

Chapter 03090 **1902**

GANSEGAT

FAIRFIELD NJ FLOODS

DRAFT—Work in Progress



5/14/2025


Glen needs to order. Notice the years. 1741-1747.

Gansegat NJ is an late 1600s Dutch name for Fairfield NJ.
The translation is “big hole filled with water”.

Gansegat Dutch Reformed Church, Fairfield, Essex, New Jersey computer printout; births or christenings, 1741-1747

Author: [Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints](#) (Composer)

Summary: Extracted from: The Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey, Vol. 6] 974.9 B2g V. 6

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1902 FLOOD

“On Friday, 2/28/1902, the **Passaic River**, a usually well-behaved river, began to present an ominous appearance for those living and doing business along its banks.

Almost to the top of its embankments, the swollen waters were still further increased in volume by a sudden warm wave and rain, melting the snow off the mountains in the watershed of the stream, and the bursting of a dam at Whippany, in the afternoon, sent the rushing waters over the embankments into the streets along the river.

The waters continued to rise, being fed by melting snow and rain on Saturday night and Sunday morning, until all past high water marks were obliterated by the river. The yards and cellars along the banks of the river were flooded to a depth of five and seven feet, and River and Water streets, paralleling the river, were made parts of the stream, and the torrents rushed through them to the great danger of life and property. The water reached almost to Fair street on Main and Bridge streets and a good distance up West and other streets.

By the sudden rise of the river many lives were placed in jeopardy and boats had to be secured to get people from their homes to a place of safety, and the streets of the lower section of the city were made somewhat to resemble those of Venice. The flood reached its height on Sunday afternoon at, 3 o'clock. Previous to this flood, the worst floods that have occurred in Paterson took place May 1st, **1854**, and in September, **1882.**”



1902

B. FLOOD AT TWO BRIDGES.



Rotate
right (

1902

Ji. SUBMERGED FLAT LANDS AT SINGAPORE.

Maybe Alan can describe his canoe or row boat experience with Albert ?

**1903 proposal to make
Fairfield NJ a reservoir**

The final recommendation of the committee involves the consideration of two projects for flood storage, one on Great Piece Meadow and the other above Mountain View on the Pompton.

If there were none other than the single problem of prevention the committee would advise the construction of the reservoir on Great Piece Meadow by reason of its smaller probable cost and its equal efficiency.

Glen: If this happend, then Hillside Cemetery would be below the reservoir.

By expending \$2,600,000 a great reservoir could be constructed upon Meadow which could not be adapted for any purposes except to regulate floods; it would stand in season and out of season a huge feature of the valley and entirely useless and inoperative save on the occasion of high water. However great might be the needs of the inhabitants of the Passaic Valley for a conserved water supply, the construction on the meadows, representing an enormous expenditure, would furnish no solution of the problem. It would admit of no enlargement for water-supply storage and would be available for no purpose except flood regulation.

The engineering committee, after presenting the merits of both Great Piece Meadow and Mountain View projects, therefore recommends the adoption of the latter in spite of its greater cost, because it is believed that in the end the construction of the Great Piece project would involve an expenditure not warranted by public economy or general expediency.

Yeah !! Mountain View / Boonton NJ 2was picked.

More to come.

1918 Fairfield NJ. Rifle Range flood.

Navy men wading in water.



1918 Navy Rifle Range barracks, Fairfield NJ

About 2 miles West of Hillside Cemetery



1918 Rifle Range, Horseneck Road, Fairfield NJ



1919