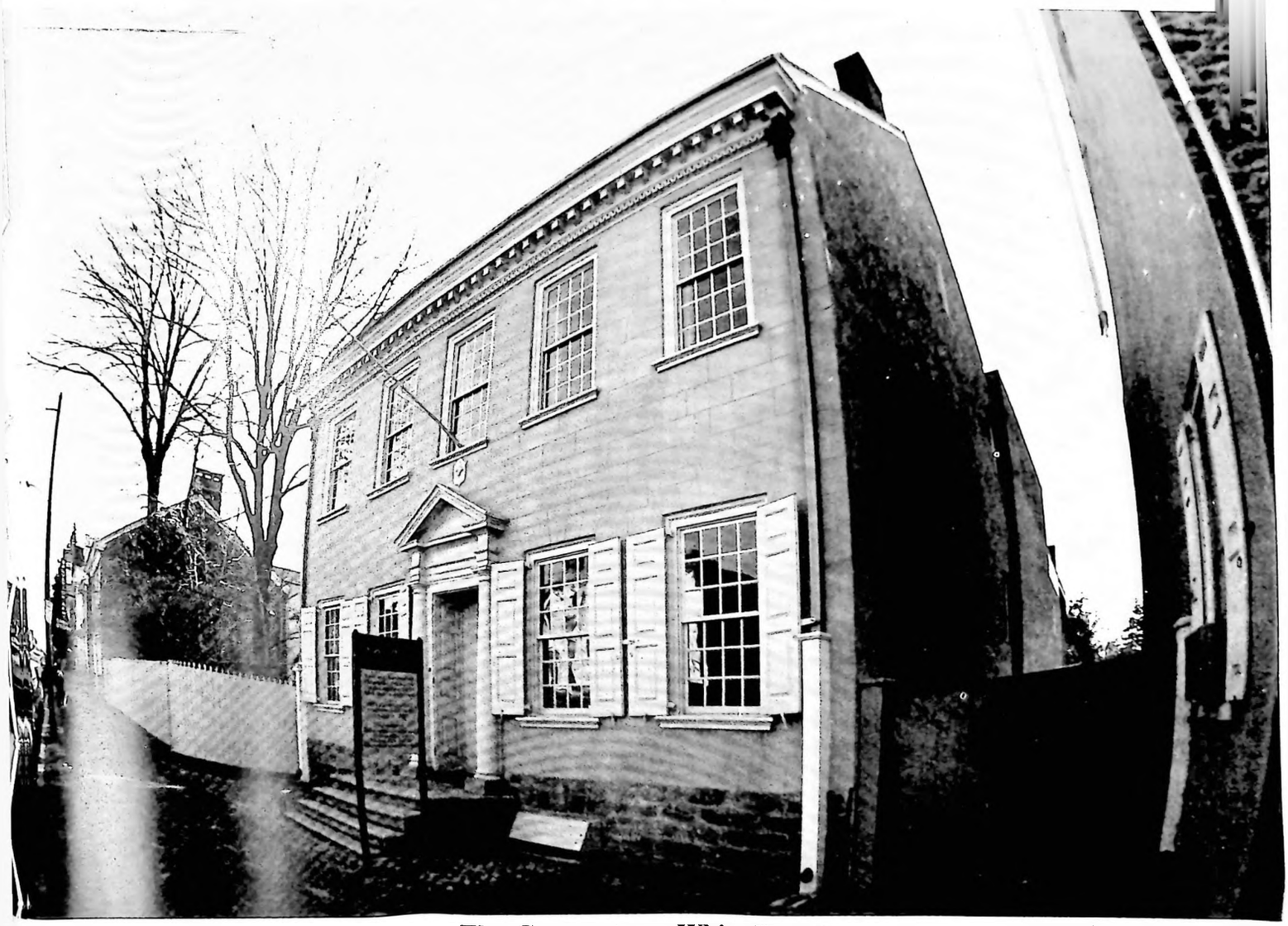
# GERMANTOWNE CRIER





**The Germantown White House**
See Page 9

*Photo by Helen M. Bauhof*

VOLUME 28, NUMBER 1 FIFTY CENTS WINTER, 1976

The Trefoil is as much
a part of Philadelphia as the
Walnut Street Theater



Bank at the Trefoil...
It's a good sign.

THE FIDELITY BANK

Germantown Avenue and School House Lane
in the historic
James de la Plaine house

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

THE MANOR
THE CAMBRIDGE
THE KENILWORTH
THE STAFFORD

Alden Park

WISSAHICKON & CHELTEN AVES.
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19144
VICTOR 4-7930

FINE PIANOS SINCE 1891
Cunningham PIANO CO.
IN HISTORIC GERMANTOWN
PHILA. LARGEST SELECTION
NEW & USED PIANOS
AT FACTORY PRICES
Rentals • Storage • Tuning • Moving
We Buy Pianos • Organs
Free Appraisal • GE 8-3200
24 Hr. Service • Best Cash Prices
5427 GERMANTOWN AVENUE
WAREHOUSE & PLANT—26 E. COULTER ST.
PHILA'S OLDEST PIANO FACTORY

*VI 4-5251*

J. & R. SMITH, INC.

*PLUMBING—HEATING*

•••

5201 GERMANTOWN AVENUE

*YOU PAY FOR NO LOST TIME*

GE 8-6801

# THE PROVIDENT

## Provident National Bank PHILADELPHIA AND SUBURBS

MEMBER FDIC

150 W. CHELTEN AVENUE

FULL SERVICE BANK

**THE HOUR GLASS CLEANERS**

45 W. Chelten Ave.

Phila., Pa.

GE 8-2864

1 Hour Dry Cleaning 3 Hour Shirt Laundering

CH 7-0945, CH 7-5898

**Wm. A. Kilian Hardware Co.**

*House Furnishings • Finnaren & Haley Paints*

*Garden Supplies • Unpainted Furniture*

8450 GERMANTOWN AVE.

CHESTNUT HILL, PHILA., PA. 19118

KOELLE GREENWOOD CO.

*Phila's Oldest Ford Dealer*

SALES—SERVICE—LEASING

161 W. Chelten Ave.

Germantown GE 8-1025

ST. MARTIN'S COAL CO., INC.

7600 Germantown Avenue

GULF SOLAR HEAT heating oil

GULF FUEL OIL

GULF E. J. OIL BURNERS

Phone: CH 7-0800 Day or Night

# BOARDMAN-HAMILTON COMPANY

5434 GERMANTOWN AVENUE • PHILADELPHIA, PENNA. 19144

Phone: VI 8-9200

## GENERAL INSURANCE

*Specializing in*

- ARCHITECT'S & ENGINEERS PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY
- SURETY BONDS
- BUILDERS RISK
- CONTRACTORS LIABILITY
- PENSION PLANS
- GROUP LIFE & HOSPITALIZATION
- SALARY CONTINUATION INS.

Edmund K. Schauseil, President

John H. Hamilton, Jr., Vice President

# GROBEN'S

## SEA FOOD

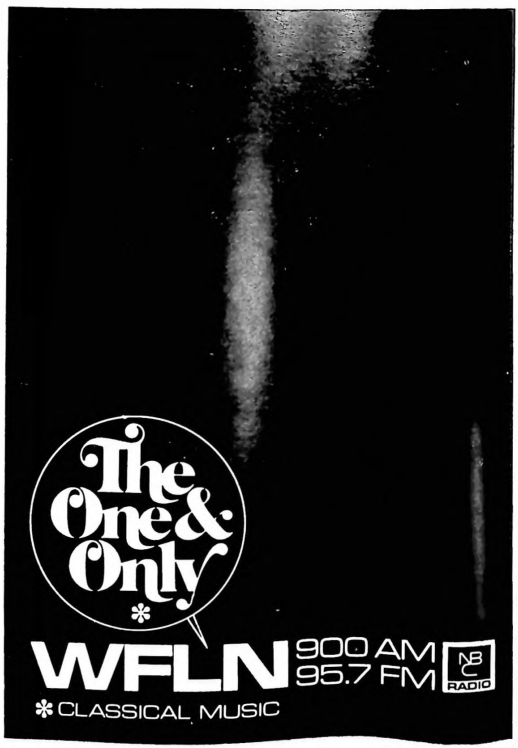
6833 GERMANTOWN AVE.

PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19119

PHONE: VI 3-4717

MON. 9-12 • TUES. 9-6 • WED. 9-6

THURS. 9-6 • FRI. 6-6 • SAT. 9-12



# Germantown Historical Society


*President*
HON. HAROLD D. SAYLOR

*Vice-Presidents*
FREDERICK C. FIECHTER, JR. — FRANK R. DONAHUE, JR. — FRANK J. OLLINGER

*Secretary*
MRS. REID MCNEILL

*Board of Managers*
MRS. JAMES S. BISHOP
MRS. M. BACON BOSTWICK
FRANCIS SHUNK BROWN, III
MISS HELEN M. COMLY
J. MALCOLM HENDERSON
JACK HORNUNG
HENRY W. JOHNSON
HENRY J. MAGAZINER
MRS. J. BRADFORD RITTER
ARTHUR O. ROSENLUND
RAYMOND V. SHEPHERD, JR.
MRS. LAWRENCE M. C. SMITH
JOHN STAPLES
GORDON W. VENABLE
MRS. RICHARD WILSON

*Assistant Secretary*
LEONARD DENIS

*Historian*
LEONARD DENIS

*Solicitor*
FRANK R. DONAHUE, JR.

*Treasurer*
WALLACE S. MARTINDALE, JR.

*Librarian*
MISS MABEL E. IRLE

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

*Annual Excursion*
FRANK R. DONAHUE, JR.

*Costume*
MISS DEBORAH C. RITTER

*Germantown Week Tour*
DR. GORDON W. VENABLE
FRANK J. OLLINGER

*Hospitality*
MRS. ROBERT AXFORD

*House*
FRANK J. OLLINGER

*Library*
FRANCIS SHUNK BROWN, III

*Meetings*
HENRY W. JOHNSON

*Membership*
MRS. JAMES S. BISHOP

*Publications*
MISS HELEN M. COMLY

*Deshler-Morris House*
DR. GORDON W. VENABLE

*Deshler-Morris House Hostess*
MRS. EDWARD T. HORN

*Women's Committee of the Deshler-Morris House*
MRS. RICHARD WILSON

*Wyck*
CHARLES HUSTON HAINES

*Relics*
MRS. M. BACON BOSTWICK


GERMANTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM
5214 GERMANTOWN AVENUE
OPEN EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY, 1 TO 5 P.M.

AND

HOWELL HOUSE
5218 GERMANTOWN AVENUE
OPEN EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY, 1 TO 5 P.M.
SMALL ADMISSION

GERMANTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY
5208 GERMANTOWN AVENUE
OPEN EVERY TUESDAY, 1 TO 5 P.M.

DESHLER-MORRIS HOUSE
(THE GERMANTOWN WHITE HOUSE)
5442 GERMANTOWN AVENUE
OPEN DAILY, EXCEPT MONDAY, 1 TO 4 P.M.
ADMISSION: 25 CENTS
(WILL BE CLOSED DURING EXTENSIVE RESTORATION WORK ON THE HOUSE—REOPENING DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED)

COSTUME MUSEUM
5275 GERMANTOWN AVENUE
OPEN EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY, 1 TO 5 P.M.
ADMISSION 25¢; CHILDREN ADMITTED FREE UNDER 10 YEARS OF AGE, MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY ADULTS

## AIMS OF THE SOCIETY

The Germantown Historical Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to sustaining and promoting the cultural tradition of Germantown—through the preservation of historic landmarks, the maintenance of a museum of relics, a costume museum, and a library; the sponsorship of lectures and tours; and the publication of articles relating to local history.

### NEW MEMBERS

MR. JOHN ASHMEAD
MR. JEFFREY N. BUMBREY
MRS. ROLAND CANNAN, SR.
MR. WILLIAM FINCH
MR. CHARLES J. FRICK
MISS DOROTHEA GOELDNER
MRS. G. E. HARKNESS
MR. RON KUSHNER
MISS ANNE MCCAUGHEY
MR. JERRY MEDEIROS
MR. JAMES R. PEARCE
MRS. STUART E. PLANTE
MISS JULIA K. ROGERS
DR. and MRS. GUY LACY SCHLESS
MISS MARIA I. WINEBERG

### DEATHS

MR. CAROL H. DESHORN
DR. MELVIN GINGERICH
MRS. C. F. JENKINS
MISS MERIA KNIGHT
MRS. STANLEY W. PEARSON

# Allen's

CHELTEN & GREENE
GERMANTOWN

"THE NICE PLACE TO SHOP SINCE 1837"

- WOMEN'S FASHIONS
- MEN'S STORE
- CHILDREN'S SHOP
- SPORTSWEAR
- COSMETICS
- BAKERY
- CANDY
- NOTIONS
- STATIONERY & BOOKS
- GIFTS
- HOUSEWARES
- LINENS

BANKAMERICARD

master charge

SHOP 10 'TIL 9 WED. & FRI. OTHER DAYS 'TIL 5:30
FREE ATTENDED 2 HR. PARKING BEHIND THE STORE

# HAMILTON-RELIANCE SAVINGS ASSOCIATION

5¼% per annum on passbook savings

5¾% per annum on special passbook savings

7½% Certificates available —
4 years maturity, $1,000 minimum

ALL ACCOUNTS INSURED TO $20,000

5519 Germantown Ave. (on Market Square)
6782 Germantown Ave.

Main Office: Johnson Highway & Markley Street
Norristown, Pa. 19401

# GERMANTOWNE CRIER



Volume 28 | WINTER, 1976 | Number 1


## CONTENTS


| | Page |
|---|---|
| Something Unique in Germantown ..... *By Anne McCaughey* | 9 |
| President's Report ..... *Hon. Harold D. Saylor* | 10 |
| Which do You Think? Today or Yesterday? ..... *From an Old Scrapbook* | 11 |
| Visitors to the Museum ..... *Mrs. M. Bacon Bostwick* | 12 |
| Donations to the Costume Museum of The Germantown Historical Society ..... *Miss Deborah C. Ritter, Chrm.* | 12 |
| 1876 Centennial Facts and Figures Before—During—After ..... *From an Old Scrapbook* | 13 |
| Has Spelling Progressed? ..... *Copied exactly from old clipping* | 16 |
| Mount Airy in Philadelphia: A Pioneering Community ..... *By Phyllis Knapp Thomas* | 17 |
| From an Indian Trail to a Busy Highway 1704 to 1790 ..... *By Margaret Bacon Bostwick* | 22 |
| Only one of these Items is Not Residing in the Germantown Historical Society Museum—Photos by Rob Stauffer ..... | 23 |
| A Description of Some Colonial Fabrics ... *By Doris F. Ritzinger* | 24 |
| Dr. Thorington's Clock (From Original Data Found in Clock) ..... | 25 |
| The Names of States ..... *From old newspaper scrapbook* | 26 |
| Joint Meeting of Germantown and Chestnut Hill Historical Societies ..... | 27 |
| Identification of Pictures on Page 23 ..... | 28 |
| "Loudoun's" Hidden Springhouse Comes to Life ..... *By Mrs. John W. Farr, Chrm. "Friends of Loudoun"* | 29 |
| Membership Information ..... | 29 |
| Index to Advertisers ..... | 30 |



PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Miss Helen M. Comly

The Baynton House, 5208 Germantown Avenue

*Editor*

Miss Helen M. Comly

615 Vernon Road, Phila., Pa. 19119

Wallace S. Martindale, Jr., *Controller*

EDITORIAL STAFF

Mrs. Ralph H. Belcher — Mrs. John W. Farr

Mrs. M. Bacon Bostwick — Mrs. Marshall K. Thomas, Jr.

Mrs. Theodore Finckh — Dr. Margaret B. Tinkcom

Miss Anne McCaughey



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

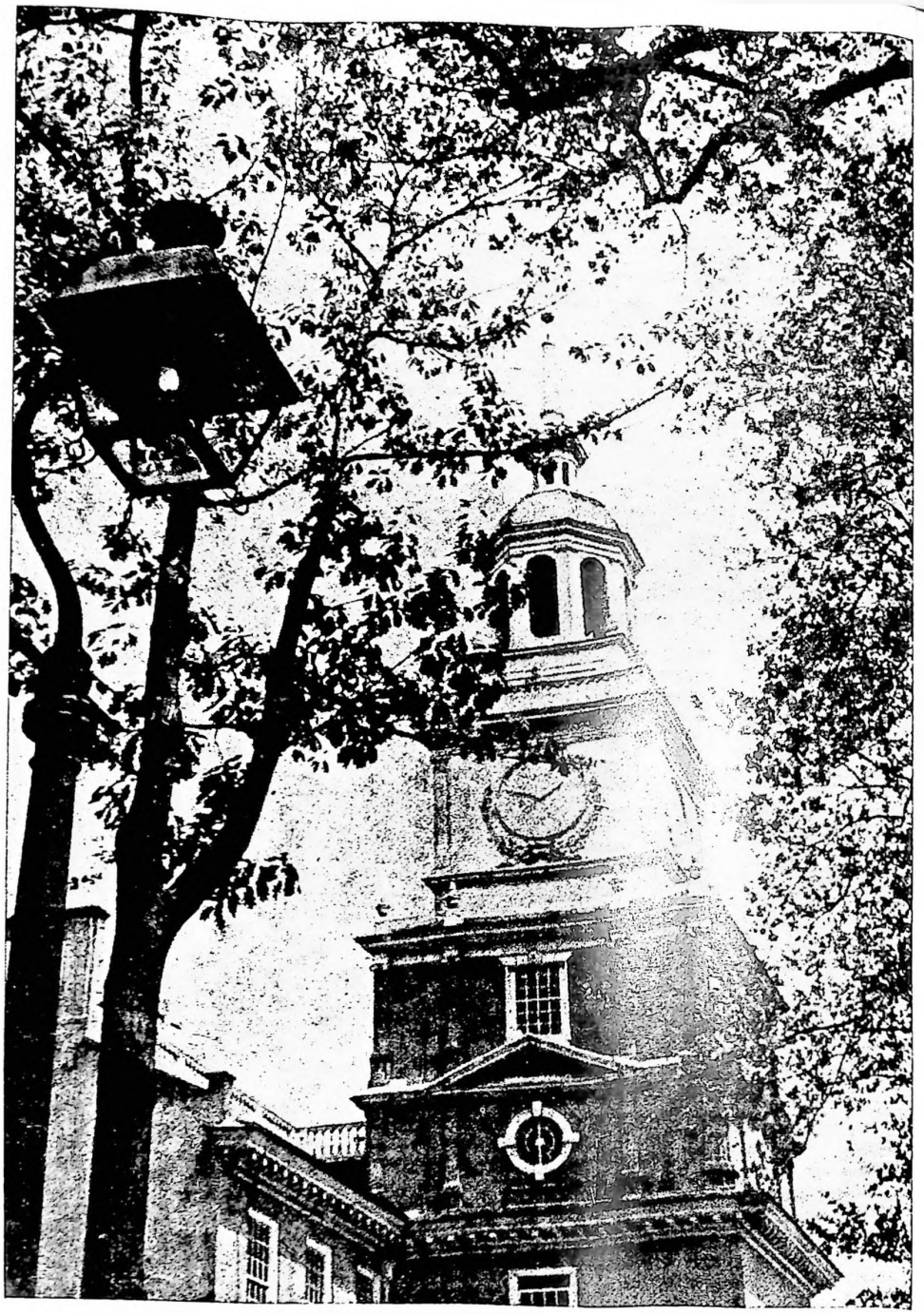
Frank J. Ollinger, *Advertising Representative* 29 W. Walnut Lane, Philadelphia, Pa. 19144 Telephone: VI 3-0295

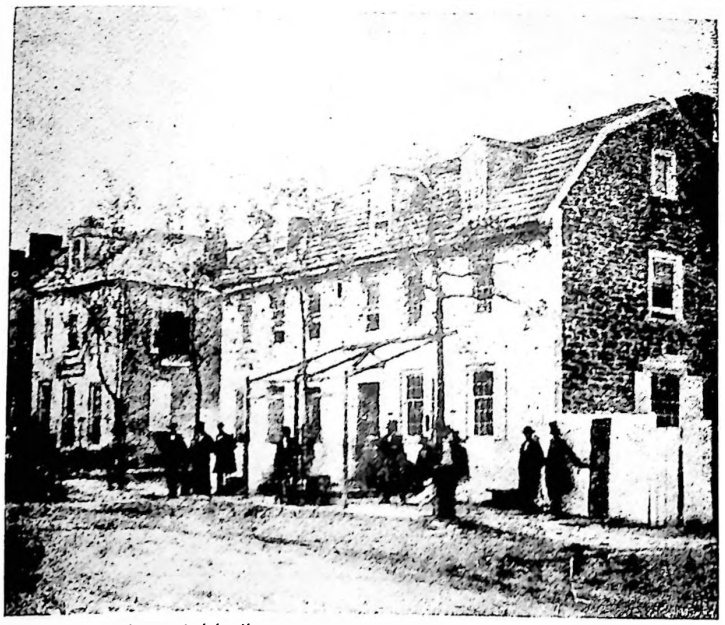
Published as Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter Issues

**Germantown Historical Society**
**5214 Germantown Avenue**
**Philadelphia, Pa. 19144**
**VI 4-0514**

# History was made here on July 4, 1776

## Independence Hall, on Independence Square, Philadelphia, Pa.





# History was made here, too

On May 6, 1761, with the founding of Kirk & Nice, the first and oldest funeral establishment in America.

Kirk & Nice is small building (with sign on front) at far left. Larger building in center of picture is old Washington Hotel. Narrow street separating two buildings is early Washington Lane.

KIRK & NICE

Germantown Ave. & Washington Lane, Philadelphia, Pa. 19144 GE 8-6328

Still owned and operated by the eighth generation of the founding family, Mr. and Mrs. J. Malcolm Henderson • Also: The Kirk & Nice Suburban Chapel, Germantown Pike & Marple Lane, in historic Plymouth Meeting, Pa. 828-7845



# Something Unique in Germantown



*By* ANNE MCCAUGHEY

GERMANTOWN HAS something unique to offer Bicentennial visitors—a "White House" in which George Washington lived and carried on his work as first President of the United States.

The house, of course, has been referred to as the Deshler-Morris House, or the Perot-Morris House, but is now to be called the "Germantown White House." It is located at 5442 Germantown Ave. and is where George Washington lived on two occasions during his presidency—first in November 1793, when it was necessary to leave Philadelphia because of the yellow fever epidemic, and again during the summer of 1794 when he lived there with his wife, Martha, and her two grandchildren.

The "Germantown White House" was built in 1772 by David Deshler who sold it in 1791 to Col. Isaac Franks. Col. Franks was the landlord who rented the house to George Washington and in 1802 sold the house to Elliston Perot, who died in 1806. Samuel B. Morris, the husband of Elliston Perot's eldest daughter, Hannah, purchased the house on Perot's death. Morris and his descendants continued to live in the house until 1947, the date of the death of Elizabeth C. Morris, the last member of the Morris family to reside there. In July 1949 the house passed to the National Park Service.

So that visitors to the "Germantown White House" will be able to see it as nearly as possible as it was when George Washington lived there, experts at the National Park Service have been doing research to determine just what the house looked like in the 1790's, in what colors it was painted, what kind of fireplaces it had, how it was furnished, what the window hangings were and what kinds of things were kept in its cupboards.

As anyone who has been in the vicinity of Market Square on Germantown Ave. recently is aware, for the past several months plasterers, painters, carpenters, roofers, bricklayers and other assorted artisans have been hard at work getting the house ready for visitors in 1976 and the years after that. The most obvious change which is visible from the outside of the house is the removal of the two story extension along its northern side. The extension was put on the house in 1909 while the Morris family lived there, to accommodate bathrooms. Since these were not around in the 1790's, they have been removed.

On January 7, when the Bicentennial year was just a week old, approximately 60 men and women who serve as volunteer guides at the "Germantown White House" were taken on a walk through the first floor to see what has been accomplished to date and to learn some of the future plans.

One of the things of particular interest was the modern kitchen which is being installed back of the 18th century kitchen. Since visitors will not be shown this room, there is no reason to keep it in the style of the 1790's. There will be a modern stove, refrigerator, a dishwasher and a garbage disposal, things that Martha Washington never dreamed of when she was mistress of the house during the summer of 1794. This kitchen is to be used when the guides are called upon to serve lunch or tea to special groups touring the house.

Philadelphians and their Bicentennial visitors are urged to come to see the transformed "Germantown White House" in 1976. It is expected to be ready to receive visitors after April 1. It will be open seven days a week, from 12 noon until 4 P.M. Admission charge is 50 cents.



MARKET SQUARE OF OLDEN TIMES



MORRIS HOUSE, MAIN STREET

# President's Report



Hon. Harold D. Saylor

DURING THE past year the Society's activities have been much the same as in previous years. The work of the several officers and of the various committees continued as in the past. The museums were open to the public on the afternoons of three week days and were maintained by Mrs. Bostwick, Mrs. Tracey and Miss Ritter, and the Library was in operation as heretofore under the supervision of Mr. Brown and his assistant, Miss Irle.

The Society's houses other than the Museums and the Library were occupied by tenants. The rents paid exceeded the expenditures for taxes, utilities and repairs. Mr. Ollinger continued his supervision over the Society's nine houses and the Conyingham-Hacker House at 5214 Germantown Avenue where the Society is the tenant of the Trust Company which holds title as trustee.

The Germantowne Crier was published regularly. The rather expensive printing bills were paid in large part by receipts from advertisers as in past years. Miss Comly, the editor, has done considerable work in procuring articles of interest to our members and those who are subscribers to this fine quarterly. Much credit is due Miss Comly for the services she has rendered the Society in consistently maintaining the high quality of our publication and having it printed and placed in the hands of our members. Mr. Ollinger has continued successfully his efforts as Advertising Representative which have resulted in reducing considerably the costs of publication. The Society is grateful to its advertisers for their contribution to it and its members and those who subscribe to the Crier.

The Wyck Committee has met frequently to carry on its work in operating the fine old mansion which is held in trust as a charitable enterprise. The Friends of Wyck have helped very much in providing funds to augment the income from trust principal received from the trustee. Efforts to increase the endowment in order to assure additional operating income are being made continually. A substantial gift from a foundation has been received for use in carrying out plans to place Wyck in first class physical condition. Another Philadelphia foundation is underwriting the salary of a resident custodian.

The Ebenezer Maxwell House Committee is no longer functioning. During the past year a new non-profit corporation was created by the individual most directly and fully dedicated to the acquisition of the Victorian house and its use as a Victorian Museum. Henceforth the Ebenezer Maxwell Mansion will be responsible for the preservation and proper use of the property. The Germantown Historical Society under the guidance of many hard-working individuals is proud of its long association with the project for saving the Maxwell Mansion from demolition and offers its very best wishes to those who now control its destiny. Germantown will assuredly be proud of what the newly-created non-profit corporation will be able to accomplish in the years to come, and we offer it and its enthusiastic members our sincere good wishes for success.

The services of Reed Lawrence Engle as Administrator of our Society were terminated as of July 1, 1975. Mr. Engle had served in that office for several years during a part of which time he was associated with the Bicentennial organization in the Germantown area. We thank him for his work in that capacity and for serving as Chairman of our Meetings Committee. We wish him well. We shall miss him and his family as former residents at our main museum.

Thus far the Society has not received any funds whatsoever from any Bicentennial group or entity to place our properties in first class condition for 1976. We have heard "priority" status for our requests for funds but no funds have been forthcoming. However, we are still hopeful that our application for money necessary to

train and employ guides and provide security for our several museums in 1976 will be acted upon favorably. We expect a great number of visitors to Germantown during the Bicentennial celebration and we will not be able to care for them properly unless we get help. We cannot hope to have ladies serve as guides daily for many weeks from early spring to late autumn in 1976 without compensation. We are not financially able to provide that compensation from our present finances. In the event Bicentennial funds are not received we shall have to adhere to our present three afternoons-a-week schedule for visitors to our museums. At the Annual Meeting of the Society's members all of the officers were reelected with the exception of Francis Shunk Brown, Jr., who for many years served as a vice-president. Mr. Brown relinquished that office as he chose to serve as a manager instead. To the vice-presidency vacated by Mr. Brown a former manager, Mr. Frederick C. Fiechter, Jr. was elected. Three managers whose terms were expiring were reelected. They were Messrs. Henderson, Rosenlund and Shepherd. Mr. Henry W. Johnson was elected to the board as was Mrs. James S. Bishop, the latter replacing Mrs. F. Edward Atkins, Jr. who had resigned on moving from Germantown. We thank her for her faithful services rendered over the years.

Mr. Henry W. Johnson is our new Chairman of the Meetings Committee. He has promised us a series of interesting meetings during 1976 and, judging by the one held in the autumn, we shall be well served.

Mrs. James S. Bishop has consented to serve as Chairman of the Membership Committee. We welcome her in that position and wish her great success in her efforts to bring in new members. They are needed.

Dr. Gordon W. Venable and Mrs. Richard Wilson continue their good work for the Deshler-Morris House where Mrs. Edward T. Horn is now Chairman of the Hostess Committee. When the historical restoration work is completed at the "Germantown White House" and the public is once more able to visit this very important property, our leaders there will be happy to continue to perform their important duties.

Mrs. Robert Axford has become the Chairman of the Hospitality Committee. She will serve us as well at our membership meetings. We are grateful to her for accepting the position.

In regard to all members of our Society not above mentioned who have generously expended much time and effort in its behalf, your President thanks each and every one for all that she or he has done in promoting the usefulness of the Society to the members and to the community. There is particular mention due to Mrs. McNeill for her work as Secretary and to Mr. Martindale who has so ably managed our finances and to Dr. Venable and Mr. Ollinger and those who worked with them in conducting the Annual Tour in Germantown to the benefit of those who share in it and to the financial benefit of the Society.

In closing your President wishes every one a Happy New Year and urges every one to give aid in procuring new members and to visit our museums and attend our membership meetings. I am honored to be your president for another year. As I began to serve in that office nearly twenty-three years ago I am grateful to one and all for giving me the opportunity to try to do something worthwhile in supporting the fine purposes for which the Society was created seventy-five years ago.

HAROLD D. SAYLOR
*President*

*Writing insurance — and history — since 1843*

GERMANTOWN INSURANCE COMPANY

**now writes LIFE INSURANCE thru its subsidiary**

GERMANTOWN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Germantown Market Square
Philadelphia, Pa. 19144

## WHICH DO YOU THINK? TODAY OR YESTERDAY?

A gentleman of this city occupied all day, but having some "hours of leisure in the evening," has set up a semi-suburban private patrol, charging his neighbors $4 a month for watching their premises. When asked whether he did not find it exhausting to work all day and walk round all night, he admitted frankly that he only visited his customers once a month, and that was to collect. "But don't they find you out?" said the querist. "Oh, no," he replied. "They hear the burglars going about and trying the doors, and they think it's me" . . .Advance

From an *old* scrapbook

## VISITORS TO THE MUSEUM

Since September we have welcomed 85 visitors from the following places: Alberta, Canada; York, Pennsylvania, Historical Society, members of the Dresher Family, ladies who had been at the Foulke and Long Institute, Palestine, and six different states in the U.S.A. The groups who came to see our Museum were 17 from St. Barnabas School and 8 "Poor Richard" Questers. The two who appeared the most interested were a meter man for the Gas Company and an Acme truck driver. One gentleman came to compare a British map on the Battle of Germantown with the plaque in our front hall of this battle—he wanted to see how it appeared according to Americans.

MRS. M. BACON BOSTWICK

## DONATIONS TO THE COSTUME MUSEUM OF THE GERMANTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mrs. G. H. Adams gave the following;

White blouse with lace and tucks, circa 1910

Brown satin cape with fur insets and fringe, circa 1860-1870.

White self-figured linen dress with embroidered edge of collar and ruffle at bottom, circa 1875-1880

Girl's dress, white cotton with tucks and embroidery down front and around the bottom above a ruffle, circa 1880

Girl's dress, white cotton with embroidered yoke and bottom, circa 1880

Girl's white cotton petticoat, circa 1880

Girl's cotton white pants, circa 1880

Woman's dress bought in Italy embroidered natural color with black velvet inserts on the top, circa 1915

White linen skirt with embroidery, circa 1915

Black silk jacket with off white trimming around neck, down the front and around the bottom

Woman's dress, green plaid wool with black satin trimming, two pieces, circa 1905

Black velvet short coat with black cotton embroidery, circa 1915.

Mrs. Palmer gave a long black lace cape of the 1850 to 1860 era. She also gave a black lace capelet with lace collar circa 1870 and a net scarf with lace edge, circa 1840 to 1860.

Mrs. Francis Strawbridge donated an ermine muff and an ermine scarf to match, circa 1870.

MISS DEBORAH C. RITTER
*Chairman*


# *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.

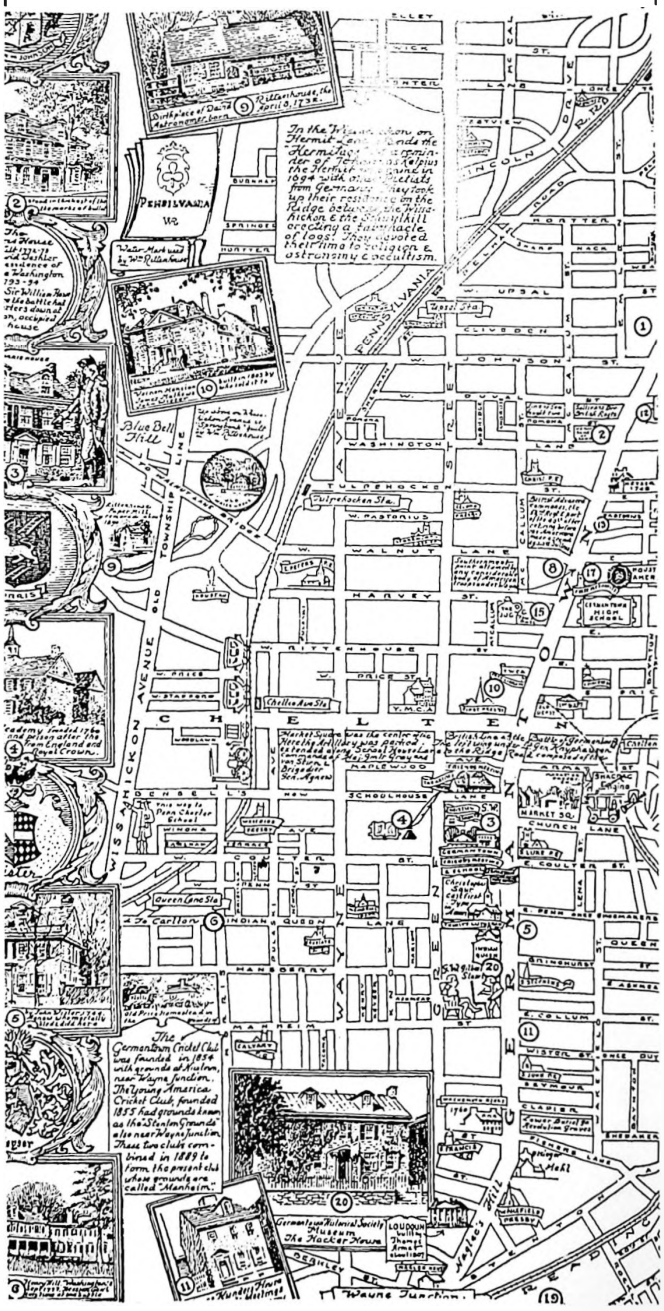
Size 19 by 25 inches
Price: Black and white, $7.50
Beautifully hand-colored, $35.00

The map may be ordered from:

Germantowne Crier
5208 Germantown Ave.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19144

Checks should be made payable to
Germantown Historical Society

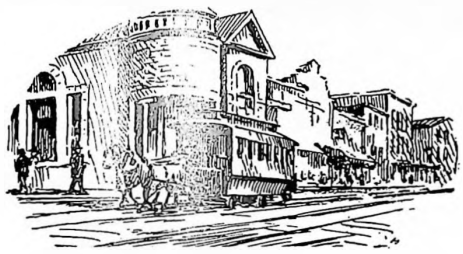
Add 50 cents to cover postage and handling

# 1876 Centennial Facts and Figures

# Before—During—After

Copied from an old newspaper clipping scrapbook presented to the Germantowne Crier by Doris F. Ritzinger.



## THE BUILDINGS AND BUREAUS.

IN JULY, 1874, the grading of the two hundred and forty acres comprised in the grounds intended for the Exhibition was begun. It had been decided to erect five principal exhibition structures—the Main Building, covering 21.47 acres; the Art Gallery, 1.5 acres; Machinery Hall, 14 acres; Agricultural Hall, 10.15 acres, and Horticultural Hall, 1.5 acres—also to classify all exhibits into seven departments, namely mining, manufactures, education and science, art, machinery, agriculture, and horticulture, the first three of which were assigned to the Main Building, and the others to the structures known by their respective names.

To render fine weather for the opening ceremonial more probable, the dates for beginning and ending the Exhibition were changed from April 19 and October 19 to May 10 and November 10, 1876. It was resolved that the reception of articles should begin January 5, and end May 1; that unoccupied space should be forfeited May 10, and all exhibits be removed by December 31, 1876. Thirty-eight foreign nations responded favorably to the President's invitation to co-operate in the Exhibition. Thirty-nine States and Territories took measures for the representation of their industries and resources, and appointed advisory boards charged with this duty. The following States and municipal governments made the appropriations named to the stock of the Board of Finance:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Philadelphia | $1,575,000 | Delaware | 10,000 |
| Pennsylvania | 1,000,000 | Wilmington, Del. | 5,000 |
| New Jersey | 100,000 | | |
| Connecticut | 100,000 | Total | $2,710,000 |
| New Hampshire | 10,000 | | |

To this sum is to be added a Congressional appropriation of $1,500,000.

### GENEROUS, EARNEST WORKERS.

The following States and Territories made the appropriations named toward the representation of their natural and productive interests:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Massachusetts | $50,000 | Michigan | $7,500 |
| New York | 25,000 | Arizona | 5,000 |
| Nevada | 20,000 | Indiana | 5,000 |
| West Virginia | 20,000 | Kansas | 5,000 |
| Connecticut | 15,000 | Montana | 5,000 |
| Arkansas | 15,000 | Colorado | 4,000 |
| Ohio | 13,000 | Wisconsin | 3,000 |
| New Jersey | 10,000 | Oregon | 1,000 |
| New Hampshire | 10,000 | Minnesota | 500 |
| Illinois | 10,000 | | |
| Delaware | 10,000 | Total | $234,000 |

### THE STATE DAYS.

Next in importance come the eight State days, each of which was the occasion of a reception in the State building by the Governor, and in most instances of an oration on the history, progress, and resources of the State. Eight of the original thirteen States had such days, but the other four, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, declined the invitation of the Centennial authorities to participate in the movement. The number of visitors on each State day exceeded that of any other day of the week in which the celebration occurred.

### THE BIG DAYS.

The State day celebrations at the Exhibition are conspicuous in the records of the admissions as the best-paying days. The following is a complete list of those days, with the cash and total admissions and receipts:

| | Paid. | Total. | Receipts. |
|---|---|---|---|
| New Jersey, August 24 | 56,325 | 67,052 | $ 28,083.75 |
| Connecticut, September 7 | 64,059 | 75,044 | 30,853.75 |
| Massachusetts, September 14 | 85,795 | 97,868 | 41,193.00 |
| New York, September 21 | 122,003 | 134,588 | 59,986.00 |
| Pennsylvania, September 28 | 257,168 | 274,919 | 118,673.75 |
| Rhode Island, October 5 | 89,060 | 100,946 | 44,496.00 |
| New Hampshire, October 12 | 101,541 | 116,422 | 50,536.00 |
| Delaware and Md., October 19 | 161,355 | 176,407 | 80,367.50 |
| Ohio, October 26 | 122,300 | 135,661 | 61,029.50 |

The following are some of the other large days during the Exhibition period:

| | Paying Visitors. | | Paying Visitors. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Opening day ..... | 76,712 | November 1 ..... | 107,715 |
| September 9 ..... | 99,984 | November 2 ..... | 115,298 |
| September 20 .... | 101,498 | November 8 ..... | 90,588 |
| September 30 .... | 103,385 | Nov. 9, Phila. day ..... | 176,755 |
| October 18 ..... | 124,777 | Nov. 10, closing day ..... | 126,069 |
| October 25 ..... | 106,986 | | |
| October 27 ..... | 95,563 | | |

In the cases of all the European exhibitions, the greatest day was either the closing one or near it; and at Paris and Vienna the greatest number of visitors was on Sunday. The greatest attendance on any one day at previous exhibitions, as compared with "Pennsylvania" Day here, is thus given:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Philadelphia . | 274,999 | on Thursday, September 28, 1876. |
| Paris ..... | 173,923 | on Sunday, October 27, 1867. |
| Vienna ..... | 185,674 | on Sunday, November 2, 1873. |
| Paris ..... | 123,017 | on Sunday, September 9, 1855. |
| London ..... | 109,915 | on Tuesday, October 7, 1851. |
| London ..... | 67,891 | on Thursday, October 30, 1862. |

The fair being once opened, and its magnificence properly represented to the masses, the attendance became so large as to make it exceptional in the history of similar enterprises. The following table shows the total number of visitors for each of the six months, with the receipts also.

| Month. | Days. | Paid. | Total. | Receipts. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| May | 19 | 378,980 | 613,495 | $ 189,090.35 |
| June | 26 | 695,666 | 952,177 | 347,833.40 |
| July | 26 | 636,518 | 906,447 | 318,099.25 |
| August | 27 | 908,684 | 1,175,314 | 415,659.25 |
| September | 26 | 2,130,991 | 2,439,689 | 928,056.00 |
| October | 26 | 2,334,530 | 2,663,879 | 1,160,811.50 |
| November | 9 | 918,894 | 1,031,821 | 453,668.50 |
| Grand Total | 159 | 8,004,263 | 9,782,822 | $3,803,718.25 |

## THE FINANCES.

The Board of Finance have expended upward of $7,000,000 in erecting buildings and improving the grounds. This amount is covered by the following receipts: Pennsylvania's appropriation, $1,000,000; Philadelphia's, $1,500,000; concessions, gifts and interest, $500,000; stock subscriptions, $2,500,000, and the national appropriation, $1,500,000; total, $7,000,000. The total cash receipts for admissions amounted to about $3,850,000, and the total expenses outside of the $7,000,000 above named, to about $1,830,000.

## THE ADMISSIONS.

As in most other respects, the Centennial Exhibition exceeds all its foreign predecessors in the matter of attendance. The total attendance of paying and non-paying visitors was for the whole period of six months about 10,000,000 persons. The Exhibition was opened on 156 days, and the average was 50,000 per day of paying visitors. The non-paying visitors, it should be remembered, were scarcely visitors at all in the true sense, being exhibitors, attendants, officials, newspaper correspondents, and others who went in day after day, and often in and out many times a day; so that, although this branch of the account shows the free list to have been equal to one-fifth of the whole attendance, the persons whose visits made up those enormous figures did not number more than 15,000 persons at the outside. In the following table the figures representing the total attendance should be taken with the recollection that some of the other fairs were open for longer periods than the Centennial Exhibition, and all, with the exception of the London Exhibition, were opened on Sundays.

## COMPARISONS WITH PREVIOUS EXHIBITIONS.

| Years. | City. | Days Open. | No. of Exhibitors. | No. of Visitors. | Receipts. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1851 | London | 141 | 17,500 | 6,039,195 | $2,121,612 |
| 1855 | Paris | 200 | 23,954 | 5,162,330 | 640,595 |
| 1862 | London | 171 | 28,653 | 6,227,000 | 2,142,652 |
| 1867 | Paris | 217 | 52,200 | 9,238,967 | 2,103,675 |
| 1873 | Vienna | 186 | 70,000 | 7,254,687 | 1,032,380 |
| 1876 | Phila. | 159 | 40,000 | 9,782,822 | 3,813,718.25 |

## SALE OF THE CENTENNIAL BUILDINGS.

Probably the largest sale of property ever held on a single day took place yesterday on the Centennial Grounds, when the twenty-four buildings belonging to the Board of Finance (not including the Women's Pavilion originally offered, but withdrawn in consequence of the women's movement for its retention as a memorial, and the Vienna Bakery, also withdrawn), and the dozen structures of varying dimensions belonging to individuals or firms, were exposed at public auction. The total cost value of the property offered was estimated in round figures at two and one-half millions of dollars, and the actual figures realized from the sale were $296,160. Machinery Hall, Memorial Hall and Horticultural Hall not being in the list of properties owned by the Finance Board, were not included in the list.

The auction took place in Judges' Hall, where, notwithstanding the burning of the gas jets of the chandeliers and other devices to keep warm, the people present suffered much personal discomfort from the severe coldness of the day. The attendance numbered about four hundred persons. President Welsh and Messrs. Cochran, James and others of the Board of Finance occupied places on the platform, and Mr. Ellis, of M. Thomas & Sons, auctioneers, officiated as salesman. The sale continued from half-past eleven A.M. to a little before three o'clock P.M., and, with the excep-

tions stated, included all the buildings set down for sale. The auctioneer stated that unless otherwise specially provided, all the buildings sold must be removed by January 1st, when possession will be given, and that 25 per cent of the price must be paid down. The sale began with the Main Building, in which the gas pipes, elevator and other personal property were reserved from sale, while the chandeliers were included. The building cost about $1,600,000. The only bids made for it were one of $200,000, by R. J. Dobbins, Esq., and one of $250,000, by John S. Morton, Esq., who made the bid on behalf of the Permanent Exhibition Company. It was knocked down to Mr. Morton amid the general applause of the audience.

The two mineral annexes, which cost together over $19,000, were next offered, with the privilege to the first buyer of taking one or both. Both the buildings were knocked down to Mr. William King, of Philadelphia, oil merchant—the larger at $600 and the smaller at $400.

The Carriage building was then put up. Its cost was about $55,000, and the terms of sale require its removal before the 1st of April. It sold for $4100 to James C. Adams, for Richard J. Dobbins.

Photographic Hall, which is to be removed by March 1st, and for the construction of which between $22,000 and $23,000 was expended, was the next on the list of sales. For this structure the bidding was tame and backward, a start being made at the low figure of $100 offered by Mr. Smith B. Jones. The price wavered at $500, but upon Mr. Welsh stating that this would only cover the cost of the gas fixtures it went to $900. At this point someone in the crowd, addressing Mr. Welsh, inquired as to who would suffer by the loss in the event of this or any other of the buildings being burned down before the purchaser came into possession. Mr. Welsh, turning to a number of the Directors of the Board of Finance seated on the platform, remarked, "I guess we will have to assume the risk, gentlemen," to which the gentlemen addressed freely assented. Many of the persons present expressed themselves satisfied with the assurance thus given and Photographic Hall went $100 higher, being disposed of for $1000 to Mr. H. Crous, of Reading, who said he had not determined to what use his purchase will be applied.

The Art Gallery Annex, which cost $110,000, was next sold to A. P. Bilyen & Son, of Philadelphia, for $3050.

Judges' Hall, which cost $30,000, was sold for $1500, to John S. Morton, Esq., for the International Exhibition Company. The gas fixtures of the building, according to an estimate by Mr. Welsh during the bidding, were worth $1500. The building will probably be retained in its present position, the purchasers having until May 1st to make any necessary arrangements. The list of buildings offered was then proceeded with and disposed of at the rates and to the purchasers named, as follows:—

Medical Department Building for $300, to Henry H. Yard, of Ocean Beach, N. J., dealer in real estate.

The Department of Public Comfort Building, which cost $22,000, for $1000, to James and John Hunter, of Philadelphia.

The Shoe and Leather Building, costing $30,750, was disposed of for $3000, to R. J. Dobbins, Esq.

The Centennial Guard Reserve, a small frame 20 by 30 feet, cost $500, sold for $155 to George Eilber, boot and shoe dealer, Philadelphia. The British boiler house, costing $15,396, sold for $1150, to R. J. Dobbins, Esq.

The Corliss boiler house, costing $20,976 and containing 8125 cubic feet of masonry, 243,450 bricks and 25,000 pounds of iron, was sold for $1400, to Mr. John Welsh for either Fairmount Park or Franklin Institute. Boiler house No. 3 and machine shop, costing $39,700, sold for $2200, to Frank K. Ward, wood and coal dealer, South Street wharf. Boiler house No. 4, costing $24,000, sold for $1400 to John Shedrick & Sons, builders, Philadelphia.

The saw mill and boiler house No. 5, costing $12,000 sold for $1275 to Lewis Haehnien, Philadelphia. Boiler house No. 6, costing $3131, sold for $300 to Andrew Watson, builder, Philadelphia. The Music Pavilion brought $100. The Wagon annex, 196 by 194 feet, sold for $850 to Samuel A. Simes, Treasurer Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Co. Agricultural Hall boiler house, 100 by 40 feet, sold for $250 to R. J. Dobbins. The annex to Horticultural Hall, 150 by 47 feet, was sold for $600 to Mr. John Welsh.

Agricultural Hall, covering ten acres and costing $275,000, was knocked down to R. J. Dobbins, Esq., for $13,100. The Board of Finance reserves the right to extend the time named for giving possession of the building, which was January 15th.

The Pomological Building, costing $19,000, 192 by 182 feet, was sold for $1250, to R. J. Dobbins, Esq. The time named for removal is January 15th.

The Butter and Cheese Building, costing about $15,000, went at $1100 to Mr. G. L. Atkins, cloth dealer, Philadelphia. The buyer proposes to take it to Asbury Park, N. J. It is to be removed January 15th.

The Centennial National Bank, with stationary counters, vaults, etc., included, costing $7000, went to H. Crous, of Reading, for $600, and will be taken to Ocean Grove, New Jersey.

The Grand American Restaurant, 273 by 188 feet, costing over $30,000, and which, according to the statement of the auctioneer, the architect had offered to take down, remove and re-erect for less than $7000, sold for $1100 to William E. Baker, of Boston, and will be taken to Ridge Hill Farm, Wellesley, Massachusetts.

Cook's World's Ticket Office, costing over $6000, sold for $525, to H. Crous, of Reading, for M. H. Gregory, of Harrisburg, who proposes to remove it to Landisville.

The Liberty Stove Works building went to Mr. John C. Shaw, of New York, for $325, the purchaser intend-

ing to remove the building to his farm at Bound Brook, N. J.

The Averill Chemical Paint Company's Pavilion sold for $550 to Robert M. Shoemaker, wholesale druggist, Philadelphia.

The Boston *Daily Advertiser* building went for $160, to H. Crous, of Reading. Rowell's Newspaper Pavilion, 66 by 44 feet, containing pigeon hole frames costing $1000, sold for $520, to Theodore A. Wessels, Secretary of Bellevue Literary Association. It is to be erected at Sixty-third and Vine Streets, for the use of the Society. The Pennsylvania Education Hall, costing $12,000, went for $900, to James A. Bradley. It is to be removed by January 1st, and will be taken to Asbury Park.

The British Police Barracks went for $650, to W. Stokes Kirk, of Abington, Pa. The British Workmen's Headquarters for $425, to R. J. Dobbins; the Turkish Cafe, costing $4000, for $250, to William King, of Philadelphia. Two of the eight cigar pavilions offered brought $10 cash apiece, the remainder not being disposed of.

The Women's Pavilion and Vienna Bakery, announced for sale, were withdrawn and not offered. The Japanese dwelling and Missouri State building, not on the auctioneer's list, were put up, but no prior notice of them having been given to purchasers, neither were bid upon.

At the close of the sale it was announced that another sale would soon be held of all gates, fences, and moveable property to be removed from the grounds.

**Dependable Electricians**

*Since 1919*

**SCHUCK**

**ELECTRIC**

**5944 Germantown Avenue**

**Economy Plumbing and Heating Supply Co., Inc.**

*Wholesale Distributors*

Standard Sanitary ○ American Radiator
Kohler of Kohler
Pipes • Valves • Fittings • Boilers
Radiators & Oil Burner Supplies

5245-47 Germantown Avenue
Phone: Victor 8-5600 Philadelphia, Pa. 19144

## HAS SPELLING PROGRESSED?

As an illustration take the Lord's Prayer, and note the progress made toward a simple form of spelling in the past six centuries:

A. D. 1258

Fader, ure in heune, haleweide beoth thi neune, cumen this kuneriche thi wille beoth idon in heune and in erthe. The euerych dawe bried gif ous thilke dawe. And vorzif ure dettes as vi vorzifen ure dettoures. And lene ous nought into temptation bot delyvor ous of uvel. Amen.

A. D. 1300

Fadir our in hevene, Halewyed by thi name, thi kingdom come, Thi wille be don as in hevene and in erthe. Oure urche dayes bred give us today. And forgive us oure dettes, as we forgive oure dettoures, And lede us not into temptation, Bote delyvere us of yvel. Amen.

A. D. 1582

Ovr father which art in heauen, hallowed be thy name. Let thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heauen, in earth also. Giue vs to-day our super-substantial bread. And forgive vs our dettes as we also forgiue our dettes as we also forgiue our detters. And lead vs not into temptation. But deliuer us from evil. Amen.

A. D. 1611

Our father which art in heauen, hallowed by thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth, as it is in heauen. Giue vs this day our dayly bread. And forgiue vs our debts as we forgiue our debtors, And lede vs not into temptation, but deliuer vs from eull. For thine is the kingdome, and the power, and the glory for ever. Amen.

"Not" was originally ne-ought, "ne" being the old negative. The same reasons that have shortened it to not, may well avail for writing at instead of eight.

Copied exactly from an old
newspaper clipping—date not given,
(probably early 1870's)

**LEEDOM AND WISSLER**

*Since 1895*

**PRESCRIPTIONS**

Chelten and Pulaski Avenues
GErmantown 8–1340

*FREE MOTOR DELIVERY*

# Mount Airy in Philadelphia: A Pioneering Community






*By* PHYLLIS KNAPP THOMAS

The author, free-lance writer and homemaker with two children, has written a series of articles entitled "Mount Airy in Philadelphia: A Pioneering Community." She spent months in researching the Germantown-Mount Airy area. From 1963 to 1966 she wrote and edited curriculum material for the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Since then she has taken an active part in various community projects including East Mount Airy Neighbors' Board of Directors, Day Care Committee, and Group Homes Board. Additional portions of the series will be published in coming issues of the "Crier."

Editor

### Why the Name "Mount Airy"?

TODAY'S RESIDENTS of Mount Airy might well wonder how this urban community received its name. Except for the rocky heights along the Wissahickon Creek and scattered oases of green, the country scenery has long since disappeared from Philadelphia's Northwest.

Long ago in the pre-Revolutionary era of our history, villagers leaned their elbows on Dutch half-doors and stared in curiosity. An elegant carriage drawn by four black horses was passing by. Rarely if ever along the dusty Germantown road was a finer-looking coach to be seen! Members of the Allen family, and perhaps the former chief justice of the Pennsylvania Province himself, were on their way to the Allen estate in the northern part of what was then the German Township. Why William had decided to call the estate "Mount Airy" was anybody's guess, but the proud name seemed to suit the high and breezy place he had chosen for his country home.

As the years went by, the settlement that grew up around the estate came to be called Mount Airy also. More and more houses were built until the village of Mount Airy merged with the villages to the south along Main Street—Mount Pleasant, Beggarstown (also called Franklinville or Dogtown), and the uppermost part of Germantown—to become the city neighborhood we know today.*

*The Mount Airy mansion was on the east side of Germantown Avenue opposite Allens Lane.
Mount Pleasant Village was located where Mount Pleasant Avenue crosses Germantown Avenue.
Between Upsal Street and Gorgas Lane was the section along Germantown Avenue known as Beggarstown.

### How Far Does Present-day Mount Airy Extend?

Originally William Penn had planned for four villages along the Germantown Road: Germantown from what is now Wayne Junction to Washington Lane (formerly the Abington Road); Cresheim, extending northward to the old Mermaid Tavern, once located on Germantown Avenue's east side at Mermaid Lane; Sommerhausen, reaching as far as Rex Avenue in Chestnut Hill; Crefeld, continuing to Streeper's Mill, where the main road crossed the Wissahickon.

Cresheim (or Krisheim) and Crefeld (Krefeld) were the names of towns in Germany where many of the early settlers once had lived. Sommerhausen was the German birthplace of Francis Daniel Pastorius, who crossed the ocean in 1683 to become Germantown's first leader.

The initial plan and the actual settlements, however, did not coincide. Upper Germantown grew along Main Street until at one time, in the mid-1800's, its northern boundary was Carpenter Lane. Crefeld and Sommerhausen became Chestnut Hill, while Mount Airy came to encompass the entire territory that was once called Cresheim.

In early times a settlement began in the uppermost part of Cresheim. An old map indicated that by 1700 there were ten houses in the vicinity of Mermaid Lane.

Today on the west and east sides of Germantown Avenue respectively are West and East Mount Airy, served by cooperating neighborhood organizations. West Mount Airy Neighbors and East Mount Airy Neighbors define Mount Airy's present boundaries as follows:

*to the north*—Cresheim Valley Drive

*to the west*—the Wissahickon Creek (although the postal boundary between Mount Airy and Roxborough is Wissahickon Avenue)
*to the east*—Stenton Avenue
*to the south*—Johnson Street (west of Germantown Avenue) and Washington Lane (east of Germantown Avenue)

Today's residents are becoming increasingly aware of their community as unique and distinct.

### Mount Airy's Roots Lie Deep in Germantown History

The ship *Concord,* with its passengers on board, lingered near the shore of England for three wearisome weeks. At last weather conditions were favorable, and the long voyage westward began. Two children were born at sea. Otherwise, day followed day uneventfully as seven weeks passed with no land in sight.

On October 6, 1683, at least thirty-three persons from the German town of Crefeld, near Holland—men, women, and children—disembarked from the *Concord* at the small frontier settlement of Philadelphia. Most of them were Dutch Quakers in search of the religious freedom William Penn had promised. (During this troubled period it was hardly surprising to find on the European continent people with Dutch names residing in German territory.) They were met with disappointing news. The land they had hoped for along the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers had already been taken, and they would have to choose a location farther inland.

On October 25 the newcomers gathered at the home of Francis Daniel Pastorius, agent for the Frankfurt Land Company. His temporary dwelling, half house and half cave like other homes nearby, was located on what is now Front Street in Philadelphia. At this meeting—which for later generations marked the founding of Germantown—the men drew lots for the ownership of narrow strips of forested land in what is today the Greater Germantown area, including Mount Airy.

There was no time to waste. At once the colonists began the task of chopping down trees, clearing away undergrowth, and building the simple log shelters (mostly in lower Germantown) that were needed to protect the thirteen families from winter storms.

Soon more settlers arrived—Swiss and German as well as Dutch. There were members of the persecuted sects, including Mennonites, Quakers, and Brethren. There were also persons of the Lutheran and Reformed faiths, as well as many without any formal religious tie.

Skilled in a variety of trades, the settlers wove their own linen and even manufactured their own paper! The first paper mill in the colonies was erected just over the Roxborough line by William Rittenhouse (an early spelling was Rittinghuysen) in 1690.

As the years went by, so many German people settled in the Germantown area that the Dutch influence was almost forgotten. One reminder still with us, however, is the two-part "Dutch" door typical of local Colonial architecture. The next time you travel along the Mount Airy section of Germantown Avenue, notice the doors of the Johnson House (#6306 at Washington Lane) and the Beggarstown School (#6669, next to St. Michael's Lutheran Church) as interesting examples.

### Always a Changing Community

The Germantown-Mount Airy region was never as isolated as people once supposed. Local residents kept in touch with farm relatives in the western part of what is now Montgomery County. The Germantown Road, poor as it was, brought many strangers to local shops and inns. Wealthy men of trade like William Allen, who built summer homes here in the mid-1700's, received news from Europe regularly as their ships returned to port.

When the devastating yellow fever struck more than once in Philadelphia in the 1790's, people fled in droves to this high, healthful area. Here for a visit in 1793 were the shipping merchant Henry Drinker and his wife Elizabeth. The family stayed at the George Hesser house, then located at what is now the northeast corner of Germantown Avenue and Phil-Ellena Street in Mount Airy. Vividly Elizabeth described in her diary the terrors of the epidemic and the coming of the refugees. She also wrote about local events such as the fire at the Livezey grist mill. Elizabeth Drinker's journal, faithfully kept from the beginning of the Revolution until many years afterward, is now a treasured historic document.

The population of yesterday's Germantown and vicinity grew and changed. By the end of the Colonial period there were not only large numbers of German, Dutch, and English residents but also some Irish, Swedes, Blacks, Swiss, and French.

Always mobile, always diverse, these villages of old were never the peaceful havens of popular imagination! There were the inevitable frictions as people of differing customs learned to live together. There were tensions between villagers and "summer people." With the Revolution came even deeper rifts as opposing loyalties separated neighbor from neighbor.

Along with the struggles there were the quiet changes of season, the comfortable daily routines, the moments of joy. And there were the momentous occasions when neighbors gathered together to create something of value not only for themselves but for future generations.

"Think how your fathers left their native land . . . .
And, where the wild beast roams,
In patience planned
New forest homes beyond the mighty sea,
There, undisturbed and free,
To live as brothers of one family."

—Translated from the Latin of Francis Daniel Pastorius (Germantown Records, 1688) by John Greenleaf Whittier

# Indian Trails and Traces

VANISHING in the mists of the past, the Indians who began Mount Airy's history are—to today's residents—a mysterious people. Lenni-Lenape* men, women, and children, with individual names that have long been forgotten, visited and encamped in what was then a wilderness. Their way of life depended mainly on hunting and fishing and changed the forest hardly at all. Yet we can still find clues that they were here.

Some of these clues are in place-names like "Wissahickon," one of the wildest and most beautiful regions within Fairmount Park. Through its rocky gorge the Wissahickon Creek flows sometimes peacefully, sometimes turbulently toward the Schuylkill River. The name "Wissahickon" is reported to be an English version of an Indian word meaning "catfish creek" (or possibly another Indian word meaning "yellow-colored creek"). Years ago, catfish-and-waffle dinners were a particularly popular meal at the old-time inns once located along the stream.

Indian lore clings to places in the park that are marked by unusual rock formations, such as the Devil's Pool. There, in that secluded spot where the Cresheim Creek joins the Wissahickon, the Good Spirit is said to have banished the Evil Spirit into deep, dark waters.

Another stream, flowing where Belfield Avenue and the Chestnut Hill Branch of the Reading Railroad are today, was known as the "Wingohocking." This name meant "favorite land for planting." No doubt the Lenni-Lenape Indians appreciated places with fertile soil as likely sites for their vegetable gardens.

"Tulpehocken," the name of a street just beyond Mount Airy's borders, comes from an Indian word meaning "land of turtles." Whether or not turtles were seen there, we do not know, but it is interesting to note that the Lenni-Lenape people of this entire region were members of the Turtle Clan.

Other kinds of clues such as arrowheads and stone axes were found north of Upsal Street in the Mount Airy section once called Franklinville or Dogtown. Farther north in Chestnut Hill (near Chestnut Hill Avenue) two Indian burial mounds were uncovered, yielding such relics as weapons, arrowheads, and beads. It is said that the Indians also used to gather at Council Rock in the Wissahickon Woods (near Rex Avenue in Chestnut Hill) until they moved westward in the mid-1700's. For a long time after their departure, Indian picture writings could still be seen on rocks nearby.

Today high on top of Council Rock is the figure of an Indian, carved in granite. Shading his eyes with one hand, he gazes into the distance. The statue as designed by J. Massey Rhind does not represent, as many have believed, the famous leader Teedyuscung (or Tedyuscung) but an idealized Lenni-Lenape.

*The Indians called themselves Lenni-Lenape, "the original people." The English called them Delawares after seeing them along the Delaware River, named after the first governor of Virginia.

### The Tragedy of Teedyuscung

Teedyuscung's link with Philadelphia history is as an able peacemaker between the Indians and the English at the time of the French and Indian Wars. His dream was for Indians and colonists to live together in harmony. A big, tall man, he was competent in speaking English and spoke it boldly. The Moravians called him "Honest John." But the records reveal that the colonists tried to exploit him when he drank too much of their rum. Generally he was too shrewd to be tricked by them. At last, however, he lost his life when his settlement at what is now Wilkes-Barre was set on fire. Although various stories were circulated at the time, the responsibility clearly rested on the representatives of a land company that had vowed to use violence if need be to gain control of Teedyuscung's land.

### A Gentle People

Philadelphia may be proud of its tradition of attempting to deal with the Indians fairly. The Lenni-Lenape were viewed by the settlers as strong, honest, and hospitable, to be treated with respect. John Kelpius, the "Hermit of the Wissahickon," became their friend and learned from them about plants with medicinal uses.

However, agreements concerning the purchase of land could hardly work to the advantage of a people who regarded land so differently. When the Lenni-Lenape "sold" their territory so cheaply, they expected to be sharing it with the newcomers as hunting-grounds, in a spirit of mutual trust. Theirs was a culture constantly on the move. They resented deeply the way the settlers took possession of the land, called themselves owners, and excluded everyone else.

In spite of the differences in their ways of life, good will prevailed in the relationships between the gentle Lenni-Lenape and the peace-minded settlers of the Germantown-Mount Airy-Chestnut Hill area. Farm families along the old Germantown Road often saw groups of Indians passing by. Perhaps they were on their way to confer with James Logan at the Stenton Mansion (below Market Square, where they were given feasts). At the Wyck house on Germantown Avenue at what is now Walnut Lane, Indian travelers would find the latchstring on the door hung out in welcome. They would enter quietly, take refreshment, and warm themselves beside the fire before they continued on their way. Some Indians are buried in Mount Airy in the Upper Burying Ground next to the old Concord Schoolhouse (above Washington Lane at 6309 Germantown Avenue).

Tradition links the Indians with the woods that were once behind the old Johnson House at the northwest corner of Germantown Avenue and Washington Lane.

A member of the Johnson family claimed Indians camped there for a week at a time, performing feats of agility and making baskets and fiddles to trade with the villagers.

Farther away from the city of Philadelphia, the Indians' grievances mounted. Frontiersmen came in such numbers that land was settled without any thought for its first inhabitants. In certain instances, devious means were used by Pennsylvania's government—no longer under William Penn's leadership—to acquire additional territory. The way was being paved for some of the bloodiest episodes of the French and Indian Wars, when hostile Indians found themselves pawns in a struggle between foreign powers.

**The March of the Paxton Rangers**

Settlers along Pennsylvania's western frontier became frequent victims of Indian warfare. Their pleas to the remote and peace-oriented provincial government failed to bring adequate protection. Finally, in February of 1764, a group of armed frontiersmen known as the Paxton Rangers marched angrily toward Philadelphia. They would *make* those leaders listen!

All Philadelphia, and its vicinity, was in a turmoil. Military preparations began to be made. No one knew how many Rangers were coming. Word spread that they were determined to seek out and to kill the Moravian Christian Indians who had taken refuge in the city. It was well known that they had already wiped out without mercy a village of peaceable Indians in Lancaster County.

Boldly along the main dirt road through Chestnut Hill and Mount Airy came the so-called "Paxton Boys." On their way they met and talked with the Rev. Paul Bryzelius, sent to this area to discourage the German Lutherans around St. Michael's* from entering the conflict. Soon afterward, in Germantown, the Rangers were met by several important civic leaders, including Benjamin Franklin and Benjamin Chew. Whatever was said, the unwelcome visitors must have been persuaded that their concerns were at least being taken seriously. They sent delegates into the city with a strongly worded petition, spent a rowdy night in the neighborhood of Germantown's Market Square, and went home.

Tragically, many of the Moravian Indians who had sought shelter in Philadelphia died of smallpox. A usually healthy, outdoor people, the American Indians had not had time to acquire resistance to European diseases.

By the end of the eighteenth century the unhappy Lenni-Lenape had retreated farther and farther into the nation's interior. Finally they were seen no longer in Mount Airy's woods and fields.

But they left their indelible imprint upon Mount Airy's history. Reminders of another way of life are the canoes still used on the Wissahickon . . . shoes patterned after moccasins . . . foods such as corn, pumpkin, squashes, and melons, once shared by Indians with the first settlers . . . streets that follow the routes of well-planned Indian trails. Germantown Avenue was once an old Indian footpath, winding its way through laurel bushes.**

*St. Michael's Lutheran Church is located at the southeast corner of Germantown Avenue and Phil-Ellena Street. The present building dates from the late 1800's, but the church's history began prior to 1730.

**Germantown Avenue is a part of what was once the Minsi Path, named for a branch of the Lenni-Lenape that lived at Minisink Island, New Jersey, according to Paul A. W. Wallace's *Indian Paths of Pennsylvania,* pages 102-104.

## Pioneer Spirit and My Neighbor's Good

" 'Called my farm Muscle-in-my-arm,' " cheerfully sang a four-year-old resident of today's Mount Airy.

" 'Called my shack Break-my-back.
Called my cow No-milk-now.
But the land was sweet and good,
And I did what I could.' "***

She was too young to know that the old folksong she had learned at nursery school came straight out of Pennsylvania's pioneer experience. Words and music alike resound with the axe-strokes once required to wrest cleared land from stubborn forest growth. The Pennsylvania Dutch (actually German) people who gave us this song were no strangers to hardship. Having fled from the religious persecution and poverty in their homeland, they first endured the terrible sea voyage, then bore the uncertainties of life on a little known frontier. How well they must have understood one had to sing and laugh in the face of all the odds in order to survive!

" 'Called my shack Break-my-back . . .' "

The homes of the early settlers in the Mount Airy-Germantown region were made of logs, picturesque with their flower beds and vegetable gardens close by. Many a family had its home-grown flax for spinning and weaving into cloth. There were sheep and pigs, some cows, chickens roosting in the trees, small fields of wheat, corn, and hay, and apple orchards.

As time went by and families grew, homes were enlarged. A front room of stone (the livingroom) might be attached to the back room of logs (the kitchen). Some homes were built entirely of the gray mica-flecked stone found here in abundance. Steep, over-hanging roofs were typical. The doors were divided so that the closed lower half kept out any stray dogs while the upper half, opened wide, let in sunlight and fresh air.

At first, doors and windows were added as needed without much thought for over-all appearance. By the

***As translated by Oscar Brand; from *American Favorite Ballads, Tunes and Songs as Sung by Pete Seeger,* Oak Publications, New York, 1961.

mid-1700's, sturdy two-story buildings gave evidence of some wish for symmetry—at least at the front of the house facing the old Germantown Road. Nevertheless, the fine homes of the more well-to-do continued to be built with a marked simplicity of style. Notice, for example, the Michael Billmeyer House (#6505-07), where Upsal Street crosses Germantown Avenue. Or the Daniel Billmeyer House (#6504) and Christopher Mason House (#6514) across the street. Their strong, simple lines seem appropriate for a community begun by members of sects in pursuit of a "plain" way of life.

Among those who came in search of peace and simplicity were the Dunkers, or German Baptist Brethren. Some chose to settle in the part of Mount Airy north of Upsal Street once known as Franklinville, or Beggerstown. The name Beggarstown may well be a reflection of the Dunkers' active concern for the needs of the poor. For years a log building called the Pettikoffer House was a home for poor widows in need of shelter.

For the persecuted Dunker Brethren, a new land meant freedom—and a new beginning. On Christmas Day, 1723, a group of people in simple dress walked along a path said to have been an Indian trail (where Carpenter Lane is now) to the Wissahickon Creek. In spite of the coldness of the water at that time of year, a number of adults were baptized by immersion.* In the evening the group celebrated together a love-feast, including the rite of foot-washing.

For years thereafter, this close-knit band of German Brethren met for worship in one another's houses. Its ministers received no pay but earned a living by the skilled trades of those times. Peter Becker, their first leader, was a weaver. A later preacher, Peter Keyser, was said to have memorized most of the Bible while grinding bark for the Keyser tannery!**

In 1770 a stone structure to house the Germantown Church of the Brethren was erected at what is now 6611-13 Germantown Avenue. Amazingly enough, it is still there.

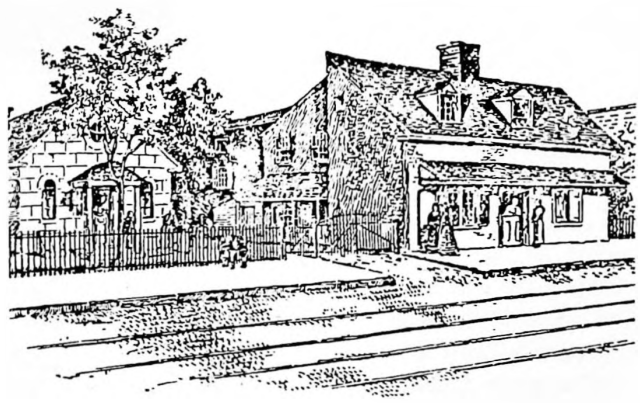
A symbol of peace, the building nevertheless stood in the thick of the Battle of Germantown during the Revolutionary War. On October 4, 1777, in front of the church General Francis Nash and Major James Witherspoon were killed by the same cannon ball.

Many well-known names are associated with the church's history. Alexander Mack, a founder of the sect in its earliest days in Germany, joined the group here in 1729 and is buried in the Church of the Brethren Cemetery. Christopher Sauer II, married to Catherine Sharpnack (a Mount Airy street is named for the Sharpnack family), was Dunker preacher and printer both. He successfully carried on the work of his father, Christopher Sauer I, influential publisher of many works in the German language including an almanac, a newspaper, and the first German Bible to be printed in the colonies.

Unfortunately, Christopher Sauer II's peace policies were suspect at the time of the Revolution. In spite of the many years he had served the community as a respected leader, he was arrested, mistreated, and deprived of all his property. A few years later, in poverty, he died.

Misunderstood or not, the Brethren continued to try to help sufferers on both sides in times of conflict. They also took risks to be of service during epidemics.

Sauer Bibles may be seen today by visitors at the Church of the Brethren's small museum. Also to be found there are foot-washing tubs and utensils for the love-feast. Directly over the museum is the sanctuary with its plain, white-washed walls. The absence of a pulpit is in accord with the Brethren view that congregation as well as preachers belong to "the priesthood of all believers."



OLD DUNKARD CHURCH

Today in the Mount Airy-Germantown area there is no longer a Brethren congregation. But the historic building, with its addition of 1896, still opens wide its doors. A tall, light-haired Brethren minister with a German last name, Ronald Lutz, continues a ministry of community service, which presently includes East Mount Airy Neighbors and the Northwest Interfaith Movement.

Through the latter organization, Jewish, Roman Catholic, and Protestant congregations cooperate to meet urban needs.

A banner on the wall catches the eye:
"For the Glory of God—
and my Neighbor's Good."
This motto was printed two centuries ago by Sauer's press as "Zur Ehre Gottes und des Nächsten Bestes." In either language, the words sum up what Mount Airy's Church of the Brethren is all about.

---

*Present-day hikers can find a plaque on a stone marker commemorating this event. It occurred near the site where the miller Joseph Gorgas later built his three-story house, sometimes mistakenly called "The Monastery," at the end of Kitchen's Lane.

**The tannery was located near the northwest corner of Germantown Avenue and Washington Lane.

# From an Indian Trail to a Busy Highway

1704 to 1790

MARGARET BACON BOSTWICK

So very little is known about the early Germantown Road or Pike that one must refer to articles on other roads in general. In 1740 practically no one rode alone. They rode with the Post Rider or in groups. Most roads followed Indian Trails.

Some Inns had good food. The lady travelers often had to share a large room with the gentlemen. "Ordinerys" (Taverns) were situated near the Religious Meeting Houses and the traveler ate with the family. The colonial inn keepers were quite often men and women of influence in their town. Along the way were situated many Inns where travelers were welcomed at the end of a very long day, as a day usually started around 2:30 a.m.

If the path crossed a stream or river, a ferry was waited for or the horse and rider swam it. Canoes were also used with the horse swimming beside.

When roads came into use tree stumps and boulders were left where they were as it was a waste of public money to clear them from the road.

The stage wagon, the first large traveling vehicle made, was set on wood or leather braces. In good weather one could enjoy the air but in bad weather the curtains were pulled down and the passengers sat in darkness.

By 1775 the roads became Turn Pikes and were greatly improved. The stage wagon became a graceful coach on springs.

Germantown Road started at Front and Laurel Streets and wandered over an old Indian Trail for 8 miles to Chestnut Hill, hence on to the town of Reading. Tradition has it that the path wandered through laurel bushes as it had been a foot path and the Indians took the easiest way around obstacles. A ride into the city was a serious affair. At Penn's Creek (the Indian name Tumanexamaming), near Albanus Logan's home, was quicksand and several teams of horses had to be hitched together. At one place the road passed a grove of cedars which were cut to make a "corduroy" road (some of the trees were found years later in good condition under the mud). Many horses were made useless as coach horses on this stretch of road. The road in bad weather was so deep in mud that a man wishing to visit a neighbor across the road would tack up and cross the road on horseback.

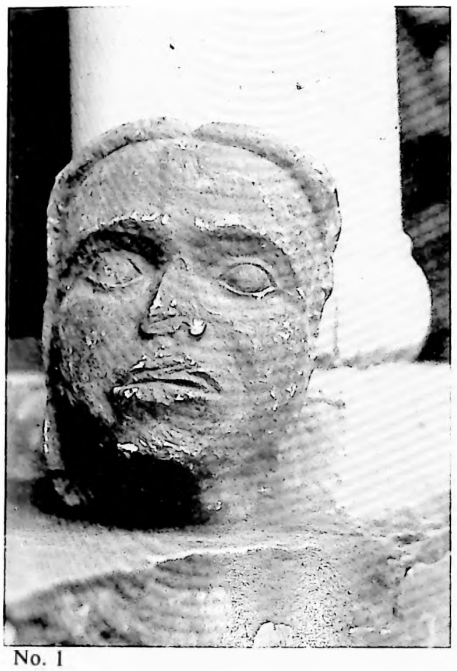
The first coach in Germantown was a phaeton, or landau-type, drawn by four black horses, and cost about 400 pounds. It belonged to Judge Allen who lived near Allen's Lane on Germantown Road.

The first builder of coaches was William Ashmead, a smith. He found imported coaches heavy and cumbersome and originated the open carriage or Germantown Wagon. About Revolutionary Times Mr. Bringhurst made chaises and later added coaches and phaetons. Chaises were advertised for 200 pounds and 100 pounds. In 1780 John Bringhurst made a coach for General Washington which cost 210 pounds, gold. It could have been the coach destroyed when the Chew Barn Burned at "Cliveden." Mr. Junkurth was another carriage builder. These men all had their works on or near Germantown Road.

In winter the people traveled in sleighs or large wooden, clumsy pungs. They were drawn by one horse. The backs were high and the seats hard wood. The Germantown Historical Society Museum has two examples.

Germantown Road was impassable to wheeled vehicles at certain times of the year but thanks to Casper Haines the road was changed to a Turn Pike with toll houses thus greatly improving travel. Pastorius wrote that the path was so well beaten down it soon became a road. Another reason given for improving Germantown Road was that it would be easier for William Rightinghausen to take his paper from his mill on the Wissahickon to Philadelphia.

Many lovely summer homes were built along Germantown Road, such as Cliveden, Upsala, Grumblethorpe, and Deshler-Morris House (The Germantown White House). Farms bordered upon the Road too. The people who lived along it were prosperous and left many visible ideas of how they lived then. Germantown Road was as busy a road then as it is today, but did not look must like the Germantown Road we know.



No. 1



No. 2



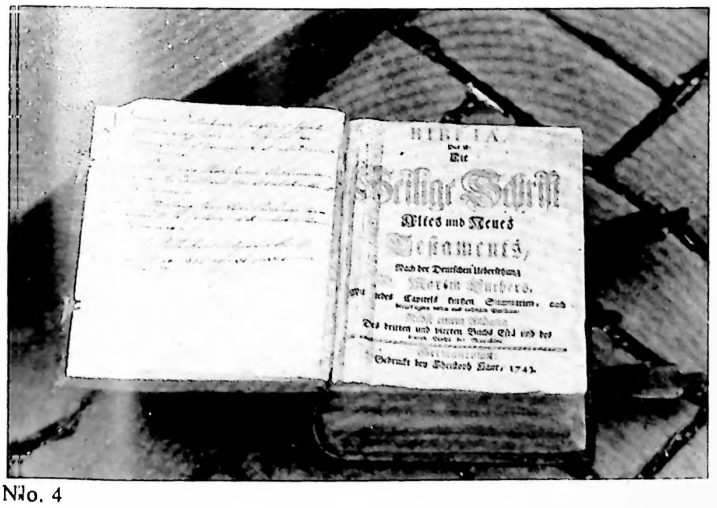
No. 3

# HOW MANY CAN YOU IDENTIFY?

Only ONE of these items is NOT residing in the Germantown Historical Society's Museum. Which one? And can you identify the others?

See page 28 for answers.

*Photos by Rob Stauffer*




No. 4




No. 5

# A DESCRIPTION OF SOME COLONIAL FABRICS

*By* DORIS F. RITZINGER

THE NEWSPAPERS of our present day contain much advertising. Scattered throughout these pages we find for sale such familiar articles as ruffled dacron curtains, no iron combination weaves, drip dry cottons, plastic draperies, woolen material laminated with foam, often mixed with synthetics, unknown a few years ago. How strange these names would sound to a colonial family two hundred years ago!

Sometimes inventories of Estates give a range and variety of materials. Descriptions were often quite detailed as to color, weave and content of cloth, used in making the articles listed. Some of these same materials have survived through the years, now known by different names.

We all know of calico. Immediately we think of a material with a small all-over design—but calico could be a pure white fabric—it was not always decorated. In 1691 there were painted calico curtains. By 1790 calico printing was done in America. Before the middle of the 17th century, calico was the most popular of all fabrics. Glazed chintz, several generations ago, was called glazed calico.

The damask weave was popular. References have been found showing that by 1739, worsted damask curtains, white damask linen, and silk damask were often mentioned.

Checked weaves turned up and were widely used. We always think of linen, but there were mixtures of cotton and linen, wool and linen, which was known as linsey woolsey, as well as pure cotton. Most of the checked curtains were brown, a butternut color, and blue. The size of checks varied from ½ inch to about 2 inches. Few references to checked curtains are found after the middle of the 18th century.

Worked fabrics (we would call them embroidered), were usually of a twill linen base. Some had crewel work, which art has been revived. Today one may join a class and receive instruction in crewel, it has become such a fashionable hand work. Patterns were worked with worsted, cotton and linen yarns. It was seldom used for curtains and bed goods, however. Crewel work in the 18th century required much time and was treasured. "Boughten" fabrics were not kept.

Woolen fabrics were most used before the Revolutionary War, but few have survived the years. One of the materials in use until about the 1840's was Camlet, usually a mixture of yarns, perhaps mohair and silk, in a simple cloth weave. This fabric could be watered, waved and figured. Gum water was used to wet the material which was then passed under a hot press to make it glossy. Waved material had a moire effect. Figuring was produced by rollers with designs which were pressed into the cloth. Other materials were Cheyney, or China, as it was sometimes called, Heritine and Merine. Merchants had their own method of "sales promotion." When sales lagged, a fabric was simply given a new name. These three materials were almost all alike. Heritine was the most popular bed and curtain fabric before the Revolutionary War.

A few years ago a mill in New England began making Heritine by the colonial process. They are also reproducing cylinders for the pressed decorations. This material will be quite expensive. Heritine could be watered, waved and figured. Merine appeared in inventories about 1770 and lasted until about 1820. Colonial fabrics are now made in various mills in other parts of the country, too.

About 1760 a revolution in fabric style was expressed in copper plate engraving. These plates were perhaps first imported from France. Copper plate window curtains appeared in this year as the latest style. It was then the vogue to use a key color throughout—for curtains, bedspreads, and so on. Mustard yellow was the most wanted color.

From the 18th century on, stamped linen in blue, green and red was introduced, similar to our tea towels. Curtains were hung with tapes, like those used on our cottage curtains. Designs became more elaborate, butterflies, floral sprays, and moire ribbons appeared on closely woven Merine.

In 1791 an inventory showed matching checked window curtains, bed linens, head curtain or drop cloth back of the bed, bases, now called dust ruffles, valances both inside and out, and a tester, which we now call a canopy, all made of material woven in the home.

In these early days an upholsterer was called in to "do a bed." Upholsterers were influenced by Sheraton and Hepplewhite and popularized their conception of the most fashionable way it should be done. As an example the tent bed, festoons, swags and tassels, were made popular by a Philadelphia upholsterer. The "doing" of a bed was a most important part of home decoration, curtains enclosed the entire bed, as space was limited and many people slept in one room.

1790 marked the beginning of another great style change. Pictorial scenes were often used, trees with fruit, farm houses with implements, and the mortuary scene became exceedingly popular, which theme was so stressed in this period.

Thomas Jefferson, our great architect and designer, left drawings of curtains he planned for the White House, but such a find as this is rare indeed.

Old engravings, woodcuts and paintings have been helpful, in documenting style changes and design, thus making it possible to add to the history of the colonial picture of home decorations.

# Dr. Thorington's Clock.

And—This is my story.

According to S.W. Woodhouse Jr., in 1928, I was made in New England in the latter years of the eighteenth century. That makes me about 200 years old.

I am a tall case clock sometimes called a Grand-Father's Clock. I am made of mahogany with satin wood inlay. I stand erect for my great age, about eight feet tall. My top is bonnet shaped with a brass eagle in the middle and on each side brass finials. The door behind which the weights and pendulum hangs is oblong with fancy inlay. At each corner is a half fan and in the middle a beautiful medallion. This is repeated on the bottom half of my case. The numbers on my face are clear. Above my face the moon moves according to the time of the month. On my face is a calender telling the date of the day for each month. In the corners on the outer corners of my face are painted beautiful pink flowers and green leaves.

I was purchased by Benjamin Parkinson in 1761 and he took me to Monongahela City in Washington County, Pennsylvania. Mr. Parkinson operated a ferry across the river. My family was active in the Whiskey Insurrection and I heard about it and many other historical happenings. I lived with the same family until 1886. At that time I was sold to Mr. J.A. Murphy of Cleveland, Ohio. Some time later a great granddaughter wrote to Mr. Murphy asking him to return me to her. Her name was Pearl Kimble and she lived in Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1927. I never traveled there. I don't know how long she stayed there.

Some time in 1916 Mr. Murphy sold me to Dr. Monroe Thorington. I would like to know what Mr. Parkinson paid for me as Dr. Thorington paid $200 in full. I wonder, too, what I am worth to-day.

I have stayed in Germantown ever since. Dr. Thorington presented me to the Germantown Historical Society and I now live on the second floor of the Museum which was built about the time I was made. I am very happy and proud to hear the nice things visitors say about me. I hope I can live here for many more years.

—From original data
found in clock.
Margaret Bacon Bostwick


**WE WELCOME YOUR ACCOUNT**
**FOR ANY AMOUNT**
**REGULAR SAVINGS EARN 5¼% per yr.**

Annual Yield When Super Compounded . . .
5.47% per yr.
Savings Certificates Earn More
(depending on term and amount)
Special Lovely Appreciation Gifts
On New Accounts
1901 - During our Diamond Jubilee - 1976

**FRIENDLY, COURTEOUS,**
**OLD-FASHIONED SERVICE**
**IN A MODERN ATMOSPHERE**

**LIBERTY FEDERAL SAVINGS and Loan Association**

**128 W. CHELTEN AVE.**

Hours: 9 AM to 4 PM Friday to 8 PM

202 N. Broad St. Stenton & Duval St.
1625 Wadsworth Ave. 7928 Bustleton Ave.
Peg Lane, Dresher, Pa. 19025



PHONE GE 8-9478

J. RUSSELL WINDER

*Realtors*

Active in Germantown for
Over 50 Years

WALTON S. WINDER

## THE NAMES OF STATES

FOLLOWING ARE the names by which the several states of the Union are called, as for instance, New York, Empire State; California, Golden State; Massachusetts, Old Bay State. Many of the States have several popular titles; we know of no published list, but will cheerfully furnish such as occur to our memory. Arkansas is the Bear State; California, the Golden State; Connecticut is the Freestone State, the Nutmeg State, and the Land of Steady Habits; Delaware, the Diamond State, and the Blue Hen. The latter title came from Captain Calfwell, of the First Delaware Regiment in the Revolutionary War, who was fond of cock-fighting. When recruits were sent for, the wits of the army said the officer had gone for more of Captain Caldwell's game-cocks. As the Captain maintained that none but *blue hens* could be the mother of a real fighter, the name was changed to Blue Hen's Chickens. Florida is the Peninsula State; Illinois is the Prairie State, Garden of the West (generally given to another) and Sucker State—the latter title from the method by which early travellers over her wide prairies supplied themselves with water from the holes of the craw-fish. Indiana is the Hoosier State; Iowa the Hawkeye State, from an Indian chief of that locality; Kansas, the Garden of the West; Kentucky, the Corn Cracker, the Dark and Bloody Ground; Louisiana, the Creole State; Maine, the Pine Tree State (from the coat of arms), the Lumber State; Massachusetts, the Bay State; Michigan, the Lake State, the Wolverine State; Mississippi, the Bayou State; New Hampshire, the Granite State; New York, the Empire State, the Excelsior State (from the coat of arms), New Netherlands; North Carolina, Old North State, the Turpentine State (her children are called Tar-heels, from the product of a large home industry); Ohio, the Buckeye State; Pennsylvania, the Keystone State, as it was exactly in the middle of the original thirteen; Rhode Island is Little Rhody; South Carolina, the Palmetto State (from her coat of arms); Texas, the Lone Star State, for the same reason; Vermont, the Green Mountain State; Virginia, the Old Dominion, the Mother of Presidents, the Mother of States (five having been formed from her territory), and Wisconsin is the Badger State.

*The above is from an old newspaper scrapbook. For that reason, all states are not included. Ed.*




# Publications of the Germantown Historical Society

**Magazine**

The GERMANTOWN CRIER, published in Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall, is available at the subscription rate of $2.00 annually.

Nearly all of the past numbers of the CRIER are currently available. An assortment of available back issues may be had for $15.00, plus mailing charges.

Individual copies of the CRIER can be obtained for 50¢ each.

WASHINGTON VISITS GERMANTOWN ..... 1.50

**Pamphlets**

BATTLE OF GERMANTOWN ..... 25¢

EARLY GERMANTOWN *by* Judge Harold D. Saylor... 25¢

GUIDEBOOK TO HISTORIC GERMANTOWN *by* Charles F. Jenkins ..... 3.00

No. 2—EARLY TRANSPORTATION TO GERMANTOWN *by* Naaman H. Keyser, D.D.S.; THE CONCORD SCHOOL HOUSE *by* Romaine Keyser. Illustrated. 36 pages ..... 50¢

No. 3—DRAMATIC FEATURES OF PENNSYLVANIA HISTORY *by* Hampton L. Carson. Map. 22 pages ..... 25¢

No. 4—GRUMBLETHORPE *by* Edwin C. Jellet; POMONA GROVE *by* Mary W. Shoemaker; NOTES ON POMONA *by* Edwin C. Jellet. Three full-page illustrations. 38 pages ..... 50¢

No. 5—THE EARLY PHYSICIANS OF GERMANTOWN *by* I. Pearson Willits, M.D. 18 pages ..... 25¢

No. 6—TRAVELS NEAR HOME *by* Harrison E. Morris 25¢

No. 7—THE CRICKET GROUNDS OF GERMANTOWN *by* George M. Newhall. Map and 12 full-page illustrations. 24 pages ..... 25¢

No. 9—THE ARTISTS OF GERMANTOWN *by* Herbert Welsh ..... 25¢

No. II-3—SOME ACCOUNT OF WYCK AND ITS OWNERS *by* Caspar Wistar Haines. Ten full-page illustrations. 26 pages ..... 25¢

No. II-4—NEWSPAPER ITEMS RELATING TO GERMANTOWN, 1721-1807. 32 pages ..... 50¢

No. II-7—THE GREAT ROAD THROUGH GERMANTOWN; CONRAD WEISER'S INDIAN FRIENDS AND THE COAL LANDS *by* George Wheeler; MILESTONES AND OTHER LANDMARKS *by* Anthony M. Hance... 50¢

**Post Cards**

An assortment of ten color post cards featuring views of historic buildings in Germantown is available for 1.00

---

Orders for the above publications may be sent to:

GERMANTOWNE CRIER
5208 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, Pa. 19144

Checks should be made payable to the Germantown Historical Society. On orders for pamphlets, books, post cards, and individual copies of the CRIER, ADD 50¢ TO COVER POSTAGE AND HANDLING.

# Joint Meeting of Germantown and Chestnut Hill Historical Societies

Time—Thursday, January 15, 1976—8:00 P.M.
Place—Aulenbach House, 29 West Tulpehocken
Speaker—Alfred E. Campellone
Subject—"Bicentennial Wagon Train Pilgrimage to Pennsylvania."

Mr. Campellone is Co-ordinator for the Wagon Train. The Pilgrimage consists of horse-drawn wagons which were made in Pennsylvania. Data is being collected to be placed in capsules entombed in Valley Forge to be opened 100 years from 1976. The Wagon Train that our societies will be interested in after leaving Independence Mall will camp at Forbidden Drive on the evening of July 2, 1976. It will be here that our capsule will be given to the Wagon Master along with one from our sister society (Chestnut Hill) both containing data pertinent to our communities.

Refreshments.

## THE HANDKERCHIEF YEARS AGO

The handkerchief, which is now an indispensable appendage of every lady's and gentleman's costume, is of comparatively modern introduction. It was not very many years ago, deemed a vulgar object, instead of a mark of neatness as now.

Until the reign of the Empress Josephine, a handkerchief was thought in France so shocking an object that a lady would never dare to use it before any one. The word word was ever carefully avoided in refined conversation.

An actor who would have used a handkerchief on the stage, even in the most tearful moments of the play, would have been unmercifully hissed; and it was only in the beginning of the present century that a celebrated actress, Mlle. Duchesnoise, dared to appear with a handkerchief in her hand. Having to speak of the handkerchief in the course of the piece, she could never summon courage to call it by its true name, but referred to it as a light tissue. A few years later, a translation of one of Shakespeare's plays, by Alfred de Nigny, having been acted, the word handkerchief was used, for the first time on the stage, amid cries of indignation from the audience. I doubt if today French elegantes would carry handkerchiefs if the wife of Napoleon I had not given the signal for adopting them. The Empress Josephine, although really lovely, had ugly teeth. To conceal them she was in the habit of carrying small handkerchiefs, adorned with closly lace, which she continually raised gracefully to her lips. Of course, all the ladies of the court followed her example, and handkerchiefs have rapidly become an important and costly part of the feminine toilet; so that the price of a single handkerchief of the trousseau of the Duchess of Edinburgh would make the fortune of a necessitous family.

*From an old scrapbook.*

ESTABLISHED 1976

MARTHA G. McLAUGHLIN
**Antiques, etc.**
*"THE BICENTENNIAL SHOP"*

**WE BUY ESTATES**

7207 Germantown Ave. CH 2-9906
Philadelphia, Pa. CH 2-2375

GEORGE ROBERTSON & SONS, INC.
FLORISTS
*Over 39 Years in Chestnut Hill*
8501 Germantown Avenue
AD 3-1849 CH 2-6000

## ACQUISITIONS TO MUSEUM

Miss Sarah Moore has presented a beautiful doll, circa 1875, in beautiful condition and wearing her original clothes.

Mrs. O. W. Franklin gave two lovely quilts to our quilt collection. One is exquisitely embroidered by her mother, Helen Acton Tatnall. It took five years to complete and was done between her 13th and 18th years.

Mrs. M. Bacon Bostwick
*Chairman, Relics*

**Since 1867**
**The Ivy Hill Cemetery**
Mt. Airy Avenue east of Stenton Avenue
**CH 8-4533**
Choice Lots Available
(All Lots Include Perpetual Care)



Germantown Historical Society Museum

# IDENTIFICATION OF PICTURES ON PAGE 23

1 Indian Head carved in stone. This figure was part of a very old Germantown Avenue house which was demolished. Now in Museum.

2 Comb-back Windsor Chair which was given by famous Philadelphian to Wissahickon Creek Mill owner. Benjamin Franklin gave this chair to first Thomas Livesey. Now in Museum.

3 Complete surveyor's compass—made by David Rittenhouse—one of five in the entire U.S.A. Now in Museum.

4 This famous book is the 1743 printing of Germantown Bible by Christopher Sauer. Now in Museum.

5 Cornerstone of Ancient Germantown Cemetery. Can be seen at Upper Burial Ground.


**ROSE ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY**

***Wholesale Distributors***

5038-42 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, Pa. 19144

**Phone: Victor 3-7446**

Victor 4-5855

RASER'S
*Flower Shop*

5006 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, Pa. 19144

## "LOUDOUN'S" HIDDEN SPRINGHOUSE COMES TO LIFE

In the parcelling of land by Pastorius in 1683 Thomas Kunder was awarded Side Lot No. 2 which is the west side of the Great Road, or Germantown Road, on Neglees Hill, so called after the family that lived at the foot of this steep incline.

These lots extended for some distance to the east and west of the old Indian Trail and were mostly meadow land. Several hundred yards to the west was evidently a spring and in due course of time a springhouse was built and used by the Kunders.

In the late 18th Century a Philadelphia merchant, Thomas Armat, from Virginia, removed to Germantown to escape the yellow fever. He lived at Market Square in the 1790's and purchased land from Thomas Kunder to build a house for his son Thomas Wright Armat. This house "Loudoun" was placed quite near the springhouse for easy access, it is believed.

In 1829 when the west wing was added to the house it brought the house and springhouse much closer, as we can see in a picture of "Loudoun" of about 1870 the smaller building to the left with the shingled roof. Later, in 1926, Maria Dickinson Logan, the last descendant of Thomas Armat to occupy "Loudoun," decided to have a sunroom built adjacent to the dining room. This extension brought the sunroom addition directly over the springhouse. Today this early springhouse is completely covered by the 1926 sunporch but it is still there with its arched entrance and hollowed trough for keeping milk, cream, butter, etc.

"The Friends of Loudoun" have high hopes, under the direction of Mr. George Buchele, of restoring this unique reminder of the past by the Spring of 1976.

MRS. JOHN W. FARR
*Chairman–"Friends of Loudoun"*


*from Abacus to Zither*

**CREATIVE TOYS**

- Steiff Animals
- Crafts
- Collectors Items

**Doll House Furniture Our Specialty**

**Fireside**

**toys books games**

**186 E. Evergreen Ave. CH 8-3122**
**8523 Germantown Ave. CH 2-1442**

CH 8-1692

**MARTIN F. CONNOR CO.**

FUEL OIL • HEATING
AIR CONDITIONING

**1005 E. Willow Grove Avenue**
**Philadelphia, Pa. 19118**

**ANTIQUE FURNITURE**

- Restoring
- Refinishing
- Rush and cane chairs

Estimates gladly given

**J. Henderson Jones & William J. Niblick 3rd.**

Telephone 474-5534
474-8391


**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:

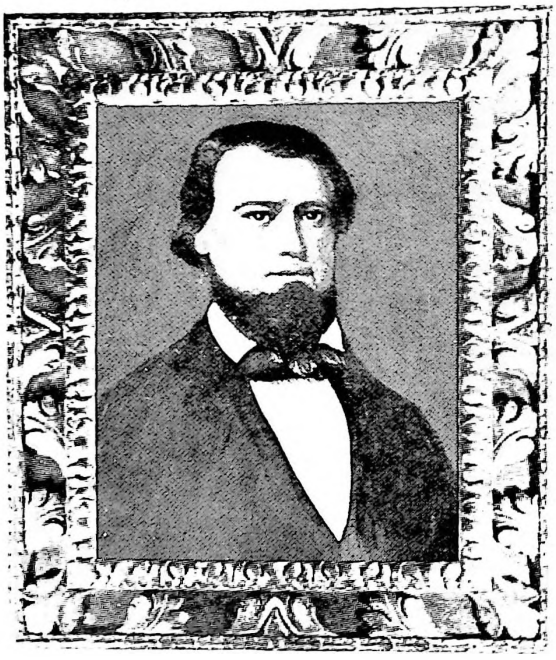
| | |
|---|---|
| Life | $150.00 |
| Annual | 10.00 |
| Sustaining | 25.00 |
| Family | 12.50 |
| Student, under 21 years | 3.00 |

"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".

Forgotten Forefather



Admired Ancestor



Quality Restorations
Distinctive Framing

**Staton's Galleries**
**5321 Germantown Avenue**
**GE 8-6416**

**Bicentennial Offer**

**25% off** Custom Framing Restorations
**Staton's Galleries**
5321 Germantown Ave.
GE 8-6416

Offer good thru October 1976

# Advertisers Index


Alden Park ..... 2
Allen's ..... 6
Boardman-Hamilton Co. ..... 4
Connor Co., Martin F. ..... 29
Cunningham Piano Co. ..... 2
Economy Plumbing & Heating Supply Co. ..... 16
Fidelity Bank, The ..... 2
Fireside Toys ..... 29
First Pennsylvania Co. ..... 31
Germantown Insurance Co. ..... 11
Germantown Savings Bank ..... *B Cover*
Girard Bank ..... 31
Groben's Sea Food ..... 4
Hamilton-Reliance Savings Ass'n. ..... 6
Hour Glass Cleaners ..... 3
Ivy Hill Cemetery ..... 27
J. Henderson Jones & Wm. J. Niblick 3rd ..... 29
Kilian Hdw., Wm. A. ..... 3
Kirk and Nice ..... 8
Koelle Greenwood Co. ..... 3
Leedom & Wissler ..... 16
Liberty Federal Savings & Loan Ass'n. ..... 25
Martha G. McLaughlin—Antiques ..... 27
Provident National Bank. ..... 3
Raser's Flower Shop ..... 28
Robertson & Sons, Inc., George ..... 27
Rose Electric Supply Co. ..... 28
Schuck Electric ..... 16
Smith, Inc., J. and R. ..... 2
Staton's Galleries ..... 30
St. Martin's Coal Co., Inc. ..... 3
Winder, J. Russell ..... 25
WFLN ..... 4

## Girard Bank.

## Working with the good sports in Philadelphia.



# First Pennsylvania Bank

### The "THANK-YOU" Bank

Chel-Wayne Office
5536 Wayne Avenue

Germantown Office
16 West Chelten Avenue

Mount Airy Office
6740 Germantown Avenue

The First Pennsylvania Banking and Trust Company

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

Germantown Historical Society
5214 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, Pa. 19144

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
**PAID**
Philadelphia, Pa. 19144
PERMIT No. 2746

# time to pay your bills?



use

GSB®

PAY BY PHONE®

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

—and earn

5 1/4%

on your bill-paying money!

Phone 839-3939,* stop in a GSB office and see mini "Pay-By-Phone" movie or mail coupon

*Local exchanges available—check with nearest GSB office.

GSB Pay-By-Phone, One Belmont Ave., Bala Cynwyd, Pa. 19004

Please send more information and forms to open a Pay-by-phone Account.

Name_____

(check one)

____ Single Account _____

____ Joint Account with _____

____ In trust for _____

Address _____

_____

Social Security No. _____

Phone _____

GSB®

GERMANTOWN SAVINGS BANK

Member FDIC