

Town Tours & Village Walks

Mark these dates on your calendar!

JUNE

- June 1 Discovering the East End, West Chester
- June 8 Romansville Quaker Meeting
- June 15 Old New Garden
- June 22 Lionville's North Side
- June 29 Berwyn Town Center

JULY

- July 6 (no tour)
- July 13 The "Battle Axes" of North Coventry
- July 20 Early 20th Century Kimberton Village
- July 27 Downingtown

AUGUST

- August 3 East Vincent's Revolutionary War Hospital and Cemetery
- August 10 Yellow Springs' Historic Discovery Trail
- August 17 Paoli Revolutionary War Battlefield
- August 24 Parkesburg

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.

Summer 2006
Town Tours & Village Walks

Sponsored by
Board of Commissioners
Chester County Conference & Visitors Bureau
Chester County Historic Preservation Network
Chester County Parks & Recreation Department
601 Westtown Road, Suite 160
West Chester, PA 19380-0990

Celebrating its 12th Anniversary!



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Chester County Conference & Visitors Bureau

Board of Commissioners
Chester County Historic Preservation Network
P. O. Box 216
Chatham, PA 19318
Chester County Parks & Recreation Department
601 Westtown Road, Suite 160
West Chester, PA 19380-0990

800-228-9933
BRANDYWINEVALLEY.COM

Town Tours & Village Walks

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Celebrating its 12th Anniversary!



FREE TOURS
Thursday Evenings
June 1 through August 24, 2006

BRANDYWINEVALLEY.COM

The nostalgic delights of our historic villages are yours to discover as you spend lovely summer evenings on the evening Town Tours and Village Walks. Once again, hundreds of volunteers have spent the past winter and spring creating an incredible assortment of NEW, fun and fact-filled tours for your enjoyment and learning experiences. Come and celebrate a Chester County summer - our twelfth anniversary. Designed to evoke memories of life in simpler times, they are an event to share with family and friends.

Your guides some in period dress, are experts in local history and architecture. They bring to life the people who lived and worked along the streets you will travel. For years, they have researched old records to learn about the historic buildings in their neighborhoods. 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.

Here, homes are lovingly restored and show the charm of small town life in the Colonial, Federal, Greek Revival, Victorian and twentieth century styles. Many of these, along with designated Historic Districts, are part of this summer's tour itineraries. In Pennsylvania, Chester County has a significant number of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Observe the preservation and adaptive reuse of our period architecture - to inspire ideas for your own lifestyle.

West Chester, Chester County's county seat, is always the location of the program's festive kick-off ceremony with music and balloons. The select from one of their eight tours in the town's east end neighborhood. Explore, discover and be surprised about details and stories in Berwyn, Downingtown and Parkesburg.

Anniversaries are always a special time in the community. This year celebrations and tours are focused on Uwchlan Meeting's 250th anniversary and Romansville Quaker Meeting's 160th anniversary. Frequently, the meetinghouse was also the social gathering place for local citizens.

For the first time, New Garden's bus tour features the influence of Irish Quakers and later English settlers through the architectural heritage of its farmhouses. A radical 19th century religious movement, known as "The Battle Axes", is interpreted in North Coventry.

Families are encouraged to pickup passports for their children and follow the newly opened Discovery Trail at Historic Yellow Springs. Nearby learn about the story of Kimberton Village's early twentieth century. One of East Vincent Township's churches served as a hospital; then visit the final resting place for twenty-two patriots at the bottom of the hill. Walk the hallowed ground of the Paoli Battlefield in Malvern where patriots sacrificed their lives for our freedom.

Partnerships have been established to withdraw facts from filing cabinets to share stories and folklore with neighbors and all the visitors - we welcome you to our FREE summer-long program. Many of our restaurants will feature "Early Bird" Specials for pre-tour suppers or other dining values after your Town Tour or Village Walk.

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NEW!

June 1, 2006

DISCOVERING THE EAST END, WEST CHESTER 1

Sponsor: West Chester Borough Historical and Architectural Review Board
Tour Reservations: 610-918-7348

Come! Discover West Chester's East End Neighborhood! Explore our African-American history with us: Witness this neighborhood's rebirth! Follow us down quaint streets and along quiet alleyways to reveal West Chester's hidden treasury of African-American and industrial heritage. The tours will start and end at the Charles Melton Arts and Education Center, 501 East Miner Street. Pick from eight tours that will wend their way among sites dating from 1850 to 1950.



NEW!

June 29, 2006

BERWYN: TOWN CENTER 5

Sponsor: Berwyn – Devon Business and Professional Association
Tour Reservations: 610-644-0138

Stroll through one of the railroad towns along the famous Main Line. See how the town grew from a supporting village of the railroad to a modern suburban community with a town center transformed into shops, restaurants and a fantastic ice cream shop. New sites are the Berwyn Veterans Memorial at the center bridge crossing of the railroad and the beautiful mural of an old time parade through town.



NEW!

August 3, 2006

EAST VINCENT'S REVOLUTIONARY WAR HOSPITAL AND CEMETERY 9

Sponsor: East Vincent Township Historical Commission
Tour Reservations: 610-933-4424

Stand on the hillside with a Chester County vista and reflect on the twenty-two Revolutionary War soldiers who gave their lives for our freedom centuries ago. Step in their shoes and visit the site where these patriots were hospitalized in a log church. Hear about the church history and the experiences during the horrible and challenging winter of 1777 and 1778.



June 8, 2006

ROMANSVILLE QUAKER MEETING AND ITS VILLAGE 2

Sponsor: West Bradford Township Historical Commission
Tour Reservations: 610-486-0790

Most travelers who pass through Romansville have no idea about the historic value of this small village. Our village, though quiet in appearance, bustled with many trades: plumber, carpenters, tinsmith, small stores, lead pipe shop, blacksmith who made carriages and sleighs, a cabinetmaker, plus three inns. Explore the Romansville Methodist Church, said to have been the first land in Chester County owned by the Methodist faith and the Romansville Quaker Meeting, celebrating its 160th anniversary this year.



NEW!

July 13, 2005

THE "BATTLE AXES" OF NORTH COVENTRY 6

Sponsor: North Coventry Township Historical Commission
Tour Reservations: 610-323-1694

Come and walk about the Shenkel Church that found itself in the midst of controversy during the first half of the nineteenth century of a radical religious sect. Explore the farming areas in North Coventry Township's countryside where the movement took hold and spread, becoming known as Free Love Valley. Visit the Shenkel Cemetery where the Battle Axe members are buried.



NEW!

August 10, 2006

YELLOW SPRINGS' HISTORIC DISCOVERY TRAIL 10

Sponsor: Historic Yellow Springs
Tour Reservations: 610-827-7414, EXT. 10

Come stroll the newly opened Discovery Trail at Yellow Springs. New markers have been installed that tell the story of this fascinating village. Beginning with the Lenape Indians, who discovered the "yellow waters," the trail tells the story of the Revolutionary War in our community, the fashionable spa era, and the orphans who lived and attended school here. Artists came to paint and movies were produced. Children are encouraged to pick up a passport and stamp them at each site visited.



NEW!

June 15, 2006

FAMILIES AND FARMHOUSES OF OLD NEW GARDEN 3

Sponsor: New Garden Township Historical Commission
Tour Reservations: 610-268-2468

Join us for a bus tour featuring New Garden's 18th and 19th century farmhouses. Learn how New Garden Township's architectural heritage reflects the role played by early Irish Quakers and later English settlers. Hear about the families who built the sturdy farmhouses and see how changes in domestic use caused families to make architectural changes. **SPACE IS LIMITED: RESERVE YOUR SEAT ON THE BUS EARLY.**



NEW!

July 20, 2006

EARLY 20TH CENTURY KIMBERTON VILLAGE 7

Sponsor: East Pikeland Township Historical Commission and Pikeland Historical Society
Tour Reservations: 610-933-1770

Tour the fourth stage of development in the village of Kimberton. In the early 1900s, Kimberton grew beyond the boundaries of the village's four corners. Prosperous workers from the Phoenixville Iron Company began building homes along the north side of Kimberton Road. Three houses were originally built as schoolhouses. See samples of Sears and Roebuck homes offered through their mail order catalogue, which were shipped by the Pickering Valley Railroad.



August 17, 2006

PAOLI REVOLUTIONARY WAR BATTLEFIELD 11

Sponsor: Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund
Tour Reservations: 610-644-2602

It was a midnight attack by Redcoats using sabers and bayonets. Called the "Paoli Massacre" because of brutal atrocities against wounded and captured Continental soldiers who were given no mercy and mutilated. Our Patriots vented their hatred and abhorrence with America's first battle cry – Remember Paoli! – striking fear in British troops from Germantown and Stony Point and beyond. Guides and displays will interpret that fateful night in 1777 at this National Historic Battlefield.



June 22, 2006

LIONVILLE'S NORTH SIDE; UWCHLAN MEETING'S 250TH 4

Sponsor: Uwchlan Township Historical Commission
Tour Reservations: 610-363-9450

The Uwchlan Meeting House, built 1756, is celebrating its 250th anniversary this year. The Continental Army took possession of the building in 1778 for use as a hospital during the Revolutionary War's Philadelphia Campaign. Nearby the 18th and 19th century John Cadwalader House serves as the headquarters for the Uwchlan Township Historical Commission. Do not miss the 1859 Edith P. Moore Schoolhouse and *Lighting by Design*, an adaptive reuse of a farmhouse.



July 27, 2006

HISTORIC LANCASTER AVENUE IN DOWNINGTOWN 8

Sponsor: Downingtown Borough Historical and Parks Commission
Tour Reservations: 610-269-0344, EXT. 246

Step back in time and explore Chester County's oldest frontier town where the log house has been a sentinel since the early 1700s, and historic places of stone and brick fill the streetscape along the Philadelphia – Lancaster Turnpike. Just why was the George Washington Inn, c1761, built and is there really a jug in the walls of the Jug House, c1804? Where did innkeeper Hunt Downing live and where was the location of Downingtown National Bank's first bank building?



August 24, 2006 PARKESBURG: HISTORIC MAIN STREET 12

Sponsor: Parkesburg Area Business Association
Tour Reservations: 610-857-2616

Parkesburg, named after prominent local landowners, was incorporated in 1872. However, it was the original site of the Fountain Inn, a colonial tavern and stopover for Lancaster farmers taking their livestock and produce to Philadelphia. Modeled after the prosperous European industrial towns, it was home to the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad repair shops and the Parkesburg Iron Company. Observe the substantial revitalization in its commercial Italianate and Second Empire streetscapes.