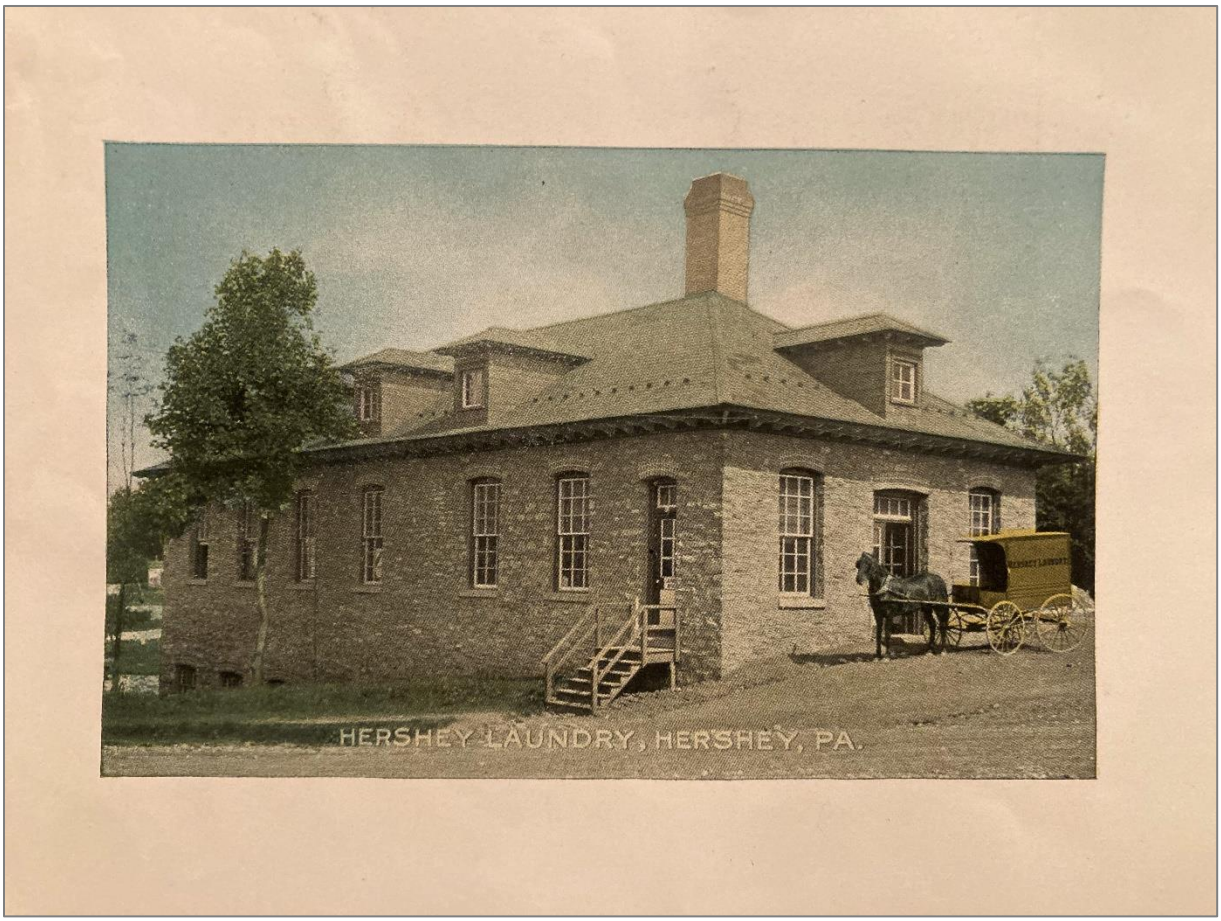
HERSHEY ESTATES

Laundry



1908 Milton Hershey opened Hershey Laundry in a granite building on Hershey's Park Avenue (today the entrance for ZOOAMERICA).

Hershey Laundry was established in 1908 in what the entrance to Zoo America is now. A fire in 1916 sent the operation to the old bowling alley and then the Community Inn. In the early 1920s, full operation was in place in the Hershey Department Store. In 1935, was moved into a large building between the Department Store and the Abattoir.

The operation moved again in 2003 to the nearby Post Office—former Abattoir—and back into the Press building. The building where it functioned the longest, between the Department Store and the Abattoir buildings, was torn down in 2006 to accommodate the parking garage that exists in that location today. As of 2018, Hershey Entertainment and Resorts was still operating the laundry, but the facilities had moved to Palmyra.

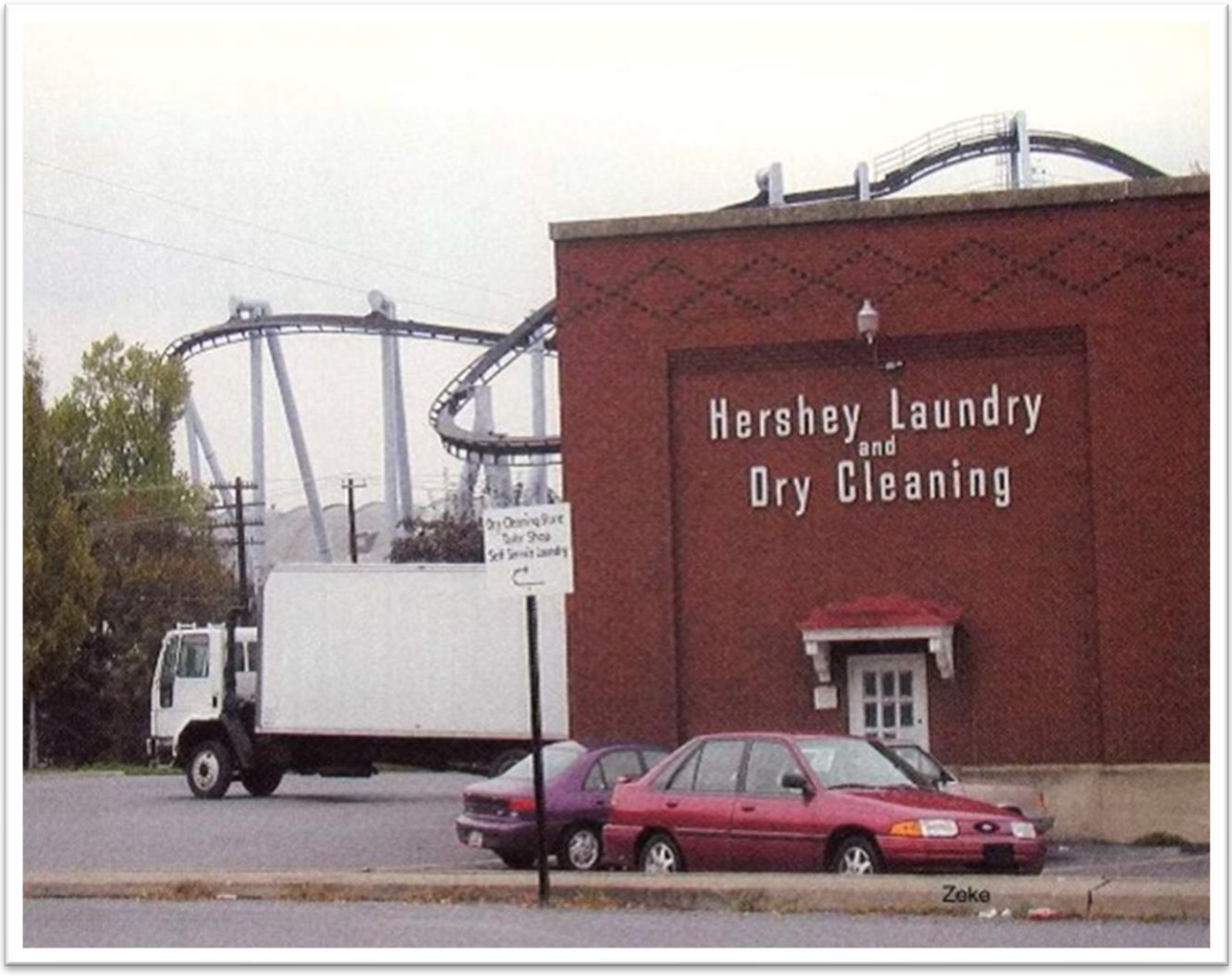
Finest Laundry In the State

The Hershey Laundry is now completely installed on the third floor of the Hershey Press Building. Its equipment is new--22 machines of the latest types with a capacity of 20,000 pieces.

Expert laundrymen who visited the plant pronounce it the finest equipment in Pennsylvania.

All kinds of work done. Special auto truck service. Goods called for and delivered.

Hershey Laundry Company
Hershey, Penna.



Her. Laundry Celebrates 75 Years In Business

In 1908, Milton S. Hershey established a one-room laundry operation in a granite building on Hershey's Park Avenue. Eight employees used wooden revolving washers and laundered by hand to meet the needs of Milton Hershey's growing community. Laundry was transported by horse and buggy.

The early years were not easy ones for the Hershey Laundry, and in 1916, fire destroyed the entire enterprise and forced operations into temporary locations, first in an old bowling alley and later in the Community Inn building. Though equipment had been lost in the fire, operations continued and laundry was sent out for cleaning.

By the early 1920's, Hershey Laundry was able to begin production again, this time in the Hershey Department Store Building at Park and Chocolate Avenues. Forty employees were hired, and new equipment included seven washers, an extractor tumbler, a flatwork iron and four garment presses.

In January 1935, the Laundry moved to its present location behind the Department Store to the rear of Chocolate Avenue. A month later, a dry cleaning department was added, along with two garment vaults and a tailoring department.

One Hershey resident, Mildred Ortenzi, a 34-year veteran at Hershey Laundry, recalls going to work back in 1949 - when wages were just 79 cents an hour. She clearly remembers the days before perma press and polyester.

"I remember when we used to do the uniforms for the boys at Milton Hershey School," she says. "There was always a spot at the yoke in the back that had to be hand-pressed, because the machines couldn't do it. The boys had to look nice, you know."

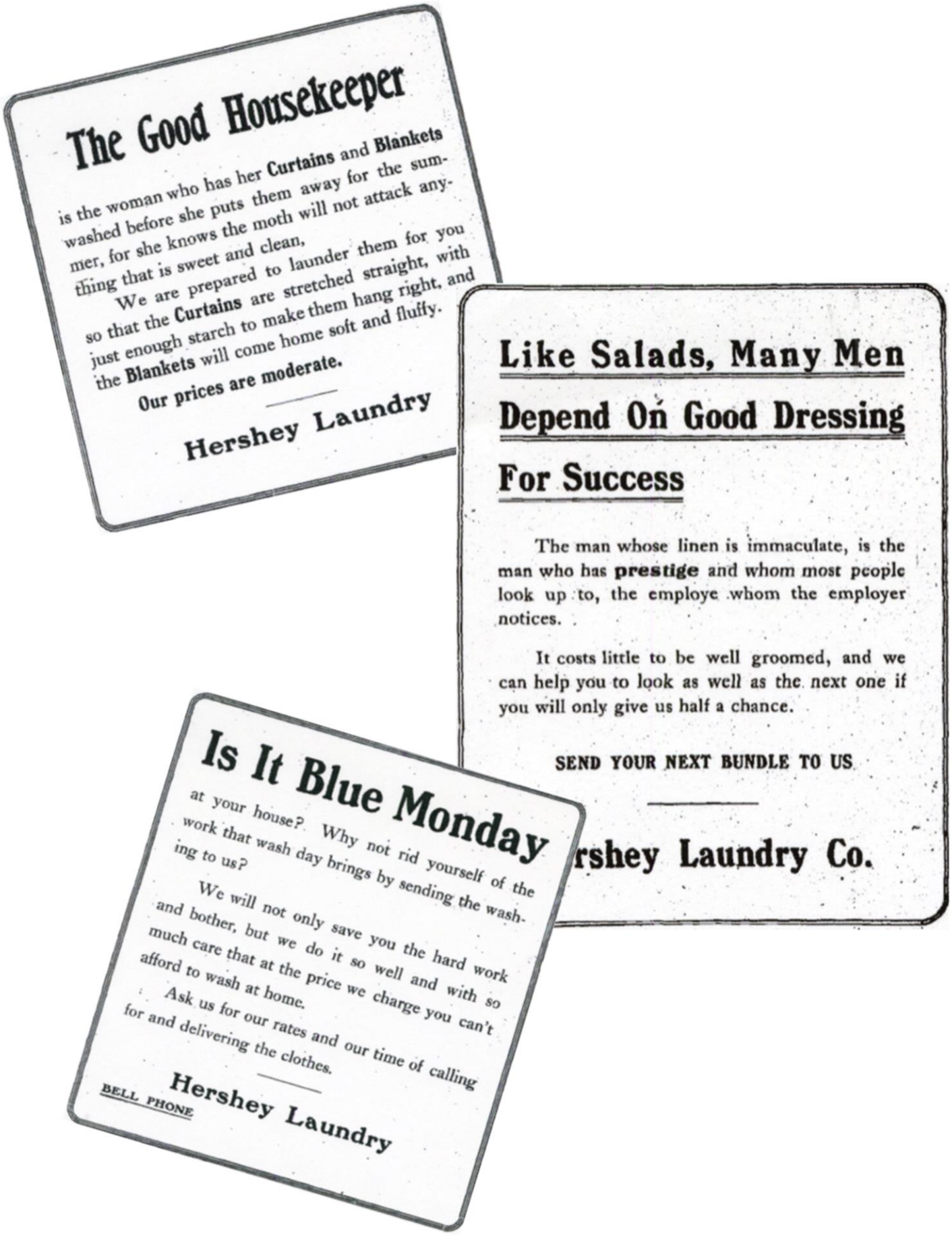
Additional equipment was added in the mid 1950's, requiring less manual labor and making operations more efficient. Milton Hershey School was expanding, local motels began sending linens, and business also increased from the local routes including Hershey, Hummelstown, Elizabethtown and Palmyra.

Until 1977, area residents along the routes just placed the Hershey Laundry & Dry Cleaning sign in their front windows on the days when the Laundry vans made their rounds. Family Laundry and dry cleaning was picked up, cleaned, and delivered again.

Though there has been a steady decrease in the amount of family laundry processed because of new man-made easy-to-care-for clothing, commercial business has remained constant.

Today, Hershey Laundry & Dry Cleaning, a division of Hershey Entertainment & Resort Company, has 75 employees and still services the company's hotels, including The Hotel Hershey & Country Club (celebrating its Golden Anniversary this year) and The Hershey Lodge & Convention Center. Other commercial business is derived from local motels, nursing homes and area businesses.

"One area of recent growth for us," says general manager James Porrett, "has been uniform sales and the servicing of these uniforms for various businesses. This business has changed drastically through the years, but it's extremely gratifying for us to be celebrating this diamond anniversary."



The Good Housekeeper

is the woman who has her **Curtains** and **Blankets** washed before she puts them away for the summer, for she knows the moth will not attack anything that is sweet and clean,

We are prepared to launder them for you so that the **Curtains** are stretched straight, with just enough starch to make them hang right, and the **Blankets** will come home soft and fluffy.

Our prices are moderate.

Hershey Laundry

Like Salads, Many Men Depend On Good Dressing For Success

The man whose linen is immaculate, is the man who has **prestige** and whom most people look up to, the employe whom the employer notices.

It costs little to be well groomed, and we can help you to look as well as the next one if you will only give us half a chance.

SEND YOUR NEXT BUNDLE TO US

rshey Laundry Co.

Is It Blue Monday

at your house? Why not rid yourself of the work that wash day brings by sending the washing to us?

We will not only save you the hard work and bother, but we do it so well and with so much care that at the price we charge you can't afford to wash at home.

Ask us for our rates and our time of calling for and delivering the clothes.

Hershey Laundry

BELL PHONE

Revised List of Scouring and Dyeing

Gents' Garments Scoured

Sack Suits, 3 piece,	$2.00
Suits, 2 piece,	$1.75
Coats,	$1.00
Vests,	25 to 50c
Trousers,	75c
Overcoats,	$1 to $2
Bicycle and Outing Suits,	$1.00 to $1.50.

Steam Dyeing, Gents

Suits,	$3.00
Sack Coats,	$1.50
Frock Coats,	$1.75
Trousers,	$1.00
Vests,	50 to 75c
Overcoats, Fall,	$1.75
Overcoats, Winter,	$2.00
Overcoats, Storm,	$2.25 to $3.00
Bicycle and Outing Suits,	$2.25 to $2.50.

Pressing Only

Suits,	60c	Coats,	35c
Vests,	10c	Pants,	15c
Overcoats	50c		

Cleaning and Pressing

Suits,	75c	Coats,	45c
Vests,	15c	Pants,	25c
Overcoats,	75c		

Ladies' Dresses Scoured

Dresses, woolen,	$1.50 to $2.00
Skirts,	$1.00 to $1.50
Waists,	50c to $1.00
Jackets,	75c to $1.00

Dyeing Dresses

Dresses, woolen,	$2.00 to $3.00
Dresses; silk-lined,	$2.50 to $4.00
Skirts,	$1.00 to $1.50
Waists,	75c to $1.00

We guarantee all Cleaning and Dyeing.

HERSHEY LAUNDRY

Don't Be Annoyed by Notes of This Kind

"Dear Madam:" wrote Mrs. N., a "washwoman," to her customer, according to B. L. T., "I am afraid of the undertaking of doing up your shirt. I am thinking it will shrink considerably, so that I could not get it up to your expectation."

Don't be annoyed by notes of this kind, **send us** your work, and it will come home to you well done and on time, because **we know** how.

Investigate our prices.

Hershey Laundry
THE PROGRESSIVE LAUNDRY

A Farmer

is the most independent fellow in the world. He never has to ask for work.

We're not farmers. We want work, and we know if you try us you will realize that our work is well done and returned to you different from the way most laundries send it to you.

Don't worry about the buttons, we will supply them free, and sew them on too.

Hershe

"Blue" Monday

is a "has been." No longer does the conservative wife spend her time over a wash tub. She knows it is unwise, also unprofitable to compete with the modern ways of making housekeeping a pleasure instead of a torture; she saves time, trouble and money by sending us the

Family Washing

Get our price from the delivery man, or phone us.

Hershey Laundry

This Service Saves Money

It is really cheaper to send us your Flat Work with your family wash and have us wash and iron them, than to bother with a wash woman.

Our charge is 4c a lb.

If you only send us the Flat Work, namely, Sheets, Tablecloths, Towels, Napkins and Pillow Cases and have more small than large pieces, the price is 25c the dozen.

These articles are washed wonderfully clean and white by our process, and are ironed with a fine finish.

Take advantage of the service.

Hershey Laundry
Bell Phone

For further discovery, explore the Hershey History Center's [Photo Archive](#).

[HERSHEY HISTORY CENTER](#)