floor was the maternity floor— one private room and a 3 bed maternity room. There was also a delivery room and baby room. Dr. Rodgers' office was on the first floor.

"My mother and father, two brothers (Bill and Paul [Pudgie]) and myself moved in with my grandmother around 1928. We had a private back steps to the 3rd floor off the kitchen and dining room. There was plenty of room and Grandmom was happy about it all, now that she had my mother's help with the all of the chores of a maternity home."

He recalls that some of the babies born there were Harry Richard, the Farrell twins, and Harry Watson. Mr. McDermott's mother was also a hardworking woman who was one of the first telephone operators in Riverton. The telephone office and the exchange was

on the 3rd floor of Ray Banks' Barbershop, or what is now Zena's. His brother Paul kept a pony in the garage facing the alleyway called Church Lane.

Mr. McDermott finishes, "When my grandmother left the maternity home she came to live with my family at 729 Cinnaminson St. in Riverton, also known as Irish Row. We were very happy to have Grandmom living with us. She was a great lady I can still taste her peanut brittle, cookies, and homemade bread. God Bless her. Also, my Grandmother and Grandfather McDermott lived at 721 Cinnaminson St. Couldn't have it any better. Carl Thomas McDermott—born at 721 Cinnaminson St. 86 years ago."

Mr. Norman Harris recalls that his father only earned \$5/week cutting down trees for an arborist and that Dr. Rogers treated them for allergies which they bartered to pay for with squabs that his father raised from his homing pigeons and rollers. Norman's brother, William, explains that his family had lost its coal business during the Depression. The pigeon squabs were a delicacy that his mother prepared for the good doctor's dinner table. Rollers, however, are bred to fly like homing pigeons, except that they can spin and rotate in flight. The Harris Clan also had a manure business at one point—no wisecracks out there!

Sounds like Carl and the Harris brothers have a few more stories to be told. The HSR invites you to share yours.

-JMC



GRISCOM from 4

The Griscom Family Tree rooted to the movers and shakers

The Griscom family tree is replete with American leaders and adventurers. Clement Acton and his son Lloyd Carpenter Griscom descended from Andrew Griscom, a prominent Philadelphia physician who came to America in 1680 and purchased land located in South Camden. Andrew became an associate of William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania. Dr. Griscom's mother was Margaret Acton, from Salem, New Jersey who was descended from Thomas Lloyd, Deputy Governor and president of the council of the colony of Pennsylvania in the late seventeenth century.



Lloyd Griscom's father connected to shipping, banking, railroads

Lloyd's father Clement Acton Griscom married Frances Canby Biddle during the early years of the American Civil War. Frances Canby Biddle was the

Clement Acton Griscom
http://www.lowermerionhistory.org/photodb/full/238-2.jpg

daughter of William C. & Rachel M. Biddle of Philadelphia. The Griscom's five children included Helen Biddle, Clement Acton, Jr., Rodman Ellison, Frances Canby, and Lloyd Carpenter born in Riverton in November of 1872. Lloyd's brother, Clement Acton, Jr., became manager of the American Line of steam ships and married the daughter of General William Ludlow. Ludlow was on the staff of Major General William T. Sherman in both the March to the Sea and the Carolinas Campaign during the American Civil War.

Clement Acton Griscom was born in 1841 and by 1888 he became one of the leading shipping merchants in the United States. He was President of the *International*

Navigation Company which included the *Red Star Line*, owner of the infamous *Titanic*, and the long-established *Inman Line*. He contributed to the design of two of the world's largest and finest ships of the period- the *New York* and *Paris* steam ships. Lloyd's father was a director of the *Pennsylvania Railroad*, the *Bank of North America* and a member of the *Union League of Philadelphia*.

Frank Furness designed Lower Merion family estate



Dolobran- Lower Merion, PA home of Clement Acton Griscom
http://www.lowermerionhistory.org/photodb/web/html2/238-1.html

Clement Acton Griscom and his immediate family lived at his estate, *Dolobran* - designed by

flamboyant Philadelphia architect Frank Furness, located in Lower Merion near Haverford College in Pennsylvania.

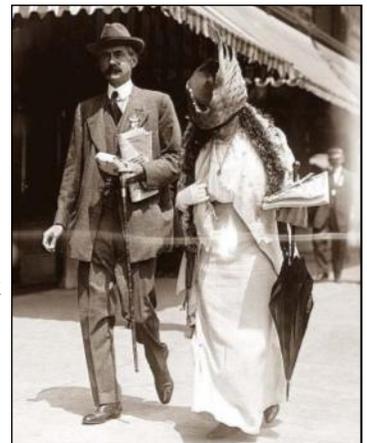
Lloyd C. Griscom married Elizabeth Duer Bronson in 1901 at a wedding in *St. Margaret's Church* in London located between Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament. His sister Frances Canby was a bridesmaid and Charles Crichton was Lloyd's best man. The strong bond and devotion Lloyd had for his sister Frances endured throughout his life.

Lloyd C. Griscom passed the bar exam to make asst. NYC D.A. only to join Spanish-American War fight

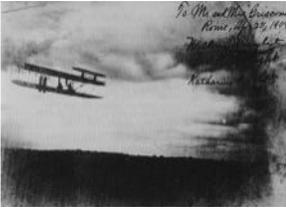
Griscom's diplomatic career began in 1893 as a secretary to the U.S. Ambassador to the Court of St. James in London. His desire for adventure and to study law brought him home in 1894. Within a year Griscom undertook his famous 'Three Gringoes in Venezuela' tour of South America and upon his return entered law



Mother and Daughter (Mrs. Clement Acton Griscom, 1850-1925, and Frances C. Griscom) Mrs. Clement, seen here, was known as Frances Canby Biddle before marrying. Daughter Frances "Pansy" was her mother's namesake and is here in the process of becoming a renowned female golfer.
Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts



Lloyd C. Griscom and wife, Elizabeth Griscom
http://www.old-picture.com/american-history-1900-1930s/Griscom-Lloyd-wife-.htm



http://www.centennialofflight.gov/whh/loc_wb_pdf/pdf_files/1909-CF.pdf

Lloyd C. Griscom, while American ambassador to Italy, was passenger with Wilbur Wright on an 8 minute flight at Centocelle Field near Rome. <http://history.nasa.gov/monograph32.pdf>

GRISCOM IN WRIGHT AIRSHIP.
Ambassador a Passenger in Flight Near Rome—King a Spectator.

ROME, April 24.—Wilbur Wright, the American aviator, made a number of successful flights near Rome to-day in the presence of King Victor Emmanuel. His Majesty expressed his admiration at the skillful and able handling of the aeroplane by Mr. Wright.

On one of his flights Mr. Wright had Ambassador Griscom as a passenger.

The New York Times

Published: April 25, 1909
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school. He graduated from New York Law School and passed the bar exam in 1896. The very next year Lloyd C. Griscom was hired as an assistant district attorney by the City of New York at a salary of \$2,000 per year. His legal career as a district attorney was brief as his next adventure took him to Cuba to fight in the Spanish-American War.

In the early twentieth century the United States was a rising imperialist superpower and Lloyd C. Griscom served his country as both soldier and diplomat. He enlisted in the Spanish-American War and served on the staff of Major General James F. Wade in Cuba. During the same period Griscom's Philadelphia friend, Richard Harding Davis, worked in Cuba as a war correspondent for the *New York Herald*. The bold and romantic reporting style Davis employed helped to make Theodore Roosevelt and his "Rough Riders" volunteer regiment a popular legend in America.

Griscom a diplomat and ambassador, a decorated WWI soldier, and knighted by Britain



"Minister Griscom's Garden Party" 1905
Dolobran Lower Merion, PA

as the Secretary of the Legation at Constantinople. He went on to serve as a diplomat to Persia and later in Japan from 1902 to 1905, then on to Brazil until his final appointment as Ambassador to Italy in 1907. Griscom served his country again during World War I in France as a major of the 77th Division and later as a liaison officer with the rank of lieutenant colonel under

When the war ended Griscom declined a military promotion and accepted an appointment from President McKinley

General John J. Pershing. He received the *Distinguished Service Medal* and was made *Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George* by Britain in 1919.

A *New York Times* article reported that Lloyd C. Griscom was in a very grave condition in Bryn Mawr Hospital following stomach surgery on April 2nd, 1912. A year later Griscom joined other noteworthy Americans like Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., F. Ambrose Clark, and Frank N. Doubleday in building homes and transforming the North Shore of Long Island into the finest country estate section in the United States.

Lloyd C. Griscom—the newspaper publisher and author

Griscom regained his health and embarked on a successful career in publishing before his death in 1959. He owned several New York newspapers including *The Nassau Daily Star*, the *Great Neck Record* and the *Oyster Bay Pilot* and later he served in Florida as the chairman of the *Tallahassee Democrat*. He authored several books including *Tenth Avenue* and published his autobiography, *Diplomatically Speaking*, in 1940.

The *New York Times* headline above his obituary in February of 1959 read, "Lloyd C. Griscom, Publisher, 86, Dies," and described the prominent Riverton resident as a diplomat, lawyer, soldier, author and publisher. He remained close to his sister, Miss Frances Griscom, whom he visited in a Georgia hospital the day he suffered a stroke and died. At the time of his death he had two principle residences, the Luna Plantation outside Tallahassee and in Syosset, New York.

-GERALD WEABER



Lloyd Griscom Made a Knight.

LONDON, June 28.—King George summoned Colonel Lloyd Griscom, former American Ambassador to Italy, to Buckingham Palace today and conferred on him the honor of a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

Free Internet resources may have genealogy application for you

GENEALOGY from 3

Macray (b. Sept. 29, 1837) -note variation on her last name – on Aug. 24, 1861. They had two children, John W. Marcy (May 24, 1862) and Mary Ann Macray Marcy (Jan. 8, 1864). This Mary Ann Mecray married Alexander Marcy, Jr. Their first daughter was named Hannah Mecray Marcy after Mary Ann's mother.

Then I discovered yet another Dr. Marcy of South Jersey; Dr. Frederick Williamson Marcy from *DVPB, The Delaware Valley Rhythm & Blues Society, Inc.*, a nonprofit organization that researches local history. Dr. F. W. Marcy, born in 1865 was “the eighth of nine children born to Dr. Virgil Maro Dow Marcy and his wife, the former Mary Bennett.” The site lists the children in Cape May at that time as: Samuel, Alexander, Sarah, Alvin and Frederick W., along with three siblings who died in childhood. It states that Frederick's uncle, Dr. Alexander Marcy, worked at The Cooper Hospital in Camden, NJ.

The *Centennial Register, Roll of Ancestors* states Reuben Marcy, Sr. (1732-1896) served in the American Revolution as a Lieut., 5th Co., 3rd Regt., 1775; Captain 4th Co., 6th Battn., Colchester, 1776; CT Militia. Alexander Marcy, Jr. is listed as a descendent. Notice: Alex and Mary Ann Marcy's fifth child was named Reuben. Alex's grandfather, Samuel, was born in Connecticut.

The *New York Times* had several articles: November 10, 1901 lists Mrs. Alexander Marcy of Riverton as Corresponding Secretary to the New Jersey Congress of Mothers; another from April 14, 1915, with Alexander Marcy, Jr. of Riverton as being reappointed to the State Board of Medical Examiners by Gov. Fielder. On

Nov. 22, 1894, according to the *Times*, Dr. Marcy treated a servant girl who had tried to murder a child by fire here in Riverton.

The Marcys were travelers! At *Ellis Island, Free Post of New York Passenger Records Search*, while searching for the last name, Marcy, I found records for Alexander, Mary M., Hannah, Marjorie and Virgil Marcy, among others. They took ships to Quebec, Cherbourg, Southampton, and Nassau.

The *Genealogical Society of New Jersey's* website lists Bible and family records, housed at Special Collections and University Archives, Alexander Library, Rutgers University in New Brunswick. I was pleased to find Record # 4671, a copy of the records that I had sent to the NJ State Library in 1983!

Many book and medical periodical articles attributed to Alexander Marcy and Alexander Marcy, Jr. are now digitalized and available for free on the Internet. Their topics included obstetrics, the need to exclude “very nervous” children from school (as noted in *Health and Medical Inspection of School Children* 1912), the treatment of intestinal perforation during typhoid fever in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (1901), the surgical treatment of movable kidney, mosquitoes and health, and other health related issues of that time in history.

With diligence and simple search techniques, one can find a wealth of information on the Internet. Be aware that not all Internet sites are created equally; some websites rely on verifiable information and others on speculation. For a complete history, you will need to visit places, people, and libraries to find the full story, but the Internet is a great start.

-MRS. PATRICIA SOLIN

“For a complete history, you will need to visit places, people, and libraries to find the full story, but the Internet is a great start.

- Mrs. Patricia Solin

Helpful Websites for this Project

Search engine, Google at www.google.com

Centennial Register, Roll of Ancestors at www.amrev.org

The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints at www.familysearch.org

DVRB: The Delaware Valley Rhythm & Blues Society, Inc. at www.dvrbs.com

Ellis Island, Free Post of New York Passenger Records Search at www.ellisland.org

The Genealogical Society of New Jersey at www.gsnj.org

New Jersey Archives & Records Management NJARM, Archives Collection Guides at www.njarchives.org

The New York Times at www.nytimes.com

Roots Web: Finding our Roots Together at www.rootsweb.com

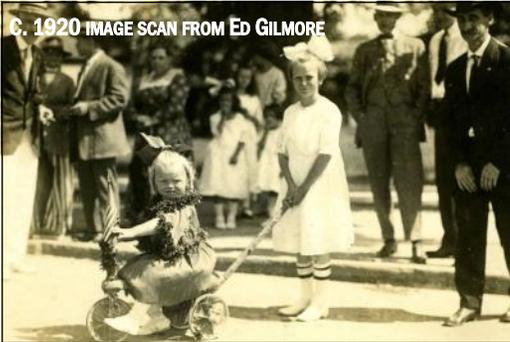


⑩ THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF RIVERTON

Post Office Box # 112

Riverton, NJ 08077

856-786-6961



**Riverton Grammar School
Foot Ball Team 1911**

(as copied from the original by Wm. Henry Harris)

BACK ROW

- 1. Tippy Pippingier
 - 2. George M. Harris, Jr.
 - 3. ?
 - 4. Francis Cole
 - 5. Leon W. Harris
 - 6. David Kern
 - 7. George Corner
 - 8. Dunbar Hylton
- Principal Jygmeat (?) S. Seymel

MIDDLE ROW

- 9. Frank Betz
- 10. Brud Clelland
- 11. Skeets McIlhenny
- 12. Gardner Crowell
- 13. Russell Hylton

FRONT ROW

- 14. Dewey Smith
- 15. Ezra Lloyd
- 16. Reds McIlhenny
- 17. Robert Hullings
- 18. George Steedle

Readers:

The HSR would like to gratefully acknowledge several gifts of items of historical value from individuals. From Mr. Ed Gilmore—several back issues of *Gaslight News*, vintage Riverton advertising merchandise, and a Riverton School ledger. From Mrs. Nancy Washington—assorted RYC ephemera. From Mr. and Mrs. Gino Mori—a church bulletin and vintage July 4th ephemera.

Do you have any pre-1950 photos, postcards, maps, ephemera, or recollections to share which you would allow to be highlighted in an upcoming issue or a future program? Please contact Mr. McCormick directly in order to make arrangements. 856-764-1551 jlmccormick@comcast.net

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