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Settled: Never a Corner Stone For Newark's Old Post Office

Belief that Newark's old post office had a cornerstone virtually was shattered yesterday. The shattering was done with sledge hammers, iron bars and air guns.

Three corners of the building have been razed by workers on a WPA project without discovering a trace of the cornerstone, which was reported to have been placed in the structure. Only the section at Broad and Academy streets remains standing. Eugene Lynch, project foreman, was directing workers in tearing that down yesterday.

"Did you find the cornerstone yet?" he was asked.

"No, but if there's one here we'll find it now," said Lynch.

Rip.

With that Lynch sent for extra men. He gave orders to rip down the corner. Then, seizing an iron bar, he went to work himself.

One piece of stone rolled to one side.

"Looks kinda hollow," said Lynch. With a 12-pound hammer he dealt several blows. The stone broke. It was not hollow.

That was the process with each

stone until the street level was reached.

"No indication there ever was a stone," said Lynch, "but one fellow

was around here and told us he had a diamond ring in it. Another fellow said he was present the day the stone was laid. Still another said there never was a cornerstone laying.

No Reports of It.

"We've got a watchman around here who has been interested in the case. He has gone back to all the

old papers of the 90's and can't find any report of a cornerstone.

Each stone has been watched carefully, but if the cornerstone—assuming there was one—was mislaid, some time many, many years from now, it may be found in a Newark swimming pool. The limestone is being used for walling in the pools now under construction.