

100 YEARS AGO JANUARY 1925

CANAL ROAD MAY BE MADE PERMANENT *The Courier-News, 16 January 1925, page 10*

Bound Brook. The effort of the Board of Freeholders is now directed to securing aid for the permanent improvement of the important road connecting Bound Brook and New Brunswick on the southwest bank of the Delaware and Raritan Canal. ... The road has long been an important one as a connecting link between different centers. It was one of the first roads laid out in pre-Revolutionary days as the countryside developed west and north from New Brunswick. Later when the old New Brunswick-Easton Turnpike Company was organized, it was selected as a part of the right of way of that important highway and traffic moved toward New Brunswick instead of toward New York. During the World War, the road was the connecting link between important arsenals and plants of the United States Government. The importance of the road and its use for traffic has increased with every passing year. / The Canal road is the shortest connecting link between Routes 9 and 16, intersecting at Somerville, and with Route 9 continued through Bound Brook and the seashore and other routes of the State highway system passing through New Brunswick, connecting with these routes without the necessity of passing through the congestion of traffic in the Middlesex county seat. Because of the fact that it parallels the canal, there are no dangerous crossroads, no grade crossings, and no trolley lines to contend with. The route is the popular one for traffic moving in those directions. So heavy is the traffic that the highway has been in need of constant attention on the part of the road department of the county ...

[NOTE: NJ renumbered it's highways in 1927. Old Route 9 is parts of Routes 28 and 22 West. Old Route 16 is 202/206 North]

OLD-FASHIONED WINTER BRINGS BACK SLEIGHS *The Courier-News, 29 January 1925, page 9*

Somerville. During recent winters sleighs have seldom been seen on the highways of the vicinity. The sight of one had become so unusual that they attracted as much attention as an automobile 25 years ago. Snows were light and automobiles quickly cleared it from roadways. Small boys sighed for an excuse to exercise the Christmas sled. Old-fashioned winters were talked of but seldom experienced. / Sleighs, the most of them of ancient lineage, may be seen almost every day, not only on country roads but upon the borough streets of Somerville. The frequent recurrence of snow has coated the streets with ice, supplying an ideal bottom. Lumber and coal dealers and milkmen have in many cases put aside the automobile truck for the old bob sled. In the outlying districts young people have revived the old straw ride parties and the "one hoss open sleigh" is once more a conveyance of the present day.

RANKIN HILL OPENED FOR SLEIGH RIDING. *Bernardsville News, 8 January 1925, page 10, col. 5*

Basking Ridge. In order to give the children of the community a chance to enjoy sleigh riding, the Bernards Township Committee, meeting at Basking Ridge, Saturday afternoon, ordered the opening of Rankin Hill for coasting. This hill is situated on the road leading from the Basking Ridge Presbyterian manse to Madisonville, and the committee asks all drivers of automobiles and other vehicles using this highway to drive cautiously. In order to eliminate the danger of injury to children, motorists are urged to use the road leading to Blazure's corner from Finley avenue.



Image: c.1909 – Sledding down S. Finley near Cedar Street in Basking Ridge. Just to the north of St. James Church.
<https://www.mrlocalhistory.org/snowstorms-sledding/>

LIBERTY CORNER NEWS *Bernardsville News. Thu, January 22, 1925 ·Page 4*

Liberty Corner is still pretty much "snowed in." The butcher and baker and candlestick maker are not doing much for us yet, but we are keeping our own end up. School and station buses are running on schedule. Church services are well attended, and evening finds the men folks playing shine or dominoes at the fire house. Someone calle[d] the fire house the "Y. M. C. A" and it is not a bad name for it. It is a warm, light, and friendly place and will have to measure up to our demands until the community house is erected.

NOTICES. *Bernardsville News, 8 January 1925, page 10*

- ⇒ Basking Ridge shoe repairing shop open on Finley avenue, Basking Ridge, N.J. Shoes made to order. Work guaranteed. Try us for service. ... C. Grande, prop.
- ⇒ The Claire dress shoppe, just opened at the Sauers residence near Coffee House corner. A nice assortment of silk and cloth dresses; New York styles and prices that will appeal to everyone. Claire Wieners. Phone Bernardsville 9-M.