

During the 1930s, my mother and dad and I would frequently have dinner at Stone's Restaurant on Saturday evenings. At that time a tasty three course dinner with beverage could be had for less than a dollar. I remember well that when dessert time would arrive, the waitress would always ask, "Pie, pudding or ice cream?" The exterior of the present building is pretty much as shown in the photo. The entrance from Main Street (Route 9) was in the center of the building about as shown in the photo. I do not recall there being a second door in the front. The plate glass windows are much as I remember them. As to the interior, there was a lunch counter with a short order grill along a portion of the back wall (the back wall being a common wall with the two story building behind). The remainder of the restaurant contained numerous tables. Entrance to the kitchen located in the two story building was at the left or north end of the back wall of the restaurant. There was also a doorway from the restaurant into the Stone's living room located in the two story building.

In the 1920 federal census for Cape May Court House, Edward E. Stone, along with his wife Kate, six children, and a mother-in-law are listed. His occupation is that of a glass blower employed at the local glass factory. Stone again appears in the 1930 census where he is operating his own restaurant business on Main Street. His wife is listed as cook. The closing of the local glass factory in the 1920s probably led Stone to venture into the restaurant business. My guess would be that the one story restaurant addition to the existing two story house was made sometime between 1920 and 1930. The actual date could be buried somewhere in the pages of the *Cape May County Gazette*.

I was personally acquainted with four of the six children, namely Lela (Mrs. George Post), Ione (Mrs. John Bell), Lora, and Byron "Huck" Stone. The daughters, at various times, worked as waitresses, and son "Huck" helped Mr. Stone behind the lunch counter.

Bud Corson
February 10, 2016