Historic Brighton’s
Fifth Annual Summer Tour, June 27, 28

Gideon Cobb Luncheon: Friday, June 27th
11:30 am—2 pm
Place: The Gatherings at Daisy Flour Mill
1880 Blossom Road
Program: Attorney Jim Quinn will discuss
The Lost City of Tryon and Oliver Culver
PowerPoint presentation with Q/A

Saturday, June 28th Events
From 10 am to 3 pm
at Tryon Park/Ellison Park
Opening of the Fort Schuyler building with media displays
Horse and wagon history tour with Mary Jo Lanphear
Complimentary Tryon Town/Ellison history books (as supplies last)
Tours to the two original Tryon/Culver homes
The Heberle stables history with Bill Heberle
Tryon Birding in the 1930’s with Bob Marcotte
Disc Golf Association 34th Ellison Park Anniversary Tournament and Demonstration
Traditional musical instruments with Allen Hopkins
Scavenger hunt for kids; Catering grill from Sonny’s Delicatessen
Interpreters . Fun
Lost City of Tryon / Ellison Park Scrapbook

The Heberles

Heberle brothers

A.H. Heberle & Sons
Announce the opening of
A Riding Academy

Atlantic Avenue Dulyway
Brighton, New York
Adjacent Ellison Park

Academy brochure

The Rochester peach
The Heberles were early settlers in the Tryon/Ellison Park area. Originally nurserymen, they turned into owners of a riding academy in June of 1928. The riding academy evolved from many people coming down to borrow their horses for rides around what is now Ellison Park. When they first bought the property, around the turn of the 20th century, they had to remove a huge sand hill from the place and transfer it to the estuary of the bay across what is now Browncroft Boulevard or Atlantic Avenue. The road or dugway, such as it was at that time, only went as far as their home.

With great industry, the Heberles ran two businesses and were also responsible for helping to set up what was then Peterson’s rendering and fertilizing business. William and Heather Heberle and their family continue to live in the home and run the stable today. There are many original buildings that have changed somewhat over the years, depending on changing needs. Recently, a large, domed riding ring was added.
The Pok family settled in the early 1900s in what was the second Tryon home at 421 North Landing Road. They raised two sons and three daughters, one of whom was Alice Pok, later Mrs. Roger Kellogg. After the family had lived there for almost one hundred years, Alice Pok Kellogg’s daughter, Wendy Kellogg Mercado sold the property in 1991.

An early resident of the new Tryon House

Brighton's first supervisor Oliver Culver was a distinguished early resident of the "new" Tryon house. He came to Tryon from New England in 1896, became part owner of the Tryon store, was instrumental in founding the school and lived here until he built his own home that now stands on East Boulevard in Rochester.
The first Tryon home, across from the top of the park, originally quite small and primitive, is currently undergoing an extensive and much need reworking by Leslie Apetz. Both Tryon houses are designated Brighton Landmarks.

The Roudebush House

The house at 432 Landing Road, across the street from the Tryon/Pok home, is pictured in winter with a clear view of what is the park today.
These plat maps of the Tryon/Ellison Park area show the changes wrought by Frank Ellison's announcement in 1926 that he was creating the first Monroe County Park donating 200 acres of land in memory of his father, Nathaniel.
The Heberle sand hill at Browncroft represents the same terrain--shallow streams and low sand hills--that the Marquis de Denonville slogged through as he led 400 French Canadian troops and their Indian allies en route to lay waste to the Seneca villages of Totiakton (today's Rochester Junction) and Gannagaro (near today's town of Victor).

Postcard of Irondequoit Creek with turnstyle bridge
In May 1677 a small English expedition from Albany was sent to explore the Landing area. The soldiers probably traveled up the Mohawk, down the Oswego River to Lake Ontario. During the next ten years the British established better trading relations with the Iroquois while the French saw a decline in beaver pelts delivered to their outposts.

So the “Sun King,” King Louis XIV of France, recalled his ineffectual governor, sending in his stead a colonel of the Dragoons who had made his mark fighting the Turks in Austria—René de Brisay, Marquis de Denonville. Men, money, and munitions were assembled at Fort des Sables, a hastily constructed stockade at the entrance of Iroquois Bay to crush the Iroquois. Because it was so hot, Denonville took off his armor and marched in his underwear through the sand h. First he built a Bay. Four hundred men were left to protect supplies and boats while raids commenced on the Seneca settlements. Corn was destroyed in the hope that the Iroquois would perish from starvation. Denonville’s punitive expedition provoked the burning of Montreal and contributed to the brief supremacy of the English.

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In 1720 William Burnett, English governor of New York, commissioned Peter Schuyler Jr. and eight other Dutchmen from Albany to establish a fort and trading post at the strategic Indian Landing. Its purpose was to keep tabs on the French, to intercept Senecas before they could reach the French trading post at the mouth of the bay, and to influence the Senecas to trade with the English. According to A. Emerson Babcock, “Governor Burnet’s instructions were very forcible and explicit and disclose the intense feeling of rivalry between the English and the French. Schuyler was warned to keep his ‘eyes wide open and to send out skouts and spies and be on your guard as the French are not to be trusted.’ ”

Difficulty in supplying the fort from Albany led to Capt. Schuyler and his band being recalled within the year and the trading post/fort disappeared.

In 1938, the WPA under President Roosevelt built what someone considered a replica of the original Fort Schuyler.