



Marker #10

Little has been recorded in local history annals of a small Indian village on the banks of Wildehouse Kill just north of Route 20 at Dunnsville. In 1820, a few Indians were still living in huts on the banks near the old Shaver farm. On the former Willard Tygert farm adjacent to the creek, Indian relics were once found.

In 1824, a bridge was built over Wildehouse Kill to accommodate the increasing flow of wagon traffic. The commissioner of highways then recorded the total expense of the bridge as \$23.78 1/2. Nicholas Van Patten was paid \$6.28 for 74 feet of lumber, \$3 was expended for stone for the bridge, the rest of the expense was for labor including \$1.25 for liquor for the workmen.

The Guilderland Town Highway Department has installed a new green and white marker to replace the old weathered sign that marked the Indian village. The new sign records the creek as Wildehausen (houses), the old one read Wildehouse (house). Both mean Indian House(s) on Wild Creek. The marker is a record of the town's earliest beginnings.

*"True! Memory whispers that there was a mood
In our beginning here, plain truth to speak,
When we were poor indeed, in houses, land and food,
And lived like Indians eating of caheek or kanchies hard!"*

—Helderbergia, H. R. Schoolcraft