

ONCE UPON A TIME IN PHILMONT

PART TWO: PHILMONT IN THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY
PERIOD PHOTOS FROM THE NICHOLS COLLECTION. NOTES BY CHARLES NICHOLS



The store in the photograph above, taken in the 1930's, is Richardson's Hardware Store, located next door to the Philmont Union Free School. Upstairs over the store was Richardson's Hall—an early venue in the Village for entertainment. One of the stairways in this building was from a Hudson riverboat.

Next to the store was Richardson's Hotel (right). This photograph was also taken in the 1930's. The hotel had a full bar, made use of by transients as well as the various entertainment acts that performed in the 'Hall'. The hotel register from the nineteenth century still exists, and exhibits some interesting calligraphy entered by 'advance men' of the various acts.





This photograph of Main Street, east of Richardson's, taken in the 1930's, shows the Strand Theatre, Waltermire's Store, and the Philmont National Bank on the north side of the street. Of these structures, only the bank remains.



This photograph shows the north side of Main Street at the corner of Main and Maple Avenue. The Saint Marks Episcopal Church, built in 1885 and still standing, is on the right; the Philmont Public School on the left. The school is shown in its final configuration, the one remembered by most longtime Village residents.



This photograph of Main Street, west of Richardson's, probably taken in the early 1940's, shows the Philmont Department Store, the drugstore and, across Church Street, Palen's Store (now Lagonia's Restaurant).