

The History of Bogue Pond

Bogue Pond in Bloomingdale sits between 106 Glenwild Avenue and Bogue Drive. It is a pretty little pond still used for fishing and even ice skating. Quite a few residents grew up playing hockey on the ice. Since the year 2000 the town of Bloomingdale has held its trout fishing contest every April here. The wonderful playground next to it was installed in the 1990's and is a popular spot for families with young children to visit.

Charles J. Bogue (1861-1932) and his wife Ella (Luke) Bogue (1850-1923) moved to Bloomingdale sometime around 1915. They bought the property (about 30 acres) from, we believe, a William Stalter, at 106 Glenwild Avenue (then still known as Carmantown Road). Charles Bogue was the founder of Bogue Electric in Paterson. In 1917, Glenwild Lake was created up the road a bit. Ella was very fond of fishing, so she would avail herself of the beautiful waters nearby. As Glenwild Lake was private, she was escorted off the property more than once! Charles, who wanted to keep his wife happy, dug out a little pond on their property, probably around 1918 or 1919, stocked it with fish, and it became known in the neighborhood as Bogue's Pond. Unfortunately, Ella died in 1923, but Charles stayed on until his death in 1932.

They had had no children of their own, but had adopted Ella's nephew Charles around 1892 when he was about 5. (Her sister Rosanna (Luke) Little had died in 1891). As an adult, Charles Little moved his family out from Brooklyn in 1923 when Ella died to be with his Uncle. Charles Little's daughter Mabel had been a favorite of Ella's and they had visited frequently. Charles Little now inherited the property and lived there until he moved to Florida in the late 1960's.

Mabel Little and her husband Alex MacKenn, from West Milford, bought the land adjacent to Bogue Pond that included the 106 property as well 104 Glenwild Avenue in 1932 from her father. (They resided at 104 Glenwild and started Glenwild Garden Center at the site.) Sometime during the 1960's, Charles Little sold the rest of the property (Bogue Pond and about 15 acres going up the hill, bordered by Bogue Drive) to Alex Linden, who then sold it to Lakeview Construction owned by Abe Goll and Al Waldman. Lakeview built the condominiums across the Pond in 1976. They filled

in the small adjacent pond where the playground currently sits, and then donated the pond and playground area to the Town of Bloomingdale.

Ella Bogue would be happy to know that her pond is still used these days for the enjoyment of fishing and outdoor fun!



Ella (Luke) Bogue, Charles Little, Mabel Little, Julia (Wagner) Little, Charles Bogue circa 1922? in front of 106 Glenwild Avenue, Bloomingdale, NJ

Ella Bogue on the left and Charles Bogue on the right were the creators of Bogue (or Bogue's) Pond in Bloomingdale. In the middle are Charles, Mabel and Julia Little. They're standing in front of 106 Glenwild Avenue (The existing white house next to the white barn that sits on the shore of Bogue Pond) circa 1922.

From the current Bogue electric website:

“One hundred and twenty years ago Tesla invented the first alternating motor. In the same year a contemporary of Thomas Alva Edison, Charles J. Bogue started building the first of a world-famous line of electric motors and generators in a small plant on New York's King Street. Some of the machines built by Bogue before the turn of the century are still providing excellent, reliable service that has made the name Bogue synonymous with fine motors and generators.”