

# ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

*of the*

Township of Abington

*for the year*

1936

Ending January 4, 1937

COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON  
PENNSYLVANIA

<i>Ward</i>	<i>Commissioner</i>
Abington—No. 1	WATSON T. CHESTERMAN 9 Edge Hill Road
Saw Mill Hill—No. 2	DR. JOSEPH W. VANSANT Huntingdon Pike
Glenside—No. 3	LEWIS C. DORN 309 W. Wharton Road
McKinley—No. 4	EDWIN H. GEISSLER 518 Cypress Avenue
Crestmont—No. 5	WILLIAM H. JONES 430 Arnold Avenue
North Glenside—No. 6	CHARLES B. MARKS 309 Maple Avenue
Noble—No. 7	HOWARD W. TRUMP 506 Grove Avenue
Roslyn—No. 8	ALEXANDER HCGG Avondale Avenue
Ardasley—No. 9	LEWIS J. MEYER 538 Tyson Avenue
Roychester—No. 10	CHARLES H. GUENST 112 Lycoming Avenue
Glenside—No. 11	WILLIAM K. DONALDSON 316 Abington Avenue
Glenside—No. 12	WILLIAM GEBHARDTSBAUER 302 E. Cakdale Avenue
Glenside—No. 13	BENJAMIN H. DAVIS 30 W. Lynnwood Avenue

*OFFICERS*

CHARLES B. MARKS, President  
WILLIAM H. JONES, Vice-President  
E. RAYMOND AMBLER, Secretary  
ROBERT C. ROSS, Treasurer

*Solicitor*

DAVID E. GROSHENS

*Chief of Police*  
PATRICK McKEE  
*Plumbing Inspector*  
MONRCE C. ROBERTS  
*Health Officer*  
GEORGE P. RAPP

*Township Engineer*  
OLIVER L. KING  
*Highway Supervisor*  
ISAAC SOWERS, JR.  
*Building Inspector*  
OLIVER L. KING

# PERSONNEL

## Departments and Boards

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WILLIAM K. DONALDSON, Director  
WILLIAM H. JONES  
DR. JOSEPH W. VANSANT  
CHARLES H. GUENST

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

CHARLES H. GUENST, Director  
EDWIN H. GEISSLER  
WATSON T. CHESTERMAN  
BENJAMIN H. DAVIS

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

WILLIAM H. JONES, Director  
ALEXANDER HOGG  
LEWIS J. MEYER  
LEWIS C. DORN

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DR. JOSEPH W. VANSANT, Director  
HOWARD W. TRUMP  
WILLIAM GEBHARDTSBAUER

### ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

LOUIS H. DOANE, Chairman  
HARRY T. MacKENZIE  
JOSHUA M. HOLMES, JR.

### ABINGTONTOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY BOARD

CHARLES B. MARKS, President  
CHARLES H. GUENST, Vice-President  
HERMAN ROLL, Treasurer  
DR. JOSEPH W. VANSANT  
WILLIAM H. JONES

E. RAYMOND AMBLER, Secretary  
DAVID E. GROSHENS, Solicitor  
FRED F. SCHAEFER, Sewer Clerk

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Board of Township Commissioners meet on the  
Second Thursday of Each Month at 8 o'clock P. M.

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The regular meetings of the Departments are as follows:

Public Affairs .....	Second Wednesday .....	7:30 o'clock P. M.
Public Safety .....	Third Tuesday .....	7:30 o'clock P. M.
Public Health .....	Third Wednesday .....	3:30 o'clock P. M.
Zoning Board of Adjustment .....	Fourth Tuesday .....	8:00 o'clock P. M.
Public Works .....	Fourth Wednesday .....	7:30 o'clock P. M.

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## CALL THE SECRETARY

For General Township Information	} Ogontz 2700
For Highway Information	
For Health Information	
For Building Information	
For Garbage Collection Complaints	

Office Hours 9 A. M. to 3 P. M.  
Saturdays 9 A. M. to 12 Noon  
Holidays Excepted

CALL THE TREASURER'S OFFICE FOR INFORMATION  
RELATING TO TAXES—OGONTZ 2700

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**FOR POLICE ASSISTANCE**  
Call Bureau of Police, Ogontz 2700  
Office Always Open.

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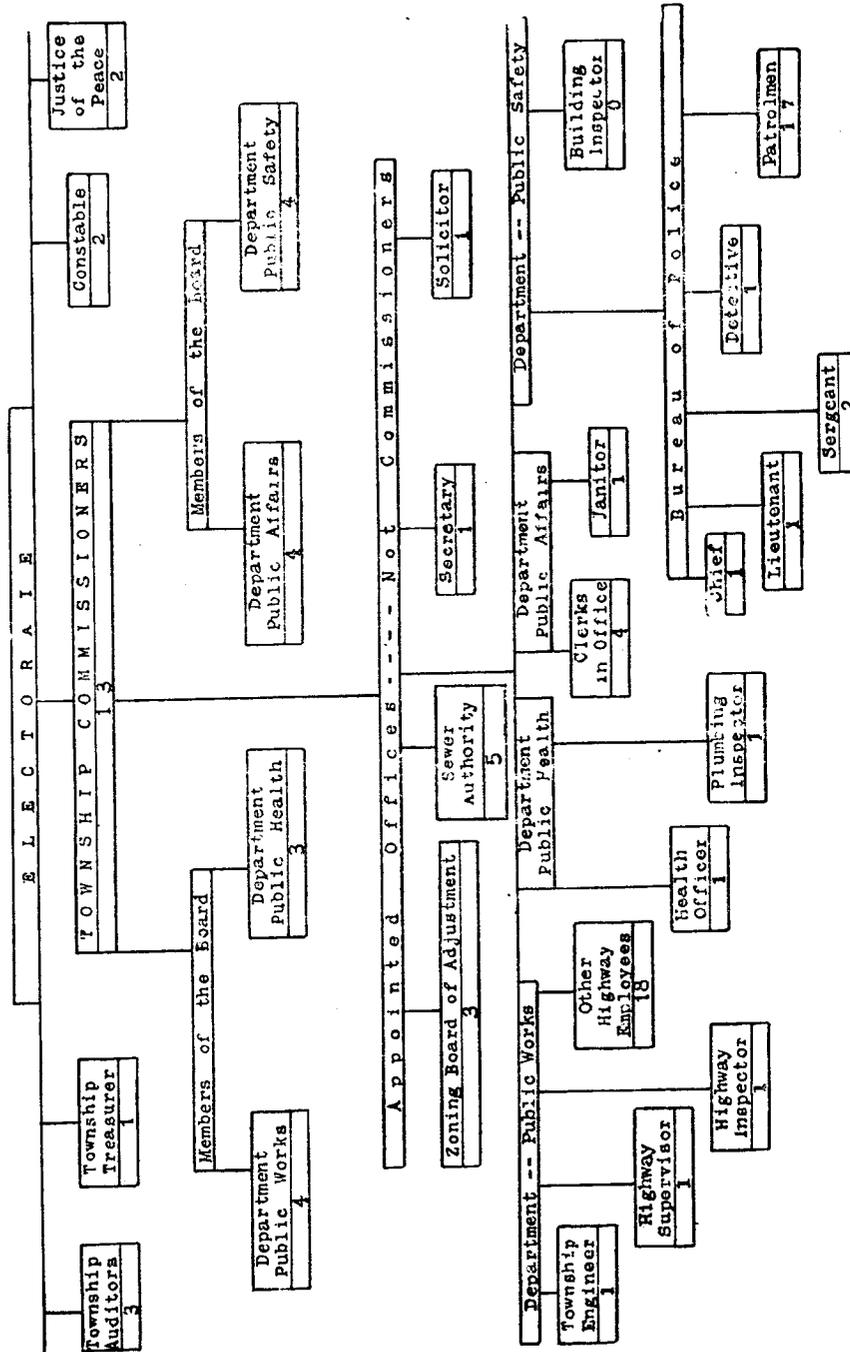
**IN CASE OF FIRE**  
Call Ogontz 2700

The two nearest Fire Companies will proceed  
immediately to the fire.  
Operators at Switchboard 24 hours of the day.

# FUNCTIONAL ORGANIZATION

## TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON

Montgomery County, Pennsylvania



## TO THE CITIZENS OF ABINGTON TOWNSHIP:

The year 1936 is outstanding in the history of the Township as the budget was balanced for the first time since 1906 and the bonded indebtedness was reduced to the level of 1916. I trust that every taxpayer will pay particular attention to the financial statements and the reports contained in this annual message.

All departments have come very close to reaching the peak of efficiency and the sound financial condition of the township is due to the untiring efforts of each and every officer and employee. We feel that we have an organization that ranks with the best and nowhere can you find a group who are more faithful to their trust. The taxpayer can rest assured that everything is being done to obtain the full value for the tax dollar spent.

It has been our practice to hold open meetings and every citizen who is inclined can soon find out for himself how his interests are being protected. I trust more of our people will take advantage of our invitation and become more familiar with the details. We invite honest criticism and constructive suggestions and are always ready to listen to any proposition from the taxpayers that will benefit conditions in the township.

We thank our many friends for their kind consideration and friendly help during the year 1936. We hope that the same pleasant relationship will continue to exist and that Abington Township will be looked upon as a place where brotherly love and neighborly kindness abound.

Respectfully,

CHARLES B. MARKS, President

March 10, 1937

Mr. Charles Marks, President  
and Commissioners  
Abington, Pennsylvania.

Gentlemen:

The Township Auditors have completed the 1936 audit and issue our annual report for your consideration.

As is customary, we desire to voice our opinion on matters discovered while searching through the records.

First—The records of both Treasurer and Secretary were in perfect order, making our work quicker and easier.

Second—The service rendered to Abington Township by members of your organization, collectively and individually, stamps you as untiring and unselfish servants of the people. The outstanding feature of it all is that you stand financially sound. Your balance of over eleven thousand dollars in the general account and a reduction in your bonded indebtedness in 1937 in the bonds due and callable which will reduce your indebtedness to the 1916 level are matters of fact to be appreciated by your neighbors.

Third—In our dealings with many Township employees, we have found that the morale of everyone is very high—the laborer on the ash truck even speaks well of his superiors—due to proper manipulation of affairs of the Commissioners.

Who in Abington Township does not appreciate our service in ash collection, garbage removal, street lights, paved streets, fire and police protection so expertly managed by your board.

Yours very truly,

/s/ D. E. KRUEGER  
CHARLES WILLIAMS  
WM. RAYMOND VOGEL

**AUDITORS' REPORT**  
 of the  
**Account of ROBERT C. ROSS, Treasurer**  
 and the  
**Commissioners of the Township of Abington**  
 Montgomery County, Pennsylvania  
**From the First Monday of January 1936 to the**  
**First Monday of January 1937**  
**GENERAL ACCOUNT**

DEBITS

To Bank Balances 1/6/36 .....	\$ 2,741.80
To amount received on account of 1934 Taxes and Penalties .....	\$ 313.61
To amount received on account of 1935 Taxes and Penalties .....	19,393.96
To Amount received on account of 1936 Taxes—	230,269.19
To Amount received on account of 1936 Penalties	636.21
To Amount received from Miscellaneous receipts	17,612.86
To Amount received from Temporary Loan 1936	100,000.00
To Amount received on account Land Liens	
1929 .....	\$ 4.31
1930 .....	375.28
1931 .....	1,891.05
1932 .....	4,087.71
1933 .....	7,704.67
1934 .....	16,931.04
1935 .....	10,616.01
Unseated Land net Pen. & Interest	1,757.88
	43,367.95
	411,593.78
	\$414,335.58

CREDITS

By VOUCHERS issued:

for Treasurer's Compensation .....\$ 6,205.43  
for Treasurer's Expense ..... 441.41  
for Repayment of Temporary  
Loan 1936 ..... 100,000.00

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\$106,646.84

for Debt Service ..... 82,525.48  
for General Government ..... 19,563.59  
for Municipal Buildings ..... 5,742.59  
for Highway Purposes ..... 49,293.51  
for Ash Removal ..... 10,126.70  
for Police ..... 58,718.39  
for Fire Protection ..... 20,257.40  
for Building Inspection & Zoning ..... 2,274.64  
for Street Lighting ..... 27,655.96  
for Health and Sanitation ..... 8,532.21  
for Sanitary Sewers ..... 5,964.19  
for Transfer to Permanent Improvement Acct. 4,531.51

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\$401,832.77

By 2% Commission on Land Liens deducted by County

Treasurer ..... 850.69

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\$402,683.46

By Bank Balances 1/4/37 .....\$ 11,652.12

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\$414,335.58

## UNCOLLECTED TAXES DUE:

By Robert C. Ross, Treasurer

By 1934 Taxes and Penalties as per last

Audit .....	\$ 313.61
Less amount paid on account .....	313.61

By 1935 Taxes and Penalties as per last

Audit .....	\$61,944.91
By 1935 additional penalty .....	993.29

\$62,938.20

Less amount paid on account .....	\$19,393.96
Less 1935 Tax Liens filed .....	42,530.02

\$61,923.98

By Delinquent Taxes and Penalties due .....\$ 1,014.22

Account 1936 Tax Duplicate .....\$289,763.00

Extra Assessment ..... 62.40

\$289,825.40

To allowances due to county letters .... 223.28

NET TAX DUPLICATE .....\$289,602.12

To Net Collection ..... 230,269.19

Amount of 1936 Tax Due .....\$ 59,332.93

Amount of 1936 Penalties .....\$ 3,008.13

Credit for 1936 Penalties paid ..... 636.21

Amount of 1936 Penalty due ..... 2,371.92

By 1936 Taxes and Penalties due ..... \$ 61,704.85

\$ 62,719.07

## PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT

### DEBITS

Balance on Hand, January 6, 1936 .....\$ 13,819.27

Received on account of Abington Sewer ..... 1,024.52

Received on account of Sylvania Avenue ..... 262.46

Received on account Bank Interest ..... 377.85

Received on account Transfer from General

Account ..... 4,531.51

\$ 20,015.61

**CREDITS**

Expenditures:

Easton Road Sidewalk & Curb .....	\$ 212.80	
Depository Bond Expense .....	57.38	
		<u>270.18</u>
Balance on Hand, January 4, 1937 .....		\$ 19,745.43

**PARK AND SHADE TREE ACCOUNT**

**DEBITS**

Balance on Hand, January 6, 1936 .....	\$ 18,022.68	
Received on account Bank Interest .....	545.55	
Received on account North Glenside Park .....	1.00	
		<u>18,569.23</u>

**CREDITS**

Expenditures:

Baederwood Park .....	\$ 19.30	
Depository Bond Expense .....	89.50	
		<u>108.80</u>
Balance on Hand, January 4, 1937 .....		\$ 18,460.43

**SEWER AND IMPROVEMENT LIENS**

**DEBITS**

Liens outstanding January 6, 1936		
Account of Sewers .....	\$ 5,258.48	
Account of Improvement Liens .....	599.74	
		<u>5,858.22</u>
Improvement Mt. Carmel Avenue .....		3,126.87
		<u>\$ 8,985.09</u>

**CREDITS**

Received on account of Sewers .....	\$ 1,024.52	
Received on account of Improvements .....	262.46	
		<u>1,286.98</u>
Outstanding, January 4, 1937 .....		\$ 7,698.11

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE DOCKETS

### Justice of the Peace H. C. WILLIAMS

Fines Imposed:

Norman Haines .....	\$	23.00
Mr. Freidburg .....		20.00
Mr. Shapiro .....		10.00
Mr. Holt .....		50.00
		\$ 103.00

Less amount remitted to Township

Norman Haines .....	\$	23.00
		23.00

Balance Due ..... \$ 80.00

### Justice of the Peace HARRY DOOLEY

Fines Imposed:

Mr. Adams .....	\$	5.00
Edward Washington, Jr. ....		5.00
Francis Washington .....		5.00
Daniel Ford, Jr. ....		5.00
Pearl Ferguson .....		5.00
		\$ 25.00

Less amount remitted to Township ..... \$ 25.00

## LIABILITIES

Balance of Loan 1907 .....	\$	4,000.00
Balance of Loan 1912 .....		72,000.00
Balance of Loan 1913 .....		10,000.00
Balance of Loan 1919 .....		10,000.00
Balance of Loan 1923 .....		35,000.00
Balance of Loan 1925 .....		16,000.00
Balance of Loan 1925A .....		29,000.00
Balance of Loan 1927 .....		44,000.00
Balance of Loan 1928 .....		49,000.00
Balance of Loan 1930 .....		90,000.00
Balance of Loan 1931 .....		54,000.00
		413,000.00

Treasurer's Compensation .....	\$	6,263.14
Less amount paid on Account .....		6,205.43

57.71

\$413,057.71

### CASH ASSETS

Sinking Fund, Loan of 1907 .....	\$ 1,222.54	
Sinking Fund, Loan of 1912 .....	8,449.37	
Sinking Fund, Loan of 1913 .....	2,336.11	
Sinking Fund, Loan of 1919 .....	12,301.07	
Sinking Fund, Loan of 1923 .....	19,281.32	
Sinking Fund, Loan of 1925 .....	13,334.44	
Sinking Fund, Loan of 1925A .....	7,525.76	
Sinking Fund, Loan of 1927 .....	14,647.20	
Sinking Fund, Loan of 1928 .....	13,963.16	
Sinking Fund, Loan of 1930 .....	18,304.98	
Sinking Fund, Loan of 1931 .....	905.26	
		112,271.21
Bank Balances, General Fund .....		11,652.12
Bank Balances, Permanent Improvement Fund .....		19,745.43
Bank Balance, Park & Shade Tree Fund .....		18,460.43
Due by Treasurer .....		62,719.07
Due by 1929 Land Liens .....	\$ 3,457.85	
Due by 1930 Land Liens .....	3,741.34	
Due by 1931 Land Liens .....	9,853.19	
Due by 1932 Land Liens .....	14,818.34	
Due by 1933 Land Liens .....	20,258.52	
Due by 1934 Land Liens .....	28,242.97	
Due by 1935 Land Liens .....	31,904.76	
		112,276.97
Due by Sewer and Improvement Liens .....		7,698.11
Due by Justice of Peace Williams .....		80.00
		\$344,903.44

We, the undersigned Township Auditors of the Township of Abington, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, do hereby report that we have audited, settled and adjusted the accounts of the Board of Township Commissioners of the Township of Abington, and of ROBERT C. ROSS, the Township Treasurer, for the year beginning on the first Monday of January 1936 and ending on the first Monday of January 1937, and find that the above statement of the list of receipts, expenditures, credits, and debits, is a true and correct account of said settlement and audit, and we find said accounts as above stated.

D. E. KRUEGER  
CHARLES WILLIAMS  
WM. RAYMOND VOGEL.  
Township Auditors

Abington, Pennsylvania, March 1, 1937.

Attest:

E. RAYMOND AMBLER,  
Secretary

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Your Directors of Public Affairs submit the following matters for your consideration.

The 1936 Tax Anticipation Note of \$100,000 was sold January 21, 1936 to Hornblower and Weeks, 1429 Walnut Street, Philadelphia at an interest cost of .0082 Bank discount basis. This note was paid out of the 1936 current taxes and the Township has no Temporary Loan obligations.

Section 3 of Ordinance No. 64 was amended to provide an annual tax of \$13,000 in lieu of the present amount of \$9,840. This refers to the electorate Loan of 1912 and was necessary to fulfill the obligations of the bonds. The balance of the 1915 Loan was paid during the year and the excess bond tax of \$4,531.51 was transferred to the Permanent Improvement Fund.

During the year we have provided office space in the basement for the State Relief and National Reemployment Service.

The heating system in the Township Garage was changed over into a Warren Webster System and a new Delco Burner was installed.

A partition was placed across the Roll Room in the Township Building, giving more privacy to the telephone communications and the broadcasting of police orders. The transmitter was moved to the second floor and we now broadcast our calls by remote control.

We assumed the responsibility of preparing our Thirtieth Anniversary celebration which was held Saturday, May 9, 1936 with an open house from two to five P. M. The Township's equipment was on display and the various departments represented.

The functional organization of our Township is exhibited in detail on page 4.

The following statements, comparisons, and detailed financial reports, in conjunction with the Auditors' Report, are evidence of our Township's financial condition.

### GENERAL ACCOUNTS

#### DEBITS

Bank Balance—General Accounts .....	\$	2,741.80
Received from Secretary		

#### Miscellaneous Receipts

Highway Permits and Pole License .....	\$	3,064.25
Building Permits .....		3,215.00
Amusement Permits .....		308.00
Plumbing Permits and Registration Plumbers .....		1,882.00
Sewer Rentals and House Connections .....		2,954.00
Liquor License Fee .....		5,929.17
Fines collected and paid by Justice of the Peace .....		48.00
Miscellaneous Refunds .....		212.44
		17,612.86

Received from Treasurer on account of taxes .....	250,612.97
Received from County on account of Land Liens .....	42,517.26
Received from Temporary Loans—1936 .....	100,000.00
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	\$413,484.89

**CREDITS**

Vouchers Issued, General Accounts .....	297,301.26
Vourches Issued, Temporary Loans .....	100,000.00
Transfer to Permanent Improvement a/c .....	4,531.51
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Bank Balance—General Accounts .....	11,652.12
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	\$413,484.89

Abington Township's sources of income and the services for which its was expended during the year 1936.

**TOTAL GENERAL FUND**

\$313,484.89

**REVENUE**

Real Estate Taxes	
\$230,905.40 — 1933	
19,707.57 — Prior Years	
42,517.26 — Land Liens	
	<hr/>
\$293,130.23 .....	93.5%
Reserve Fund Balance 1/1/35	
\$ 2,741.80 .....	.8%
Liquor Licenses	
\$ 5,929.17 .....	2. %
Permits	
\$ 8,161.25 .....	2.6%
Sewer Rentals and Installations	
\$ 2,954.00 .....	.9%
Miscellaneous	
\$ 568.44 .....	.2%
	<hr/>
	100 %

**EXPENDITURES**

Protection to Life and Property	
\$ 58,718.39 — Police Protection	
20,257.40 — Fire Protection	
2,274.64 — Bldg. Insp., Zon.	
27,655.96 — Street Lighting	
	<hr/>
\$108,906.39 .....	34.8%
Health and Sanitary Sewers	
\$ 24,496.40 .....	4.6%
Debt Service	
\$ 82,525.48 .....	26.3%
General Government	
and Tax Collection	
\$ 26,210.43 .....	8.4%
Maintenance Twp. Buildings	
\$ 5,742.35 .....	1.8%
Highway and Engineering	
\$ 59,420.21 .....	19. %
Transfer to Perm. Imp. a/c	
\$ 4,531.51 .....	1.4%
Reserve Fund Balance 1/1/37	
\$ 11,652.12 .....	3.7%
	<hr/>
	100 %

**PROPERTY VALUATION**

	1935	1936
Assessed valuation of Real Estate	\$22,245,170	\$22,294,261
Assessed valuation of Real Estate		
<b>TAX EXEMPT</b>		<b>\$ 3,350,500</b>

## BONDED DEBT

Abington Township has never defaulted on its debt obligations.

Total General Obligations:	Outstanding	Sinking Fund
January 1, 1937	\$413,000.00	\$112,271.21
1936	428,000.00	65,354.28
1935	471,000.00	63,979.87

Abington Township, from 1906 to 1931 inclusive, had fourteen bond issues, totaling \$794,000. The following comparative statement reveals the growth of the Township and its financial soundness.

Year	Assessed Valuation	Outstanding Bonds	Balance Sinking Fund	Net Bonded Debt
1906	\$5,400,000.	\$ 50,000.		\$ 50,000.
1916	8,950,000.	329,000.	\$ 19,139.00	309,861.
1926	18,850,000.	399,000.	48,297.00	350,703.
1936	22,294,261.	413,000.	112,271.00	290,729.

The legal debt limit councilmanic authority is 2% of assessed valuation.

The legal debt limit electorate authority is 5% of assessed valuation.

TOTAL 7%

The report of the Township Bonds and Sinking Fund Accounts for 1936 follows:

Outstanding Bonds, January 6, 1936 .....	\$428,000.00
Bonds retired during year 1936	
Loan 1907 .....	\$ 4,000.00
Loan 1912 .....	4,000.00
Loan 1915 .....	1,000.00
Loan 1931 .....	6,000.00
	15,000.00
Outstanding Bonds, January 4, 1937 .....	\$413,000.00
Balance in Sinking Fund Accounts, January 6, 1936...	\$65,354.28
1935 Tax due and paid .....	29,266.56
1936 Tax collected .....	52,193.98
Bank Interest Credited .....	1,149.39
	147,964.21
Expenditures:	
Retirement of Bonds .....	\$15,000.00
State Taxes, 1935 .....	1,479.40
Coupon Interest Paid .....	18,882.50
Depository Bond Expense, etc. ....	331.10
	35,693.00
Balance in Sinking Fund Accounts, January 4, 1937 .....	\$112,271.21

## TAX COLLECTION REPORT

Fiscal Year 1st Monday January	Total Property Tax	Uncollected end Fiscal Year	Uncollected Jan. 4, 1937
1934	\$291,182.00	\$77,386.28	\$—————
1935	278,130.46	60,198.02	1,014.22
1936	289,602.12	61,704.85	61,704.85

Tax Liens are filed with County First Monday of May following the year of levy and balances of uncollected taxes at end of year include the items for that year which will be liened the following May if unpaid at that time.

### BANK DEPOSITS

Total balance General Funds .....	\$ 11,652.12
Total balance Permanent Improvement Funds .....	19,745.43
Total balance Park & Shade Tree Fund .....	18,460.43
Total balance Sinking Funds .....	112,271.21

The two depositories are—Abington Bank & Trust Co., Abington, Pa.  
Jenkintown Bank & Trust Co., Jenkintown, Pa.

Deposits are secured by Depository Agreement with security according to law.

Abington Township, for many years, has conducted its affairs on a "Pay As You Go" basis under the budget system. In 1918 we established a budget control system which was enlarged upon in 1933 and has now been adopted by the State as the Uniform Budget System required under Act No. 384 approved July 18, 1935.

The following points, which are the basis of a sound municipal budget, are very closely observed by the Township Commissioners in the preparation, and adoption of our Township budget.

1. Preparation of estimate of revenues.
2. Calculation of fixed expenditures.
3. Call for departmental expenditure estimates.
4. Preparation of departmental expenditure estimates for submission to secretary.
5. Revision of estimates and preparation of proposed budget by secretary.
6. Consideration of proposed budget and formulation of tentative budget by the Board.
7. Public hearing on the tentative budget.
8. Final action by the Board.

Your 1937 Tax Dollar is distributed as follows:

COUNTY GOVERNMENT .....	.07
SCHOOL GOVERNMENT .....	.61
TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT .....	.32

—————  
\$1.00

The Township's thirty-two cents is applied to the following services:

General Administration .....	.025
Collection of Taxes .....	.01
Maintenance Township Buildings .....	.005
Police Protection .....	.06
Fire Protection .....	.02
Building Inspection & Zoning .....	.005
Street Lighting .....	.0275
Health and Sanitary Sewers .....	.01
Collection of Garbage .....	.0025
Highway maintenance & construction .....	.08
Ash and rubbish collection .....	.01
Parks and Playgrounds .....	.005
Debt Service .....	.06
	<hr/>
	.32

# APPROPRIATION EXPENDITURES

## DEBT SERVICE

	BUDGET AP- PROPRIATION	TRANSFER TO OR FROM OTHER ACCTS.	AMOUNT EXPENDED	UNEX- PENDED BALANCE
Interest and expense on Temporary Loans	3,500.00	— 2,000.00	1,064.94	435.06
State Tax	1,717.00	— 237.60	1,479.40	
Payments to Sinking Funds (Special Tax)	84,230.00	237.60	79,981.14	4,486.46
Temporary Loans	125,000.00		100,000.00	25,000.00
	<u>\$214,447.00</u>	<u>—\$2,000.00</u>	<u>\$182,525.48</u>	<u>\$29,921.52</u>

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

	BUDGET AP- PROPRIATION	TRANSFER TO OR FROM OTHER ACCTS.	AMOUNT EXPENDED	UNEX- PENDED BALANCE
Salaries, (Commissioners and Office)	12,983.00	60.00	13,043.00	
Auditors' Fees	400.00	— 51.00	345.00	4.00
Postage, printing & advertising	742.00	59.00	769.57	31.43
Office supplies and equipment	1,000.00	— 134.00	819.05	46.95
Expenses of officials	100.00	— 9.00	91.00	
Telephone and telegraph	3,200.00		3,099.30	100.70
Association dues and convention exp.	250.00	225.00	396.84	78.16
Compensation & Liability insurance	175.00	— 100.00	74.87	.13
Premium on officials bonds	50.00		32.50	17.50
Other expenses & reserve for contingencies	5,600.00	— 4,050.00	224.80	1,325.20
Treasurer's Fees	7,000.00		6,205.43	794.57
Other expense of tax collection	1,500.00		1,109.07	390.93
	<u>\$33,000.00</u>	<u>—\$4,000.00</u>	<u>\$26,210.43</u>	<u>\$2,789.57</u>

**A P P R O P R I A T I O N   E X P E N D I T U R E S**  
**MAINTENANCE TOWNSHIP BUILDINGS**

	BUDGET AP- PROPRIATION	TRANSFER TO OR FROM OTHER ACCTS.	AMOUNT EXPENDED	UNEX- PENDED BALANCE
Salary, Janitor	1,920.00		1,920.00	
Materials and supplies	600.00		432.62	137.38
Fuel, light and water	1,780.00	80.00	1,585.35	114.65
Repairs, including extensions	1,300.00	480.00	1,774.38	5.62
Insurance, Building - Compensation - Liability	400.00	400.00		
	\$6,000.00		\$5,742.35	\$257.65

**P O L I C E**

	BUDGET AP- PROPRIATION	TRANSFER TO OR FROM OTHER ACCTS.	AMOUNT EXPENDED	UNEX- PENDED BALANCE
Salaries	46,420.00	600.00	45,747.50	72.50
Police Surgeon	100.00	15.00	30.00	55.00
Office Supplies	100.00	200.00	299.78	.22
Advertising	100.00	50.00	78.20	71.80
Uniforms	1,000.00	100.00	1,036.75	63.25
Other Expenses	2,510.00	215.00	2,519.09	205.91
Maintenance and repairs to autos	2,000.00	500.00	2,122.78	377.22
Gasoline and oil	3,700.00	200.00	3,829.55	70.45
Maintenance traffic signals	450.00	150.00	474.05	125.95
Radio	300.00	100.00	359.49	40.51
Insurance (Compensation & Liability)	1,200.00	250.00	1,194.80	255.20
Motor Equipment	1,200.00	150.00	1,026.40	23.60
	\$59,080.00	\$1,000.00	\$58,718.39	\$1,361.61

# APPROPRIATION EXPENDITURES

## FIRE PROTECTION

	BUDGET AP- PROPRIATION	TRANSFER TO OR FROM OTHER ACCTS.	AMOUNT EXPENDED	UNEX- PENDED BALANCE
Contribution to Volunteer Companies	13,000.00		10,935.40	2,064.60
Hydrant rentals and water supply	9,500.00		9,322.00	178.00
	\$22,500.00		\$20,257.40	\$2,242.60

## BUILDING REGULATION AND ZONING

	BUDGET AP- PROPRIATION	TRANSFER TO OR FROM OTHER ACCTS.	AMOUNT EXPENDED	UNEX- PENDED BALANCE
Salary, Building Inspector	1,500.00	— 1,500.00		
Other Expenses	800.00	1,500.00	2,274.64	25.36
	\$2,300.00		\$2,274.64	\$25.36

## STREET LIGHTING

	BUDGET AP- PROPRIATION	TRANSFER TO OR FROM OTHER ACCTS.	AMOUNT EXPENDED	UNEX- PENDED BALANCE
Street Lighting	\$27,700.00		\$27,655.96	\$44.04

## APPROPRIATION EXPENDITURES

### HEALTH AND SANITATION

	BUDGET AP- PROPRIATION	TRANSFER TO OR FROM OTHER ACCTS.	AMOUNT EXPENDED		UNEX- PENDED BALANCE
Salaries (Health Officer & Plumbing Insp)	4,140.00		4,140.00		
Milk Inspection	1,100.00		1,044.33		55.67
Plumbing Inspection	580.00		531.46		48.54
Material and supplies	200.00		189.91		10.09
Other expenses	300.00		126.51		173.49
Collection of Garbage	2,500.00		2,500.00		
	<u>\$8,820.00</u>		<u>\$8,532.21</u>		<u>\$287.79</u>

### SANITARY SEWERS

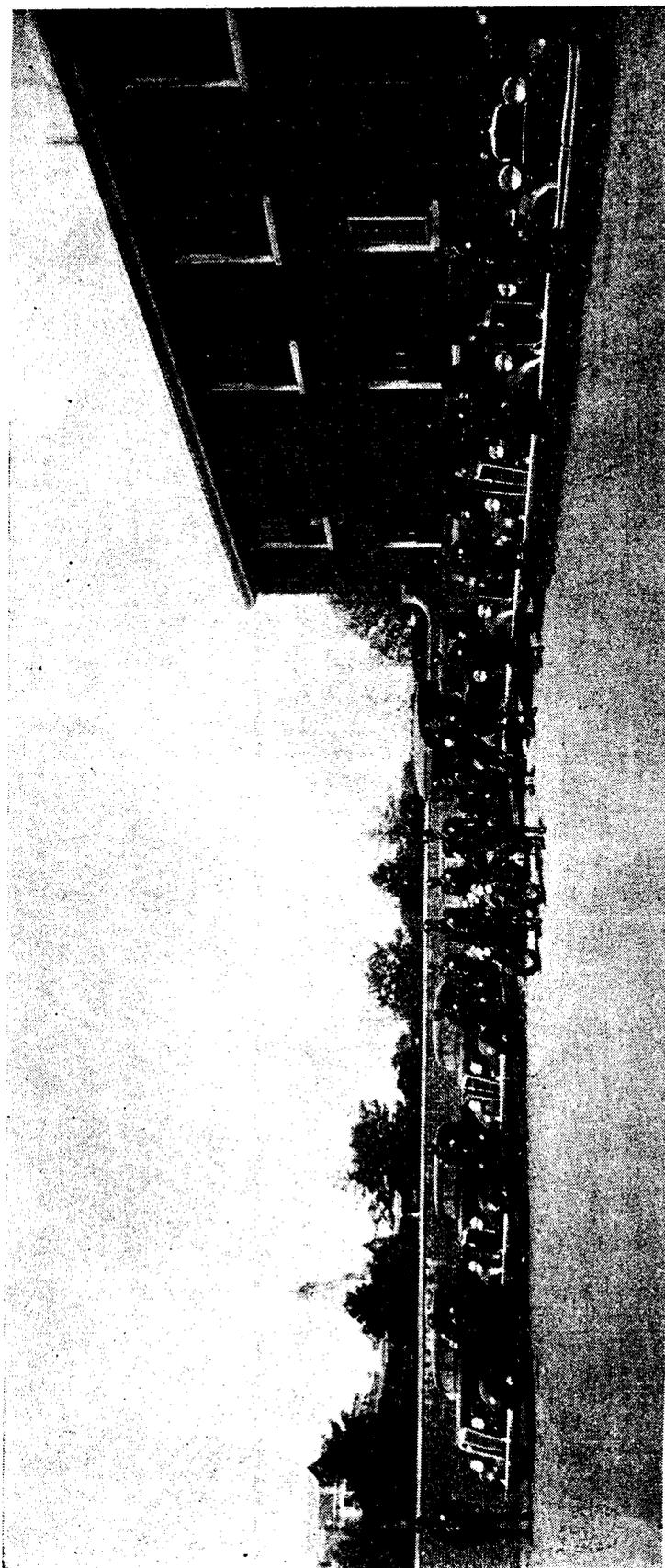
	BUDGET AP- PROPRIATION	TRANSFER TO OR FROM OTHER ACCTS.	AMOUNT EXPENDED		UNEX- PENDED BALANCE
Wages of laborers	1,700.00	— 1,250.00	66.00		384.00
Materials and supplies	500.00		179.74		320.26
Other operation and maintenance	3,600.00		3,318.71		281.29
Construction of sewers	2,200.00	250.00	2,399.74		50.26
	<u>\$8,000.00</u>	<u>—\$1,000.00</u>	<u>\$5,964.19</u>		<u>\$1,035.81</u>

## APPROPRIATION EXPENDITURES HIGHWAYS

	BUDGET AP- PROPRIATION	TRANSFER TO OR FROM OTHER ACCTS.	AMOUNT EXPENDED	UNEX- PENDED BALANCE
Salaries (Engineer, Supervisor & Insp.)	6,660.00	315.00	6,975.00	5,370.60
Wages of laborers	14,433.00	1,800.00	10,862.40	2,958.15
Road materials	5,000.00	7,800.00	9,841.35	219.12
Office supplies	800.00	365.00	215.88	7.32
Advertising and printing	400.00	70.00	322.68	48.99
Street signs and markings	800.00	220.00	531.01	21.75
Snow removal	1,000.00	250.00	1,228.25	
Ditching Roads	500.00	500.00		
Maintenance earth roads	500.00	200.00	558.35	141.65
Repairs to bridges—pipes—walls	2,000.00	1,700.00	266.40	38.60
Cleaning streets & gutters	500.00	650.00	1,107.10	42.90
Other Highway care	1,500.00	750.00	2,203.02	46.93
Gasoline and oils	2,500.00	1,100.00	2,445.32	454.63
Maintenance and repair to equipment	1,800.00	170.00	2,319.11	10.89
Rent of equipment	1,500.00	1,500.00		
Purchase tools and minor equipment	500.00	160.00	650.25	9.75
Insurance, Compens.—Liability—sidewalk	1,000.00		829.44	170.56
Construction and repairing of roads	15,000.00	4,000.00	10,707.72	292.28
Purchase of Major equipment	1,000.00	1,500.00	1,489.73	1,010.27
	\$57,393.00	\$6,000.00	\$52,553.51	\$10,839.49
	Credit truck service on ashes		3,260.00	3,260.00
			\$49,293.51	\$14,099.49

## ASH AND RUBBISH COLLECTION

	BUDGET AP- PROPRIATION	TRANSFER TO OR FROM OTHER ACCTS.	AMOUNT EXPENDED	UNEX- PENDED BALANCE
Ash Collection	10,000.00		10,126.70	Overdrawn 126.70



ABINGTON TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Exhibited—Thirtieth Anniversary—May 9, 1936

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

## Bureau of Police

During the year 1936, Robert E. Murray was appointed patrolman to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Traffic Officer Walter E. Russell. Alwyn G. Streeper was advanced from patrolman to Street Sergeant.

Three 1936 Plymouth Standard Business Coupes were exchanged for four used cars and six police cars were equipped with sirens.

Abington Township, through its Solicitor Mr. David E. Groshens, entered suit against Dr. Harry Regelman to recover damages to a police car, driven by Patrolman Andrew Harkins which was struck by an automobile driven by Mrs. W. Harry Regelman. The jury rendered a verdict of \$221.00 in favor of the Township. Dr. Regelman's attorney filed a motion for a new trial.

Abington Township, through its Solicitor Mr. David E. Groshens, entered suit against the Sentinels of the Republic to recover damages to the police car driven by Chief Patrick McKee, which was struck by an automobile owned by the Sentinels of the Republic and driven by Mr. Albert Worthington, an employee of the defendant. The jury rendered a verdict of \$183.30 in favor of the Township.

The Bureau of Police report the result of its operation during the year 1936 as follows:

Dogs killed by Officers .....	240
Fires reported .....	190
Lodgers accommodated .....	491
Meals served to prisoners .....	812
Persons hurt in accidents reported to this department .....	494
Prisoners fingerprinted and photographed .....	52
Reported to the Coroner, persons killed .....	52
Stolen Automobiles, recovered .....	20
Street lights reported out .....	2211
Value of stolen goods recovered .....	\$11,630.00

During the year, 711 arrests were made, classified as follows:

Abortion causing death .....	1	Involuntary manslaughter .....	3
Accessory before the fact .....	1	Larceny .....	36

Agg. Assault & battery.....	10	Larceny by bailee .....	2
Assault and Battery.....	42	Larceny by trick .....	4
Assault & Bat. by auto. ....	87	Making threats .....	7
Assault & Bat. to commit rape	2	Malicious mischief .....	15
Assault & Bat. by trolley .....	2	Material witness .....	9
Attempted Assault .....	1	No operators card .....	3
Begging .....	3	No owners card .....	3
Bench warrant .....	1	Non-support .....	24
Bigamy .....	1	Obtain. money under false pre.	2
Breaking, entry & larceny .....	2	Operating gambling house .....	1
Carrying con. deadly weapon..	1	Overweight truck and trailer..	1
Common scold .....	1	Permitting pers. to op, without	
Criminal liable .....	1	license .....	1
Cruelty to animals .....	1	Pickpocket .....	1
Defrauding board. house keep.	3	Procuring an abortion .....	1
Defrauding service sta. keeper	2	Public nuisance .....	1
Demented .....	7	Reckless driving .....	10
Disorderly conduct .....	74	Refusing to support children..	1
Driv. auto after license revoked	1	Runaways .....	17
Driv. auto, under influ. of liq..	31	Selling adulterated butter.....	3
Driv. auto, without op. card....	3	Suspicion .....	19
Driv. auto, without own. card..	3	Threats to kill .....	1
Driv. auto, without own. con..	5	Trespassing .....	7
Drunk .....	176	Vagrancy .....	2
Failing to stop after accident	4	Violation, Dog Laws .....	13
Failure to renew license .....	1	Violation, fire arm laws.....	2
Failure to support Mother.....	1	Violation, Game laws .....	3
Forcible entry .....	4	Violation, Liquor Laws .....	4
Fornication .....	2	Violation, Motor Laws .....	21
Fraud and cheat .....	1	Violation, Parole Act .....	1
Fraudulent checks .....	1	Violation, Pure Food Laws....	1
Fraudulent conversion .....	4	Violation, School Code .....	1
Gunning without license .....	1	Violation, Township Ord. ....	6
Indecent exposure .....	1	Violation, Act Ap. 13, 1933....	1
		Worthless checks .....	1

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

### **Bureau of Fire Protection**

The Abington Township Fire Board, composed of the members of the Department of Public Safety and the Fire Chiefs representing the five Fire Companies of Abington Township, have held regular bi-monthly meetings during the year and considered the matters pertaining to the prevention of fire and the reduction of fire hazards. They have been working under the directions of Mr. Robert F. Goodhue, Engineer for the Middle Department Rating Association, Suburban Division, to increase the efficiency of their fire apparatus. Mr. Goodhue is in the progress of re-surveying and reclassifying the Abington Township Fire Districts.

The officers and members of the Fire Companies have also developed a higher rating of efficiency by special training for fire fighting service. All this has been done in an effort to lower the insurance rates in our Township.

Ordinance No. 376 was adopted, establishing a Fire Police force for Abington Township for the purpose of regulating and controlling traffic in the areas of a fire.

The companies of the Abington Township Fire Department report having attended fires, December 1, 1935 to December 1, 1936, classified as follows:

	ABINGTON	WELDON	EDGE HILL	McKINLEY	ROSLYN
Automobiles	3	2	2	1	1
Apartments			1		
Barns	1	1			2
Chicken House		1	1		
Club			1		
Dump		1	3		1
Dwellings	17	9	9	2	7
Field Fire and Rubbish	29	3	15	16	18
Freight House, P. & R. R.				1	
Garage	1	1	1		
Oil Burner	1				
Pole		1	1		
P. R. T. Platform	1				
Store			1		
Trucks	1		1		
Woods and underbrush	1		2		2
Wood Pile				1	

**ABINGTON TOWNSHIP, PENNSYLVANIA**  
**STORES, SALES, PERSONNEL AND PAY ROLL**

	NUMBER OF STORES	SALES	ACTIVE EMPLOYEES		TOTAL PAY ROLL
			PROPRIETORS AND FIRM MEMBERS	(full time and part time). Avg. for year.	
Food Stores	61	\$964,000	53	102	\$99,000.
Eating, Drinking Places	20	161,000	21	34	18,000.
Apparel Group	7	34,000	7	2	1,000.
Automotive Group	21	626,000	23	85	83,000.
Filling Stations	22	233,000	23	20	16,000.
Furniture—Household—Radio	3	37,000	2	10	7,000.
Lumber—Building—Hardware	5	114,000	2	15	14,000.
Drug Stores	13	189,000	14	15	9,000.
Other Stores	23	117,000	21	8	12,000.
<b>Township TOTAL—1935</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>\$2,475,000</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>\$259,000.</b>

Compiled by the Bureau of the Census, United States Department of Commerce, Washington  
 (Philadelphia Branch).

# REPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

## Bureau Building Inspection and Zoning

Three hundred and eighty-four (384) applications were received for Building Permits issued during the year 1936 at an estimated cost as follows:

202 Alterations, additions and repairs .....	\$111,844.00
2 Churches .....	24,000.00
1 Club .....	600.00
42 Chicken houses, sign boards, etc. ....	7,326.00
5 Demolishing and removing buildings.....	.....
56 Dwellings .....	485,970.00
58 Garages .....	20,850.00
4 Gasoline Service Stations .....	6,750.00
3 Greenhouses .....	1,500.00
1 Home for the Aged.....	320,000.00
9 Temporary Permits .....	.....
1 Store and Office Building .....	7,800.00
<hr/>	<hr/>
384	\$986,640.00

The following statement sets forth the construction of dwellings and separate garages and service stations during the years 1931 to 1936 inclusive.

DWELLINGS			SEPARATE GARAGES AND SERVICE STATIONS		
1931	25	estimated cost \$257,500.	70	estimated cost	\$37,523.
1932	22	estimated cost 209,900.	55	estimated cost	18,206.
1933	21	estimated cost 137,000.	63	estimated cost	28,476.
1934	16	estimated cost 106,650.	37	estimated cost	11,860.
1935	27	estimated cost 219,750.	52	estimated cost	19,996.
1936	56	estimated cost 485,970.	62	estimated cost	27,600.

## Zoning

The legal justification for zoning, the right of the community as opposed to the individual, is now well established after twenty years of testing in the courts. The State gives to the municipality the right to regulate and control zoning but it does not command its exercise. When Commercial Zones are established for Industry and Business, and Residential Zones are properly and reasonably established, the zones will be upheld. In many municipalities the Commercial and Industrial zoning is kept out of the residential zones and confined, in many instances, to the land abutting through highways. The maintaining of a reasonable depth from the side line of a street for the commercial zone is an added protection from its intrusion into the residential districts.

The Board appointed a Zoning Commission of five members, Messrs Joshua M. Holmes, Harry T. Mackenzie, Louise H. Doane, Oliver L. King and E. Raymond Ambler, to prepare an new zoning ordinance. Their preliminary report was submitted to the Board of Commissioners for approval, and public hearings were held at various intervals in the Township Building, when an opportunity was given any citizen, resident or other party in interest to be heard.

The Zoning Commission submitted their final report to the Board of Commissioners, who duly advertised the time and place the proposed ordinance would be presented for adoption. Residents of the Abington and Noble Wards appealed to the Board of Commissioners for an additional zone, highly restricted for residential purposes only. The Zoning Commission created the new zone "O Residence District" and corrected the map to conform with the various requests for changes in classifications as approved by the Board. The new ordinance, No. 392, known as the "Abington Township Zoning Ordinance of 1936" was adopted on December the Tenth.

The Board of Township Commissioners received, during the year, six (6) petitions for change of classification in the Abington Township Zoning Ordinance of 1930. Public hearings were held and the petitions in each instance, except two, were granted and the ordinance amended accordingly.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment received five (5) appeals for a variance and special exception to the terms of the Zoning Ordinance. These appeals, owing to special conditions and not being contrary to the public interest, were granted.



Fresh Sewage running over Sidewalk from a house to the street.



Fresh Sewage flowing out of Vent directly in front of Main Entrance to Dwelling.

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**Bureau of Health and Sanitation**

Physicians, during the year 1936, reported the following communicable diseases to the Bureau of Health:

CHICKEN POX .....	51	RABIES .....	1
DIPHTHERIA .....	1	SCARLET FEVER .....	60
MEASLES .....	297	TYPHOID FEVER .....	10
MUMPS .....	17	WHOOPING COUGH .....	77
PNEUMONIA .....	2		

The Health Officer notified sixty-five (65) owners regarding their overflowing cesspool nuisance, directing the abatement of same. Other nuisances were investigated and their abatement effected.

The Health Officer inspected two hundred and fifteen (215) public eating places, drinking places and soda fountains within our Township and issued seven hundred and fifteen (715) Health Certificates to the employers and employees. This report was filed with the State Department of Restaurant Hygiene.

The Plumbing Inspector reported two hundred and five (205) plans of plumbing work were approved and permits issued during the year 1936. Fifteen (15) Master Plumbers were granted Certificates of Registration and twenty-five (25) Master Plumbers renewed their Certificates of Registration for 1936.

The Plumbing Inspector detected nine violations of the Plumbing Code and supervised their correction.

Ninety-eight (98) leaching cesspools and subsoil drainage systems were installed under the supervision of the Plumbing Inspector and twenty-five (25) complaints of obnoxious odors and defective house drainage were investigated and recommendations made for their correction and abatement.

Three (3) applications for connection to the Township Sewer System were filed with the Plumbing Inspector. The laterals were laid by the employees of the Department of Public Works.

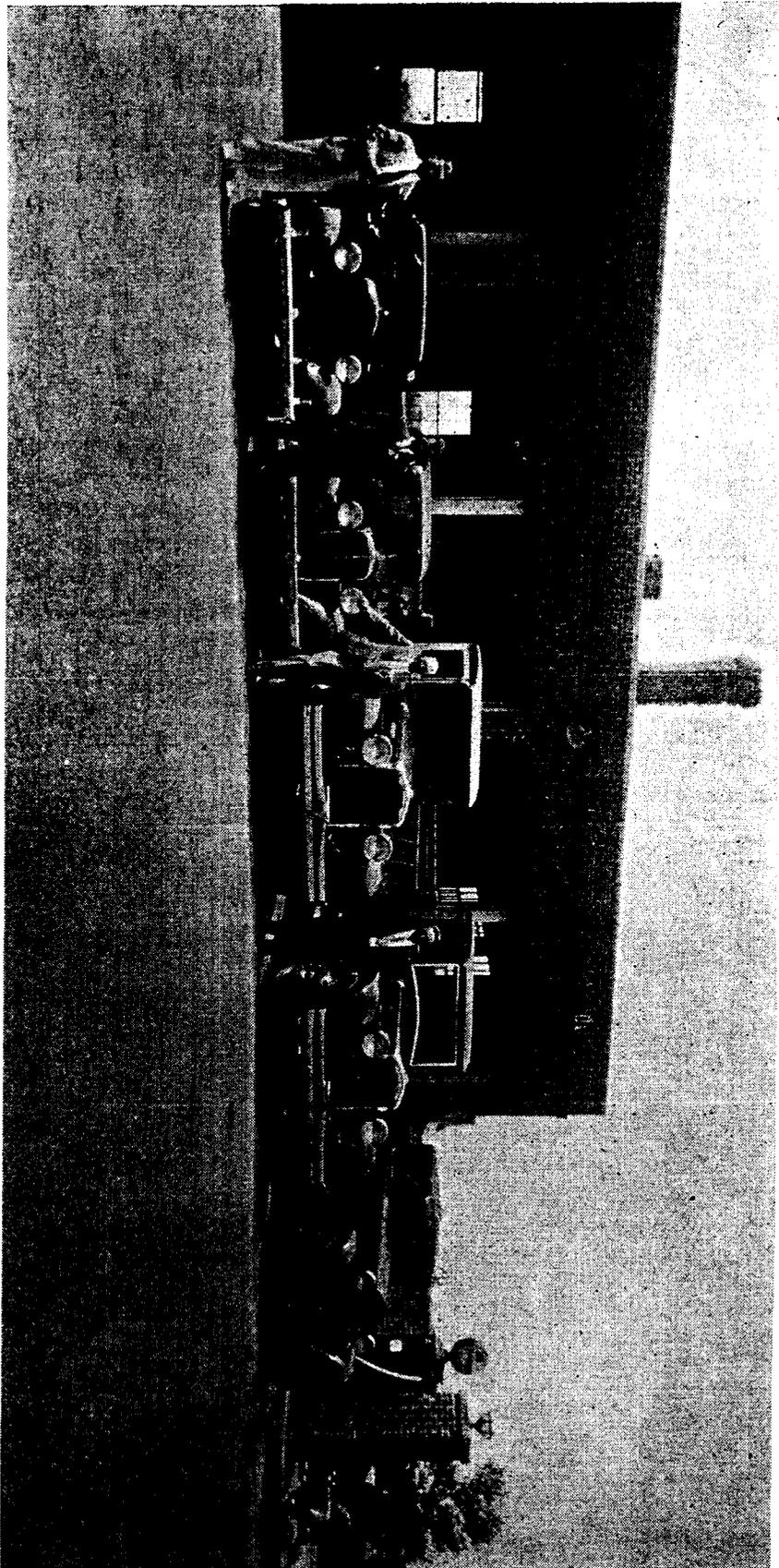
The Bureau of Health received one hundred and sixty-eight (168) requests for garbage service during the year, which were given immediate attention by the contractor James C. Smith, Dresher, Pa.

The Milk Inspection of our Township was supervised by the Old York Road Milk Control Board. The Township's share of the expense of inspection was \$446.47 and for the analysis of milk and cream, \$597.86.

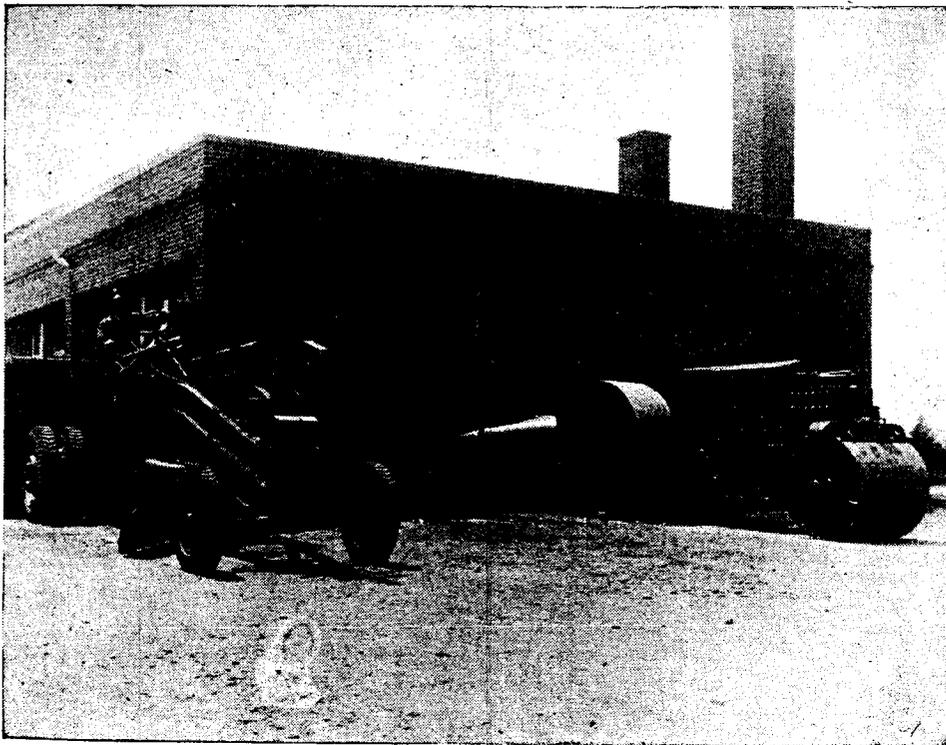
Due to the continued prevalence of rabies, the Dog Quarantine established by the Department of Health in November 1935 was extended February the First and terminated on May 6, 1936. Twenty cases of rabies were diagnosed by the State Department of Health and only through the cooperation of the owners of dogs were we fortunate in not having any fatalities. The Department of Health greatly appreciated the cooperation given them by the owners of dogs.



Fresh Sewage flowing out of Vent and spreading over rear yard to adjacent property.



ABINGTON TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT  
Exhibited—Thirtieth Anniversary—May 9, 1936



Abington Township Department of Public Works  
Roller—Grader—Snow Plow  
Exhibited—Thirtieth Anniversary—May 9, 1936

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

### **New Curb and Sidewalk Paving**

Abington Township, under Ordinance No. 384, widened Mt. Carmel Avenue on its southerly side for a distance varying from two to ten feet, between Edge Hill Road and Station Avenue and under Ordinance No. 385 placed the curb and sidewalk paving (except where the improvement was in place) and assessed the expense thereof to the abutting property owners.

The Commissioners petitioned the courts of Common Pleas to appoint a Jury of View to assess damages, etc., arising out of the widening of Mt. Carmel Avenue. The Jury of View held several meetings as required by law, and will file their report early in the year 1937.

The County forces when they improved Easton Road, laid for us, the sidewalk abutting the Farenwald property on the southeasterly corner of Edge Hill Road and Easton Road. The expense therefore was \$212.80.

## Defective Sidewalks

Official notices were delivered to the abutting property owners of all uneven or hazardous sidewalks throughout the Township. Seventy percent of the property owners cooperated with the terms of the notices.

Ordinance No. 379 was adopted, providing for a clear passage of eight (8) feet above the sidewalks of the Township and penalty for failure to comply therewith.

Solicitor Groshens defended the Township in the following sidewalk suits:

Hoover vs. Abington Township. Mr. Adam G. Hoover, motorman for Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company claimed he was injured on December 27, 1933 on the Easterly side of York Road about 300 feet south of Brook Road, through a fall which resulted from a defective sidewalk. Mr. Hoover entered suit in December, 1934 and it came to trial during 1936. The jury rendered a verdict in favor of Mr. Hoover awarding him \$1,000 damages which was settled by the Insurance Company for the property owner, heirs of Mrs. James S. Merritt.

Rourke vs. Abington Township. Mrs. Mary R. Rourke claimed that when visiting her son who resided at 22 Mildred Avenue, Roslyn, on January 20, 1935, slipped and fell on an icy sidewalk and sustained bodily injuries. Action was brought against the Township November Term of Court 1935 and the case came to trial during 1936. The Jury awarded Mrs. Rourke a verdict in the amount of \$191.00. At the same time the jury awarded a verdict in favor of the Township against the additional defendant, Mrs. Rourke's son, John Rourke, in the sum of \$191.00.

## Street Name Signs

Ninety-four (94) street name signs were erected in various wards of the Township.

## New Streets

The Township accepted, by Ordinance, the following streets.

Ward No. 7—

HARTE ROAD from Running Brook Road to Old York Road.

LAMBERT ROAD from Running Brook Road to Harte Road.

RUNNING BROOK ROAD from Lambert Road to Canterbury Road.

GLEN ROAD from Baederwood Property Line to Harte Road.

Ward No. 4—

GORDON ROAD from Old York Road to Meetinghouse Road.

## Street Vacation

Public hearing was held and Ordinance No. 383 was adopted, officially vacating Greenwood Avenue between Mt. Carmel Avenue and The Reading Company right-of-way in Ward No. 6.

## Proposed Sidewalks

Surveys were made and plans were prepared by the Township Engineer for proposed sidewalks along the following streets.

SOUTHERLY SIDE of Jenkintown Road between Linden Avenue and Tyson Avenue, Ward 3.

NORTHERLY SIDE of Edge Hill Road between Tyson Avenue and Easton Road, Wards 8 and 9.

NORTHERLY SIDE of Edge Hill Road between Old York Road and Welsh Road, Ward 10.

## Grade Crossings

During the years 1935 and 1936, numerous hearings were held by the Public Service Commission regarding the elimination of two hazardous grade crossings of the Reading Company Railroad tracks on Second Street Pike, at Bethayres. In connection with the above work the Pennsylvania Department of Highways planned a generous relocation of four-fifths of a mile of Second Street Pike in our Township.

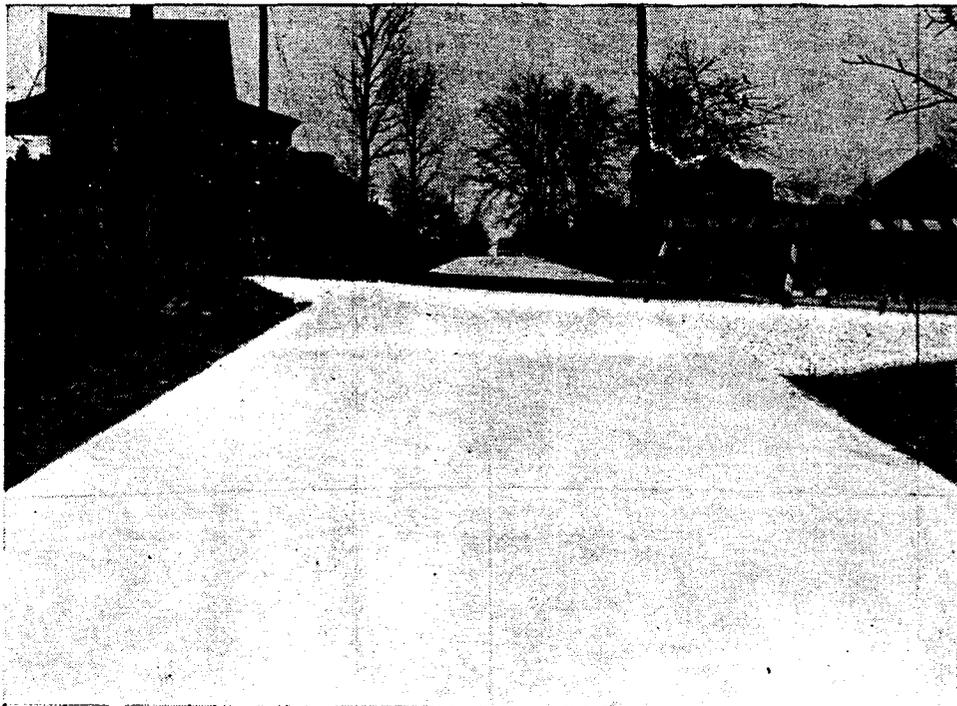
Formal orders to proceed with the construction of two over passes, new roadway and work incidental thereto, were issued by the Public Service Commission May 18, 1936. Construction work on the \$360,000 project was started in September, 1936, by the Yeo Construction Company, Chestnut Hill, Pa. Abington Township's share of the expense will be \$10,000.00.

## County Aid

The following streets were graded and paved by the Montgomery County Highway Department according to lines and grades furnished by the Abington Township Engineer.

WARD		LENGTH IN FEET
4	OSCEOLA AVENUE from Willow Avenue to Douglass Avenue	800
6	NORTH HILLS AVENUE from Mt. Carmel Avenue to Beechwood Avenue, (Upper Dublin Township Line)	2200
8	ARNOLD AVENUE from Woodland Road to Pershing Avenue	650
9	ARDSLEY AVENUE from Roslyn Avenue to Tyson Avenue (will be finished in Spring of 1937)	600
9	EDGCOMB AVENUE from Roslyn Avenue to Edge Hill Road (will be finished in Spring of 1937)	275
10	BERRELL AVENUE from Old York Road to Grove Avenue	700

Abington Township agreed to contribute to Montgomery County thirty percent of the estimated cost of the above projects.



North Hills Avenue, N. E. Limekiln Pike First "Cement Bound Macadam" Road in Montgomery County. One of Abington Township's 1936 County-Aid projects.

### Bridge Maintenance — State Roads

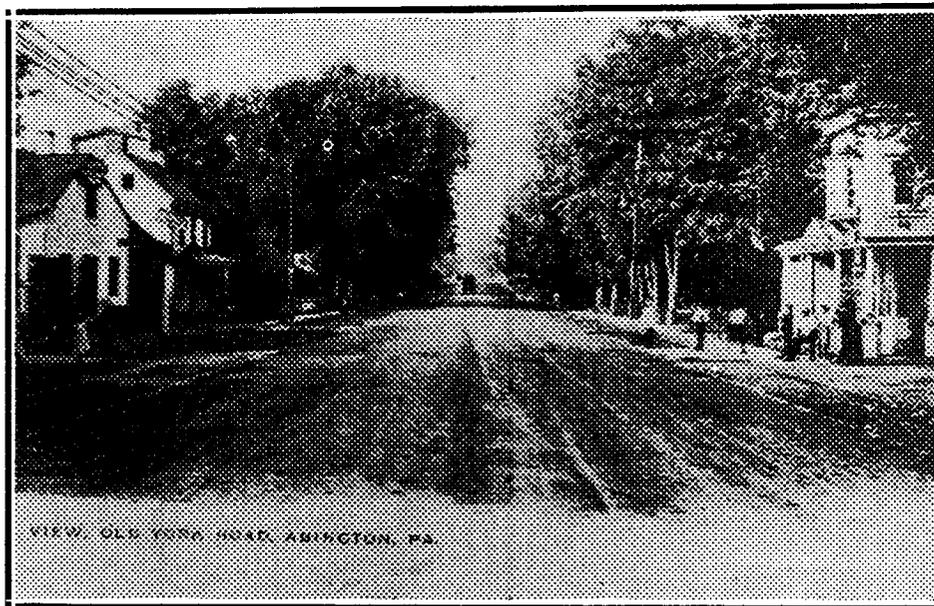
The Department of Highways, pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 344 of Assembly, which was approved on July 15, 1935, assumed on January 1, 1936 the responsibilities of construction and maintenance, under the terms, conditions, and limitations contained in the Act, of the bridges listed as follows:

Route	Sta.	Name of Stream	Type of Bridge	No. of Spans	Tot. Length
46099	4:29	Br. Meadowbrook	Conc. Slab	2	28'
46099	36:28	Br. Pennypack Crk.	Conc. Slab	1	15
46099	65:54	Meadowbrook	Enc. Steel I's	1	31
46101	199.12	Sandy Run	Conc. Slab	1	16
46115	50:98	Br. Wissahickon Crk.	Conc. Slab	1	15.8

## Widening — Old York Road

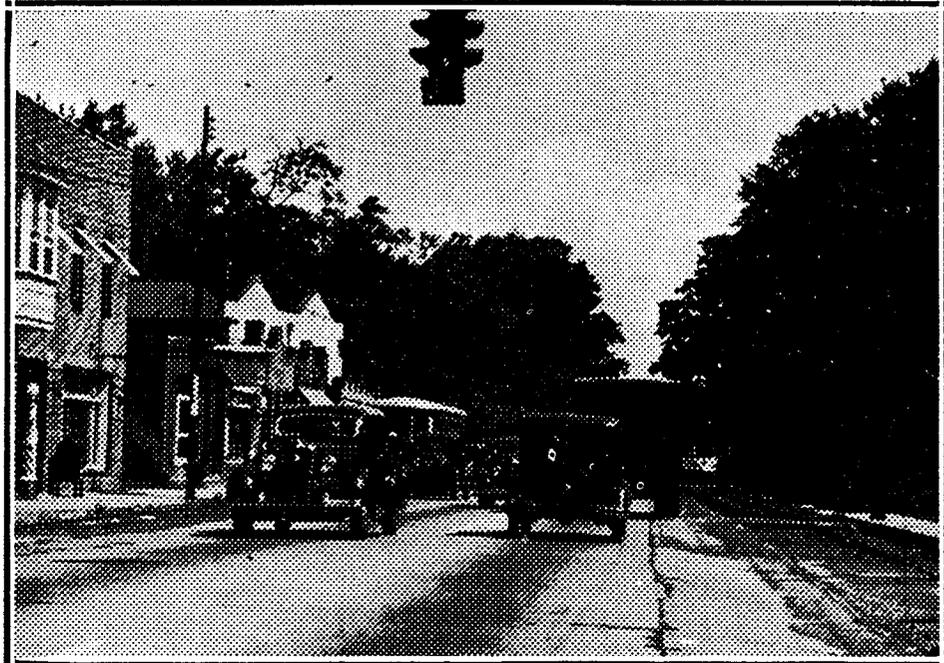
The Philadelphia to Easton Highway Improvement Association was organized for the purpose of widening Old York Road and Easton Road from the Philadelphia City and County Line to Easton, Pa. Mr. Benjamin H. Davis, Commissioner from Glenside Ward 13, represents Abington Township in this Association. They have held meetings at Doylestown, Pa.

The Old York Road Municipalities Association shortly after the organization of the Philadelphia to Easton Highway Improvement Association organized to concentrate their efforts in the widening of Old York Road from the Philadelphia City and County Line to Willow Grove. Representatives in this association were appointed from the four municipalities, Cheltenham Township, Jenkintown Borough, Abington Township and Upper Moreland Township. Mr. Charles H. Guent, Roychester Ward 10 represents our Township and is Chairman of the Association. Meetings have been held in the Cheltenham Township Building.



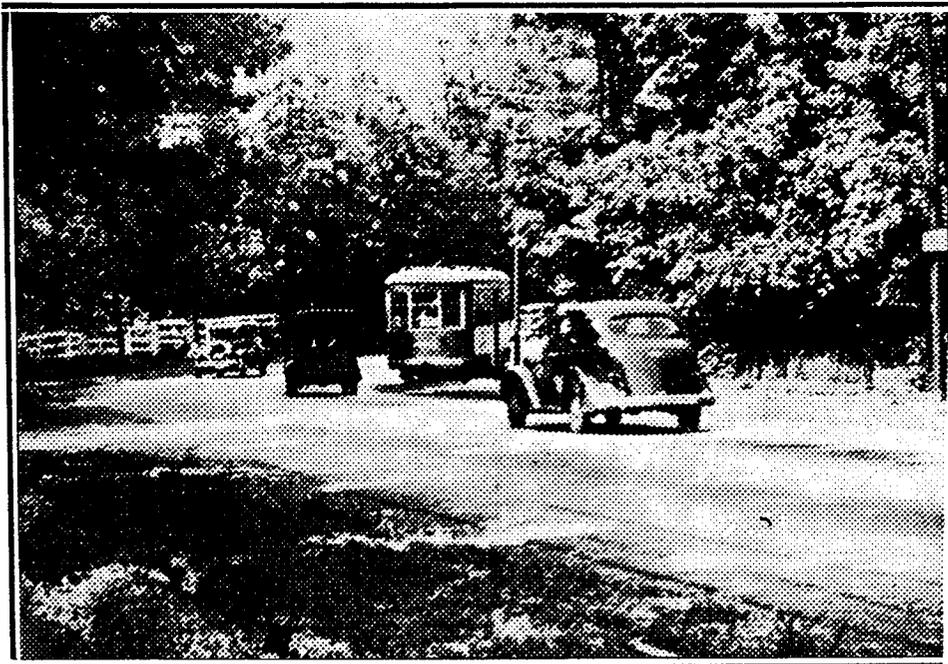
View of OLD YORK ROAD, Abington, looking north from it's intersection with Susquehanna Street.

This was back in 1900, the horse and buggy days.

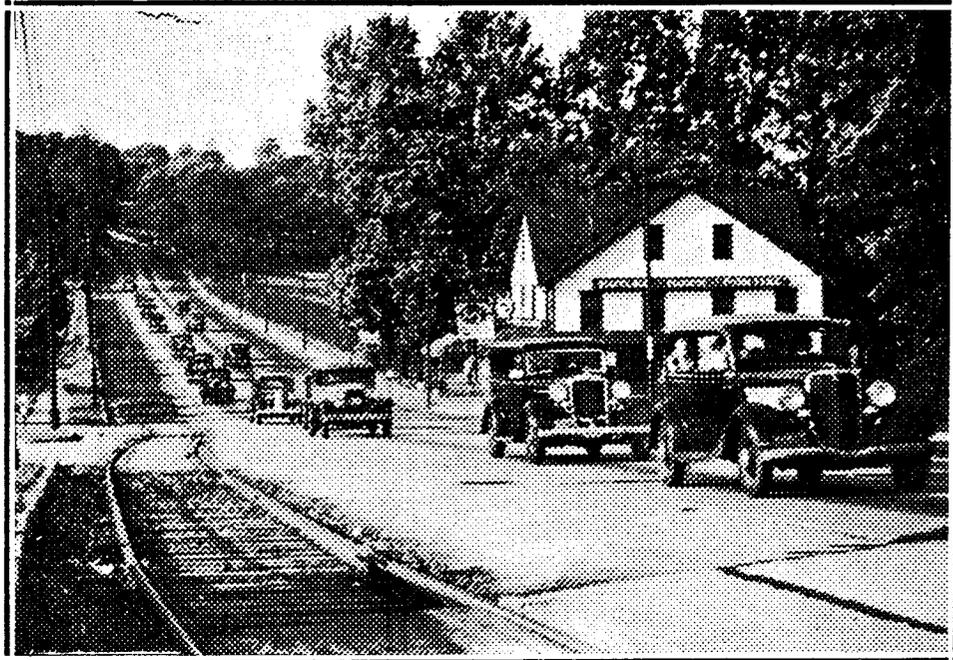


Two Views of OLD YORK ROAD, Abington, looking north from  
it's intersection with Susquehanna Street.  
These pictures were taken in 1936 and reveal the congestion of  
the increased traffic on the twenty feet concrete roadway paving.

In August 1936 a brochure was prepared and presented, with a petition to the Pennsylvania Secretary of Highways, setting forth reasons for the improvement of Old York Road and urging sufficient funds be appropriated by the State Highway Department for this work together with a request from the State to the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company to cooperate in order to permit the cartway to be fully improved from curb to curb. This petition was presented to Warren Van Dyke, Secretary of Highways on August 10, by a delegation from the municipalities involved. The project would extend for 6.2 miles and the committee was assured by Secretary Van Dyke, that at least a portion of the requested improvements to U. S. Route 611, would be included in the 1937-1938 Federal Aid Program, if details can be worked out satisfactorily.



A "Bend" in OLD YORK ROAD, just south of Abington. It is known as "DEAD MAN'S CURVE" because of the many accidents, some fatal, that have occurred at this exceedingly sharp and dangerous curve.



A View of OLD YORK ROAD, looking north from the Reading Company Bridge at Noble.

It shows the stream of Auto Traffic that is continually passing over the twenty feet wide concrete roadway with practically no opportunity to pass other cars.

## EQUIPMENT

A light Chevrolet Dump Truck was purchased by the Commissioners, in exchange for the used Ford Dump Truck for \$866.23.

A Snow Plow was purchased for the truck from the Good Roads Engineering Company for \$272.00 and the Road Grader was electrically equipped with lights. Two thousand feet of snow fence, including the posts, were purchased.

## GENERAL HIGHWAY WORK

The Public Works Department forces performed the usual work relative to the general maintenance of all Township Highways. This work includes patching, cleaning gutters, storm water sewers, inlets, drainage ditches and water courses. Cutting grass, weeds, and underbrush and trimming trees for proper clearance. Cindering slippery streets, snow plowing and snow removal and erection of snow fence. Weekly collection of ashes and household rubbish were also made.

The department surface-treated the following streets:

WARD

- 1 WOODLAND ROAD from Old York Road to Huntingdon Road. Length 1400 feet.
- 1 HUNTINGDON ROAD from Woodland Road to Old Welsh Road. Length 3643 feet.
- 1 & 2 WASHINGTON LANE from Meadowbrook Road to Moreland Township Line. Length 3390 feet.
- 2 & 7 WASHINGTON LANE from Susquehanna Street south to approximately 600 feet south of Noble Road. Length 3500 feet.
- 4 CYPRESS AVENUE from Forrest Avenue to Osceola Avenue. Length 1225 feet.  
TULPEHOCKEN AVENUE from Jenkintown Road south to Cheltenham Township Line. Length 1500 feet.
- 6 PINE AVENUE from Cricket Avenue to Hamel Avenue. Length 525 feet.
- 7 RYDAL ROAD from Susquehanna Street north to Reading Company right-of-way. Length 1200 feet.
- 10 LYCOMING AVENUE from Old Welsh Road to Moreland Road. Length 1688 feet.  
ROBERTA AVENUE from Parkview Avenue to Cleveland Avenue. Length 775 feet.  
PARKVIEW AVENUE from Old York Road to Roberta Avenue. Length 660 feet.  
CORINTHIAN AVENUE from Lycoming Avenue to Silver Avenue. Length 825 feet.
- 11 PARKDALE AVENUE from Easton Road to Abington Avenue. Length 1115 feet.
- 12 WOODLYN AVENUE from Menlo Avenue to Lynwood Avenue. Length 350 feet.  
MT. CARMEL AVENUE from Edgely Avenue to Highland Avenue. Length 1150 feet.  
OAKDALE AVENUE from Edgeley Avenue to Mt. Carmel Avenue. Length 890 feet.
- 13 CLIVEDEN AVENUE from Mt. Carmel Avenue to Fairhill Avenue. Length 900 feet.

The following streets were given a two-coat asphalt penetration wearing surface upon a reconstructed base.

WARD

- 6 MAPLE AVENUE from Ward No. 9 Line south to approximately 150 feet north of Spruce Avenue. Length 562 feet.
- 8 JOHNSTON STREET from Susquehanna Street to Avondale Avenue. Length 500 feet.
- AVONDALE AVENUE from Johnston Street west for a distance of 550 feet.
- BELMONT AVENUE from Johnston Street west for a distance of 450 feet.

In addition, the Department treated with dust laying material various streets throughout the Township, totalling approximately five miles.



ABINGTON TOWNSHIP BADERWOOD PARK  
Westerly side Highland Avenue—North of Jenkintown Road and South of Susquehanna Street

## PARKS and PLAYGROUNDS

Abington Township is one of the numerous Philadelphia Suburban communities destined to rapid population. With an eye to this future developement, the Commissioners began in 1926 the acquisition of park and playground areas, consisting now of 50.8 acres.

The first park acquired in 1927 was the North Glenside Park, containing 1.84 acres equipped for tennis courts, football and baseball fields. This park, in 1935, was leased to the Abington Township School District to be maintained and used as a school playground.

The Glenside-Weldon Park, consisting of 4.11 acres, was purchased in 1927. It is adjacent to the Abington Township School District property and consists of winding paths and rolling greens with few trees.

The Baederwood Park, containing 11.6 acres, situated on the westerly side of Highland Avenue about midway between Jenkintown Road and Susquehanna Street, was purchased in 1929. It consists of rolling country thick with virgin woods and contains a stream of spring water. This park has been cleared of underbrush and equipped with a log cabin, open fire places, tables and etc., and is an ideal spot for a picnic.

The Commissioners, during the year 1936, negotiated with the Department of Banking, Division of Closed Banks, for the 3.3 acre triangular piece of ground adjacent to the rear of Baederwood Park. An agreement of sale was executed and Ordinance No. 388 providing for its purchase for \$1000 was adopted. After the Courts approval, settlement will be made early in 1937. The acquisition of this additional land provides a right of way from the Park to Crescent Avenue in Glenside Gardens.

In 1933 the Commissioners purchased an abandoned limestone quarry in Ardsley, containing 10½ acres. The Township is using a portion of this ground to store road materials.

The 19.4 acres in Crestmont Park was purchased in 1935. About eight acres of this park consists of virgin woods, the remainder is slightly rolling and is equipped with a baseball diamond.



Polluted Stream  
receiving  
contamination  
from adjacent  
properties

## **ABINGTON TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY**

The Abington Township Sewer Authority was created on August 28, 1935, pursuant to the provision of an Act of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania approved June 28, 1935. Articles of Incorporation were approved by

the Secretary of the Commonwealth on September 4th of the same year.

The Authority was created for the purpose of constructing, improving, maintaining and operating a sanitary sewer system and disposal plant for Abington Township.

On January 6, 1936, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in the case of *Kelley v. Earle et al*, declared the General State Authority Act unconstitutional in a four to three decision. A few weeks later the Supreme Court refused to hear re-argument. As the General State Authority Act is similar to the Municipality Authorities Act under which the Abington Township Sewer Authority was organized, the legality of the Authority remained in doubt.

On or about July 23, 1936, the Authority and the Township entered into an agreement for the sale of existing sewer facilities of the Township to the Authority. Because of the unsettled state of the law at that time the conveyance was of such doubtful validity as to require a court test of

its legality before absolute reliance could be put upon the transaction. However, no action was taken and at the close of the year 1936 the state of the law underlying the Authority remained unsettled.

Numerous conferences were held throughout the year with public finance experts and the Attorney-General's Office on the constitutionality of the Authority, and the steps necessary to put the Authority into operation in the event it is upheld by the courts.

During the year 1936 detailed plans for a sewer system and sewage treatment works were completed. These plans together with a formal application for approval were submitted to the State Department of Health and the Sanitary Water Board.

On June 18, 1936 a letter from the Sanitary Water Board advised of the tentative approval of the plans subject to certain conditions, one of them being the construction and operation of the system on or before June 1, 1938. At the close of the year 1936, the final approval of the plans was expected in the near future.

Polluted Stream  
caused by  
Sewage  
flowing over  
streets and  
surface of ground  
into Stream





OUTLET PIPE DISCHARGING SEWAGE INTO A STREAM