

# Pennsylvania

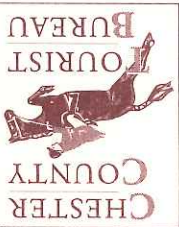
Memories last a lifetime™

Many thanks to the Chester County Historical Society, 225 N. High St. in West Chester for providing historic photographs from their collection. Two-for-one admissions to the CCHS History Center are included in the TT&VW Summer Specials packages offered by B&B's.

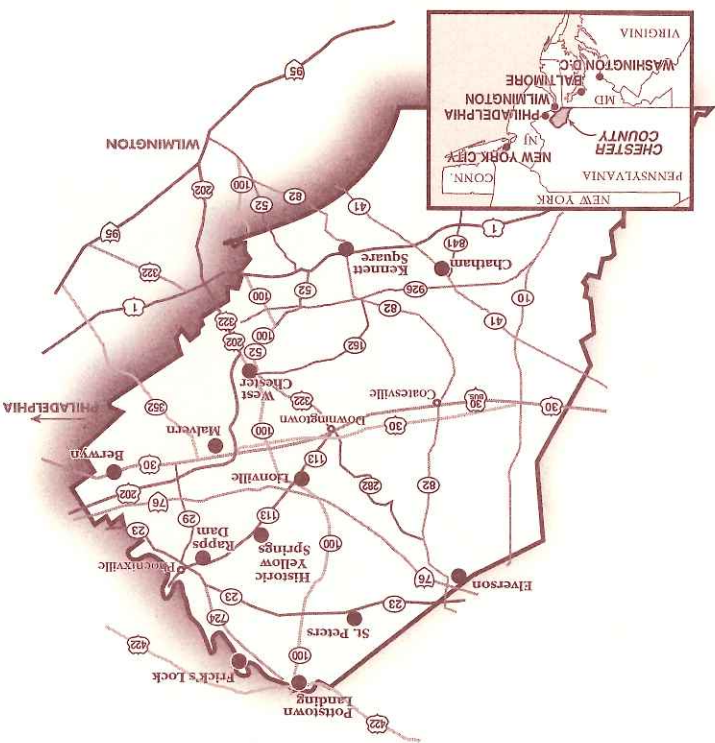
Photograph on cover: Fame Engine House Decorated, West Chester Centennial, 23 E. Market St., West Chester

1896

IN THE HEART OF THE BRANDYWINE VALLEY



601 Westtown Road  
Suite 170  
West Chester, PA 19382-4536  
www.brandywinevalley.com



In Pennsylvania, Chester County is second only to Philadelphia in the number of sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Many of these, along with designated Historic Districts, are part of this summer's new tour itineraries. Observe the preservation and adaptive reuse of our period architecture, it will give you ideas for your own lifestyle.

Discover how our waterways and mills — French Creek, the Schuylkill and branches of the Brandywine — influenced life in our valleys and along our early toll roads. Tales told of the characters, great and small, who lived here will intrigue and amuse the entire family!

For years local citizens have researched old records to learn about the historic buildings in their neighborhoods. Not only are they learning 18th and 19th C. construction methods, but how the Industrial Revolution changed their streetscapes. Descendants of founding families are hearing amusing anecdotes about their ancestors' coping with "modern" 19th C. technology. Partnerships have been established to take facts out of filing cabinets and to share stories and folklore with neighbors and all the visitors we welcome to our FREE summer long program.

Most tours begin at 6:30 p.m. For exact starting times and locations, please call the number listed with each weekly tour. Light refreshments follow each walk. Don't forget to wear comfortable shoes!

Follow your guides, some in period dress. Experts in local history and architecture, they bring to life the people who lived and worked along the streets you'll travel. Highlighted are properties, both residential and business, revealing the fabric of three centuries of domestic, social and industrial life in our region, one of William Penn's first named counties.

Early Quaker families continue to play a part today, just as do those of later arrivals who came to live, work and make important contributions to Pennsylvania's diverse culture. The charm of small town life is revealed in the buildings of the Georgian, Greek Revival, Victorian and pre-war eras.

The nostalgic delights of our historic villages are yours to discover as you spend lovely summer evenings on any, or all twelve, FREE Thursday evening one-hour **Town Tours & Village Walks**. Designed to evoke memories of life in simpler times, they're an experience to share with family and friends.

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## TOWN TOURS & VILLAGE WALKS

**WE'VE GOT AN IDEA!**

Why not make these free **Town Tours & Village Walks** your excuse for a summer getaway? Some of Brandywine Valley's most charming B&B's and inns offer special package rates. Many are historic properties so you can extend your experience of times past with an overnight or even a long weekend.

To request a copy of our **TT&VW Summer Special Packages**, call the Brandywine Valley Tourist Information Center at 1-800-228-9933.

- Mark these dates on your calendar:
- JUNE 5 - WEST CHESTER
  - JUNE 12 - KENNETT SQUARE
  - JUNE 19 - LIONVILLE
  - JUNE 26 - CHATHAM
  - JULY 10 - MALVERN
  - JULY 17 - POTTSTOWN LANDING
  - JULY 24 - ST. PETERS VILLAGE
  - JULY 31 - VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS
  - AUGUST 7 - BERWYN
  - AUGUST 14 - RAPP'S DAM AREA AT KIMBERTON
  - AUGUST 21 - ELVERSON
  - AUGUST 28 - FRICK'S LOCK

During Independence Day Week no walks are scheduled, but many communities celebrate with parades & festive events. Call 1-800-228-9933 for details.

1997

Sponsored by  
Chester County Board of Commissioners  
Department of Parks and Recreation and  
Chester County Tourist Bureau  
601 Westtown Road, Suite 170  
West Chester, PA 19382

**TOWN TOURS & VILLAGE WALKS**

Come join our FREE guided evening strolls

## The 3rd Annual TOWN TOURS & VILLAGE WALKS



Thursday evenings,  
June 5 through August 28, 1997

Chester County, Pennsylvania  
in the Heart of the Brandywine Valley

Brochure design by Suzanne D. Gaadt



**JUNE 5 - WEST CHESTER**

Begin a summer of walking tours exploring the county seat beginning from the 1846 Court House. You'll have a choice of tours heading primarily into the Southwest area of the historic borough. Wander with guides along brick sidewalks past handsome Federal and Greek Revival structures—the homes of Portico Row—the childhood home of distinguished composer Samuel Barber—and see the adaptive reuse of the former Denny Reyburn Tag Factory. Another "walking experience" focuses on the central business district with its fine examples of period commercial architecture and many lively restaurants. Today, the *Chester County Historical Society* will remain open until 7 p.m.



S. Church & Miner Sts., late 1930's

Your Hosts: *West Chester Historic Architecture Review Board*  
Reservations: 610-692-7574

**JUNE 12 - KENNETT SQUARE**

Site of the British and Hessian encampments prior to the Battle of the Brandywine in 1777, and later a "station" along the Underground Railroad, Kennett Square has a long and fascinating heritage. The Historic District retains an outstanding collection of well-preserved 19th and early-20th C. buildings representing its commercial, industrial and architectural development. Enjoy a leisurely stroll along cool, tree lined streets and delight in the beautiful and ornate



Fairthorne, circa 1806

A special surprise is the Baseball Museum.

Your Hosts: *Borough of Kennett Square Historic Comm.*  
Reservations: 610-444-6020

**JUNE 19 - LIONVILLE**

Settled by Welsh Friends shortly after 1700, Lionville was the center of an active rural community for more than 250 years and during the 18th C. an important crossroads for travelers, drovers and soldiers. Many members of the Uwchlan Society of Friends were active in the Underground Railroad, transporting slaves to freedom. The village, with its handsome meeting-house and one-room school, has undergone few changes and continues to offer reflections of the actively growing township's rural past.



Edith P. Moore, One-room schoolhouse, built 1859

Your Hosts: *Uwchlan Township Historic Comm.*  
Reservations: 610-363-9450

**JUNE 26 - CHATHAM**



Taylor Carriage Factory, late 1800's

The oldest settlement in London Grove Township, this village has a history deeply rooted in commerce and transportation. It began as a rest stop on the Gap-Newport (De.)

Turnpike for the men and horse teams transporting Lancaster County wheat to Wilmington flour mills. In 1741, the 2nd oldest inn in Pa., the *Half-Way House* was established. It still stands today, along with the recently restored 1760 *William Pitt Hotel*. Flourishing between the 1830's & 1860's, it supported one of the county's first Post Offices along with hotels, train stations, several stores and businesses such as a tannery, creamery and carriage factory.

Your Hosts: *London Grove Township and Historic Comm.* Reservations: 610-869-3837

**JULY 10 - MALVERN**

Stroll down Monument Avenue past the fine, mostly Queen Anne style homes constructed by prosperous residents. End your walk at the Memorial Grounds where 53 American casualties of the Paoli (Massacre) Battle are buried. The dramatic story of this tragic event of Sept. 20-21, 1777 will be told during the evening in this typical small town borough once known as West Chester Intersection before being incorporated in 1889.

Your Hosts: *Borough of Malvern Historical Comm.*  
Reservations: 610-644-2602

Postcard of late 19th C. King St.



**JULY 17 - POTTSTOWN LANDING**

Although the Schuylkill River on Chester County's northern border served as a conduit for settlers in the 18th C., it became busier in the 19th C. as an industrial corridor. At the same time an adjacent manmade waterway known as the *Schuylkill Canal*, completed in 1824 between Schuylkill County and Philadelphia, assured travel in time of high waters. Today one of the dock areas, Pottstown Landing's historic streetscapes, reflects its bustling canal economy in the "canaler" houses, bakery and church. This is an interesting site on the *Schuylkill River Heritage Corridor*.



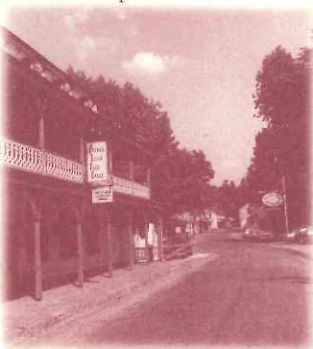
Postcard of canal scene with lock bridge, late 19th C.

Your Hosts: *N. Coventry Township Historic Comm.*  
Reservations: 610-323-1694

**JULY 24 - ST. PETERS VILLAGE**

This colorful Victorian village is situated at the north end of a deep ravine cut by the French Creek. The stream is filled with huge granite boulders from a collapsed section of the ridge that runs through the area. This year tour visitors to St. Peters have guided options. For the first time one can explore the quarry and mine industrial sites in the woodlands surrounding the village. Many of the buildings, mostly constructed during the 1880's, are now interesting shops and part of the evening's second tour. Originally they serviced miners and quarry workers. The handsome Inn still offers sustenance.

St. Peters Inn (built circa 1880) and streetscape



Your Hosts: *Warwick Township Historic Comm. and St. Peters' Businesses*

Reservations: 610-469-3809

**JULY 31 - VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS**

Owned and maintained by Historic Yellow Springs, Inc., a non-profit association, the village welcomes visitors in a bucolic setting. Its historic buildings are in a rural landscape—the Inn, the Lincoln Building, the Jenny Lind Spring House, the Water Gardens and the restored ruins of the Revolutionary War Hospital. In Sept. of 1777 George Washington stayed in the village while on his way to the furnaces in the French Creek Valley. Permission was given to build a hospital at Yellow Springs for his sick soldiers at Valley Forge. It stands today as a ruin and witness to the brave men who suffered and served there. This year marks the 220th anniversary of the "Philadelphia Campaign" of the American Revolution.



Revolutionary War Hospital, painting by Barclay Rubincam

Your Hosts: *Historic Yellow Springs, Inc.*  
Reservations: 610-827-7414

**AUGUST 7 - BERWYN**

This busy, modern Main Line village looks today much as it did a century ago. Skillfully restored and well-maintained Victorian houses endure as residences, antique shops and family owned businesses. In earlier times the farmers of the countryside came to the village for services—today's Berwyn serves the sprawling suburbs. See the historic structures along our heritage cartways—the former *Pennsylvania Railroad* and the *Lancaster Turnpike*. They carried passengers and products through the center of town over roads and rails on which a young nation moved west.

View west from Station Bridge (1905)



Your Hosts: *Tredyffrin Township; Berwyn-Devon Business and Professional Assoc.*

Reservations: 610-971-9333 ext. 152

**AUGUST 14 - RAPP'S DAM AREA AT KIMBERTON**

Tour with guides the sites of three water-powered mills, including a Revolutionary War Gun powder mill, now in ruins. Then enjoy a walk along the shady path beside the old mill race to the picturesque dam and mill pond. You'll hear the history and see close up the over-122 foot-long Rapp's Covered Bridge built in 1866. It is still one of Chester County's finest examples of a covered bridge.

Your Hosts: *Pikeland Historical Society, East Pikeland Township Historic Comm. and HARB*

Reservations: 610-917-9917

Rapp's Dam Bridge, painting by Karl Klingelhoefter



**AUGUST 21 - ELVERSON**

See three distinct periods in the architectural styles of the homes lining the streets of the Historic District. Some are Colonial, dating from before the Revolution; many are Victorian, built when the railroad was at its peak; others are post-World War I cottages. As a tavern stop on the Indian path (now Rt. 23) Elverson was first known as Blue Rock; later as Springfield. From the early 1800's it was a busy commercial center with skilled tradesmen's shops providing services to the growing community and travelers along the main route connecting the Coventryville, Warwick and Reading iron works with the forges at Churchtown.

Your Hosts: *Elverson Historic Comm. and Tri-County Heritage Society*  
Reservations: 610-286-7477



The Bull House on Main St., built circa 1750

**AUGUST 28 - FRICK'S LOCK**

The Frick's Lock District comprises approximately 18 acres of a farming hamlet with domestic and agricultural architecture spanning the period from 1757-1937. The tour includes the remains of locks 54 and 55 of the *Schuylkill Navigation Co.'s Girard Canal* that extended 22 miles from Lewis Dam, below Reading to Parker Ford, a short distance downstream from Frick's Lock. A lockkeeper's residence and locks date from the canal's initial construction; and the area was the site of a 1930's WPA Project. Currently it is in an unrestored state within the *Schuylkill River Heritage Corridor*. Enjoy refreshments on your stroll as guides relate history of times past.

Elhanan W. Frick House, circa 1860



Your Hosts: *East Coventry Township Historical Comm.*

Reservations: 610-495-5443