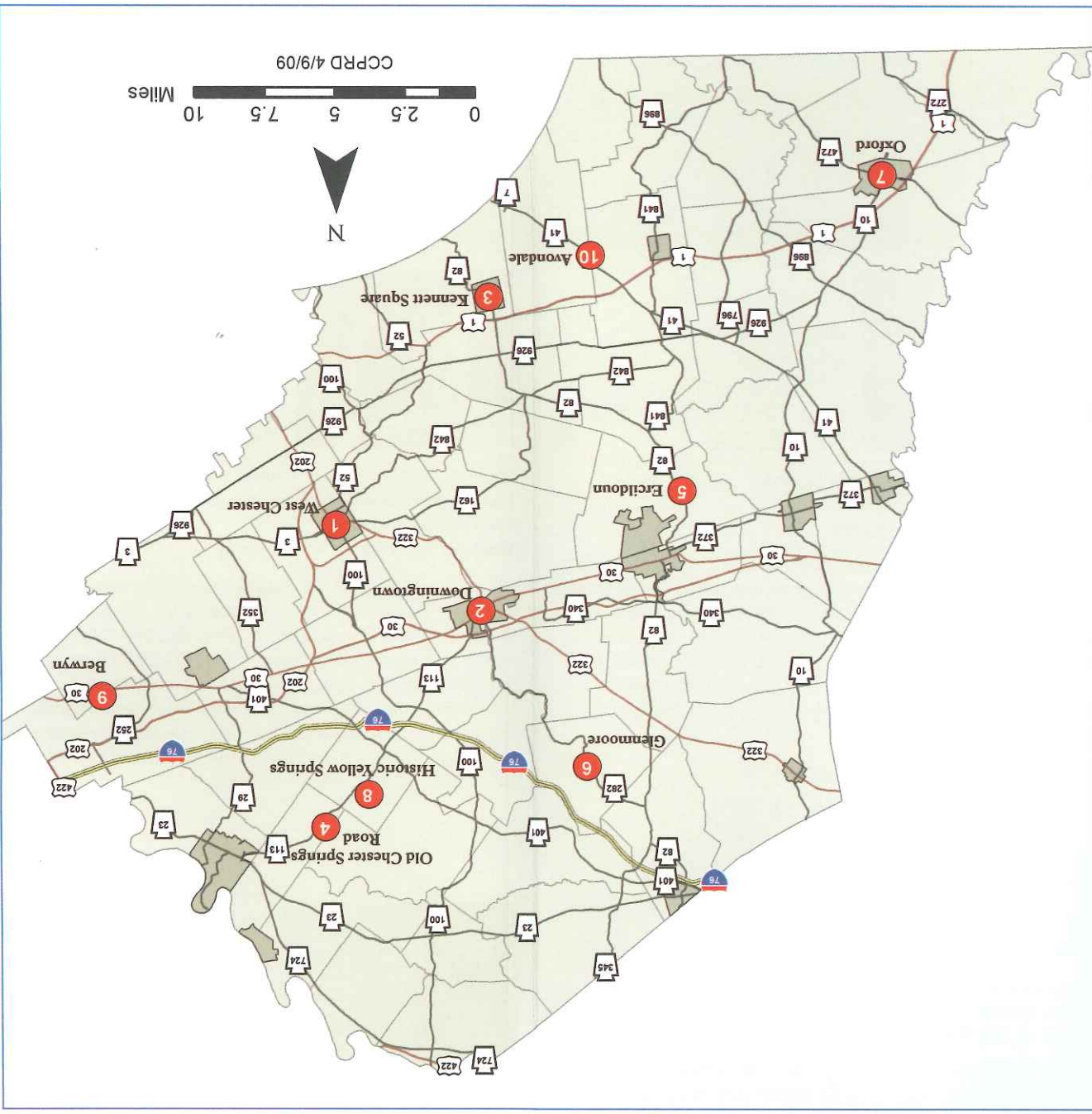


Sponsored by



For the past fourteen years, Chester County citizens and visitors enthusiastically endorsed the assortment of FREE historic evening walking tours that were offered by various municipal Historical Commissions and local heritage organizations. Last year 2,000 residents and visitors attended our ten programs! In 2005, Preservation Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission awarded the program one of two statewide educational awards. For tour information contact each site. For program information contact Karen Marshall, Heritage Preservation Coordinator, Chester County Parks & Recreation, 610-344-6415; kmarshall@chesco.org.

This summer's coordinated series of walking tours is scheduled for Thursday evenings beginning with our kick-off on June 11th and continuing through August 20, 2009. No tour will be scheduled for July 2nd. Light refreshments will be served after each tour. Tours are free of charge and only cancelled for severe weather. Unless otherwise indicated when you call to register, the program will begin at 6:00 pm and the last tour starts no later than 7:30 pm. We know that you will find that our special blend of fact, folklore, stories and scenery appeals to all ages and interests.

You are cordially invited to stroll through historic villages and towns and share the research knowledge accumulated by our historical commissions and societies. This summer, we are pleased to announce another varied schedule for every historic interest from William Penn's 1682 land grant to our 20th century neighborhoods. We will be featuring restored homes from the 18th and 19th century, special living history presenters and a salute to our veterans and those who opposed slavery in the 19th century. In addition to tours, a number of our locations feature dining opportunities.

Please join us for Chester County's series of ten FREE summer walking tours of our historic towns, villages, hamlets and countryside.

Town Tours & Village Walks

Summer 2009

Town Tours & Village Walks

Mark these dates on your calendar!

- JUNE**
- June 11 Kick-off Celebration & Tour Borough of West Chester: Going to Town
 - June 18 Borough of Downingtown: 150 Year Anniversary Celebration
 - June 25 Borough of Kennett Square: Links to Lincoln
- JULY**
- July 9 East Pikeland Township: Meet the Emery's of Old Chester Springs Road
 - July 16 Village of Ercildoun: On the Road to Freedom
 - July 23 Village of Glenmoore: Tracing a Village's Growth
 - July 30 Borough of Oxford: We Were Oxford, People from the Community's Past
- AUGUST**
- August 6 Historic Yellow Springs: Celebrating 35 Years
 - August 13 Village of Berwyn: From Indian Trails to Rails
 - August 20 Borough of Avondale: From Wheat Fields to Borough

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.

Celebrating its 15th Anniversary!

Summer 2009 Town Tours & Village Walks

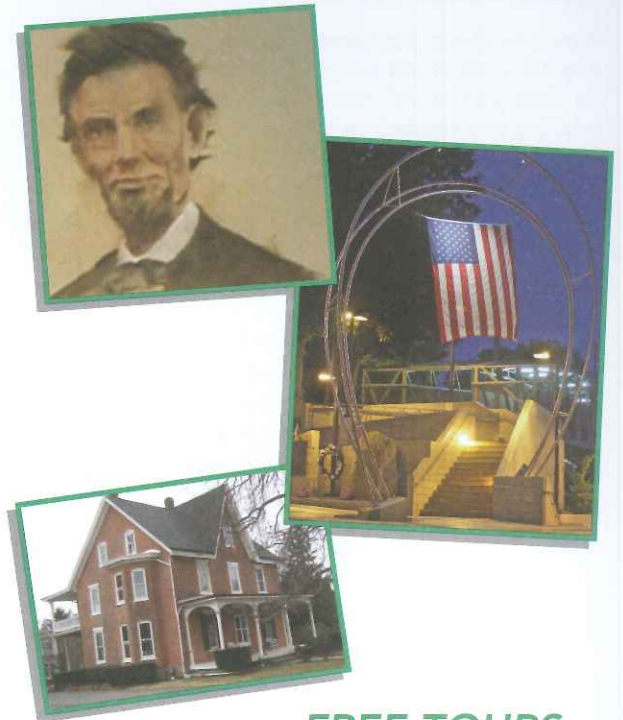
- Sponsored by
- Chester County Board of Commissioners
 - Chester County Conference & Visitors Bureau
 - Chester County Historic Preservation Network
 - The Chester County Historical Society
 - Chester County Parks & Recreation Department
 - 601 Westtown Road, Suite 160 West Chester, PA 19380-0990
 - www.chesco.org/ccparks

Summer 2009



Town Tours & Village Walks

Celebrating its 15th Anniversary!



FREE TOURS
Thursday Evenings
June 11 through August 20, 2009

Town Tours & Village Walks

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June 11, 2009
KICK-OFF CELEBRATION & TOUR
BOROUGH OF WEST CHESTER:
GOING TO TOWN 1

Sponsors: Chester County Historical Society and West Chester Historical and Architectural Review Board
Tour Registration and information: 610-692-4800
Meet at: Chester County Historical Society

Chester Countians have come in to "town" for their business, legal, and shopping needs for over two centuries. Come explore the oldest section of West Chester - from its beginning as the crossroads at "The Turk's Head" to its role today as the county seat. All tours will begin at the Chester County Historical Society where you can sign up for themed walks before the kick-off ceremonies, and return there for refreshments after your walk.

Featured: The Lukens Band



June 18, 2009
BOROUGH OF DOWNINGTOWN:
150 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 2

Sponsor: Downingtown Historical and Parks Commission
Reservations: 610-269-0322 Ex. 246
Meet at: The Log House

Help Chester County's oldest town celebrate its 150th anniversary, May 16, 2009. Featured will be Chester County's oldest dwelling: the 1701 Log House. Architectural tours will focus on all periods including the fine homes reflecting the prosperity with the arrival of the railroad in the mid 19th century. At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, Downingtown had 800 citizens; about 100 men left to fight in the war. This summer we are celebrating their contribution along with the stories of our past residents.



June 25, 2009
BOROUGH OF KENNETT SQUARE:
LINKS TO LINCOLN 3

Sponsor: Kennett Square Historical Commission
Reservations: (610) 444-6020
Meet at: Genesis Walkway

Everyone knows that Kennett Square is the Mushroom Capital of the World, but do you know of our significant ties to Abraham Lincoln? Join us as we learn about the town resident who created the fallen president's death mask, the local Quakers' efforts on the Underground Railroad and the emancipation of slaves, a Civil War regiment that fought valiantly at Gettysburg and Lincoln's recent immortalization through the art of the late Rea Redifer.



July 9, 2009
EAST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP: MEET THE EMERY'S OF OLD CHESTER SPRINGS ROAD 4

Sponsor: Pikeland Historical Society & East Pikeland Historical Commission
Reservations: (610) 933-1770
Meet at: Ask for location when you make reservations

Old Chester Springs Road runs between Route 113 and Kimberton Road. Located on this road are a number of historic houses. Many are originally Emery residences. George Emery arrived in the area in 1752 and settled in Pikeland. By 1757, he married Anna Elizabeth Haas. Some of these homes were built by their children, including an 1833 house which operated as an unlicensed tavern known as Norlan Square. It is still standing and is a private residence.



July 16, 2009
VILLAGE OF ERCILDOUN:
ON THE ROAD TO FREEDOM 5

Sponsor: Fallowfield Historical Society
Reservations: 610-857-1824
Meet at: The Ercildoun Grove

With Quaker roots that run as deep as those of the oaks that line its Grove, the Village of Ercildoun was a major stop on the Underground Rail Road. It is also the final resting place of Rebecca Lukens (first woman industrialist) and many others who fought to abolish slavery. Ercildoun's appearance has changed very little over the years. Come and discover its many hidden charms and stories of the County's past in liberating slaves.



July 23, 2009
VILLAGE OF GLENMOORE:
TRACING A VILLAGE'S GROWTH 6

Sponsor: Wallace Township Historical Commission
Reservations: 610-942-3632
Meet at: The Faith Alliance Church

A log schoolhouse stood beside the 1738 cart way, Indiantown Road, where wagons loaded with iron products from the furnaces passed through on their way to the Wilmington market. Later the 1859 schoolhouse with its second story community room became the setting for this historic Indiantown crossroads and the early Springton Manor story. As the Norwood hamlet grew into the Glenmoore Village, ornately decorated houses were constructed for newly married couples, hence Bridal Row. We look forward to sharing our architectural past with you.



July 30, 2009
BOROUGH OF OXFORD:
WE WERE OXFORD, PEOPLE FROM THE COMMUNITY'S PAST 7

Sponsor: Oxford Area Historical Association
Reservations: Oxford Area Chamber of Commerce, 610-932-0740, oxfordchamber@oxfordpa.org
Meet at: The Oxford Memorial Park

By the early 1700's the Scotch-Irish had settled in Oxford along an old Nanticoke Indian trail that led to the Chesapeake Bay. By 1754, there was a community formed around Hood's Tavern and the Presbyterian Church. But the great growth came with the arrival of the railroad in 1860. Experience the early Victorian architecture of Oxford and meet the men and women who were responsible for the founding of Lincoln University, starting the 2nd oldest library in the state (1784) and having their own newspaper, bank, water company, fire company and electric company by the end of the 19th century. Surprise visitors will include Annie Oakley!



August 6, 2009
HISTORIC YELLOW SPRINGS:
CELEBRATING 35 YEARS! 8

Sponsor: Historic Yellow Springs
Tour Registration & Information: 610 827-7414; www.yellowsprings.org
Meet at: The Washington Building

Join us in celebrating the 35th anniversary of Historic Yellow Springs - a time to honor our "Founders". Come meet HYS Founder Connie Fraley, who, in 1974, decided the village was too important not to save. The Lenape Indians, Revolutionary War, spa, orphanage, art school and filmmaking eras will be explored with "founders" sharing the importance of each period. The beautiful landscape, the historic buildings, and the people, continue to make this an important 'living village' today!



August 13, 2009
VILLAGE OF BERWYN:
FROM INDIAN TRAILS TO RAILS 9

Sponsor: Berwyn Devon Business & Professional Association
Reservations: 610 644 0138 at the Easttown Library and Information Center.
Meet at: Easttown Library

The Village of Berwyn grew along the historic tracks of the Main Line and the first turnpike in the new United States that ran from Philadelphia to Lancaster. The village spreads into both Easttown and Tredyffrin Townships. The walking tour weaves through the town from the churches above down to the railroad station squeezed between the tracks and Lancaster Pike. Visitors also will see the Berwyn Veterans Memorial that honors area veterans from all the Nation's wars. Refreshments at Handel's Ice Cream!



August 20, 2009
BOROUGH OF AVONDALE:
FROM WHEAT FIELDS TO BOROUGH 10

Sponsor: Avondale Historical Commission
Reservations: 484 720 8208
Meet at: Avondale Borough Hall

In the early 1850's, most of what is now Avondale Borough was a large wheat field situated in portions of both New Garden and London Grove Townships. Early Avondale consisted of a stone bridge, four houses, a blacksmith shop, a tailoring shop, a bark mill and several lime kilns. The village was served by the Philadelphia and Baltimore Central Railroad and two mail routes. Led by visionary residents, Avondale's train connection caused it to grow rapidly in the 1860's. Come explore and discover the clues to the past within the bustling borough of today.

