

A Look Back in Time

Lilly Moore Stone and her family have played an integral role in the life of the area known as Carderock Springs. The Moore family helped start a church and a public school in the late 1800's. The church, Hermon Presbyterian, stands today much as it did a century and a quarter ago, continues with regular Sunday services, and has received Moore family support over the years.

Lilly Moore Stone's place in Montgomery County history is marked by her founding of the Montgomery County Historical Society and the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). She also designed the Montgomery County flag. During her long life, hardships strengthened her character and belief in God and enabled her to become an outstanding

churchwoman, business woman, civic leader, mother and grandmother.

Today we help celebrate the 125th year of the founding of the Hermon Presbyterian Church, along with the 135th year of the former Moore family home, Glenmore, and the 37th year since the construction of the first home in Carderock Springs. Here are some of the significant names, dates, and events in our rich history:

In c. 1755, John Moore is born in England and emigrates to the colonies at the age of 16. He enlists in the Revolutionary Army in 1776 and serves throughout the seven years of the war.

In 1788, one of John Moore's two sons, also named John Moore, is born near Old Fields in Prince George's County, but grows up in Loudoun County, Virginia. John Moore marries Mary Catherine Mann. They make their home in Georgetown on Jefferson Street and later on Dumbarton Street. John serves as a lieutenant in the War of 1812 and later is known as Captain John for his boat building.

In 1814, the British advance on Washington during the War of 1812 and burn the White House.

In 1819, John Duke of Wellington (John D.W. Moore) is born to Captain John and Mary Moore in Georgetown.

In the early 1800's Patrick Magruder establishes a paper mill on Cabin John Creek, near River Road. The mill burns to the ground in 1854.

In 1828 optimism is high for prosperity in the Potomac Valley as construction begins on the C&O Canal. Canal-related industries such as boat building and stone quarrying support many families. Cycles of boom and gloom rise and fall with the fortunes of the canal and the C&O Canal Company, which will ultimately go bankrupt.

In 1832, Captain John Moore buys property in Montgomery County and begins to quarry, sending stone to the C&O Canal Company.

In 1853, Captain John Moore and son John D.W. Moore of Georgetown buy from Robert Davidson 107 3/4 acres with a right-of-way to River Road for \$2,159.39 and one-half cents. The land is south of River Road, west of Seven Locks Road. They quarry this site after being granted permission to construct and operate a railroad through the farm of Gustavus White. The quarry is not profitable but before turning to

farming the Moores receive title to the Three Sisters Islands from President Franklin Pierce as payment for their work in several locks and aqueducts for the canal.



In 1858, John D. W. Moore marries Sarah Coltman in Georgetown. Sarah was the daughter of Charles Lilly Coltman, superintendent of buildings and grounds during Andrew Jackson's administration. Sarah and John live on the Moore family's farm.

In 1861, Lilly Catherine Moore is born to John D.W. and Sarah.

In 1864, Charles Dodge and Elizabeth Davidson Dodge build a large frame house in the Italianate style on 106

acres off Persimmon Tree Road. Charles and Elizabeth both are from prominent Georgetown families. Charles serves as Army paymaster and collector of customs for the District of Columbia during Abraham Lincoln's tenure in the White House.

After the Civil War, the Potomac Valley farm community feel the need for local church services. It is too far to travel to the Georgetown, Rockville and Bethesda Presbyterian churches. Pastors from the Bridge Street Presbyterian Church in Georgetown occasionally travel out to hold services in private homes or in the Friendship Schoolhouse.

In 1867, John D.W. Moore, John Saunders, Wm. Reading and Charles Dodge see the need for a school in the neighborhood. They serve as trustees and raise funds for Friendship School, a public school ½ mile from Conduit Road.

In January of 1874, Hermon Church is organized in the home of Mrs. M. Carter. John and Sarah Moore are charter members. Thomas and Amanda Dowling give a three-quarter acre parcel for construction of the church, \$1,000 is raised by members and \$500 is borrowed from the Presbytery Board. The



Friendship School

mortgage, dated December 1, 1874, is signed by Elder John Moore and Robert Davidson.

The Moore children, Lilly, Lewis and Clara, attend Friendship School. The log cabin is replaced with a one room frame building in 1885. Friendship School is typical of schools at the

time-- one room with one teacher for grades 1 through 8. Even with the eight grades, there are no more than 25 children.

The Moores continue to serve Hermon Church. Lilly plays the organ and teaches Sunday School.

In 1879, John D.W. Moore purchases 118 acres and the large Italianate home, south of the Moore's property, from Charles and Elizabeth Dodge. He christens it "Glenmore."



Glenmore, circa 1910

In 1892, Lilly Moore marries Frank Pelham Stone at Hermon Church. Lilly is 31 and Frank is 46. Along with their son John Dunbar, they spend the next 12 years at Glenmore.

In the 1890's, Lilly Stone helps start the Fortnightly Club, a women's social club dedicated to educating its members.

In 1904, Lilly and Frank Stone buy 150 acres from Joshua Offutt's estate. It Includes the pre-Revolutionary stone house built by Samuel Brewer Magruder in 1767.

In 1905, Frank P. Stone bottles the water from Glenmore Springs as a cure for rheumatism and blood diseases. Its healing powers are never substantiated.

In 1909, fire destroys the stables at Glenmore. Lilly and Frank move into the old stone house on the Magruder tract and name it Stoneyhurst.

In 1909, Lilly Stone becomes a charter member of the Janet Montgomery Chapter, DAR. She identifies and marks historic sites in the area, including her own home of Stoneyhurst.

In 1914, John D.W. Moore dies. Lilly Stone inherits the 118-acre Glenmore—the combined acreage makes her one of the largest landholders in the area. The house is left vacant.

In 1920, the Constitution is amended giving women the right to vote.

In 1921, Frank Stone dies at the age of 75. Lilly runs the farm until a few years later when fire strikes again, destroying two barns and a full year's harvest. She decides to quarry as her father and grandfather had, but unlike them, she is successful. Lilly is now in her sixties.



Glenmore, circa 1950

In 1925, John Dunbar Stone and Katherine Pool marry. They live with Lilly at Stoneyhurst along with their three children, Frank Pelham, Lilly Catherine and John Pool. The family continues to serve Hermon church while Dunbar and Katherine undertake the restoration of the church building as a gift to the church. Dunbar serves as elder and trustee. Katherine serves as organist/pianist for the next 50 years.

In the 1930's, Lilly Stone is ordained an elder at Hermon Church, most likely the first woman elder in the Presbytery.

In 1936, Lilly Stone designs the county flag for the State DAR conference.

In 1936, Lilly Stone begins renovations at Glenmore, changing its Italianate style to neo-Colonial. A small wing is added to the left side to balance the kitchen, stone veneer is added to the entire house, and the one storey front porch is replaced with two storey columns. In 1937, she and her family move back to Glenmore to stay.

In 1944, Lilly Stone organizes the Montgomery County Historical Society in the living room of Glenmore and holds the office of President for three terms. She is now in her eighties.



Glenmore Springs

Natural Mineral

Waters

P. STONE & CO

Lilly Catherine Moore Stone

In 1951, Lilly Stone sells the Three Sisters Islands to the Federal Government for \$1200.

In 1952, at the age of 91, Lilly Stone gathers at her home Society members who are serious about history. The group erects road markers, plans pilgrimages to historic sites and begins publication of <u>The Montgomery County Story.</u>



Carderock Springs circa 1963

In 1960, Lilly Stone dies at the age of 98. Her interest in history and her quest for knowledge leave an indelible mark on Montgomery County

In 1961, Edmund J. Bennett purchases 350+ acres from the Stone family for a community that would be called Carderock Springs. The architectural firm of Keyes, Lethbridge and Condon is hired to design homes that will fit the rolling landscape, have large glassed areas and

integrate the outdoors with indoors. Streets are laid out to fit the terrain and the private court concept is introduced. Bennett works with the Builders Association to push the power company toward underground cabling. Carderock is a test in this effort. (In 1965 the county changes its building code to require buried cables.) With fabricated framing panels, another new concept, houses are built and delivered in 75 days. The first homes sell for \$35,000.

In 1965, the clubhouse opens with its award-winning design. House

Beautiful features the Atrium model as the "House of Color" in 1996. Also
in that same year, the Carderock Springs Elementary School opens its

Overlook model
doors to the first students. Additional land is purchased for Carderock
Springs South, one of the first cluster communities built in the area. In 1969, the community is
completed with the last 45 homes in Carderock South.

In 1992, the remaining ten acres, with Glenmore and several outbuildings, is under contract to a local developer for 14 new homes. The Carderock Springs Civic Association rallies to save Glenmore from destruction.

In 1993, Glenmore receives historic designation after a close vote from the Montgomery County Council. Ironically, it is Lilly Stone's modification of the home that reduces its historical value, but her contribution to the county that saves it.

To those families who settled here in the 1800's, we celebrate your courage. To Edmund Bennett, we applaud your vision. To the new families in Carderock, we welcome you and hope you will help carry on the great traditions of Carderock Springs.

The Montgomery County Historical Library in Rockville was a valuable source of information, especially the <u>The Montgomery County Story</u>, Volume 20, "Lilly Moore Stone, Founder of the Montgomery County Historical Society," by Mary Charlotte Crook. Lilly Stone Lievsay was a great source of information on the Moore/Stone family and Brenda Bennett Bell was most helpful on Carderock Springs. Their assistance is greatly appreciated.

The history of Carderock was compiled for the 1999 Carderock Springs House Tour by Mary Lou Shannon. Printing courtesy of M.L. Shannon. Copying without permission is not permitted.