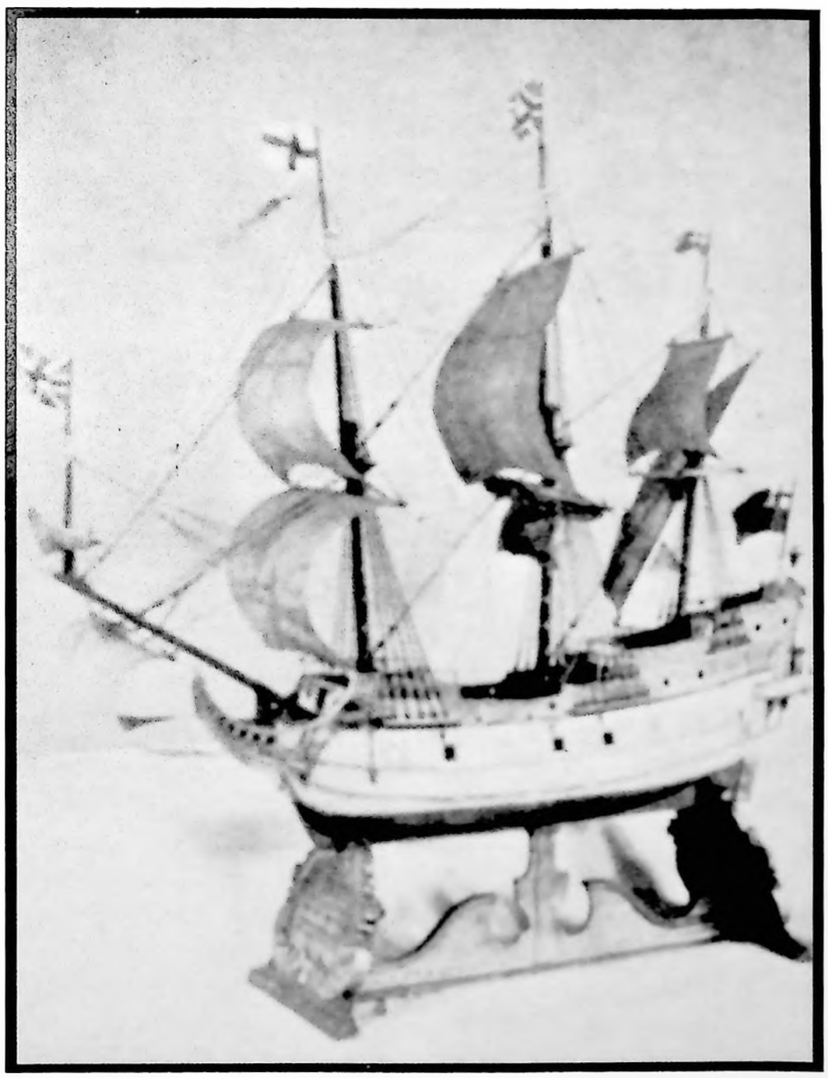
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see Page 9

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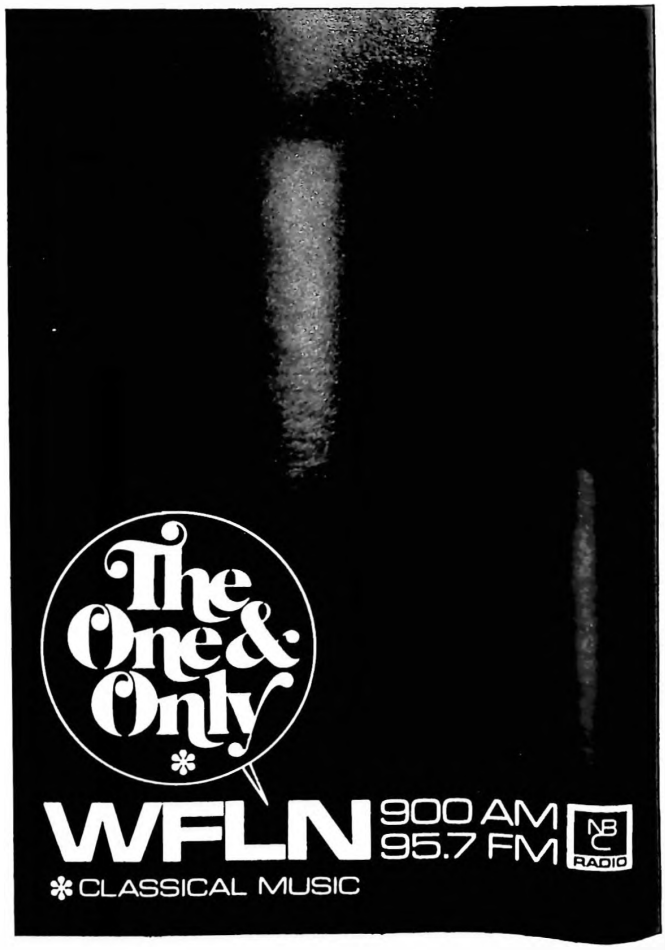
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The Baynton House, 5208 Germantown Avenue

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Editorial contributions should be mailed to the Germantowne Crier, 5208 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. 19144

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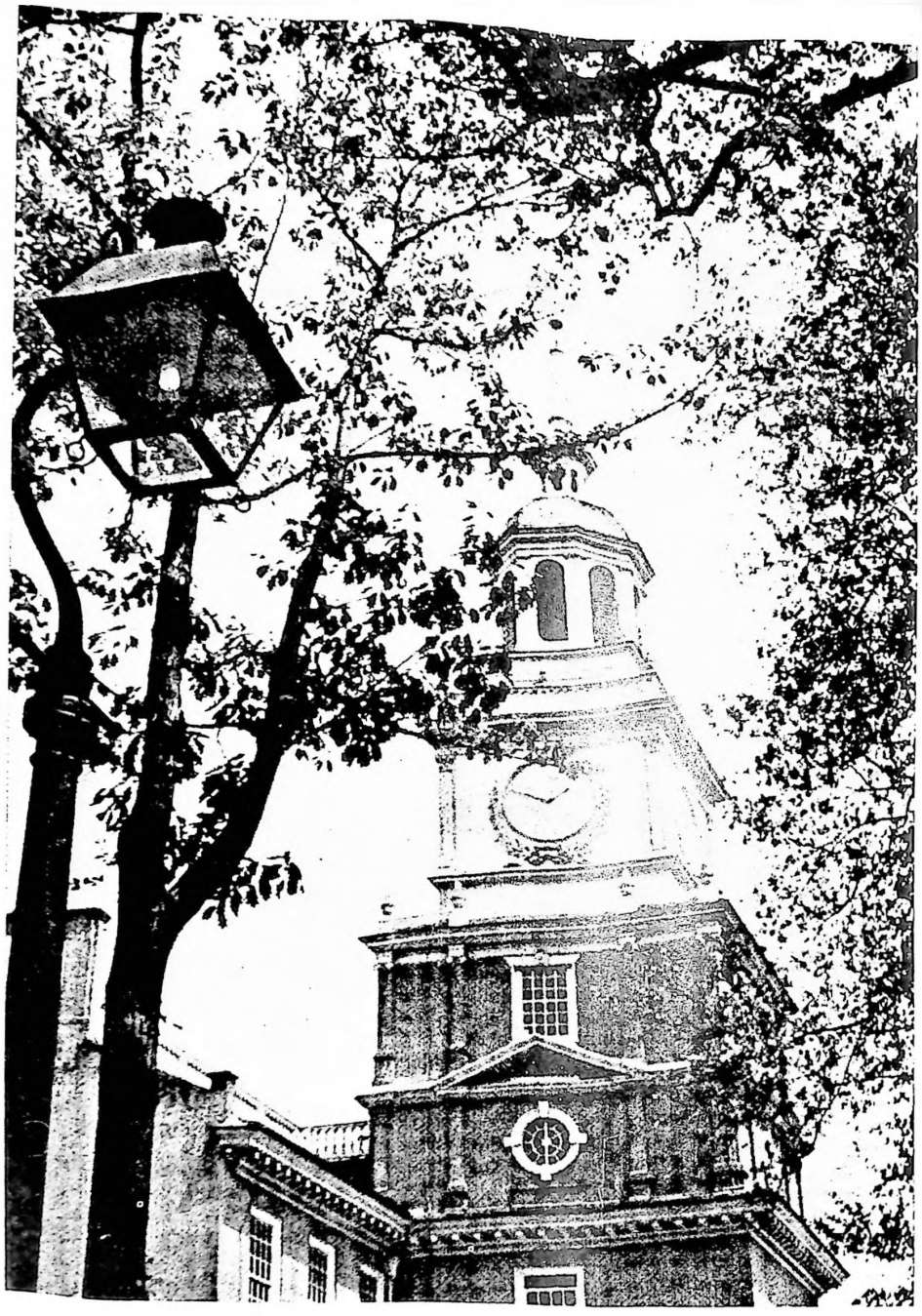
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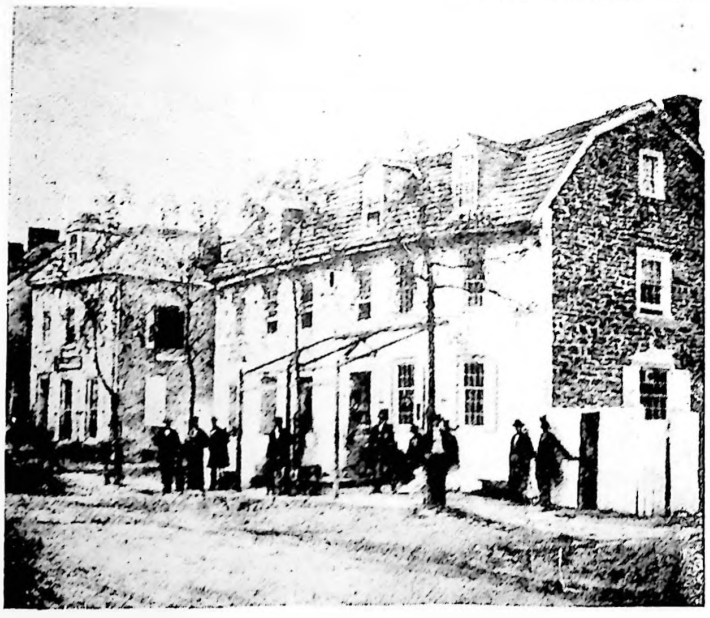
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The Man Behind Penn

By Sarah Anne Lutman

When one talks about Pennsylvania and its founding, the figure who stands out and is most popularly recognized and associated with this colony's beginnings is William Penn. His "holy experiment" and his idealistic Quaker visions have caught the imaginations of many historians, writers, and just ordinary people all over the western world. His life is kind of a legend, particularly for the Quakers whose religion he steadfastly practiced and upheld through all kinds of trying political and social upheavals. His simple, trusting, Quaker spirit stayed with him through his whole life; he was a truly remarkable man. But when one talks about Pennsylvania and its development into one of the most important colonies in North America not many people can think of any figure which could possibly stand out as the guiding hand behind this development. One figure does emerge as the early history of Pennsylvania unfolds itself in the history books which do not get too wrapped up in Penn's legend. This figure belongs to a Scots-Irish schoolteacher named James Logan and it is his foresight, his undying loyality to Penn, and his natural bent for statesmanship that stood behind Pennsylvania's rise to prominence in its first fifty years. Penn could use his connections in England and his very charismatic and honest salesman techniques to create an interest in his colony and keep it supplied with settlers but it was Logan who handled the practical running of the colony's organization and government. He was the one constant factor in Pennsylvania's development during those initial fifty years of settlement and dispute and it was his slow and careful building of a basis for the future that continued the colony's growth into the cultural capital of the colonies in the eighteenth century.

The facts of James Logan's life are very similar to those of many other Quaker colonists bent for North America. He was born in 1674 in Ireland to recently immigrated Scottish parents. He grew up in a hostile world in which his gifts of extraordinary intelligence and quick learning only made his denial because of his religion, from such professions that require these talents, all the more bitter to endure. One of the strongest drives in his life seems to stem from this frustration to succeed, to make his fortune, build a comfortable country house with an ample library, and accrue the knowledge of the ancients and the famous scientists and philosophers of his day. While he was in Pennsylvania struggling with the complexities of land grants, boundaries, gubernatorial privileges and suchlike, on the side he was amassing a fortune in the fur trade which he later used to make his dream come true. All through his long career of service to William Penn and his family he kept repeating his wish to retire from public life and settle down with his books and family in some well situated house set amid gracious lands. It is to his credit and persistence that he achieved his dream and became a world-known amateur botanist and scientist who kept up a correspondence with the great minds of the western world. This luck did not seem to apply to his early attempts to establish himself as a merchant although he did have some success teaching the children of the Quaker merchants in Bristol. But a teaching job was not the life ambition of this young man who wanted his particular dream to come true, so when William Penn gave him a chance in 1699 to be his secretary in the relatively new colony of Pennsylvania Logan went with him.

William Penn and James Logan were both Quakers and extraordinary men but beyond that they had very little in common. To be a member of a religion like Quakerism did not mean that a member thought like the rest of the Meeting or agreed on the same issues; quite to the contrary, Quakerism is a very individualistic religion and it is a wonder that the members have agreed with each other and accomplished as much as they have (it takes a unanimous vote in a business meeting to pass any concern which has been brought to vote). There is a saying among the Quakers that goes something like this: "Put two Quakers in a room and you have an argument." This idea of conflict applies to Penn and Logan; their personal interpretations of their common religion differed radically. Penn's belief was in the ideal aspects that were not closely related to everyday life and its problems. Logan believed in the same ideals until they reached the point of impracticality and then horse sense took over. When Pennsylvania was threatened by Indians aroused by the French, Logan tried to create a voluntary defense force of non-Quakers but Penn and the other Quaker leaders would have nothing to do with the military, not even to supply money for Queen Anne's troops and Logan was left with only his prophecy that they were going to be sorry when the eventual conflict arose. They were sorry when their unprotected and wealthy colony was attacked and Logan's unQuakerly suggestions proved to be the practical way to cope with the situation. This difference in the application of their common religion would have created an irreparable split between two lesser men but Penn and Logan created between them one of the strongest bonds of trust and loyality that has ever existed between two men in such a situation.

Penn had not told Logan very much about the rather sorry condition of the secretary's job in Pennsylvania, either because he did not know or he wanted this very capable young man to stay on and help run the colony efficiently and not be discouraged by depressing reports. As it was, the job was about the least organized and most tangled mess in the government. Logan's most important business, besides being an errand boy for Penn and his family, was to collect the quitrents and organize the property claims in the colony. The Pennsylvanians resented having to pay land taxes after almost twenty years without paying and Logan was never very successful at collecting all the rents that were owed. The matter of land ownership and plot boundaries was a nightmare for the newly-arrived but efficient secretary. Penn had not been very careful in his doling out of land to friends and settlers and the claims of many Pennsylvanians overlapped their neighbors' lands and the borders of the colony itself. Logan had to sort out this mess without much legal support or sufficient evidence from the land charts in the office files. Many colonists owned land given to them by Penn but there were no papers to support their claims, other people were out and out squatters with nothing in the slightest to support their claims. The borders of the colony itself were in dispute, in particular the southern border shared with Maryland. This latter conflict dragged on until 1751 and Logan, who died in that year, lived to hear his arguments upheld and his carefully researched boundaries proclaimed the legal borders of the colony. To keep his secretary in Pennsylvania, in spite of this discouraging mass of work, Penn quickly approved an amendment to the charter which clarified many of the previous land grants and provided Logan with the legal rights to resurvey conflicting claims and collect quitrents on any of the land privately owned in the colony. When Penn returned to England in 1701 Logan wanted to leave with him but Penn had put so much faith in his secretary that he stayed on to struggle through the tangle of work.

Right from the beginning Loan had problems with his public image. He was doing his duty by collecting quitrents, organizing the land claims, and trying to get the colony to run more efficiently so that Penn could get back some of the money he had sunk into his "holy experiment." But the colonists considered all of this an infringement on their privileges and viewed Logan with suspicion. Unfortunately Penn's original charter from 1682 did not clearly state these privileges or the government's powers to limit them, Logan was unable to act decisively and Penn's enemies used his more-decisive actions against him as an example of tyranny. Logan's loyality to Penn did not help much either because his position of representing the Proprietor of the colony and executing the Proprietor's wishes in his name transformed his job as Secretary to Penn to a symbol of the Quaker establishment with all the "bad guy" implications that went along with that association.

The government of Pennsylvania as Penn had planned it had no checks or balances to control the power of the governor. There was an assembly of elected representatives who could vote and make decisions on legal matters but whose power to execute the measures voted on could simply be negated by the governor's "no." A council of appointed government officials could advise the governor but it had no power to do anything beyond that and the governor usually ignored their advise if he wanted to. The governor had almost absolute power and with Penn hundreds of miles across the ocean this position of power often went to a governor's head and Logan had to keep him under as much control as possible for the sake of the colony and Penn's ownership. He did not always have much success. Fortunately for Logan the first years in Pennsylvania did not include an unruly governor until 1703 when Governor Hamilton died and John Evans was appointed to the job, so he did not run into that trouble until after he had learned the ropes. He did have problems with the royalists in the colony who were trying to make Penn's experiment fail so that they could step in and claim the colony for the Crown. Colonel Quary, John Moore, and David Lloyd became the leaders of this annoying group and they created quite a bit of havoc over Governor Hamilton's legal rights to be governor until he was officially confirmed in 1703 but Logan's victory was short since the governor died that same year and the Council took over until a new governor was appointed. The Council was not a strong group and the members were not much help to Logan. During this interval Quary tried to get New York to annex Pennsylvania and its territories of New Jersey and Delaware but the arrival of a new governor and William Penn, Jr. just in the nick of time ended the plot. John Evans, the new governor, showed great promise until the power went to his head and he turned against Logan. This was to be a repeating pattern for Logan and it was one that gave him great pain because all he was doing was his duty towards Penn and the many accusations that were leveled against him were actually aimed at the Proprietor.

John Evans was a non-Quaker, chosen for this to foil and placate the royalists who were trying to prove that the Quakers could not govern the colony. This led to some awkward situations especially when he tried to force the Quakers into creating a military defense force. The pacifistic Quakers were shocked and when Evans pushed them too far in this respect, and others, they ousted him. The year before his ousting in 1706 Evans put the pressure on by creating a false French threat to shipping. Philadelphia was thrown into a panic but when the truth came out Evans was in disgrace. As if that were not enough, he arranged a shipping tax agreement with Delaware that was to be enforced by a military fort on the river bank. The Quakers were outraged and when the tax and the fort were put to test the whole scheme failed because even if the merchants could not fire back, not having any guns on their ships, they did not have to stop either and that was the end of that. The worst was yet to come because Evans then took aim at the Assembly concerning independence in their legislative duties and the Assembly, led by David Lloyd, reacted by charging Logan, the Council, and Evans were all trying to curtail the colonists' freedom and privileges. Logan, in particular, was picked out since he was the Proprietor's special agent in the colony and Lloyd's old enemy and the "bad guy" image was built up in a series of petty confrontations and speeches filled with half-truths and twisted facts. Evans was on Logan's side since he was the Proprietor's appointed

governor, although it was his disregard of the advice from Logan that caused the whole incident. The charges were once again aimed at Penn's authority and right to dictate his colony's rights and laws. None of this was helped by the facts Penn's agent in England, Philip Ford, had tricked the Proprietor into selling his colony to Ford, Penn was in debtors prison because of this trick, and no one really knew who owned the colony officially. Logan was brought to trial on trumped up evidence and Lloyd started impeachment proceedings against him. There were a series of stops and starts in the proceedings during the years from 1706 through 1709 at which time Mayor Hill of Philadelphia prevented Logan's arrest by the Assembly in December 1709 and escorted him to a ship bound for England where the whole matter was eventually settled. Logan handled himself well during this period, always ready to attack or defend with facts and truths that led, at one point, to his indicting Lloyd, his chief opponent in the proceedings, while the opposing side could only summon up shaky and vague complaints and reams of slanderous and untrue statements. In 1707 Charles Gookin became governor and helped Logan with his fight against the Assembly but he was a stupid man and Logan was relieved when he died in office in 1717. The next year, 1708, the Ford family's claim to Pennsylvania was disproved and Penn was once more the Proprietor of the colony. When Logan arrived in England he set to work persuading Penn to slowly turn over the colony's ownership and government to the Crown and end the "holy experiment." With all his debts and a growing young family to provide for Penn agreed that this was a practical solution and the slow process was begun without the knowledge of Logan's enemies in Pennsylvania.

Logan returned to Philadelphia in 1712 after a wonderfully mind-stimulating stay among England's greatest scientific men. He was coming back to a fairly calm colony as compared to the upheavals of the previous years. His main concern during this period was with the Indians, the local tribes of the Delaware and their overlords, the mighty Six Nations of the Iroquois. Penn had been very careful to explain to Logan and the chiefs of the tribes that the bond between the two peoples was not to be harmed in any way and he presented Logan as his personal agent to the Indians. Like Penn, Logan learned the language of these tribes and through the many years of negotiations and routine bond renewing ceremonies there grew a strong bond of friendship and respect between the well-read Philadelphia Quaker and the wild preliterate Indians. One very personal and revealing story about Logan and the Indians illuminates this special relationship. One of the chiefs who came to visit Logan in his later years at his country mansion was called Wingohocking. He greatly admired Logan and wishing to express this admiration he proposed that he and Logan should exchange names, one of the highest honors an Indian can bestow on a friend. Logan gladly gave his name to Wingohocking but explained that his fellow white men would not understand if he began calling himself Wingohocking instead of James Logan and they would also take offense. He proposed instead to call the stream that ran by his house Wingohocking since from a white man's point of view this was a great honor, as long as the stream flowed it would have Wingohocking's name. The stream still flows although no one would recognize it today, imprisoned in a storm drain that runs under the road which has taken its place. As you can see Logan did not "lower himself" to communicate with the Indians. He accepted their culture as being different and respected their childlike simplicity in much the same way Penn did. He could and did use the Indians for various trade and land deals but the Indians though childlike were not stupid and knew what he was doing. They accepted his terms because he was fair to them and was genuinely concerned about their friendship and well-being.

Logan had political reasons, as well, for strengthening the bond between the Pennsylvanians and their Indian neighbors. There was a power struggle going on in Europe all through this period between England and France and one of the juiciest plums involved was North America. The allied tribes belonging to the Iroquois Nations had alliances with both England and France and it was a matter of who had the most and strongest bonds who would catch the plum when it fell. Logan was very concerned about this situation since the French traders undersold the English and the Indians seemed to lean towards the French in their alliances because of this. He was constantly sending warnings to Penn and his sons, to members of the English government, and even to Sir Robert Walpole but his warnings fell on deaf ears and this constant worry plagued him even after he had signed his last treaty with the Indians in 1744. As I noted before, Logan's foresight in this matter only proved to be too true and the colonists and England paid for their disregard of his concerns and warnings.

One part of Logan's dream came true in 1714 when he married the young Quakeress Sarah Read. Over the next eight years they had five children and Logan must have been extremely happy to have finally, at the age of forty, found someone who would marry him. He had been turned down three times before and had almost given up hope but now there was something more in the future for him than sitting on his money and reading his forever expanding library.

The affairs of the colony were going on as well as could be expected during the next few years. There was a depression but nothing too serious, most of the problems were in England where Penn had suffered a crippling attack of apoplexy and his poor state of health was holding up the final decisions on the Crown's take-over of the colony. In 1718 Penn died and the Proprietorship was again a subject of dispute. In the meantime Gookin had finally died and another promising and able young man, Sir William Keith, was appointed to the post of governor in 1717. Logan liked Keith, especially after Gookin's terrible term in office, but he was to find out that the young man was perhaps too capable and posed a real threat to the now weakened Proprietorship and the Pennsylvania government.

With a well calculated maneuver after the death of Penn and during this period of weak government Maryland began its old grumblings about the common border shared by the two colonies. Logan sent a well-documented statement to Penn's wife to prove Maryland's mistake in its claims but she was too busy with

her family to bother with it. This problem would have had to wait, anyway, since Keith suddenly sided with the people of Pennsylvania, putting the governorship in a compromising position. The depression of the colony had taken a turn for the worse after the South Sea Bubble of 1720 and gold and silver money was scarce. A possibility of relieving the money squeeze was to issue paper money based on land value but the initial suggestion of this idea was received rather coldly. In 1723 the money was issued after a long dispute between Logan and Keith over the provisions of its printing. This tactic was used again in 1729 when a second depression occurred and both issuances helped to get the economy back to a working level.

Keith not only fought with Logan over the paper money but also meddled in the problems with Maryland and the Indians. He so completely ruined what Logan had so carefully built up and kept going that Logan had to go to England to get things settled again. Before he left for England he had been elected to the post of mayor of Philadelphia but the Assembly was once again full of his enemies and David Lloyd was back again to lead them in their fight against him. In England Logan negotiated with Lord Baltimore and Hannah Penn concerning the Maryland border conflict and managed to get an eighteen month respite in that seemingly never ending battle. He soaked up the ideas, books, and intellectual conversation of London and returned to Philadelphia in 1724 with renewed strength and a stiff set of orders for Keith. Keith ignored the new instructions and began one of the most amazing pamphlet wars in the history of Pennsylvania. Lloyd joined Keith and Logan was once again defending himself against the slander of half truths and false evidence. The battle raged until 1725 when John Penn appointed a new governor, Patrick Gordon. This did not completely end Keith's fight with Logan but the wind had been taken out of his sails. Gordon was an old man who knew very little about politics so Logan had to tutor him at first but he was so much easier to cope with than Keith that he did not mind being a teacher again.

Hannah Penn died in 1727 and her sons were finally named as Proprietors to the colony. This allowed Logan to get moving on several of the issues that had been stopped dead until the Proprietorship had been decided upon, but one day in January 1727/28 he slipped on a patch of ice and broke the bone in his left thigh. As a result of this accident he was crippled for the rest of his life but this did not prevent the Penns from continuing to employ him, there was still plenty to be done in the colony and Logan was one of the most authoritative figures on the colony's needs and he still knew how to administer to those needs.

In 1730 another part of Logan's dream came true, his country house was ready and he and his family moved out to Stenton close to the wilds of Germantown to enjoy the pleasures of country living and a roomful of books. David Lloyd's death in 1731 was a mixed blessing for Logan. One of his most bitter antagonists was now dead but his vacant post of Chief Justice was to be filled by Logan whose crippled condition made traveling very difficult. In spite of this, he filled the post well for five years and managed to endure the painful trip to and from Philadelphia.

Thomas Penn arrived in Philadelphia in 1732 and helped Logan negotiate a treaty with the Iroquois and have himself presented as the son of their beloved William Penn or Onas, their name for the Proprietor. The conflict with Maryland was growing again and an agreement was made with Lord Baltimore who had no intention of keeping it and didn't. This conflict reached its most belligerent aspect during this period. Gordon died in 1736 and Logan had to take over temporarily until someone else was appointed; because of this he was in a position of power when the storm finally broke. He had been amassing a great amount of material that proved Lord Baltimore's claims of the border to be incorrect and now he sent his findings to England to help support a Chancery suit. The situation in the colonies was now explosive and at one point two small armies from either side stood and faced each other for two days sending abusive messages back and forth between their leaders. One of the most active agitators on the Maryland side, Thomas Cresap, was arrested soon after this by the Pennsylvanians on an old murder charge and a complicated legal battle then raged over the rights of the Pennsylvanians to arrest a Marylander and whether or not Cresap was a Marylander since the boundaries were still not settled. The Crown finally stepped in and ordered the two colonies to stop bickering until the Chancery suit was decided upon. As I have noted earlier, the suit was decided in favour of Pennsylvania.

While all this was going on Logan was also negotiating with the Indians on the Delaware River over some valuable land. The pressure of the inflowing immigrants which had helped start off the Maryland dispute now had Logan looking for areas of land that had been originally granted to Penn but had never been used or surveyed. He found such a lot along the Delaware River north of Philadelphia which the Indians still fiercely hung onto. This is the famous Walking Purchase in which Logan managed to stretch the meaning of the original Indian treaty in such a way that Pennsylvania's amount of land open for settling was incredibly increased. Logan had prepared everything a year beforehand to make sure that he would get the maximum amount of land possible. The Forks Indians, as this possessive tribe was called, did not like Logan's interpretation of their treaty but a short and effective meeting with the chiefs of the powerful Iroquois Nations soon stopped their complaining. The squeeze on the land was temporarily relieved and Logan had one last time shown his distinctive flair for interpreting treaties and charters in such a way that the Penn family and the colony reaped the benefit. This was the last major public effort he made and after Governor George Thomas arrived he retired happily to his dream home to enjoy it for the remaining years of his life.

He was not silent during those last years and some of his most amazing achievements occurred then. In 1727 he had been experimenting with Indian corn in an effort to discover the laws of cross pollination. His results correlated with Linneaus's who had been working on the same experiment almost at the same time. Logan's scientific bent did not have much outlet during his long political career but he did keep up a correspondence with many of the important scientists in Europe. He

dabbled in mathematics, optics, philosophy, Arabic, and translated the works of several ancient writers. His treatises and translations were often published in Europe and he was recognized as being one of the outstanding intellects of the New World. Benjamin Franklin came and sort of sat at his feet at Stenton, the young man very much admired Logan's learning and published a few of his translations on his press in Philadelphia. Logan also kept up his stream of warnings concerning the French influence and their growing power among the Indians. His loyality to the Penns and concern for the safety of their colony prompted him to this action and it saddendd him to have his warnings go unheeded. In 1747 he achieved a small victory against the annoying pacificism of the Quakers. Franklin had gotten together a group of non-Quakers he called the Association whose purpose was to defend the city and colony if the occasion arose and Logan had gladly donated money and support for the enterprise. This small force would not be strong enough for an all-out attack but it was a beginning and Logan's constantly turned-down suggestions on this matter were a little easier to take after the Association had come into being.

This then was the man behind Penn, the administrator behind the legend, the forgotten servant of the colony who had done more work for the future than most men do for the present. His gift of foresight ranks with such men as John Adams and like him many of his observations and comments are as timely today as when they were written about two hundred and fifty years ago. One quote from 1704 has a particular relevancy today, Logan was commenting on the state of the government during the period when the Royalists were trying to sell Pennsylvania to New York, William Penn, Jr. was swinging his sword around and causing a great deal of childish trouble, and John Evans was beginning to feel his oats. Logan was feeling very depressed, as many of us do today about our present government, and he produced this wonderfully succinct phrase:

"It seems as if we were all in a ferment, and whatever was impure among the whole people rose in its filth to the top."

1684

William Penn's

Prayer

for Philadelphia

"AND THOU, *Philadelphia*, the virgin ſettlement of this province, named before thou wert born, what *love*, what *care*, what *ſervice*, and what *travail* have there been to bring thee forth and preſerve thee from ſuch as would *abuſe* and *defile* thee!

"Oh that thou mayſt be kept from *the evil* that would overwhelm thee; that faithful to the GOD of thy mercies, in the life of *righteouſneſs*, thou mayſt be *preſerved* to the end. My soul prays to GOD for thee, that thou mayſt ſtand in the day of trial, that thy children may be *bleſſed* of the LORD, and thy people ſaved by his power."



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GUARDING OUR PAST— FOR THE FUTURE'S SAKE

By Phyllis Knapp Thomas

A Tribute to Harold D. Saylor
President Emeritus of the Germantown Historical Society

(This article is based on an interview with Judge Saylor at his Mount Airy home in October, 1976)

"They tear down a historic house and build a bank. Then they tear down the bank and build a hot-dog stand. Then they tear down the hot-dog stand and try to figure out how to rebuild the historic house."

It really happened, retired Judge Harold Durston Saylor explained. Philadelphia's Graff House, where Thomas Jefferson as a boarder had written the Declaration of Independence, was replaced by a bank. The bank failed during the depression and gave way to a stand where hot-dogs were sold. Finally, through the aid of the Federal Government, the stand was removed to make way for a *copy* of the original house.

Judge Saylor went on to tell of his life-long interest in history. After majoring in history at Yale, he graduated with special honors in that subject in 1914. He chose to make Philadelphia his home largely because of all the city had contributed to the nation's story.

Like his civic-minded father and grandfather before him, Judge Saylor found himself involved, deeply, in projects for the public good. The United Fund, the organization now called Family Service of Philadelphia, the Germantown Y.M.C.A., the once active Germantown Community Council, meeting in Vernon Park's Wister House, the Fairmount Park Commission and the Friends of the Wissahickon—these were only a few of the groups that received the outpouring of energies of a man who, as a lawyer and a judge of the Orphans' Court, was active in legal affairs from 1919 to 1974. (He received his law degree in 1917 from the University of Pennsylvania.)

"I think it's the duty of everybody to do something for the community in which that person lives."

He became increasingly concerned about Germantown's valuable historic houses. Some had already been torn down. Because most of these houses were located along Germantown Avenue, and scattered, businesses could—and often did—encroach. Years later Judge Saylor expressed this concern at a dinner given in his honor at the Philadelphia Cricket Club on March 14, 1974, as follows:

"Bricks and mortar are important adjuncts to written history. A person or an event becomes very real when the recorded history of it can be supplemented by seeing the very places where it became history. That is why I have always considered it most necessary to preserve as many historically and architecturally significant houses as possible in Germantown, a community that has done much for the city and the country since its creation by Pastorius and his followers in 1683."

In 1953 Harold D. Saylor became President of the Germantown Historical Society after the death of his predecessor, Leighton P. Stradley. (This organization had begun in 1900 under the name of the Site and Relic Society of Germantown.) The society's pride in Judge Saylor's achievements is evidenced by the fact that he remained in office twenty-three years!

At first the treasury was nearly empty. Under the judge's leadership, dedicated men and women worked hard to raise funds.

"We began to acquire property." The only property then maintained by the Germantown Historical Society was the Conyngham-Hacker House at 5214 Germantown Avenue, leased by a trust estate for use by the society and its one museum. Library books crowded the shelves of the meeting-room on the second floor.

Judge Saylor was determined to rescue as many as possible of Germantown's important old houses. Today, with the help of several substantial gifts, the Germantown Historical Society owns *ten* houses, all over 170 years old:

(1) Baynton House (5208 Germantown Avenue), where the library is now
(2) Conyngham-Hacker House (#5214)
(3) Howell House (#5218); gift of Charles Woodward
(4) Endt House (#5222-24)
(5) Bechtel House (#5226); gift of Mrs. L. M. C. Smith
(6) Clarkson-Watson House (#5275-77); gift of Mrs. L. M. C. Smith
(7) Shippen-Blair House (#6043); with funds from the estate of Miss Eliza R. Finckel
(8) and (9) Michael Billmeyer House—actually two houses (#6505-07); #6505 given by Harold D. Saylor
(10) Christopher Mason House (#6514); with funds from the estate of Miss Eliza R. Finckel

During Judge Saylor's presidency an annex was built at the rear of the Baynton House where once were tumble-down garages. Called the Von Trott Annex, it holds a museum with antique objects of interest including sleighs and kitchen and farm equipment. Other

museums of the historical society open to visitors today, besides the main one still at #5214, are the Toy and Textile Museum at #5218 and the Costume Museum at #5275-77.

The house known to be the oldest in Germantown, Wyck (1690), is now in the care of the Germantown Historical Society under a special committee, with the First Pennsylvania Banking and Trust Company as trustee. Other famous houses of the Greater Germantown area are managed by various other associations or lived in as private residences.

"I am against one big organization to look after everything," the judge emphasized. "It's good when a group with an interest in one particular house takes responsibility for it."

Besides the acquiring and maintaining of properties to assure their preservation, there were other tasks. Many new members were welcomed into the society through the years. And in spite of rising printing costs, the *Germantowne Crier*, a quarterly, appeared regularly.

On October 21, 1976, at the annual meeting of members Harold D. Saylor was succeeded as President of the Germantown Historical Society by Frederick C. Fiechter, Jr., and became President Emeritus at the age of eighty-four. He was still serving the public as President of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Treasurer of the Fairmount Park Commission, Chairman of Philadelphia Conservationists, Inc., and in many other charitable institutions.

Without any doubt Judge Saylor, along with his wife, Audrey P. S. Saylor, will continue to keep a watchful eye on the historic treasures inherited by the people of Greater Germantown. As he remarked at the dinner on March 14, 1974, ". . . two endeavors . . . continue to command my greatest interest. The first is conservation of natural areas and the second is the preservation of Philadelphia's architectural and historical assets, its famous buildings and its old houses, particularly those in Germantown." He added, with honest pride, "Much has been saved there for posterity."

The fact that this last statement is still true is due only to the farsightedness and never-ending diligence of persons like Harold D. Saylor.

The following items were brought to my attention after the above interview with Judge Saylor was presented to the "Crier."

Editor

Judge Saylor's Diary

Judge Harold D. Saylor has kept a diary faithfully ever since January 1, 1911. (This diary will eventually belong to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.) Included in its pages are notations about aspects of everyday life such as travel, living costs, and the natural environment, as well as accounts of his experiences in both world wars.

In 1917 he was commissioned in the United States Army as a second lieutenant of field artillery. Serving in France for over a year in the First Division, A.E.F., he was awarded the Silver Star and the Purple Heart. In 1942 he was commissioned a major of field artillery and trained troops for combat duty at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he commanded a battalion for two-and-one-half years. Then he was sent to France and Germany. He was awarded a Bronze Star and retired as a colonel in the Inspector General's Department.

A Gift of Trees

Many will recall that the Hon. Harold D. Saylor was given a grove of trees at a dinner held in his honor at the Philadelphia Cricket Club on March 14, 1974. Since then the trees, twenty in all, have been planted across from Rittenhouse Village in the triangle of open space bounded by Rittenhouse Street, Wissahickon Avenue, and Lincoln Drive. A small plaque on a boulder near the Drive bears Judge Saylor's name.

At the time of the presentation the judge commented: "I hope that grove will thrive and bring beauty into the lives of many men, women and children in the days to come."

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President's Report



Hon. Harold D. Saylor

This report is my last one as President of the Germantown Historical Society. I find from the records that it was in 1952 when I first served as Acting President upon the death of my predecessor, Leighton P. Stradley, Esq. In 1953 I was elected president so in the year 1976 I was serving in that office for the twenty-third year. That is a long time for anyone to hold an office in any institution. It is not good for a charitable institution to have the same person for president for more than a few years. New ideas, new blood are needed. Hence I am happy that at the annual meeting of our members in October, 1976, I was at long last relieved of the office of president and Vice-President Frederick C. Fiechter, Jr., Esq., was elected to succeed me. I am pleased the members of the Society have elected me to the office of President Emeritus. They are most generous. Of course I shall always be willing, as long as I am able, to be of service to the Society. After so long an association I could not do otherwise, for the welfare of the Society has been and always will be a matter of concern to me.

When I first took office as president, I found that the treasury was nearly empty through no fault of the former president. Measures promptly taken changed the situation and the Society's activities did not suffer any prolonged interruption.

It has been particularly gratifying to me that during my service as president the Society has performed well one of the several functions for which it was formed nearly three-quarters of a century ago; namely, the preservation of historic landmarks. As the result of a generous bequest received upon the death of a former member and of the kindness of various persons in subscribing to property acquisition funds and because of the gift of properties and of funds for their restoration made by several of our members, the Society in the past score of years acquired unencumbered title to nine "old Germantown houses," the youngest of which is said to be over one hundred and seventy years old. One of the houses, the double Michael Billmeyer House at 6505-07 Germantown Avenue, is the oldest by far, having been built in 1727. Fifty years later it was in front of this house that George Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the American army stood on a mounting block and observed the fighting at the Chew House. In those days there was a clear view of Cliveden from the Billmeyer House.

Of the ten houses on Germantown Avenue now owned by the Society, two are occupied for museum purposes. They are the Howell House at No. 5218 and the Clarkson-Watson House at Nos. 5275-7, where our collections of toys, textiles and costumes are on exhibition. The Baynton House at No. 5208 is the home of our library and "The Germantowne Crier". The Von Trott Annex, a modern one-story structure at the rear of the Baynton House, is filled with old sleighs, dolls' houses, and many objects of household use.

Of course the headquarters of the Society and its long-time museum are in the Conyngham-Hacker House at 5214 Germantown Avenue. That property is held in trust by a bank for charitable purposes. The Society is privileged to occupy the house rent-free as long as it uses and maintains it for such purposes.

The Endt House at No. 5222, the Bechtel House at No. 5226, the Laurens or Shippen-Blair House at No. 6043, the Billmeyer House at Nos. 6505-7 and the Christopher Mason House at No. 6514 are on lease to various individuals who appreciate the opportunity to live in an "old Germantown house" and pay rents in excess of the amount needed to pay taxes on and to maintain the properties.

As it was expected that during the Bicentennial Year many visitors to Philadelphia would come to Germantown to see our houses and museums, application was made to "Philadelphia '76" for funds to place our houses in first-class condition. While our application was always treated as "priority," no funds were ever

received. However, efforts were made to have guides trained and made available to show any guest through our museums. Mrs. Bostwick, Chairman of the Relics Committee, was on hand at the main museum to welcome the few visitors who came.

At the Annual Meeting of our members in October all the officers other than your then President were reelected. They are Frank Rogers Donahue, Jr., and Frank J. Ollinger as Vice-Presidents, Mrs. M. Bacon Bostwick, Jack Hornung and Henry J. Magaziner as Managers, Mrs. Reid McNeill as Secretary, Leonard Denis as Assistant Secretary, Wallace S. Martindale, Jr., as Treasurer, Mr. Donahue as Solicitor and Miss Mabel E. Irle as Librarian. Dr. Gordon W. Venable was elected a Vice-President and Mrs. James S. Bishop and Edward T. Horn, D.D., were elected Managers for the first time.

During the year 1976 as in preceding years the Society has published quarterly the *Germantowne Crier*, has held meetings of its members at which there have been talks given on subjects of interest to members of a historical society, has conducted in the spring of each year a tour of Germantown Houses, and has done whatever was deemed appropriate in carrying out the Society's purposes in the Germantown community.

These activities have been made possible by the participation of the officers and the managers of the Society, who have faithfully and willingly performed their duties for the benefit of the Society and the community. As I have done in my previous annual reports, I again thank the various committee chairmen and chairwomen for the services they have rendered. I also thank all those men and women who over the years have so ably contributed their time and energies to the Society in its various activities. It is my hope and my belief that they will continue their efforts and thereby assure the usefulness and the influence of the Society as a charity so definitely committed to the realization of the aims of those who created it. Those aims are clearly stated in each issue of the *Crier*. They have been supported for three-quarters of a century by the dedicated men and women who have so loyally performed their duties over the years as officers, managers, and committee members.

It has been a source of great satisfaction and pleasure to me, this Germantown Historical Society, and I am grateful for the opportunity it has provided me for a quarter of a century to be of service to it and to Germantown.

Again, my thanks to all who have helped to make the Society the fine institution it is. May all that it has accomplished be an inspiration to everyone who will serve it in the future. All success and gratification to them and their new President.

HAROLD D. SAYLOR
President

January 20, 1937—beginning of Inauguration Day for the President every fourth year.

A Map of
Historic Germantown

Designed by J. Riegel, Jr.

This detailed map, elaborated with numerous sketches, shows the locations of streets, historic buildings, churches, etc. It is replete with data concerning local people, places, and events.

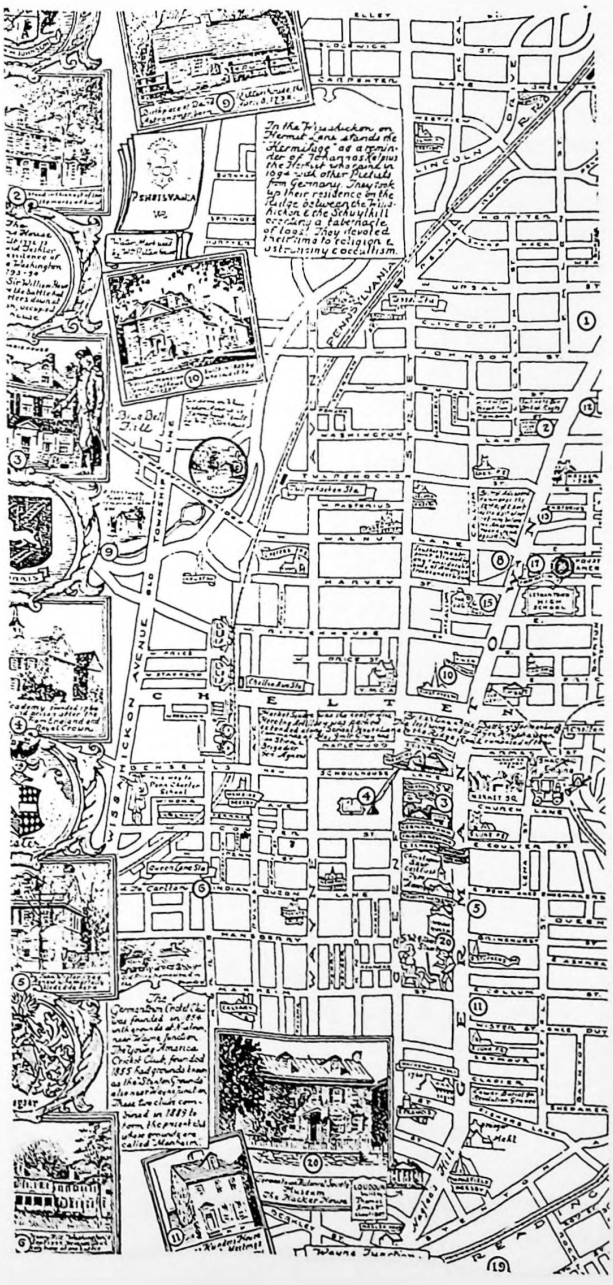
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Is Your House Made of Brick?

By Sue Johansen

The abundance of natural building materials in the New World had a profound effect on American architecture. Vast stretches of woodlands fueled carpenter and shipbuilder alike; indeed most buildings were constructed of wood. The great fire of London in 1666, however, prompted urban denizens to use brick as a safer and more practical building material. The processes involved in brick manufacture, as described by Henry J. McKee in *Building Early America*, provide an excellent example of pre-industrial building methods.

Philadelphia's plentiful clay deposits easily accommodated the needs of local brickyards. If the sand content was insufficient, more was added to obtain the proper consistency. After any large stones or foreign matter was removed, the clay was "tempered." This was accomplished by adding water and thoroughly mixing the clay with either a shovel or "ring pit." This latter arrangement consisted of a circular vat containing a heavy wheel which was pulled around a central pole by a horse or mule.

After the clay had been thoroughly tempered it was taken to the "moulder." Using a wooden frame of the desired brick size, the moulder could produce as many as five thousand bricks each day. A lump weighing eight or nine pounds was thrown into the mould; the excess was scraped off with a straight stick. The filled mould was then carried to the drying floor by the "off-bearer." This member of the brickyard "gang" was usually a boy. Once he had conveyed the mould to the drying floor, the brick was taken out of the mould and left to dry for several hours. Removal of the clay from the mould was easier than might be expected; the mould was either dipped in water or dusted in sand to facilitate removal by the off-bearer. Once the raw bricks were dry enough to be handled, they were turned on edge until dry enough to be placed on low stacks or "hacks." After the bricks had dried for several days or weeks, they were taken to the oven or "kiln" to be burned or "fired." Fueled by wood or coal, the kiln maintained a temperature of approximately 1800 degrees for several days. By this method, 20 to 50 thousand bricks were fired at one time. After cooling, the bricks were removed from the kiln and sorted, stored, or taken to be used at a construction site.

The manufacture of brick was not completely mechanized until the end of the 19th century. As technology enabled men to build larger buildings to accommodate a growing population and increasingly complex society, American architecture inevitably became more sophisticated. Steel, glass, and concrete skyscrapers characterize contemporary American cities. Early handmade bricks, however, so easily recognizable in structures extant in Philadelphia today, reflect the multi-faceted nature of an industry and society now lost.

First Brick House

William Penn's House
sometimes called "Letitia Penn's Cottage."

Built in 1682, it was the first brick house erected in Philadelphia and was used as the first State House in Pennsylvania.

For purposes of preservation it was moved from Letitia Street, near Second and Market, to Fairmount Park, near Girard Avenue about 1880.

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Tours of Historic Germantown

On Friday and Saturday, December 10 and 11, 1976 9 historic houses (Cliveden, Concord School House, Deshler Morris, Germantown Historical Society, Grumblethorpe, Loudoun, Maxwell Mansion, Stenton and Wyck) were opened to the public. Each house was decorated for the holiday season (with the help of regular staff members plus the Outdoor Gardners, the Evergreen Gardners, the Germantown Horticultural Society and the Roxborough Garden Club.)

Tea was served at Cliveden and Stenton on Friday and at Maxwell Mansion and Loudoun on Saturday.

There was a charge made for the "Tour Tickets."

The affair was a fine success and talk was heard many times about "What we will do next year."

We hope many of you were able to attend and wondered if perhaps you remember seeing some of the interesting items on the following list.

Greens That the Colonists Might Have Used for Decorations

Broad Leaved Evergreens and Greenery

Mountain Laurel
Mountain Fetter-bush
American Holly
English Holly
Inkberry
Wintergreen
Pachistima
Southern Magnolia
Box Huckleberry
Leucothoe
Ground Pine
Ground Cedar
Partridge berry
Ivy

Berried Plants

Winterberry
American Holly
Inkberry
Hawthorn
Wintergreen
Partridge berry
English Holly
Bayberry
Bittersweet
Red Cedar
Mistletoe

Evergreens

White Pine
Spruce
Hemlock
English Yew
Box
Red Cedar
Arborvitae
Atlantic White Cedar
Balsam Fir
Prostrate Juniper

Miscellaneous

Acorns
English Walnuts
Black Walnuts
Sweet Gum
Sycamore
Spruce Cones
Pine Cones
Hemlock Cones
Larch
Milkweed Pods
Lilac Seeds
Baptisia
Yarro Seeds
Beech Burrs
Chestnuts
Teasels
Pearly Everlasting
Artemesia
Christmas Fern

Wreath Making Materials

Willow Wands
String
Wire
Rags
Sphagnum Moss
Apples
Jeruselum Artichokes

Some of the native species on this list are in danger of extinction in the wild. PLEASE DO NOT PICK!

List From Doris Ritzinger's Scrap Book

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Important Dates in Germantown's History

It may be possible that up-to-date historical research concerning this interesting list (which was carefully compiled a number of years ago) may disclose additions or deletions to "facts" given.

Sometimes there are several ways to prove or disprove a so-called "fact." Your "source" is all-important and can cause you confusion—but it's fun. Now, what would *you* change? Or perhaps you might want to list some interesting facts later than 1854 and see how many you are really *fairly* sure of.

1683—Aug. 16—Francis Daniel Pastorius reaches Phila.
1683—Oct. 6—Thirteen emigrants from Crefeld, Germany, with their families reached Philadelphia.
1683—Oct. 12—A warrant was issued to Pastorius for land on behalf of the Germantown Purchase.
1683—Oct. 24—Thomas Fairman surveyed the land.
1683—Oct. 25—Meeting in cave of Pastorius, where lots were drawn for the land and settlement begun.
1683—First flour mill (Robert's or Townsend's) erected on East Church Lane, Germantown.
1688—Friends issue first public protest in America against human slavery.
1690—First paper mill in America built in Germantown.
1691—May 31—Germantown incorporated as a Borough.
1698—First school book published in America by Pastorius.
1705—First portrait in oil painted in America by Christopher Witt
1707—Town loses its charter, no longer incorporated.
1708—First Mennonite Church in America erected in Germantown.
1716—First forge in Pennsylvania built in Germantown.
1719—Feb. 17—Francis Daniel Pastorius died.
1719—First body of Dunkards in America arrived in Germantown.
1723—Dec. 25—Dunkard Church organized in Germantown, first one in America.
1732—Apr. 8—David Rittenhouse born.
1738—First medical diploma issued in America by Christopher Witt.
1739—First almanac printed in a foreign language issued in America.
1743—First Bible in America, in a European language, printed in Germantown by Christopher Sauer.
1760—Germantown Academy founded.
1761—"Cliveden," the Chew House, built.
1764—Sauer publishes first religious magazine in America.
1764—Invasion of Paxtang Boys.
1769—Dr. Christopher Witt died.
1770—First American book on Pedagogy published in Germantown.
1772-1773—First type cast in America made in Germantown.
1777—Aug. 1-8—Washington's Army encamped near Germantown.
1777—Sept. 12-14—Washington's Army returns to camp near Germantown.
1777—Sept. 25—British Army occupies Germantown.
1777—Oct. 4—Battle of Germantown.
1777—Oct. 19—British Army leaves Germantown, moving into Philadelphia.
1780—First light market wagon in America, built by Bringhurst.
1793—Yellow fever drives President Washington from Philadelphia to Germantown.
1794—President Washington spends six weeks of summer in Germantown.
1796-1797—Gilbert Stuart paints portraits of Washington in Germantown.
1801—Feb. 12—Germantown Turnpike incorporated.
1825—July 20—Lafayette visits Germantown.
1832—July 6—Steam railroad to Germantown opened.
1854—Germantown ceased to be an independent borough and was created the 22nd Ward of Philadelphia.

Gift to Our Society

Thirteen original parchment deeds, mortgages, and bonds, dated between 1752 and 1809 for Germantown real estate were presented to the Germantown Historical Society by Mrs. Lawrence M. C. Smith.

They are very much appreciated and make a fine addition to our collection.

Margaret Bacon Bostwick

Museum Acquisitions

The Germantown Historical Society has been the recipient, under the will of Mr. N. D. Baker of New York, of many early American pieces of furniture which he had collected. Several are from the Montague Collection, others are mentioned in "Furniture Treasury" by Wallace Nutting in the 1948 edition. Some were made in Philadelphia and some in Germantown.

Included in the collection are pieces of Canton China and some Meissen plates.

We hope to have this fine furniture, etc. ready for viewing by the summer of 1977.

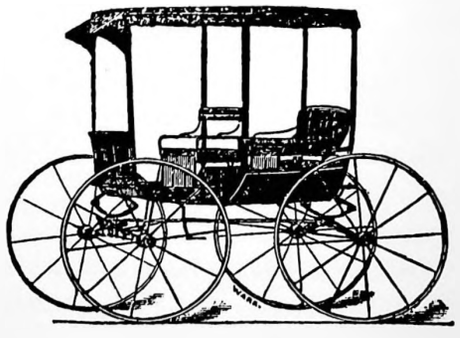
Margaret Bacon Bostwick

Annual Meeting of the Germantown Historical Society

The regular Annual Meeting was held at the Aulenbach House, 29 West Tulpehocken Street. The speaker of the evening was Dr. James E. Mooney, Executive Director of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and a Member of our Society, who gave a presentation, with slides, entitled "Arising People."

His presentation was followed by an interesting "Question and Answer" period both of which were very much enjoyed by all.

The report of the Nominating Committee was read, and accepted. As mentioned elsewhere in this issue, it is a pleasure to tell you that Frederick C. Fiechter, Esq. was elected President and the Hon. Harold D. Saylor, President Emeritus.



Germantown Wagon

OLD-TIME HATTERS

Something About a Once Prominent Germantown Industry

About the year 1825 hat-making was one of the flourishing industries of Germantown. There were four hat shops, employing jointly about one hundred men. Jacob Green's shop was on Main street, opposite Jefferson; Joseph Green had a shop on Main, below Armat; John Neiman in the store now occupied as a tailoring establishment by John Schaeffer, opposite Association Hall, and John Bowman carried on the trade on Main street, where Weiss' coal office now stands. The majority of the hats made had wool bodies, and were shipped to every section of the country. About 1835 "brush" hats came into style. They were made of the skins of a species of Russian rabbit, which cost from $3 to $6 per pound. Beaver fur was worth about $16 per pound in the early days of fur hat-making, but it afterwards advanced steadily until it reached $70 per pound. Each hat required about three ounces of fur. The hats in those days were worn nearly the year through, although a fashion sprung up of light fur in summer and heavy dark in winter. There were of course some straw hats, but they were not worn as generally as at present. Strikes among the journeymen hatters were common and sometimes pitched battles between the strikers and "foul men" — those who refused to go out — would ensue, which necessitated suppression by the authorities of the old borough.

Through the kindness of a friend we are furnished with the minutes of a meeting of hatters for the purpose of forming a protective association nearly fifty years ago, from which may be gleaned some knowledge of the most prominent journeymen in the trade at the time. At a meeting of Journeymen Hatters held at the public house of Joseph Mullen, February 25th, 1836, to form an association, Jacob Ployd was called to the chair and Benjamin Dungan appointed Secretary. A committee of five was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws, Committee, Beach Humes, Thomas Marple, John Shields, Charles Honisen and Benjamin Dungan. At a meeting held March 11, 1836, the following officers were elected, President, Jacob Ployd; Vice President, Benjamin Dungan; Secretary, William H. Smith; Treasurer, William Bowman; Stewards, Thomas Marple and Eli Morgan. At a meeting held March 4, 1837, the following officers were elected, President, Thomas Marple; Vice President, Henry B. Troutman; Secretary, George W. Wright; Treasurer, William Bowman."

The process of felting by hand was thus described by the gentleman just deceased: The fur of beavers, rabbits and other animals was mixed with wool, which material was used for the production of felt hats. The first operation was to remove the fur from the skin of the animals. Then the hair was thoroughly cleaned and mixed with wool. The wool and fur fibres were agitated and tossed into the air, which caused them to fall with the greatest irregularity upon a table, being interlaced in every possible manner. This mass was then covered with a cloth, and the combination reduced in thickness by pressure. Layer after layer was laid one upon the other by the same process, until the fabrics of the felt had attained the proper thickness. This operation was called bowing, and required great skill and judgment on the part of the workman. Competent bowers, who could make five or six hat bodies a day, were always in demand.

Elias Howe, inventor of the Sewing Machine, born July 9, 1819.

Never Admit Defeat

This patriot never admitted defeat. He said, "I do the very best I know how, the very best I can, and I mean to keep doing so." The following milestones in his life prove he meant what he said:

Failed in business	'31
Defeated for legislature	'32
Again failed in business	'33
Elected to legislature	'34
Sweetheart died	'35
Had nervous breakdown	'36
Defeated for Speaker	'38
Defeated for Elector	'40
Defeated for Congress	'43
Elected to Congress	'46
Defeated for Congress	'48
Defeated for Senate	'55
Defeated for Vice President	'56
Defeated for Senate	'58
Elected President	'60

Yes, Abraham Lincoln never did admit defeat.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Germantown Historical Society

Privileges of membership include attendance at all lectures, tours, and other functions sponsored by the Society.

It is the Society's aim, in conjunction with other civic groups, to preserve and protect the existing evidence of Germantown's great past. Interested persons may obtain further information by writing to the Chairman of the Membership Committee.

Mrs. James S. Bishop
5214 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, Pa. 19144

We welcome new members and cordially invite your interest and support. We look forward to hearing from you **and** your friends.

Dues are as follows:

Life	$150.00
Annual	10.00
Sustaining	25.00
Family	12.50
Student, under 21 years	3.00

"The Germantowne CRIER" is sent regularly to all members. Subscriptions may be entered by non-members for $2.00 a year. Checks should be made to the Society or direct to the "CRIER".

My Old Clock

It stands in the corner of the room,
Behind the door in shade and gloom,
In a heavy antique case
Battered and scratched and dim with smoke,
And the hands are bent on the face.

The pendulum swings and the wheels go round,
Making a dull monotone sound.
As the vanished moments fleet:

Years have vanished—forgotten years—
With all their sorrows and sins and tears
And left their mark on the wall
The old had died
And the young grown old
Generations have gone to mold
And the clock survives them all.

Beautiful girls have watched the hours
Knitting at stands or working flowers;
In frames of embroidery fine;
And morning the young folks playing late
Wished the moments fettered to eight
For the school began at nine.

Mothers with sons in distant lands
Sorrowing chide their tardy hands
And dream of the meeting dear.
And wives whose husbands return at night
Marked the time in fading light
And listen for foot steps near.

Blushing brides at their toilets gay
In snowy robes on the happy day,
Have waited in the house to wed.
And sick folks tossing on beds of pain
Gazed at the clock again and again
As they heard the slow hours tread.

But years vanished and others fill
Their place, the clock stands still.
Ticking as in its prime
Summer and winter day and night
As sexton climbing the ceaseless flight
And tolling the knell of time.

The above verses were written by the first Charles J. Wister, of Grumblethorpe. The clock now resides in the Society's Museum and is dated 1760.
On the face of the clock appears the name Whitman-Hamburg. A letter from U.S. Counsel General, at Hamburg (September 17, 1908) states that William Whiteman lived in Hamburg about 1700.

Margaret Bacon Bostwick
Museum Director

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YOUR

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—From a 1925 newspaper clipping

The internal revenue statistics of 1866 show that just a half century ago the following business enterprises subject to a special federal tax were carried on in the Twenty-second Ward, which then included the present Twenty-second and Forty-second Wards: Billiard tables, 17; brewers, 1; retail liquor dealers, 78; wholesale liquor dealers, 9; dentists, 3; distillers, 1; hotels, 10; photographers, 3; plumbers, 3; physicians, 27; real estate agents, 5; tobacconists, 0.

While there has been a pronounced increase in the number of plumbers, dentists, physicians and real estate agents since then, the thirst of the people for intoxicants apparently has not increased, for today the total number of retail liquor licenses in the two wards concerned is but sixty-four.

Washington, D.C. was selected as the Capital of the United States, July 8, 1792.

January 7, 1789—first United States Presidential Election held.

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