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PASTORIUS STATUE IN VERNON PARK—see Page 11

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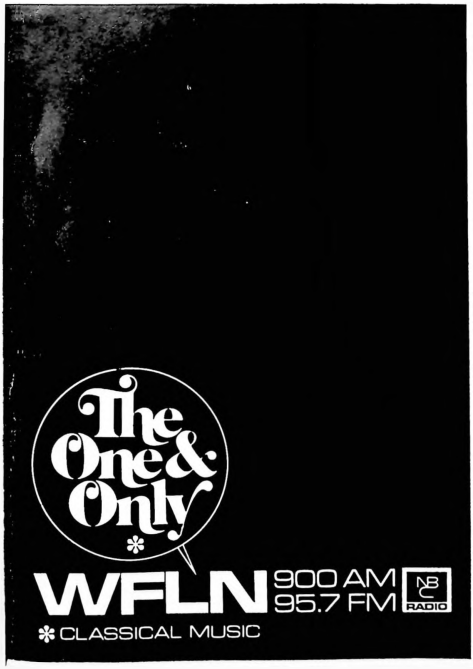
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Volume 26 | WINTER, 1974 | Number 1

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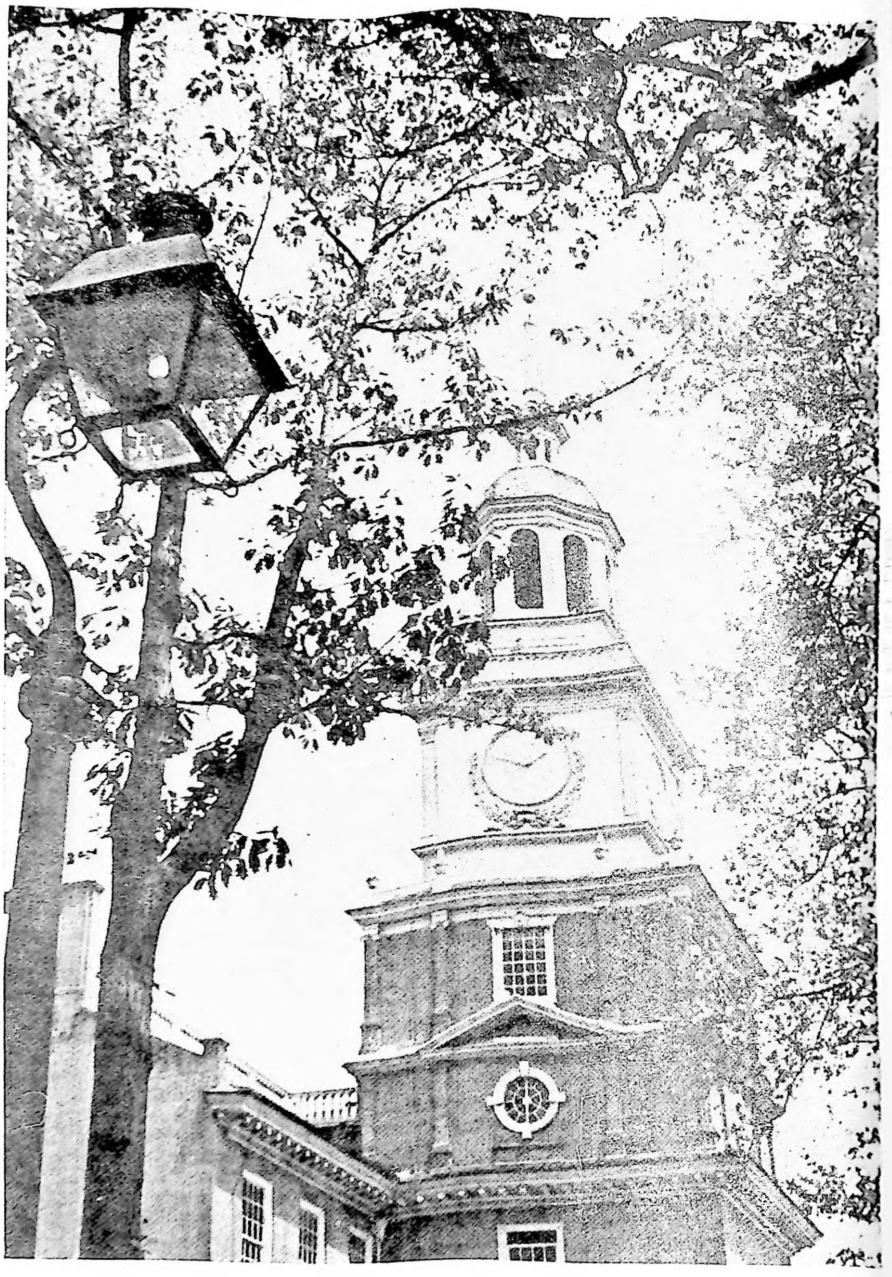
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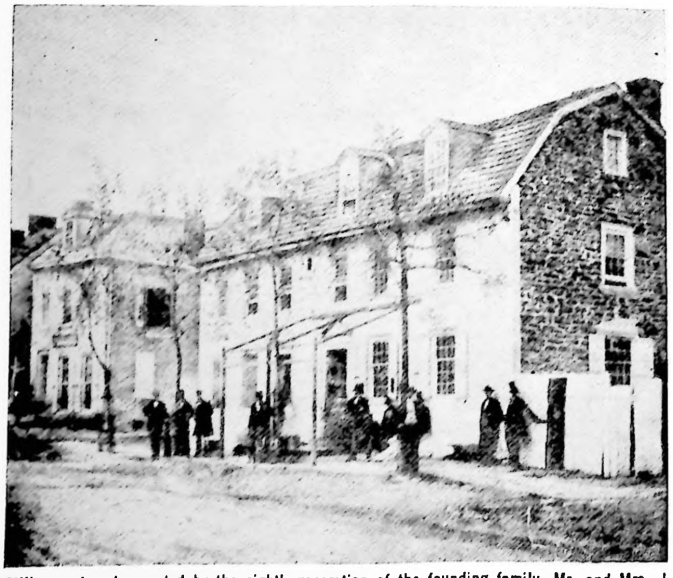
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Report of the President



IT IS always a pleasure to prepare for the editor of the GERMANTOWN CRIER the report of the Society's activities during the year. The Society is now completing its seventy-third year of existence. It was organized in 1900 as the Site and Relic Society. A decade later the name was changed to the one now in use.

The outstanding event of the year was the culmination of several years of effort to have Wyck, an outstanding Germantown property, given assurance of its preservation as an historic property. On December 1, 1973 there took place at Wyck, 6026 Germantown Avenue, a ceremony of considerable importance to those of us who are interested in the preservation of the historic and architecturally significant houses of our community. Mrs. Robert B. Haines, the owner of Wyck, presented to John R. Bunting, Jr., Chairman of the board of the First Pennsylvania Bank and Trust Company a paper symbolizing her gift to that company in trust of the Wyck house and its contents and its fine garden. The ceremony took place following the organization meeting of the newly constituted Wyck Committee created under the authority of the addition to the Society's by-laws adopted at the annual meeting. The Wyck Committee consists of the President, the three Vice-Presidents, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Society; five members of the Haines and Wister families; and five members from the general public appointed by the President. This committee will have charge of the operation of Wyck under agreement with the trustee bank which will manage a capital fund the income from which will be available for maintenance of the property. Mr. Charles H. Haines was elected chairman of the Committee.

For years I have been concerned with the future of Wyck which has been lived in by nine generations of the Haines Family. Its future as an outstanding house is now assured. It will not be a museum. It will be maintained in the spirit of those who lived there for over two hundred years as members of the Society of Friends. It will be open to the public and it will contain the furniture and furnishings that have been in the house for generations.

Our Society and the community are much in the debt of Mrs. Haines whose generous action has made possible the preservation of a most historic, interesting and important house.

A year ago, I reported on the gift by the Chew Family of Cliveden to the National Trust. With the Morris House these past two decades safe in the hands of the National Park Service one might say that the three most famous houses in Germantown will be henceforth safe from the depredations of wreckers, speculative builders or others. Such other gems as Loudoun, Stenton, Grumblethorpe, Upsala, the Conynham-Hacker House and the nine houses owned by this Society are now safe and much of value historically and architecturally in Germantown is assured of preservation. Regrettably in the past other old and interesting houses were destroyed, in many cases without real benefit to the community.

An innovation in entertainment offered to members was introduced by our Meetings Committee headed by Reed Engle as chairman. On November 29, 1973 at the Germantown-Stevens Academy there was celebrated the one hundred and eightieth anniversary of the coming to Germantown of President Washington. On that occasion Miss Elizabeth Boggs played on her beautiful harpsichord many pieces of music that had been written by Francis Hopkinson and some of his contemporaries in Philadelphia and elsewhere and played that year to the delight of our predecessors.

It was a very interesting recital. Miss Boggs, the harpsichordist, had prepared a diary which she thought might have been written by the step-granddaughter of our first President to record her pleasure at hearing the very pieces played for us nearly two centuries later.

Mr. Engle also arranged for a wine-tasting party at the Museum earlier in the autumn. A number of young people who had become interested in our Society, many of whom have become members, were in attendance. The party proved to be a real success.

In carrying out his plan to broaden the influence of the Society Mr. Engle also arranged for October 25, 1973, the evening of the annual meeting of our members, a talk by Dr. Robert Jones on the life of the distinguished physician and patriot Dr. Benjamin Rush, member of the Continental Congress. This informative talk was given with illustrations on the screen at the Germantown Hospital and was extremely well received. I am sure that all of us hope that plans to reconstruct at Byberry the home of Dr. Rush, carelessly razed by the city, will come to full fruition before too many years have passed.

Mrs. Ritter who for so many years has served as chairman of the Costumes Committee has resigned her office. Her daughter, Miss Deborah C. Ritter, has graciously consented to succeed her as chairman. Miss Ritter is well acquainted with the matter of collecting costumes for the Society and caring for them. She has been a member of her mother's committee for years. It is expected that, as in the past, the Costumes Committee will carry out its duties successfully and to the satisfaction of all concerned. The Society is in great debt to Mrs. Ritter for her many years of devoted work.

We are grateful to our Historian Miss Deborah C. Ritter for her work in gathering information about activities in Germantown and giving us the annual report. As the chairmanship of the Costumes Committee carries a considerable burden of work a new Historian has been appointed to take her place. He is Mr. Leonard Denis who has long served the Society as Assistant Secretary.

In response to the suggestion of a member of the Board of Managers that an administrator be appointed to assist the Society in carrying out its purposes the Board last spring appointed Mr. Reed Engle to a one year term at a modest salary. His principal duties are to arrange for group visits to our museums, to extend the influence of our Society in the community and to increase the membership. We constantly need new members particularly among younger people. That is being accomplished with the assistance of Miss Ann Phelps. This young lady is our new chairman of the Membership Committee in succession to the late Mrs. Arthur E. Weil who for years had held that office. We all lament the death of Mrs. Weil after years of devotion to our Society. We miss her.

Mr. Ollinger has continued to expend much tim and effort as Chairman of the House Committe Obtaining and dealing with tenants and attending t repairs in our various houses has, as in the past, mad the burden of this chairmanship a considerable on Mr. Ollinger and Dr. Gordon W. Venable again co ducted a successful tour of Germantown houses i May. Our exchequer benefited as did those wh made the tour.

Dr. Venable and the ladies headed by Mrs. Richar Wilson, Chairman of the Women's Committee for th Morris House, and Mrs. Edward T. Horn, the ne chairman of the Morris House Hostesses, have all bee most helpful in administering the Morris Hous Lately visitation to the Philadelphia home of Wash ington has increased.

Miss Helen M. Comly as editor of the CRIER ha labored well in getting out the four issues for the yea each one of which gives the reader interesting articl well edited and presented. The revenue from th advertising is not fully adequate to pay the eve mounting cost of publication but the quantity ha been increased since Mr. Ollinger took charge of th advertising. As chairman of the Publications Con mittee Miss Comly has arranged a reprinting Charles F. Jenkins' Guide Book to Historic Germa town which was out of print.

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Library Committe Mr. Donahue, our Solicitor; and Mrs. M. Bacc Bostwick, Chairman of the Relics Committee, hav as always heretofore, given wholeheartedly of the time and effort to the work of the Society for whi they are directly responsible. Mr. Martindale h continued to keep the financial records to receive th income from dues, investments, house rent and gif and has paid the bills owing for various reasons. H regular reports to the Board of Managers are alway clear and correct.

Mrs. Edgar W. Wilson as chairman of the Maxwe Mansion Committee continues the work of the Con mittee in restoring that unique structure and i moving forward the day when title to it will pass t the Society from the Unitarian-Universalist Group.

Mr. Magaziner, finding it necessary to be out t town considerably in the performance of the duti of his important position with the National Par Service, resigned as chairman of the Meetings Con mittee. Mr. Engle was appointed to succeed hin We are grateful to Mr. Magaziner for the many ver worth-while lecture meetings arranged by him durin the years of his chairmanship.

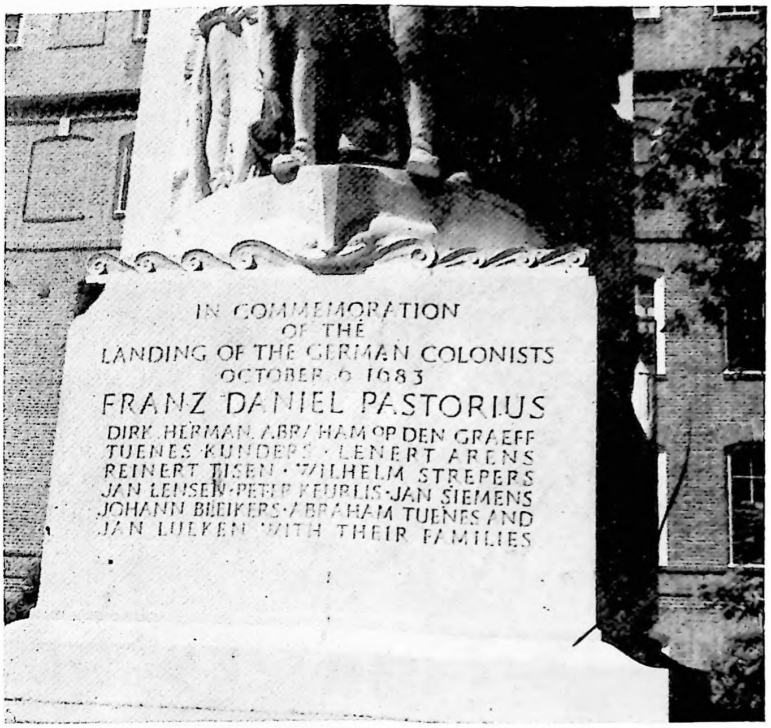
Our Secretary, Miss Hinton, ably assisted by M Leonard Denis, has kept the record of our membe ship up to date, has sent out notices for our meetin and has kept the minutes for the Board of Manager Miss Irle has ably assisted Mr. Brown in the manag ment of our historical library.

At the annual meeting for the first time since yo

Continued on Page 26

The Op Den Graeffs

By Nancy C. Sellers



Pastorius Statue in Vernon Park
Photo by Stanley L. Sellers

Note: Spelling of names throughout article varies and is in accordance with source material.

THE early history of Germantown is full of interest, much of this can be traced to a lively founding family—the Op den Graeffs. When the Pastorius statue was erected in Vernon Park with Dirick, Abraham, and Herman Op den Graeff inscribed among the 13 original founders of Germantown, there was a singular aftermath for the statue was crated and boxed in "righteous indignation" during our two wars with Germany. It is a fact that many of those early Krefelders were indeed displaced Hollanders who had fled Holland for religious reasons to settle in Krefeld, Germany. Pittsburgh Records of the Pennsylvania Historical Society tell us that one "Abraham Op den Graeff" became a Protestant and fled Holland. A son, Herman Op den Graeff, was born November 25, 1585, in the lower Rhineland town of Aldekirke, the village of the "great church" and the scene of battle between the French and the Germans. He died in Krefeld December 27, 1642 but not before he had married a Mennonite girl, Gretjen Pletjes, daughter of Dreiessen Pletjes of Kemper on August 16, 1605 and moved to Krefeld. In 1632, he was a delegate to an important convention to form Mennonite "Confession of Faith" held at Dordrecht, Holland. Eighteen children were born to this couple; Isaac; father of Abraham, Dirick, and Herman, founding fathers of Germantown; was born February 28, 1616, and died January 1678–9. Obviously, he was not present for the marriage of his son Dirick (Krefeld, 1681) who later came to America with his mother (Gretchen Peters), sister Margaret (who married Peter Schumacher, Jr. of Germantown), and his two brothers, Herman, and Abraham. Dirick Op den Graeff's Marriage Certificate is only one of its kind on the Continent of Europe, written in Dutch, and issued by the Friends, it appears in their Krevelt Monthly Meeting Minute-Book signed by almost entire meeting, the 19 who came to Germantown en masse. Stephen Crisp, Quaker Evangelist, visiting Krefeld later in 1686, commented that the Kreveld Quaker Meeting was depleted as most of its members had departed for America[5]

What happened before they came to America and Germantown?

In 1679–80, Herman Op den Graeff was forcibly exiled from Kreveld. Such an act on the part of the

authorities was to have far reaching effects, for, in their exile, Herman Op den Graeff and Henrik Janze wrote and published a Pamplet of Protest 1680. William Penn wrote the Prince of Orange protesting their exile, March, 1680 as follows:

"There are several inhabitants of Crevelt (a town upon the Rhine, near Cologne, member of thy ancient patrimony) that have been banished, without regard to age or sex."

It was this Herman Op den Graeff who was to become the first President of First Council in Germantown. It is worthwhile to read parts of this early protest, an early "Bill of Rights" written and conceived some 292 years ago.

"We believe that it is known to every resident of Kreveld that I, Herman Isaaks (Op den Graeff) have been born and bred there, and that I, Henrik Janz, have resided there for about 6 years . . . that we earned our livilihood by our own hands without having been a charge or burden upon anyone and much less have we been conscious of causing anyone loss or injury through trickery, fraud, or violence, or of having given anyone the slightest reason for resentment by leading an evil life . . . to induce everyone to reflect upon what reason could possibly justify our being expelled in such manner . . . Friends, it is 3 weeks today since we and two others of our friends, together with a woman and her infant child were led by armed men out of City and Jurisdiction of Kreveld, without our knowing any just reason or cause therefor . . . When a thief, robber, violator of the peace (geweldenaar), or some such person is expelled from a city or country, ought he not to be convicted previously of his misdeeds, either by his own confession, or by impartial witnesses? Should not his sentence be read to him publically? Should not a statement of his crimes be made in his sentence? And if he requests a copy thereof, should it not be given him? We, on the contrary have not been convicted of any crime, and no copy of our sentence has been granted us, although we have requested the same, orally and in writing. It is true that we have learned indirectly that the three following pretexts have been urged against us as reasons for our treatment. First, (we did) not yield due respect to the authorities; Second, that we renounced the outward sacraments; third, that we hold separate conventicles." (Dutch publication in Rotterdam and Amsterdam, 1680.)

Later, the Prince of Orange issued a proclamation which authorized public meeting for worship in his realms by Quakers and other Protestant sects provided admission to them of the ministers of the Reformed Established church.

We note Herman Op den Graeff's signature on his brother's notable Marriage Certificate, Kreveld, 1681, thus he was allowed return from his uneasy exile.

Nonetheless, the clime was indeed shaky and insecure for the Krevelder Quaker-Mennonite community. Reports say that the "Bishop's Men" descended on the Op den Graeffs in their homes and physically assaulted their families. Perhaps their influence was too important?

Plans were than made with William Penn and his agents to settle in the new land. William Penn then conveyed to Jacob Tellner of Crefeld 5,000 acres laid out in Pennsylvania. This land was sold to 8 purchasers one of whom was Pastorius. On April 20 1681, Jacob Tellner sold 2,000 acres to Op den Graeff brothers (828 acres were located in Germantown) The Op den Graeff Deed in the Germantown Book is dated 4–10 Mar. 1682, executed in London (March 1681–2 Penn was in England). In June 18, 1683 while the colony was at Rotterdam, Jacob Tellner conveyed the 2,000 acres and made Herman Op den Graeff his attorney.

Much discussion has taken place as to whether the Op den Graeffs were indeed Quakers or Mennonites; they came from a strong Mennonite family with Dirick becoming a Quaker, the rest remained or reverted to Mennonites? It is possible that at the earliest they were Flemish for the Waldenses carried art of weaving from Flanders to Holland (they were fine weavers) and brought also the newer religious convictions. We know that from the Mennonite congregations sprang the Baptist churches of England and the Quakers. Early Quaker meeting sprung from or worship in concordance with, already established Mennonite congregations. These William Penn saw fit to visit. Stephen Crisp, Quaker Evangelist, organized the first Quaker meetings in Crefeld. In Germantown, it is fairly certain that Quakers and Mennonites worshipped together at each other houses before securing own places of worship. The famous "Protest Against Slavery" took place at the home of Thones Kunders and was signed by Abrahan and Dirick Op den Graeff in 1688. The table used now rests in hallowed memory as a communion table before the altar of the First Mennonite Church in Germantown.

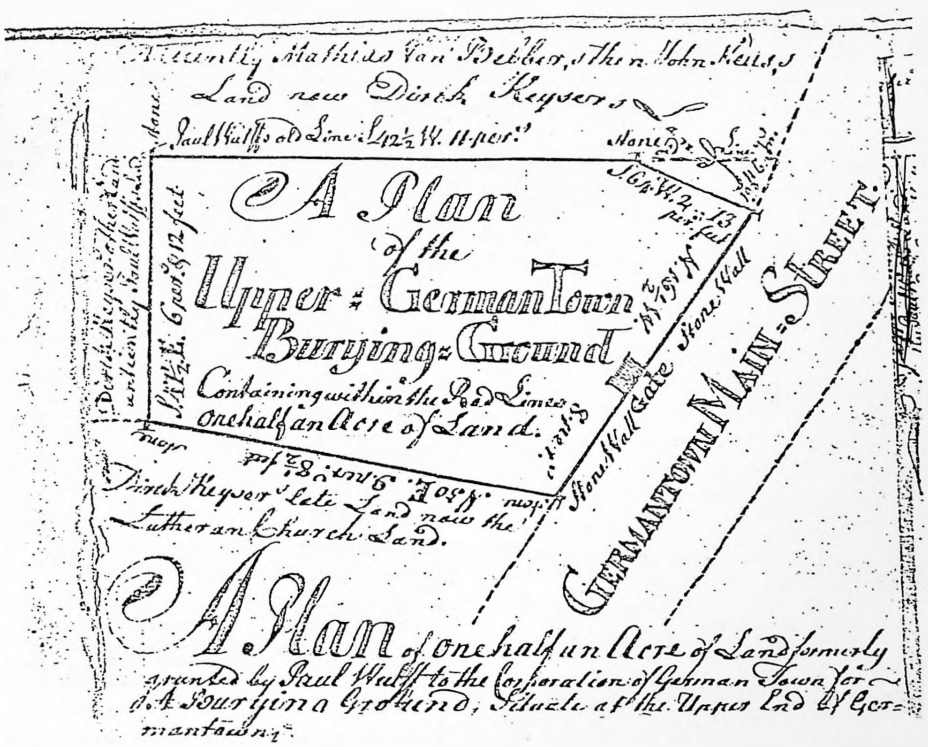
Perhaps in later issues you will enjoy following the fortunes of the Op den Graeffs to America—To read about the "Concord" a well-fitted out and provisioned ship taking them and founders' families to Germantown in 1683? A Quaker journalist, James Claypoole, has left an entertaining account of the journey in his "Letter Book, Philadelphia, 1681–1688"—he tells how Krevelders almost "missed the boat" at Gravesend, England! Theirs is always a lively and interesting story—the Op den Graeffs of Germantown.

The original price of land in Germantown was one shilling per acre. As late as 1720 a tract of five hundred acres was purchased at two shillings per acre.

Germantown Guide—October 3, 1908

The Upper Burying Ground of Germantown

By Doris F. Ritzinger, *Historian*
Upper Burying Ground of Germantown Concord School House



Plan of the Upper Germantown Burying Ground drawn by Christian Lehman dated 1753.
This is from the old record book of the Burying Ground.

Note: In the early days, the Upper Burying Ground was sometimes called Ax's Burying Ground, as John Frederick Ax was superintendent from 1724 or earlier, until 1756.

IN 1692, nine years after the founding of Germantown, the Upper and Lower Burying Grounds of Germantown were established by an exchange deed of two half acre plots of land from Paul Wulff. The deed was recorded in the Grund und Lager Buch, which was opened by Francis Daniel Pastorius, the leader of the Germantown settlers. Land and other transactions of importance to the people of Germantown, were recorded in this book. The deed has been translated from the original record, which was in German, and is on record in the Archives of Philadelphia. The translation reads as follows:

Whereas, one acre of land has been reserved and set apart by those who first laid out the town of Germantown, for Paul Wulff's hereditary share as the 6th city lot on the west side for a common burying ground and market place as may be seen from the Germantown Charter No. 10. This exchange contract witnesseth that on the 3rd day of the first month (called March) 1692, in a general court held at Germantown, the bailiff, burgesses and committeemen of this place have granted, confirmed and released to Paul Wulff, one quarter acre of said land (adjoining William Streeper's hereditary lot) in such

manner that said Paul Wulff, his heirs successors and assigns may have held and dispose of said quarter acre of land as they will forever, without the least hindurance claim or molestation on the part of this community its bailiffs, burgesses and committeemen. On the other hand said Paul Wulff for and in consideration of the thus granted quarter acre has granted, aliened and delivered to the Germantown community and its posterity one whole acre of land forever, namely, a half acre on the east side of this city situate on the Philadelphia Road, *and the other half on the west side of this city on the Plymouth Road*, in such wise and manner that each half acre in the form of a quadrangle can be laid out and surveyed as burial places, as the said exchange is recorded and noted in the aforesaid general court in the court book here page 6.

Now in confirmation and ratification of said exchange contract the present bailiff, burgesses and committeemen of the Germantown community for themselves and their successors as also Paul Wulff for himself, his heirs and successors have signed and sealed this deed in a general court held at Germantown this 27th day of the ninth month anno domini 1693.

Paul Wulff

Dyrck Up De Graef, Bailiff

* This is the mark of	Committeemen
Reiner Tisen, Burgess	William Streepers
Jan Lucken, Burgess	Wolter Symons
Peter Schuemacher, Burgess	Jan Dueden
Abraham Tunnes, Burgess	Peter Scheefor

Passed in open court of record held at Germantown the 28th of November 1693.

Dirck Op De Graef, Bailiff
Arnold Kassel, Recorder

The half acre on the Plymouth Road became the Upper Burying Ground, and the half acre on the Philadelphia Road became the early part of the Lower Burying Ground. Each burying ground had its own Overseers or Trustees, and separate records were kept for each ground.

The Upper Burying Ground Trustees "opened" their official record book in 1761. Christian Lehman, the noted surveyor and conveyancer, copied into the book, records from various documents (loose pieces of paper) covering earlier transactions. The earliest burial records were from 1756. As the burying ground was established in 1693, there must have been numerous burials between the years 1693 and 1756, the records of which have been lost. There are a few tombstones in the burying ground that show death dates between those years. However, not all persons buried had tombstones, so these names remain unknown. There were over 1,300 burials in this ground. The last burial was in 1907, as the ground was full.

The front wall was completed in May 1724, and in 1760 additional walls were built to correspond with the front wall. At various times the walls were renewed. The Record Book contains the names of the contributors.

Although the Record Book does not mention the Battle of Germantown on October 4, 1777, there were burials of three officers of the Continental Army and five unknown soldiers, who were killed in the nearby fighting. In addition, forty-eight known soldiers of the Revolutionary War, who died in the years following the war, rest there, as well as eleven soldiers of the War of 1812, and one Mexican War soldier. Indians were also buried in the Upper Burying Ground.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, owners of "burial rights," which were obtainable for a small payment, would meet annually and elect three Overseers and a grave digger. As the Overseers died, none were elected to fill the vacancies. The last surviving Overseer died in 1943, leaving the ground without supervision until 1945, when by authorization of the Court, the Upper Burying Ground of Germantown and the old Concord School House, situated on Germantown Avenue, above Washington Lane, were placed under the jurisdiction of one Board of Trustees. These historic landmarks are part of the Germantown Historic District, so designated by the U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, the first street in America carrying this distinction. (Germantown Avenue, between Apsley and Phil-Elena Streets is the location of the Colonial Germantown Historic District.)

November 10, 1973

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Germantown Historical Society welcomes new members. Privileges of membership include attendance at all lectures, tours, and other functions sponsored by the Society. Members also receive current issues of the GERMANTOWNE CRIER without charge. Society dues are as follows:

Life (payable quarterly or at once)	$100.00
Sustaining, Business and Family	10.00
Annual	7.50
Junior (under 18), Teacher, or Librarian	3.00

Interested persons are cordially invited to obtain further information by writing to the chairman of the Membership Committee, Miss Ann Naile Phelps.

4000 Gypsy Lane
Apt. 506
Philadelphia, Pa. 19144

The first woman elected a member of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Miss Margaret H. Morris, lived during the first half of the nineteenth century in the house at the corner of Main and High Streets. Here were made many scientific investigations and here Miss Morris first observed the periodic recurrence of the seventeen-year locusts.

Germantown Guide—October 3, 1908

HAPPENINGS IN GERMANTOWN
October 20th, 1972 - October 25th, 1973

By DEBORAH C. RITTER

Weather

NOVEMBER 1972 started with two days of drizzle and rain which seemed to start a pattern for this month and December. On November 8th, the day after election day, we had rain for 26 hours. It was so heavy for a while the 23 trolleys were blocked on Germantown Avenue by flooding on the avenue near Vernon Park. Nineteen trolleys northbound were blocked by two feet of water at Price Street. Three inches of rain descended on us the 16th. After this came a few grey days including Thanksgiving on November 23rd. It started to rain the afternoon of the 25th and continued all night ending in the morning of the 26th. The 30th of the month started with snow flurries which turned to rain.

December 2nd and 3rd was our first perfect weekend for over a month. After that the month deteriorated and rained on the 5th, 9th and 10th. December 19th it began to rain and rained some every day through the 27th.

In 1972 there were 49.6 inches of rain compared to 40.9 which is considered the average amount per year.

New Year's Day 1973 was lovely. The temperature reached 62 degrees and broke the recorded high for that date. Again on the 17th and 18th of January it was very warm for the date but did not reach the record. The 29th brought snow flurries in the morning and was our deepest snow of the winter, barely dusting the ground.

The Philadelphia Area had a slight earthquake at 3::20 AM on January 28th. There have been 31 slight earthquakes in the area since 1727 when they started to record them. The last earthquake before this one was on December 10th, 1968.

The temperature on February 3rd tied the high record for the date with 60 degrees.

A teachers strike of seven and a half to eight weeks ended with a vote by the union on March 1st, 1973.

March 18th it turned cold after a warm week and we had snow flurries.

Spring in April and May are remembered for cool and rainy weather. This made some flowers last a long time.

The middle of June brought our first heat wave which lasted 10 days before it broke.

July was a cloudy and wet month on the whole so was not too hot.

August brought nice weather but ended with a 10 day heat wave that lasted until after Labor Day. This heat wave covered so much of the Country and Canada that no eastern city could borrow electricity from Chicago or Canada to help the power shortage.

September has been a nice month with good weather on the whole and pleasant temperature as a start for fall.

October started as fine as September with many nice days and just slightly cooler.

Historic Houses

The Women's Committee for the Deshler Morris held its gala Christmas tea on Sunday, December 3rd. In April they had their annual Card Party.

The Maxwell Mansion was again the site of its annual Dickens Yule Party on December 10th. On April 1st the Maxwell Mansion held its Restoration Soiree at the Philadelphia Cricket Club. It was delightful evening with cocktails, a delicious dinner and an interesting lecture. There was a very attractive musical scene on the stage including costumes of the period of the house. September 22nd the Maxwell Mansion was the site of their sixth annual Arts and Crafts Show.

In January plans were progressing for a Childs Museum featuring "touch and explore" in the Monastery at the end of Kitchen Lane.

Again Grumblethorpe was the place for their annual affair—delightful cocktails, supper and an interesting auction, early in June.

Upsala held its 28th annual Card Party on May 24th organized by the Women's Committee for Upsala. For the second year they had a fashion show. Models wandering around the tables. It was a grey cold day and all played cards in the house. For the first time they added the sale of plants, both green and Flowering.

The Germantown Historical Society had a gay year. They produced a lovely new folder about the Society with a map of Germantown showing places of interest and the Museum Complex on the front cover.

The Germantown Historical Society and the Chestnut Hill Historical Society held a joint meeting at the 2nd Baptist Church with a wonderful illustrated lecture by Mr. Raymond V. Shepherd, Jr., Cliveden's Administrator, on "Historic Cliveden." After the meeting we were invited to Cliveden for colonial type refreshments which were delicious.

On April 4th the Society museums were visited by a group from Krefeld, Germany. In the morning of

a drizzling and rainy day they also saw Grumblethorpe and in the afternoon the Deshler Morris House. Some members of the Germantown Historical Society joined the group from Krefeld for lunch at Alden Park. The President of the German Society gave a talk and the German Consul of Philadelphia was the main speaker. The German Society is 208 years old and Krefeld, Germany, is 600 years old. In the past the city was famous for silk and velvet but today their major products are steel and chemicals.

May 20th the Historical Society held its annual spring tour in lower Germantown. It rained in torrents most of the afternoon but many people braved the weather to see the museums and houses.

The annual Garden Party of the Germantown Historical Society was held on June 7th in Trinity Church. After ice cream and cake, a most enjoyable talk was given.

On September 30th the Society held a wine tasting party in the Garden of the Main Museum. The weather was perfect and the wines and cheese interesting. The Main Museum, the Von Trott Annex, the Howell House Toy and Textile Museum were opened for the occasion. The latter is in beautiful order and very interesting (it had been closed for repairs).

The annual meeting of the Society was held today, October 25th, at Germantown Hospital auditorium. The speaker, Dr. Jones, gave an illustrated talk on Dr. Benjamin Rush.

This date is the cut off date of my paper.

Churches

The Germantown Mennonite Church has a new Administrator, Reverend Roman Stutzman. The Germantown Mennonite Center for Information is open Tuesday to Friday from 10 to 12 AM and 1 to 3 PM. This year the Church celebrated its 290th anniversary.

A Community Cafe for parents has been opened in the Annex basement of the Summit Presbyterian Church. They have a coffee room, a game room, and included in their activities is music, poetry and political talks.

The Reverend W. Hamilton Aulenbach returned to preach at St. Michaels and Christ Church on July 22. His sermon was titled "Youth Asks What Is the Most Important Thing in the World."

The pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Germantown, the Reverend Dr. Aaron E. Gast, has been elected Moderator of the Presbytery of Philadelphia and vicinity by the United Presbyterian Church for the 1974 term.

Hospitals

Germantown Hospital's Rose Carnival Committee had many events during the past year. October 28th, 1972 they had a "Castle Gala" at Connors Castle. The theme was "Think Black Magic." The Rose Carnival Building was the site of the Christmas Bazaar on December 11th and 12th. Early in Marc 1973 they had a Caribbean Island Hopping Cruis March 28th was the date of the tenth annual Ros Ball. In April they had "Spring Blooms in Sprin House, Pa." and Easter plants for sale at the Ho pital April 19th. The 24th Rose Carnival was hel June 9th with many booths, excitements and goc things to eat. In September the Rose Carnival ha two events. One was a cruise of the Greek Island The second was the Gold Cup for Horse Jumping c the 8th of September.

Another event by Germantown Hospital was dinner in town to honor Mr. Joseph F. Farrel president of the Hospital for 25 years.

The Cornucopia Shop in the lobby of the Germa town Hospital had its 25th anniversary in the fall 1972.

Chestnut Hill Hospital began working early for th Main Street Fair. The title of this year's Fair w "Strike Up the Band" which took place on October with twenty-two booths and colorful decoration During the spring they had a Golf Tournament aid the Fair.

Princess Grace of Monaco was feted with a cockt party in April by the Medical College of Pennsylvan Auxiliary. On another Saturday evening in the spri the Savoy Company members gave clips of th spring production "Ruddigore" to benefit the Hospit Auxiliary.

The Northwest Ambulance Service has two ne Cadillac ambulances with new stretchers and eme gency equipment which they acquired late in 1972.

Education

Germantown Friends School started a Laborato for Evolving Education this summer for admin trators, teachers, parents and students. It was ava able to all schools in the Germantown area.

The new art teacher at Germantown Friends Mr. Peter Rudolp. Last spring in May he showed large paper wall hanging he had painted in the Sch and gave talks on it and the investigation into mode art.

The Germantown Country Dancers started second year in the boys' gym at G. F. S. on Wednesd evenings. Alternate weeks they do English a Scottish country dances. The Group is recognized a center for English country dancing by the Americ Country Dance Society.

Germantown Lutheran Academy and Steve School merged in April of 1973, and the new schoo called Germantown Stevens Academy. Their Camp is at School House Lane and Greene Street. grades are included in the new Academy from kind garten through twelfth grade.

Miquon Upper School wanted the campus th Germantown Stevens Academy has. The Germa town Lutheran Academy has occupied the proper since Germantown Academy moved to Fort Was ington.

Springside and Chestnut Hill Academy gave classes for three days in yoga mind control to 10th, 11th and 12th grade pupils. Two different approaches of various dimensions of the mind were given.

Ravenhill Academy has both boys and girls in the first and second grades this year. This is the first year they have had boys in any class and they hope eventually it will become totally coeducational. Ravenhill has a non-graded program for ages 5 to 9 years which is based on the principle that all children are different and have individual learning styles.

A new junior high school, the Ada Lewis School, opened at Tulpehocken and Ardleigh Streets. It began with the fifth, sixth and seventh grades and will add the eighth grade in 1974.

General Information

In January the new West Armat Street was opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony. By February Maplewood Mall businessmen complained there was a lack of parking spaces for short-term customers. There is long-term parking in the paid lots on the new West Armat Street.

During the summer the first part of the Maplewood Walking Mall was completed. This included removing one brick sidewalk only a few weeks old and laying another to match rest of the brick in the Mall.

Some of the merchants on the Mall still complain about the lack of close metered parking for their customers.

For the moment the high rise building at Henry Avenue and Wises Mill Road has been blocked pending the completion of the Wissahickon Watershed Study. The "Save the Wissahickon" Committee has been fighting this building for two years. This shows the movement towards ecology and saving our environment for further generations.

The Rittenhouse Belfield By-Pass is dead with the release of land parcels for redevelopment in what was road's path. The City Planning Commission wrote that the "cost far exceeds any benefit" for the construction of the By-Pass. Some of the money set aside for the project will be used for other projects, it was announced in September of 1973.

A High Rise Building planned for 1204 East Washington Lane has been controversial during the year. The community is against it. To put a High Rise Building for the Elderly across from a school seems strange. In March the Department of Licenses and Inspection approved the plans for the building of the apartments. Later in the month Councilmen visited the site on Washington Lane and were surprised by the changes in plan. No Building Permit has been issued and the Developer is asking the court for a go-ahead in September.

Livezey Lane residents on the north side of the street have fought against a new sewer and water main on their side. The city is planning to put a new sewer on the south side for one occupied house, one under construction and three vacant lots whose owners plan to build. It is reported the north side residents would have paid an assessment of between 8,000 and 20,000 dollars for the new services. The south side will pay $9.00 assessment a front foot for the sewer.

In November of 1970 the Zoning Board was to rehear a proposal for 101 houses in the Alden Park complex. In October of this year the Developer was asked to study possible soil problems. Meanwhile the City Planning Commission has withdrawn its support of the project while it reviews the department's study on the Wissahickon Watershed.

Washington Lane was closed to westbound traffic between Greene and McCallum Streets during the late spring and early summer for a new water main.

In May the Department of Licenses and Inspection was preparing an amendment to the Zoning Code which would prohibit the erection of any new overhanging or back-illuminated signs from Apsley to Phil-Ellena Streets on Germantown Avenue. This is one of the projects of the Germantown Historic District Committee headed by Mrs. John W. Farr.

The Germantown Historical Society regrets to report the death of the following members:

Mr. Leonard Carmichael
Miss Elizabeth R. England
Mr. Charles D. Shellenberger
Mrs. Arthur E. Weil
Mrs. Edward F. R. Wood

Mr. Carmichael was President of the American Philosophical Society at the time of his death.

Mrs. Weil was a member of the Board of the Germantown Historical Society and Membership Chairman.

The Germantown Courier in the spring ran consecutive articles on Germantown Avenue from about Wayne Junction to Mount Airy giving some of the history and a description of the area.

Captain John Donnelly became Commanding Officer of the 14th Police District replacing Captain Stanley Kaminski. In April Captain Elwood McKnight took temporary command of the 14th District while Captain Donnelly took a three month course at the F.B.I. Academy.

The Germantown Horticultural Society had a centennial celebration during the spring. The Horticultural Society was started by Mr. John Jay Smith inviting 18 friends to his house, Ivy Lodge, to start a society on January 13th, 1873. March 3rd, 1873 the Germantown Horticultural Society's corporate papers were granted.

During June the businessmen of Germantown celebrated their group's 75th anniversary.

A new stable for the Philadelphia Mounted Police is located on Northwest Avenue, Chestnut Hill. The two mounted policemen in Germantown have a new rain shelter for themselves and their horses on Chelten

Avenue between Smart-size and Linton's Restaurant. One day this fall I did see both of the mounted policemen after not having seen one the first year.

Gerbon's plans for a coin-operated dry cleaning facility at 5902 Germantown Avenue were stopped in January by the Historic Commission because 5902 is an historic building and part of 5900 Germantown Avenue. The buildings share a common attic, a connecting second floor entrance and a common rear portion.

Small merchants are making a comeback between Queen Lane and Coulter Street. There are other small stores on Greene Street as well as Maplewood Mall. Many are interesting and fun to see and you might easily find just what you wanted or a present for someone.

The new Northwest Regional Library is still delayed and still in the 17-year planning stage. Many don't want the library in the victorian building on the southeast corner of Greene Street and Chelten Avenue but favor the northeast corner of the intersection.

Many food co-ops opened around the city during the last year to fight the high cost of food. Most of them are small groups of under a hundred so their buying power is limited compared to a supermarket. Products are bought once a week at the Food Distribution Center and must be transferred to the co-op by the members. Our nearest co-op is the Germantown Co-op that operates in the Presbyterian Church at Greene and Tulpehocken Streets. All their members work 3 volunteer hours a month. Many co-ops join together to increase their buying power and also sometimes the number of things they sell. Another in the area is the Weaver Co-op at 555–557 West Carpenter Lane. Many are open only one or two days a week to members only.

High Street neighbors in July began to fight a halfway house for women prisoners in the 200 block. The area already has on Morton Street a house for boys who cannot live in a family environment for one reason or another. Ten young girls live in the 400 block of High Street in the former rectory of the Holy Rosary Church and more than 10 people released from Byberry Hospital live in a house in the 300 block of East Walnut Lane. Interim House for former alcoholic women is operating at 250 East Walnut Lane to the concern of the neighbors, since October 1973.

The Carpenter Lane Fire Station on Germantown Avenue has a new 1972 American LaFrance 100-foot aerial ladder truck that became part of its equipment in July.

There is a new Director of the Upsal Day Care School for the Blind, Mr. Guru P. Sharma, who was appointed to the position in July. In October of this year the school at 220 West Upsal Street was painted by volunteers. Some of the personnel of the school cooperated on this project.

There is a new Welfare Office at 18 West Chelten Avenue which moved from Westmoreland Street because it was inadequate in size.

On August 6th there was a massive fish kill on the Wissahickon Creek. This was caused by a malfunction of the Springfield Township Sewage Pumping Station. A gate at the plant would not open because it was blocked by tree roots and the system backed up releasing untreated sewage into the creek. The Department of Environmental Resources and the Fish and Game Commission will decide what action will be taken. Damages and corrective actions are being discussed with Springfield Township.

Gaudenzia House, a residential community that rehabilitates drug addicts has bought a building at 246–254 and 260 West Walnut Lane from the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions. Gaudenzia House will have administrative offices and residential units for 50 to 75 persons in the last stages of the program.

In October the German-American National Congress resumed its yearly commemoration of the German settlement here 290 years ago. The Pastorius statue in Vernon Park was cleaned for the laying of a wreath. The German-American National Congress renewed this tradition after a lapse of 35 years. Franz Daniel Pastorius started the first German school in the colonies and wrote many primers and books. Pastorius was one of the early opponents of slavery in the south. He also knew William Penn.

Following are a few lighter notes on several topics.

On June 16th a cloud of bees attached themselves to a street sign at Germantown and Chelten Avenue. The poor misguided bees stayed a long time.

The children of the area had the opportunity to learn circus acts at the Allen Lane Arts Center beginning in the end of January 1973. The course included tumbling, acrobatics, juggling and clown comedy and make-up.

Two young men painted mail boxes in the Germantown area. The Levinco Company had the contract with the Postal Service in the city wide repainting effort.

A small group of hikers ranging in age from the early twenties to the late sixties had a guided tour of the Wissahickon Valley by Mr. G. Wesley Jenkins. The group walked from Summit Avenue for five miles. This was to celebrate George Hess's birthday. He walked the entire length of Broad Street to celebrate his birthdays.

In March the popsicle was 50 years old. Last year nine billion were sold and orange which was the first flavor is still the favorite.

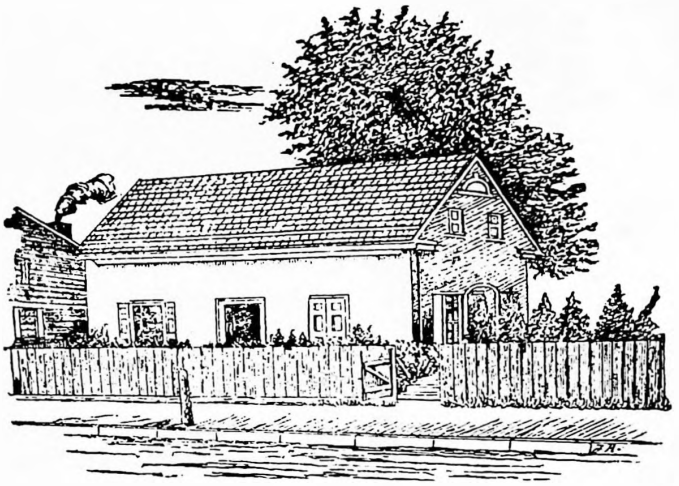
Last November your reporter saw an opossum crossing back. This seems very rural for living on Germantown Avenue. What new wildlife will show up in our yard in the future?

A single conversation with a wise man is better than ten years' mere study of books.

Chinese Proverb

EARLIEST KINDERGARTEN

Germantown "Infant School," Founded in 1829, Was One of the First Attempts in America to Adopt Froebel's Ideas



SOME interesting evidence that one of the first attempts in America to put into practice Froebel's Kindergarten theories was made in Germantown, is brought to light by an old document which Dr. George H. Burgin recently discovered among some papers of his ancestors in his home, 63 West Chelten Avenue. This is a four-page leaflet containing a list of the first officers and the constitution of the "Infant School Society of Germantown," which was organized in 1829.

At that time the new educational ideas of this German pedagogue, Frederick Wilhelm August Froebel, were attracting the attention of leaders of thought all over the world. He was then 47 years old, and for some time he had been laboring to introduce his new methods in the schools of Germany, hoping to displace the rigor and harshness that then prevailed in the school room with a kind and natural mode of instruction. By means of play and games he sought to employ the healthy activities of the child for its own mental development. He had founded his first school in Greisheim in 1816, and gradually evolved his method, until in 1824 he published his book on "The Education of Man," which is recognized as his most important work.

Though at that time Froebel had enunciated the principle characteristics since employed with such great success in the kindergarten, he had not yet found a name for it, and it was not until 1836, while conducting a school in Blankenburg, that he hit upon the expressive name that has since designated his methods.

And so, in 1829, when, on October 15, a company of men and women of Germantown who had been following Froebel's work, and were convinced that it was beneficial, held a meeting in St. Luke's Episcopal Church to consider the advisability of adopting the Froebel system in Germantown, they decided to call the new institution an "Infant School." The influence of Froebel is clearly apparent in the sixth article of the constitution adopted at that meeting, which reads thus:

"In the schools of this Institution, amusement shall be blended with instruction, and suitable employment be prescribed the pupils. Children shall be taught the fear of God, to be respectful to their parents, and to treat each other with kindness. The Holy Scriptures, or lessons from them, without sectarian interpretation, shall form the religious code of the schools."

"Children, male and female, under six years" were to be received into the school, and "teachers, assistants and nurses" were to be employed. A compulsory vaccination rule was also adopted, it being provided that the children admitted to the school must "be free from contagious disorders; and no child shall be admitted unless it hath passed regularly through the vaccine disease; or whose parents and guardians will consent to its immediate vaccination."

Members of the society paid $1 a year, and the payment of $20 entitled anyone to life membership. The annual meeting was to be held "on the first Monday after the 20th of May, in every year," and

at that time a board of twenty-five women was to be elected to be entrusted with the management of the school.

Reuben Haines presided at the meeting when the organization was perfected, and John Rodney, Jr., was secretary. J. S. Henry explained the purposes of the proposed school. A list of the first officers follows:

First directress, Mrs. Duval; second directress, Mrs. Johnson; secretary, Miss M. H. Morris; treasurer, Miss Haines.

Managers—Mrs. Duval, Mrs. Betton, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. Henry, Mrs. J. Rodney, Mrs. J. Duval, Mrs. Haines, Mrs. Skerritt, Mrs. Kirk, Mrs. Nourse, Mrs. Tatum, Mrs. Wagner, Mrs. Bowen, Mrs. P. Giddings, Miss Norris, Miss Keyser, Miss Lorraine, Miss M. Johnson, Miss Roberdeau, Miss Haines, Miss Bayard, Miss Morris, Miss M. H. Morris, Miss S. S. Morris.

Advisers—The Rev. Mr. Rodney, the Rev. Mr. Harvey, the Rev. Mr. Nourse, J. S. Henry, R. Haines.

Physician—Dr. Betton.

The school was opened in a building on East Haines street, which had formerly been the house of worship of the First Methodist Church. This church, the first of the denomination in Germantown, had been built in 1804, and an unusual feature at the laying of the cornerstone was that a woman, Dorothy Reger, had a prominent part in the ceremony. In 1823 the congregation built another church a short distance further east on Haines street. This church was succeeded in turn by the brick building which is now the Alfred G. Harmer Combined School, the congregation having abandoned this site for that now occupied at Germantown avenue and High street.

Some quaint methods were employed in the early days to make school life pleasant for the little folk who attended. Bread and molasses were supplied to them when they were hungry, and if they became sleepy there were beds upon which they could take a nap. In later years a somewhat stricter discipline seems to have been enforced, and one of the punishments, in the case of boys who used improper language, was to wash out the culprit's mouth with soap and water.

The introduction of the public school system, in 1834, had little effect upon this school, and it continued to prepare children for the public schools until 1886. Many men now prominent in the business and social life of Germantown attended the "Infant School." There were usually twenty-five or thirty pupils in charge of one teacher, although the school room was large enough to accommodate seventy-five.

Miss Millner was for many years teacher of the school. Miss Emily Emerson was the last teacher, and upon her marriage to Dr. Martin Weaver it was discontinued, the building being sold to Winona Council, Junior Order of United American Mechanics. The structure was then torn down, and a merry-go-round erected upon the site. When this enterprise was abandoned John Randall established his auctio house there and still occupies the property.

Kindergartens known as such were not started i America until 1868, when the first was opened i Boston. Only in the past twenty years have the come into general existence all over the country.

From "The Scrap Book" compiled by N. K. Ployd, of Ge mantown, in 1909.

SCRAPS OF LOCAL HISTORY

Market Square Church

The *old church* erected on Market Square originate as a Dutch Reformed, and was built and used direct under the Reformed Church of Holland. The fro part was built in 1733; the back part was added 1762. It had an ancient shingle roofed steeple aft the Dutch manner, and was surmounted by a w finished *iron cock*, being the Dutch sign of a churc From its low elongated form, of stone, with its a junct addition and affixes, and exposed beams to t gallery, together with its high and narrow pulpit a sounding board, it was in itself a venerable specim of the olden time, and for that reason was prized i its associations. It seemed calculated to bring up t recollections of our forefathers who once worshipp there, and the very place to their descendants w hallowed reminiscences of those who had gone bef them. Among its recollections was that of its be the place, in 1793, where General Washington and family regularly went, as often as they had Engl preaching—Washington at that time, resided wh Mr. Elliston P. Morris now lives, directly oppos Mill street, the town being held as the seat of gove ment.

But time and the passion for new things, resol them to pull down and build anew; therefore a br structure now stands in its place. The steeple of old edifice was taken down with great skill, entire, used as a summer house by one of the citizens w had a fancy for preserving it as a relic of the past; the rod and vane were set up on the Sons of Temp ance Hall, Mill street, near Main, by Mr. Wyndh H. Stokes. The steeple at the summit had m rifle bullets in it, shot there by the Paxtang boys 1762, from near Lancaster, who halted on the squ preparatory to their intended invasion of Philadelp to kill the friendly Indians sheltered there; but t yielded to negotiations and went home. The organ of the church too, with its trumpet angels golden array, just as they came from Holland discarded and set aside.

"They all are passing from the land,
Those churches old and gray,
In which our fathers used to *stand*,
In years gone by to pray—
They never *knelt* those stern old men,
Who worshipped at our alters then."

From N. K. Ployd's "The Scrap Book," 1909.

OLD CHURCHES

By JOSEPHINE RITTER

Sources:

Watson's Annals
Franklin's Autobiography
John T. Faris, Old Churches & Meeting Houses in and Around Philadelphia
Grant Miles Simon, Beginnings of Philadelphia
Historic Philadelphia, published by the American Philosophical Society
The Story of Christ Church, in Philadelphia.

"And to men's hearts, this ancient place endeared."
—Matthew Arnold.

IT IS ALMOST impossible in this nuclear age of major and minor miracles to look backward through nearly three centuries and understand the forces and pressures that drove men and women from their native lands to carve out an existence in an unknown wilderness. But to those who did not conform to established customs, especially in religion, the unknown was preferable to persecution. No doubt some were moved by political ambitions, some were opportunists, some hoped for freedom from law but the greatest incentive of all was the desire for freedom to worship God in the manner of one's choice.

Almost as quickly as they built themselves houses they erected places of worship. Though William Penn and his company were founders of Philadelphia, there was already a little to the south on the Delaware a small block house of logs built by the Swedes to "serve the Swedish settlers of Nova Suecia and to endeavor to convert the Lenape Indians." This was the birth of Gloria Dei in "one still and solemn desert in primeval garb." The Indians called it Wicaco, meaning pleasant place. The Swedes had arrived on the Western shore of the Delaware in 1636, had built their first church at Christiana and had erected other churches at various points for the administration of God's word. One of these was the little block house set up in 1669 at Wicaco, now Southwark in Philadelphia. It had loop holes instead of windows and the congregation came to services carrying fire-arms to protect themselves from the Indians. There is the oft told tale of the Swedish women who in the midst of soap making had to flee an attack by the red men and take refuge in the block house. Somehow they managed to carry the boiling mixture with them and when the Indians began to dig under the walls the scalding liquid was poured out on them through the loop holes, staving off their entrance till rescuers arrived.

Eight years after it was built an altar was placed in and the first service was held. The first Pastor was the Rev. Jacob Fabritus, a Dutchman from New Amsterdam. Twenty years later the Rev. Andrew Rudman was installed and in a letter to Jacob Arrhenius of Upsala Sweden he wrote "The churches are old and in bad condition, the population thin, so that some have sixteen miles to walk or ride to church. Nevertheless they very regularly attend divine service on Sunday."

An early visitor to the congregation of Gloria Dei was the Rev. Ericus Bjork, a missionary, who wrote in a letter of going on June 29th, 1697, to Philadelphie "a clever little town." It was during his stay that plans were made for a new church to be erected by the bricklayers and carpenters who had built the Swedish church at Christiana. Two sites were considered and the story is that two slips of paper were put in a hat, on one of which was written Wicaco and on the other Passyunk. It can only be supposed that a blindfolded member drew out the paper bearing Wicaco. It was to be a brick building and the estimated cost was 400 pounds. In May of 1698 work was begun, some members giving money others labor and materials. Even the Pastor carried a hod. It was dedicated on July 2nd, 1700, in the presence of a large gathering, many of whom came from Philadelphia and not least of whom was William Penn. Watson in his Annals says that it was a "great edifice and so generally spoken of, for certainly nothing was the equal to it as a public building in the city."

In the early days the minister conducted the afternoon worship service in a most unusual way. He walked up and down the aisle asking questions not of children but of adults, to determine their knowledge of the catechism and how much they remembered of the sermon preached that morning.

The first clergyman of the German Lutheran Church, Justus Faulkner, was ordained in Gloria Dei in 1703. In 1711 the congregation of Christ Church worshipped there on three Sundays while their own church was being enlarged. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg was consecrated there in 1742.

Some years after the church was built it was discovered that the walls were about to give way. Some members favored strengthening them with iron work, while others thought it would be best to add porches to two sides of the building, one of which could serve as a vestry room and the other as an entrance way. This was carried out immediately and today the outside of the church appears just as it did seventy-five years before the Revolution.

Among the treasured relics in the church is a pair

of carved cherubs whose wings spread over the Bible. This is thought to have been brought over from Sweden as well as the marble font which is believed to have been used in the old block house and to have come from Gothenburg in 1642. The bell also came from there in the same year. It bears the inscription "I to the church the living call and to the grave do summon all." It is said to contain a percentage of silver and is thought by some to have an unpleasant tone. It is also said to have been recast.

Originally 27 acres of land belonged to the church. The parsonage was built in 1737. The block house stood until Philadelphia was occupied by the British when it was torn down and used for fuel. Swanson Street which borders one side of the property is named for Peter Swanson an early parishioner who died in 1737 and whose grave stone in the churchyard bears this verse:

Reader stop and self behold
Thou art made of ye same mould
And shortly must dissolved be
Make sure of blest eternity.

In 1759 there were enough English speaking members to ask authority from Upsala to have some sermons in that language. It was of the days when Gloria Dei was still a Swedish Lutheran Church that Longfellow wrote in Evangeline:

Then as she mounted the stairs to the corridors,
cooled by the east wind
Distant and soft on her ear fell the chimes from
the belfry of Christ Church,
While interwrought with them, across the meadows were wafted
Sounds of psalms that were sung by the Swedes
in their church at Wicaco.

In 1845 the Corporation of Gloria Dei applied for admission into the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania. This change was possible because of the agreement of the King of Sweden dated June 25th, 1789, to the authority given to the church by the Pennsylvania Assembly to employ members of either Lutheran or Protestant Episcopal faith.

Gloria Dei is now a National Historic Shrine and the churchyard a National Historic Site. To preserve this hallowed ground from an encroaching expressway the National Park Service has bought and torn down a group of houses, thus enlarging a verdant spot in an industrial community.

Meeting Houses

Chronologically the "people called Quakers" were the second religious sect to hold worship in Philadelphia. The Society of Friends had its beginning thirty years before in England and under the leadership of George Fox had grown to sixty-thousand members. There were Friends in New Jersey long before the coming of William Penn and in 1677 a few ventured across the Delaware and took up land in what was to be Pennsylvania. Here at the home of Thomas a Elizabeth Kinsey Fairman at Shackamaxon the settlers gathered for religious meetings. It was at t Fairman home that the Proprietor lived when he fi landed in 1682 and it continued to be one of seve houses in which the Friends met. Richard Townse who accompanied William Penn, on the Welco wrote "Our first concern was to keep up and mainta our religious worship, and, in order thereto, we h several meetings in the houses of the inhabitants, a our boarded meeting house was set up where the c was to be, near the Delaware; and, as we had nothi but love and goodwill in our hearts one to anoth we had very comfortable meetings from time to tin and after our meetings we assisted one another building little houses for our shelter."

It soon became necessary to have a place to m further south on the river where the majority w building homes. In 1683 a committee composed Thomas Holme, Jr., John Songhurst, Thomas Wyr and Griffith Owen was chosen to plan a meeting hou So the Boarded or Bank meeting house was erect Some historians believe this was on Front Street low the High Street and a plaque in that area co memorates its existence. If this is correct the sec meeting house also known as the Bank meeting p sumably because it stood almost on the edge of river, was built on the west side of Front Street no of Arch. A subscription of sixty pounds was rai among Friends while others donated labor or mater and in 1684 the wooden structure was completed. I within a few years decay had set in and though paired several times it had to be pulled down in 16 For thirteen years this had been a most import building, not only were the yearly meetings of Society of Friends in Pennsylvania, New Jersey a Delaware held here but also on several occasions Provincial Assembly met within its walls. Here ra the Keithian debate. In 1692, George Keith, a Sc man, schoolmaster and a spiritual leader among Friends criticized those Quakers who held polit office, feeling that participation in government not consistent with Friendly belief. He also las out at church leaders for heretical leanings. His herents erected a second gallery at the rear of meeting room from which he challenged any Fri speaking from the regular gallery with whom he agreed. This intolerable situation was ended w members of the factions arrived with axes and chop down both galleries. Later the followers of Keith h their own meeting on the southwest corner of and Arch Streets, a wooden structure large eno for a hundred people. It did not survive long, dis pearing early in the 18th century. The Bank mee continued until 1791 when it was closed. One m ber gave the reason saying: They were "constrai by their sense of not letting their good be evil spo of to dismiss the evening meetings because the yo women were surrounded by rude young men who

sembled in long lines of idlers generating and cherishing more evil without the walls than the good people could counterbalance within."

In the meantime, the Centre Square Meeting House was planned. Money was contributed by various meetings in Pennsylvania and in 1684 plans were drawn up for a brick building sixty time forty feet which was completed in 1687 and stood about where City Hall now is. This turned out to be more of a prophecy that a practical proposition for Centre Square though only about a mile distant remained for many years far out in the country and deep in the forest. It proved so impractical that the Friends sold it in 1700 to William Penn for a hundred pounds. The following year they persuaded him to give it back to them so that the materials could be salvaged and used to construct a building on the lot left vacant when the Bank Meeting House was torn down. There is great doubt that any money changed hands in this transaction. It is now thought that in 1700 William Penn would have been hard put to find a hundred pounds.

During the first two decades of the colony Quakers arrived by the thousands and another and larger meeting place became a necessity. In 1695 land was purchased from the Deputy Governor, William Markham, on the southwest corner of High and Second Streets. To everyone's chagrin it was discovered that Markham and others concerned did not have a clear title so a new patent was obtained from William Penn for a token payment of forty pounds. A building, fifty feet square, was begun on this site in 1696 and became known as the Great Meeting. For the next half century it was the largest in the colony. It is to this meeting that Benjamin Franklin refers in his Autobiography. After eating one of the "great puffy rolls" and giving the two others away, he writes "Thus refreshed, I walked again up the street, which by this time had many clean dressed people in it, who were all making the same way. I joined them and thereby was led into the Great Meeting House of the Quakers near the Market. I sat down among them and after looking around a while and hearing nothing said, being very drowsy through labor and want of rest the preceding night, I fell fast asleep and continued so till the meeting broke up when someone was kind enough to rouse me. This, therefore was the first house I was in or slept in, in Philadelphia." Watson describes this building as "surmounted in the centre on the four angled roof by a raised frame of glasswork so constructed as to let light down on the meeting below after the manner of the frame Burlington Meeting House." The yard of this meeting house became in 1731 the location of one of Philadelphia's two fire engines and a portion of the two hundred fifty leather buckets for fire fighters. A successor to this building erected in 1755 and called the Market Street or Greater Meeting was in use until 1804 when a new meeting house was constructed on Arch Street between 3rd and 4th Streets where there had been a Friends' burying ground since 1690.

In the latter part of the eighteenth century one could have walked from the centre of town to any of five meetings on First day morning. The Second Bank Meeting, which was of course the oldest, was still in use. Meetings had been built at 4th and Chestnut Streets, known as the 4th Street Meeting, and at 2nd and Pine, called the Pine or Hill Meeting. The Market Street was the largest and most important of the four. The fifth one which bore no connection to the others was at the corner of 5th and Arch Streets and was built in 1783 by members of the Society of Friends who were disowned by their meetings for having joined the patriot cause in the American Revolution. George Washington, and Benjamin Franklin among others contributed toward its construction.

The traditional style of meeting houses as we know it today did not appear until the building of the Market Street Meeting in 1755. Before that time the places for meeting resembled private dwellings rather than buildings for public worship. None of these early meetings have survived. The wooden ones fell victim to time and decay and it was thought best to close the others as business encroached. By a curious twist of fate the one remaining meeting built in the "old City" in the eighteenth century is the one at 5th and Arch Streets where the Fighting Quakers met. It stands abandoned and alone in a corner of what will soon be part of the Mall, still proclaiming the legend of its date stone, "By General Subscription For the Free Quakers Erected in the year of Our Lord 1783—of the Empire 8." When a member was questioned about the last three words he said "I tell thee friend it is because our country is destined to be the great empire over all the world." The disposition of this beautiful little building is still in doubt. Owned by the state there is some talk of moving it to another location.

The Anglican Churches

The Church of England was not long in becoming established in Philadelphia. A clause in Penn's Charter granted by Charles II in 1681 declared that the Bishop of London could send an Anglican preacher to the Province whenever twenty inhabitants expressed a desire for one. It is recorded that in November 1695 this proviso was exercised by thirty-six laymen and the Bishop of London, Henry Compton, sent the Rev. Thomas Clayton to minister to this congregation which by the time of his arrival had increased to seventy. A small church was erected in 1695 about on the site of the chancel of Christ Church. The original deed for the land is from Griffith Jones to Joshua Carpenter. In 1702 a supplement to the deed for property on 2nd Street above Market stipulates that the "church and premises are to be perpetually appropriated for the public worship of God as professed in the Church of England and to no other use or uses whatsoever." So began Christ Church, not by any means

the first Anglican Church in the colonies but surely one of the most important historically and architecturally. The first little church was built in part of brick and had only forty-two pews. Not much is recorded of the early years but we know it was enlarged in 1711 and again in 1718. Perhaps the most significant thing was the founding of a library, possibly the first one in Pennsylvania. In 1696–97 Colonel Robert Quary, Judge of the Admiralty and a charter member of the church wrote to Governor Sir Francis Nicholson "We hope your Excellency will also mind his Grace (meaning the Archbishop of Canterbury) of plate for the Communion Table and a library." From this appeal came many books from Queen Anne, some printed as early as 1500. Mainly theological, this collection has been added to through the years and is still used today. In 1725 Peter Evans wrote to the Bishop of London saying the building known as Christ Church "is become ruinous and must shortly be rebuilt." By 1726 the number of communicants had risen to eight hundred and the church could not accommodate them all. Lieutenant Governor Patrick Gordon wrote to the Lord Bishop in that year "although there has been two isles added to it since it was first built. . . were it rebuilt and made larger the number of Communicants would very much increase." We learn from minutes of the Vestry that enlarging of the building did begin in 1727. This consisted of adding thirty three feet to the west end and a foundation for a tower. It took about four years to accomplish. Alterations to the east end may have been finished in 1735, but not until 1744 was the main portion of the church completed.

The architecture is quite similar to that of St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London. Robert Shoemaker, who wrote the article on Christ Church in the book of Historic Philadelphia, published in 1953, says the architect is not definitely known. It is usually attributed to John Kearsley, one of three men appointed to superintend the building of the State House. Some say John Porteus was the architect and there is no doubt that he contributed to its design and building. Robert Smith, architect and builder of many Colonial Churches and John Harrison, founder of the Carpenter's Company, are known to have been among the planners. At Kearsley's death in January 1772 the Pennsylvania Packet said, "He was well acquainted with the principles of architecture, a monument of which we have in Christ Church, a building in the opinions of strangers in point of elegance and taste surpasses everything of its kind in America."

In 1743 further work was undertaken. The congregation could no longer be adequately seated so the vestry ordered "the west end Galleries be run out and built entirely over the west isle." In 1744 the wardens announced the completion of the Church. In November of that year a twenty-four branched chandelier was brought from London and purchased for fifty-six pounds and is still used with candles. From the very beginning the church has had an ancien Baptismal Font which came from All-Hallows, Bark ing-by-the-Tower, London and in which William Pen was baptized in 1644. A second Font, the work o Jonathan Gostelowe, an early American cabinet mak who was also a vestryman of Christ Church, was ac quired in 1789. The church was not really finished i that the spire had not as yet been erected on th foundations made for it. A subscription for this pu pose was opened in 1750. The Governor headed th list with fifty pounds, followed by Benjamin Frankli with ten. The steeple was designed and built b Robert Smith. In 1753 steps were taken to procu a set of bells and a clock, so far as is known the latt was never obtained. Subscriptions proving insuf cient, lotteries, in which Franklin was one of the ma agers, were undertaken and were known as the steep lotteries. In 1754, Captain Budden arrived with th bells in his ship Myrtilla. For this service he refus pay and thereafter out of gratitude the bells were ru whenever his ship came into the Philadelphia harb These bells were made by the craftsmen who two yea before had cast the Liberty Bell, Thomas Lester an Thomas Park of the Whitechapel Foundry in Londo Throughout the years Christ Church chimes ha rung out on many occasions, both ecclesiastical an historical. So numerous did the requests become th in 1795 the vestry adopted a resolution that the be would only be rung upon the request of the Preside of the United States, the Governor of Pennsylvania the Mayor of Philadelphia. In 1783 the travel Johann D. Schopf described the bells thus: "Chr Church has a beautiful chime of bells which make complete octave and is heard especially on evenin before the weekly markets and at times of other gl public events. The bells are so played that the eig single notes of the octave are several times struck, o scending rapidly one after the other,—and then t accord follows in tercet and quint, ascending; and repeated. On certain solemn days there is repetiti to the 13th time, that sacred number. At Philadelp there is always something to be chimed, so that seems almost as if it was an Imperial or Popish cit When the British occupied the city in 1777, to prev them from securing supplies of metal, the Execut Council of Pennsylvania ordered the bells remov from the steeple and they were sent with the Libe Bell and other valuable metals to Allentown for sa keeping. They were brought back in 1778 and hu at public expense. Although there can be found direct reference, there is no doubt that Christ Chu chimes welcomed the reading of the Declaration Independence to the people on July 8th, 1776. minutes of the vestry for July 4th, speak of noth else and definitely assert: "Whereas the Honor Continental Congress have resolved to declare American Colonies to be free and independent st In consequence of which it will be proper to those Repitions in the Liturgy wherein the Kin

Great Britain is prayed for, as inconsistent with said Declaration. Therefore Resolved . . . to omit said Petitions." However it was not till four days later that the Declaration of Independence was read publicly to the people in the State House yard. John Adams on July 9th, wrote to Samuel Chase: "The Declaration was yesterday published and proclaimed. The bells rang all day and all night—the chimes chimed away." As the only chimes in the city at that time were those at Christ Church it must be supposed that these bells rang out on this most important occasion. At that time the spire was surmounted by a crown, signifying allegiance to England but prophetically in 1777 it was destroyed by lightning and in 1787 the mitre to commemorate the consecration of William White as first Bishop of Pennsylvania, replaced it.

In 1775 the Rev. Jacob Duche was rector and William White was his assistant. Dr. Duche was chaplain to the Continental Congress but with the Declaration of Independence, refusing to break his oath of allegiance to the Crown he resigned both as rector and chaplain and returned to England in 1777. After the war he returned to Philadelphia and he and his wife are buried in St. Peter's Churchyard. In 1777 the Rev. William White journeyed to York, to serve as Chaplain to the Congress which had moved there during the British Occupation. After the British left Philadelphia and the Congress returned, William White was chosen Rector of Christ Church and became the most famous of all to hold that office.

Bishop White was born in Philadelphia, on March 24th, 1748, the son of Colonel Thomas and Esther Newman White. Two months later he was baptized in Christ Church. He attended the College of Philadelphia and studied under Provost William Smith one of the leading Church of England clergymen in the Colonies. He was graduated in 1765 and after receiving his M.A. from the same institution he sailed for England in 1769 and on December 23rd, 1770, was ordained a deacon in the Church of England by Dr. Young, Bishop of Norwich and a priest by Dr. Richard Terrick, Bishop of London, on April 25th, 1772. The lapse in time between the two ceremonies was to allow the young man to reach his 24th birthday that being the minimum age for the priesthood. He returned to Philadelphia the same year and was elected assistant minister of Christ Church. After he became rector he continued to serve as Chaplain to the United States Senate as long as Philadelphia remained the Capital. He was spiritual leader, friend and councellor to many of the patriotic men who guided this nation through its early and difficult years.

He made a second trip to England and on February 4th, 1787, he was consecrated Bishop in the chapel of Lambeth Palace by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Bishop of Bath and Wells and the Bishop of Peterborough.

It is estimated that two thirds of the signers of both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were members of the Church of England, so it is not surprising that when Congress declared July 20th, 1775, a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer, the whole Congress should worship in Christ Church. Christopher Marshall records in his diary of that date, "I went to Christ Church, where an excellent sermon was preached unto a large and crowded auditory, amongst whom were I presume all the delegates." It is known that Congress attended divine service in Christ Church on at least three other occasions.

In 1719 land was purchased at 5th and Arch Streets "located in the suburbs" for use as a burial ground. Probably in no other place are so many distinguished citizens, both civil and military interred. Five signers of the Declaration are here and two more repose in the churchyard. Here also are eight of the early mayors of Philadelphia and many officers of the Revolution. In the church itself lie John Penn, last Colonial Governor of Pennsylvania, Bishop White, Dr. Richard Peters, Rector of Christ Church, and St. Peter's, Dr. Robert Jenney, Rector of Christ Church, Brigadier General John Forbes, Commander of His Majesty's forces in the French and Indian War and Mrs. Mary Andrews, donor of the Church's famous wine glass pulpit.

In 1789 the most important convention of the Episcopal Church met in Christ Church. This general convention brought about the unity of the Anglican Church in America, adopted a constitution, canons and a prayer book, thus making it independent of Britain.

The above is the first part of an article by Josephine Ritter. Second part will appear in next issue.

LEONARD CARMICHAEL

On September 16, 1973 we lost one of our most learned and illustrious members, Dr. Leonard Carmichael. He graduated from Germantown Friends School in 1917 and received his doctorate at Harvard. He was accorded more than 20 honorary degrees during his lifetime. He loved teaching and served on the faculties of Princeton, Clark, Harvard, and Brown. He was also Dean of Faculty of Art and Sciences at the University of Rochester and in 1939 Dr. Carmichael became president of Tufts University. For eleven years he was chief executive of the Smithsonian Institute and in 1964 became Vice President of the National Geographic Society.

Dr. Carmichael wrote many books and pamphlets. Besides being interested in Science, he was well versed in the Arts. His book, The Manual of Child Psychology is still studied and quoted.

In 1970 Dr. Carmichael returned to Philadelphia as President of The American Philosophical Society. This learned and intensely interesting man will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Dr. Carmichael's father was a prominent physician in Mt. Airy.

Continued from Page 10

President has been in office, a matter of more than twenty years, there was an election contest. There were two slates of officers and managers proposed. They were similar except by a close vote in the case of one Vice-President. The Vice-President on the Nominating Committee's slate was elected. All other officers and managers were also re-elected.

The President thanks all of the managers and officers of the Society for what they have done for its benefit during the past year. He is grateful to them for their attendance at the board meetings at his house. He hopes that they will continue to devote their efforts to assure smooth functioning of the Society. We must make every effort to bring more visitors to our library and museums. Let us hope that 1974 will be a good year for the Germantown Historical Society and for the Germantown Community. And we must not forget that much will be expected of us in 1976.

HAROLD D. SAYLOR
President

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
Germantown Historical Society

January 17, 1974—8:00 P.M.
Place: Germantown-Stevens Academy Chapel
Greene Street & School House Lane
Parking—entrance on School House Lane
Speakers: Dr. William Gordon, Treasurer of the University of Pennsylvania
Dr. G. Gedney Godwin, Curator of Valley Forge Museum

February 21 and March 21, 1974
Speakers, time and place of meetings will be announced by card to all members.

April 18, 1974—8:00 P.M.
Place: Germantown Cricket Club
Speaker: Mr. Evan Turner, Director of Philadelphia Museum of Art

May—Tour—details to be announced.

June 20, 1974—Garden Party
Details to be announced.
Watch for your invitations—and bring your friends.

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.

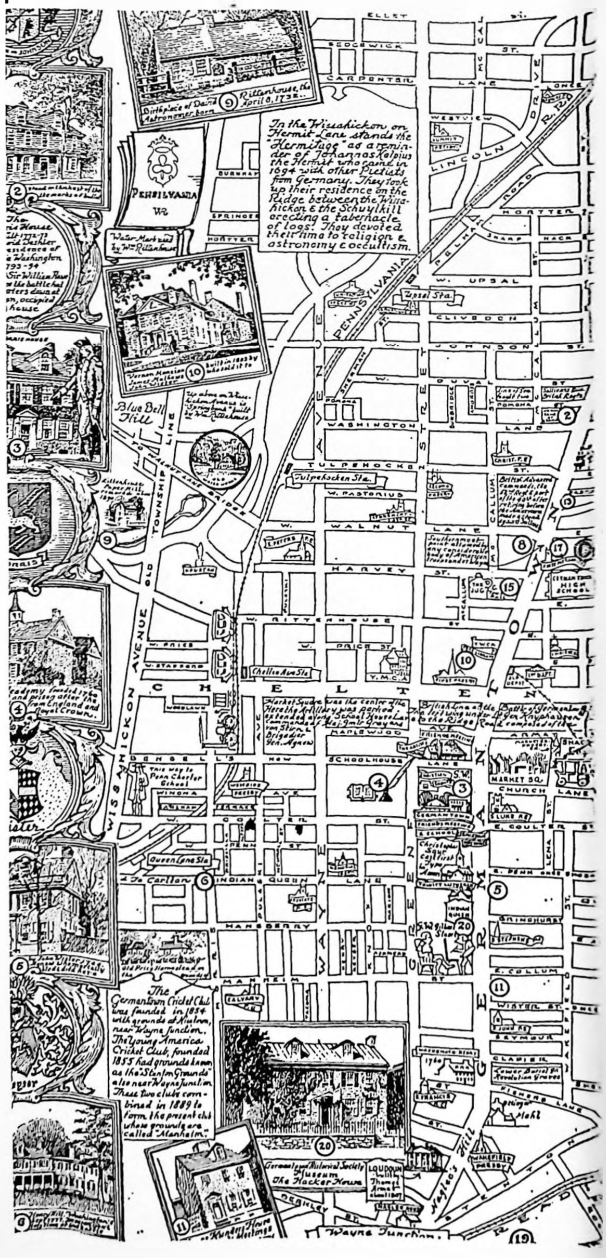
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Beautifully hand-colored, $30.00

The map may be ordered from:

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Checks should be made payable to
Germantown Historical Society

Add 25 cents to cover postage and handling



FROM THE COSTUME MUSEUM

During the present year the Costume Museum has received over sixty gifts of apparel and many accessories to costumes. All are important additions to our collection but several with ties to Germantown are of particular interest. Mrs. Elizabeth Gray Vining has given us the dress she wore to the wedding of Crown Prince Akihito, son of Emperor Hirohito, to Michiko Shoda. The dress is made from Japanese silk, a gift to Mrs. Vining from the prospective bride. Mrs. Vining was the only foreign guest at the wedding on April 10th, 1959 and the only foreigner ever invited to a Japanese imperial wedding. With her gift are included photographs of the bride and groom and clippings from American and Japanese newspapers.

Another gift that comes close to home is a black velvet evening coat trimmed with chinchilla which was worn early in this century by Mrs. Joseph M. Fox of "Wakefield". Mrs. Kidder has given us shawls, beaded bags, fine handkerchiefs, caps and many other treasures of her Willits, Pearson, Carlile and Kirkbride antecedents.

A box of laces, embroidered collars, fichus and a handsome silk wedding vest were the gift of Miss Marguerite L. Riegel. Some of these things had belonged to the Knorr family, early citizens of Germantown. From another donor we received two little girls' dresses with matching pantelettes dated 1848, made from gold colored cotton material and trimmed with crewel embroidery. They were worn as costumes by the donor and her sister at a Germantown Hospital Fete given at the Germantown Cricket Club in 1912.

One hundred and thirty-five visitors have signed our guest book this year. This figure does not include several school classes who have come to the museum nor is it all inclusive of all groups we have had the pleasure of welcoming.

The Costume Committee wishes to express sincere appreciation to all our contributors.

JOSEPHINE RITTER, *Chairman*
November 15, 1973

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COSTUME COMMITTEE NEEDS MEMBERS

The Costume Committee of the Germantown Historical Society invites new members. No experience is needed, just a real interest in fashions. Through working with our treasures and doing research in our costume library you will quickly learn to date them. The Committee meets the first Monday of every month. During the year we change some of the exhibits twice. In the fall we dress the manikins for winter and in the spring we change to sum outfits. Between these times we catalogue new ac sitions, etc. We hope to find members of our Soci or friends, who are interested in the subject of fashi Please call Miss Deborah C. Ritter at GE-8-360 come to the Museum, 5275 Germantown Ave. on first Monday of the month at about 10:30 A.M.

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