This is the Frackville passenger station in 1888 as pictured in the Schuylkill County Historical Society publication “Early Transportation in Schuylkill County.” Harry Berkheiser Sr. was the ticket agent for many years and Richard Davis the telegraph operator during this time. In 1925 a new brick station was erected on the site.

If you were in Frackville in 1891 you could have bought your groceries from any of these stores: Benjamin Adams, Berger and Moore, David Christ, John Gray, William H. Keffer, Thomas T. Phillips, Jacob Rodian, Jr., or Frederick K. Seldel. You could have shopped at these general stores: Samuel Haupt, John Richard and Alexander Scott or at these drygoods stores: Harry T. Evans, William S. Sanner and Seaman and Company.

The Adams Express Company was located in town at this time, Edward W. Bateman was Postmaster, Harry D. Berkheiser was station agent and Daniel Frack sold real estate. Charles Beard was a blacksmith in town and Henry Haupt and Samuel Moyer were carpenters. Hotels were operated by Samuel Burchill, Mrs. M. Burke, Christian Gulong, Tobias J. Klinger, Mrs. Sarah A. Rauch, William Taylor and Abraham Tayler.

Meat Markets were owned by F. A. Dietrich, D. F. Hoffman and the Wagner Brothers, and Phillip Prynn and Charles L. Hillanbrand operated saloons. Jacob Rubright was a watchmaker and Charles Hartzog sold insurance. Lewis C. Anstrock and Norman L. Ranck were painters and Robert Snyder was a plasterer during this time.

Candy stores were owned by Mrs. Martha A. Bury, Joseph Fowler, John M. Wachter and Harry Rhoads while Mrs. Robert Curran sold cigars and cigarettes. Thomas M. Reed was a merchant-tailor and barber shops were owned by Harry Schaeffer and Thomas E. Bradley. The Livery Stables in town were operated by Clark Dixon, David P. Haupt and John H. Haupt.

William A. Davis sold hardware and boots and shoes were sold by Charles Ivory and Mary A. Ivory was a dressmaker. Shoes were sold by Harrison K. Reich and Joseph F. Seaman and Bernard Liddy was a shoemaker. Jacob Pauly was the proprietor of the Depot House and G. W. Johnson was a local photographer. James Kalbach had the coal yards and Joseph J. Kehler was a clothier. Daniel J. Kiefer was the news agent in town and the water company was known as the Mountain City Water Company. Furniture was sold by Walter R. Nice and Calvin B. Philips and George W. Sebold sold stoves.

The Chief Burgess at this time was William Wertz and Norman L. Ranch was Tax assessor. The physicians in town were Charles A. Beiler, James D. Kiefer and David Taggart.

Yes, you could have known some of these people in town....that is....if you were in Frackville in 1891.