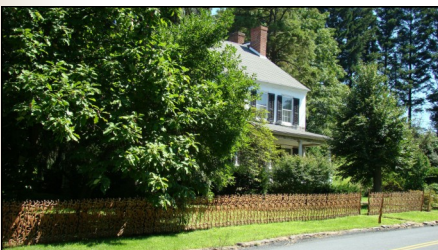
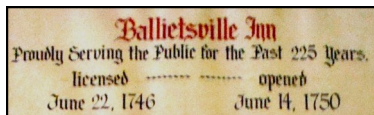


Today, our travels take us to the **oldest village** in North Whitehall Township, Balliettsville. Just off of Mauch Chunk Road and Route 329 (Old Post Road), Balliettsville lies near the center of the Township, upon land formerly owned by Paulus Balliet, after whom the village is named. On June 22, 1746, Mr. Balliet was issued a license to operate an inn on a frequently traveled road. The inn, which opened on June 14, 1750, was built as a log cabin which stood for 90 years before



the present brick structure replaced it. The building also housed a post office, voting place, and served for over 100 years as a horse-exchange station for the stagecoaches traveling between Philadelphia, Easton and Jim Thorpe. An Indian trading post was started before the Revolution, which acted as a station where the Indians received their supplies from the Government.

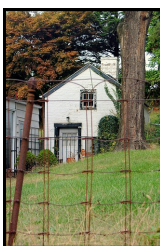
The inn sign of a foaming bowl proclaimed true hospitality to all. Being an innkeeper, the Indians called Paulus Balliet "Bowl" Balliet because he furnished the refreshments from a wooden bowl. Paulus Balliet and his wife, built this house in the mid-18th century, after constructing the Balliettsville Inn, across the street from it.



The linden trees which towered over the house were brought from France by Colonel Stephen Balliet, one of Paulus's sons. The original wrought iron grapevine fence still

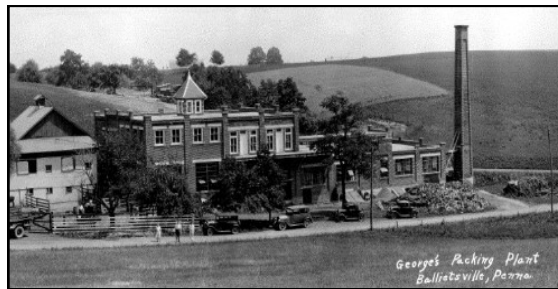
stands. The front porch was added to the house sometime after 1974. Windows on the north side of the home were gun turrets to shoot at the Indians coming over the hill.

Next to the house stands a white one-room schoolhouse, built in 1816. Colonel Balliet had this built for his children who were taught by private tutors and later years, the children of the village were allowed to attend school here. Languages spoken were French and German but Colonel Balliet wanted his children to learn English, so that was the language of the school.



Route 329 was a single lane dirt road and the barn located on the north side of Route 329 between Balliet Street and Mauch Chunk Road was cut in half to make it a two-lane road. People down in the valley were called "The Villagers".

In 1907, a local farm boy by the name of William George bought a 20-acre farm adjacent to his father's farm on what is known today as Cobbler Road. He began butchering livestock in a farm building on the farm. After about ten years of



operations, a devastating fire destroyed his fledgling operations. He continued the butchering in yet another farm building near the Balliettsville Hotel. Simultaneously, he also constructed a new facility of concrete and bricks, which is virtually fire-proof. He continued his butchering operations until World War II began and forced him to curtail the business. Operations finally ceased about 1965. 'Butcher' George died in 1976 at the age of 90 years.



A few families started operating their own businesses which continue today in the same areas.

Earl R. Nuss Trucking was located at Mauch Chunk Road and Balliet Street. Today, known as Nuss Enterprises, the company has relocated and moved up the road. Currently the building is owned and operating as Horwith Gas Station, garage, and office.



Can you name the little girl with a bow in her hair, on her tri-cycle by the truck?

[See Page 14 for the answer]

Next issue of "What's Goin' On", we will travel to another small village, **Ruchsville**.

Since I had such a good response for assistance on Balliettsville, how about any history of **Ruchsville**, if you do, please email me: duherick@northwhitehall.org

