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See Page 105

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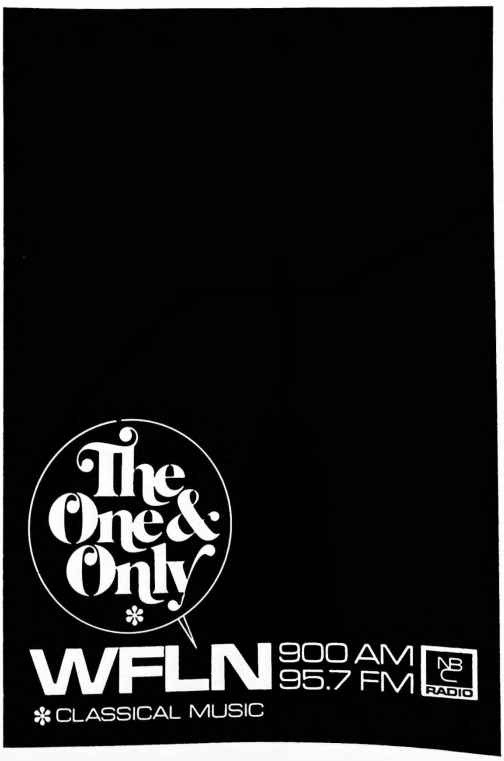
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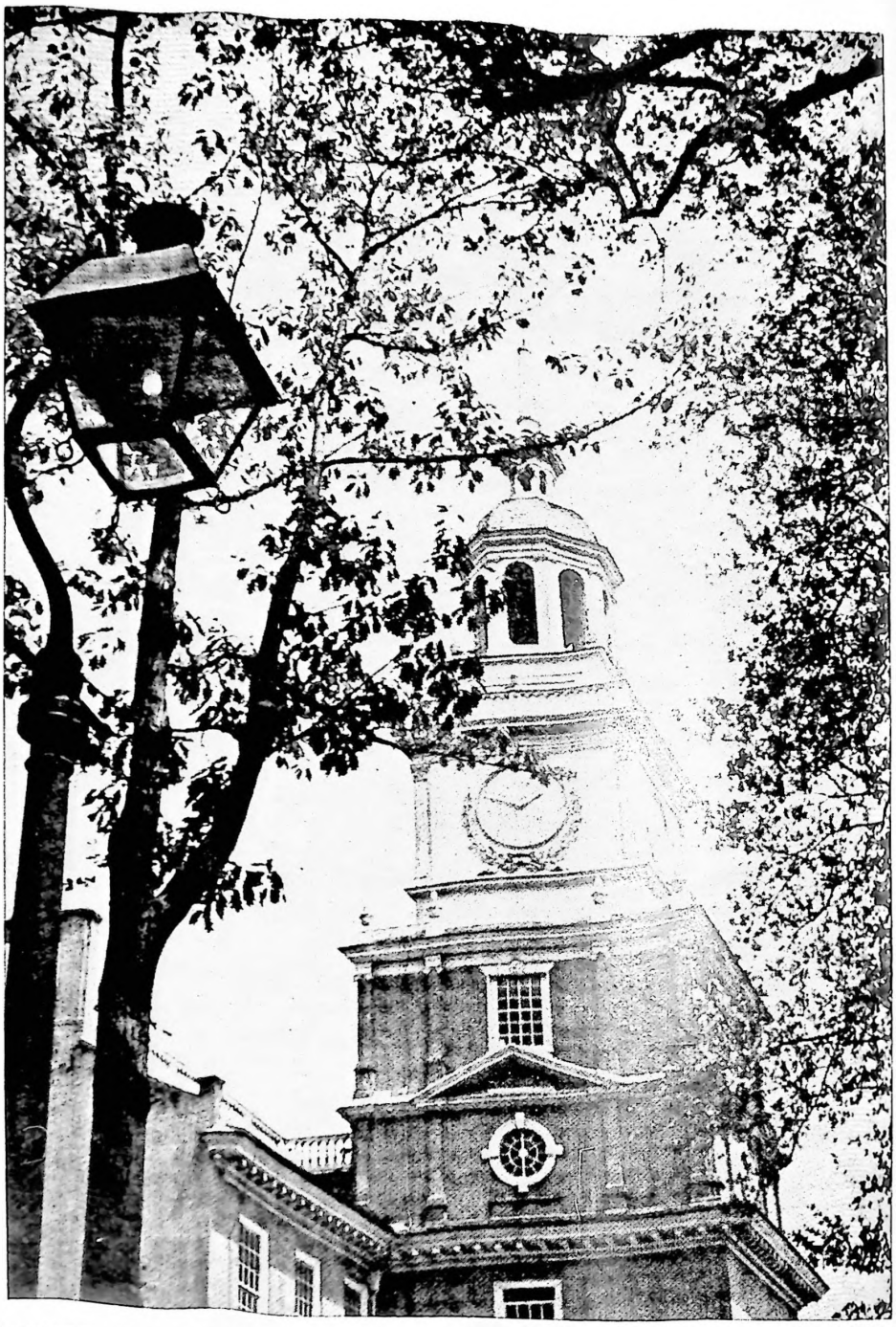
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Editorial contributions should be mailed to the Germantowne Crier, 5208 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. 19144

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Germantown's "River of Life"

Some of the Personalities That Flowed Down the Stream, Leaving Their Influence Upon the Character of the Community

By EDWARD B. PHILLIPS

ON our desk is a book that commands our time and respect because of its historical value, its clear statements, its attitude toward the principles underlying life, and its imagery. In one place is recorded the vision a man had of a peculiar River, which had its rise under the doorway of a house that had been erected to help men to the highest form of living. The River flowed eastward toward the rising sun and increased rapidly in width and depth. When the man went out of the garden gate he found that the waters of the River were up to his ankles and quite wide. Farther down he measured again and found the waters were up to his knees. Still farther down they reached his loins.

After going some distance, he saw that the waters had developed into a River in which he could swim, but it was too wide to cross. Returning to the shore, he noticed that a number of trees had sprung up and that their leaves had healing and strengthening qualities, having drawn these from the waters of the River. Further explorations revealed to him that wherever the River flowed it was helpful to man and that prosperity attended its course. Some water that left the channel made miry places and marshes, which were hurtful rather than helpful to the region. The secret of the River's helpfulness was its source.

This River is a faithful picture of Germantown's River of Life, which is made up of the lives and character and influence of its people. Beginning with Richard Townsend and Daniel Pastorius and their fellow pioneers of 1683–4, whose principal assets were integrity, righteousness, and faith, it has flowed on for two hundred and fifty years and more, increasing in width and depth, distributing its helpful and strengthening influence.

The first of which we wish to speak is the Motherhood of Germantown. The greatest asset of this town is its men. The greatest asset of men is their character. The greatest conserver of character is Mother. This town and its River of Life are, to a large extent, what the mothers are. The thought of "Mother" is one of the most powerful restraining forces in Germantown today. The question, "What will Mother think or say?" has kept many a man from becoming a criminal and putting a blot upon the family name. The memory of his mother's unselfishness, patience, sympathy, comradeship, love and self-denial is one of the best assets of man, urging him to do his mightiest to bring honor to her name.

How mother did desire, plan and toil that her flock should be provided for, should have a better start in life than she had! How she did endure hardship that her lads and lassies should not want. We speak sometimes of the privations that our pioneer fathers endured, but the pioneer mothers not only shared these privations but endured the pioneer fathers also. It has always been a wonder to us how mothers of large families keep up with their work, how patient they are, and how effective is their example upon their children in after years.

> "Sometimes when our hearts grow heavy,
> Or our task seems very long.
> When our burdens look too heavy,
> And we deem the right all wrong;
> Then we gain a new fresh courage,
> As once more we rise to say,
> Let us do our duty bravely—
> This was our mother's way."

We all remember Mother's ministries in time of sickness, distress and sorrow, how her cooling touch seemed to drive back the fever, and how her sympathy and tears gave us courage to press on. If any one were to ask me to define unselfishness the answer would be "your mother and mine."

Not only in the home, but elsewhere, has woman been an important factor in making Germantown's River of Life effective. We are thinking of those who have endeavored and achieved in the literary, art, and social welfare of the town's life and carried its fame beyond. Deborah Norris Logan, and other Logans; the Fishers and Wisters, especially those who wrought in connection with the Fisher's Hollow School; its secretary, Miss Elizabeth Smith; Hannah Ann Zell; the Johnsons; Miss Jane Haines, of "Wyck"; Mrs. Pauline Henry, founder of the Germantown Hospital; Violet Oakley, State capitol artist; Jessie Willcox Smith; F. S. Wadsworth, Elizabeth Shippen Green, and other artists; Debora Wharton; Anne DeB. Mears; the Butlers; the Chew sisters, Harriet, Margaret and Sophia, of whom it is recorded "that General Washington treated these young ladies almost as if they were his children." Harriet accompanied him several times when he sat to Gilbert Stuart for his portrait, and the commander was wont to say that the agreeable expression on his face was due to her

interesting conversation. She married Charles Carroll, Jr., of Carrollton.

We recall Mrs. Kinsler, Mrs. Pease, Mrs. Turner and many others who labored faithfully in mission work, many having risen to call them blessed. Lucretia Mott (1793–1880) should be added to this list of worthy Germantown women, for it is written of her: "She entered the ministry of Friends in 1818. She adhered to the Hicksite branch. She was one of the original founders of the American Anti-Slavery Society. In 1840 she was sent as a delegate to the World's Anti-Slavery Convention at London. Her exclusion from it increased the woman suffrage agitation, in which she was a leader."

We would not forget that peerless teacher of Holy Writ, Hannah Whitall Smith, author of that character-building book "The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life." How her life illustrated the teaching of the book! Her quiet, peaceful dignity and positive assurance remain in our memory to this day, after a lapse of over fifty years since last we heard her. With such mothers, the best in the world, and such teachers and workers, of which those we have mentioned are but a small fraction, is it any wonder that Germantown's River of Life is a strengthening one?

We are thinking of the farmers, who labored early and late to bring riches from the virgin soil of the plantation, not saving, but using, all the daylight to be had; of the horticulturists, who planned and planted wisely to make what is now a floral and tree center of the land—the Meehans, John Hartman, Robinson Scott, Dr. Witt, John Hart, Major Freas, the Barrows, John W. Boyer, John T. Morris and his sister Lydia, and an innumerable host of others whose works follow them and whose lives and character have lent virility to our River of Life.

Then passes before our vision the vast multitude of manufacturers and their employees whose brain and brawn have brought millions of dollars from far and near to our banks and stores and who, by their skill, put Germantown on the industrial map of the land. We recall some of the manufacturers—Armstrong, Allen, Axford, Button, Bristow, Birchall, Brierley, Braithwaite, Bonsor, Brown, Bannister, Ballentyne, Chipman, Cope, Crowther, Collard, Crease, Cupitt, Dalzell, Fisher, Fling, Flavell, France, Greer, Greaves, Henson, Hay, Hinkle, Harper, Hargraves, Jones, Jarvis, Kunder, Kendrick, Logan, Mottram, Marshall, McCollum, Mills, Phillips, Peberdy, Preston, Perry, Pearson, Redles, Spencer, Sherman, Smith, Sloan, Springthorpe, Schwimm, Smalley, Scatchard, Savin, Tomlinson, Thorp, Thurman, Why, West, Wade, Wood, Woodcock, Woods, Waters.

Then there were those along the Wissahickon who also added wealth and character to the town and its life stream. No business failures are recorded among them.

Think of our merchants and bankers! What a long line of humanized ability and integrity is comprehended in these two classes of our citizenry! Nowhere else is the fruit of our motherhood nobility better reflected than here. We would like to make a list of these men and women, but where would we begin and end? The power and volume of their united integrity is added to the River of Life.

Think of the long list of doctors and lawyers who have risen above the common level or average and have won recognition and distinction among their fellows. Think of those who have been called to City Hall, Harrisburg and Washington and have given a good account of themselves and brought honor and distinction to Germantown—Alexander Henry, as mayor; his nephews Charles and Bayard, as Park Commissioner and Senator; Enoch Taylor, as Register; General Wagner, as Recorder; A. C. Harmer; George D. McCreary; Owen J. Roberts and others at Washington; William Potter and others abroad; and a long list of those who have shown to the world what flows in Germantown's River of Life.

Think also of the artists, in addition to the women already mentioned, who have painted Germantown into the history of the world—Gilbert Stuart, Charles Willson Peale, George B. Wood, Herbert Welsh, Charles Bozzard, William Rawle, Joseph Pennell and others, whose brushes and skill have drawn people of prominence from far and near, who desired to carry away with them some token of the skill of those famous artists.

We are thinking of those who have wrought for civic righteousness, spilling out their money, energy and time, winning great victories and patiently suffering defeats, but coming back again with the determination to win out, until Germantown became a synonym for civic righteousness. Philip C. Garrett, John C. Winston and scores of others were leaders in this contest and are now reaping their reward.

We cannot forget that large class of character builders who have done such effective work in our midst—the educators—teachers in our public and private schools and institutions of higher learning. Can any place boast of a finer and better trained army of brain and character trainers than Germantown? We trow not. We would like to mention those who entered into our life, but that would be an injustice to others who have wrought equally as well. What a tremendous effect these have had upon the River of Life! How their work has helped to clarify its waters!

Should you wish to see some of the results of the influence of the groups we have mentioned, read Germantown's record in the honor lists of the Wars of the Revolution and 1812, of the Mexican and civil strifes, of the Spanish and World conflicts. Read the tablets at Market Square, in the Church, Town Hall and other institutions, and learn from them that the teaching and training were not in vain. These thousands of patriots are included in our River of Life.

Another group of character builders is the vast army of church and welfare workers who have kept watch on the battlements of the town, have given

warning of danger and striven hard to keep the enemy from polluting the life stream of the town.

We are thinking of the consecrated corps of Sunday school teachers and officials who, next to mothers, have had the greatest influence over the rising generation; of the long list of preachers from William Penn and Richard Townsend till now, who have thundered against injustice, slavery, political corruption and hypocrisy, who have fearlessly and eloquently presented truth that has penetrated to the very marrow of men's make-up. What a crowd they would make!

We started to make a list of the prominent ones, but found it would be so long that all our space would be taken. Our own preachers have been ably assisted by men of world-wide reputation from outside. William Penn is known to have preached at Germantown Avenue and School Lane and in the Rock House on East Penn Street. George Whitefield, the man who set the world aflame, preached to thousands at Market Square. Here also Count Zinzendorf preached his first sermon in America. Moody, the big-hearted world evangelist, was here with his glowing messages, through which he got into the hearts of many who went out and made good.

The Needham brothers, Dr. Wharton, Charles Yatman, Dr. Stearns and many others have ministered here with telling effect. We have reciprocated by sending out those who have proved a blessing to many. We have given to the country at least three bishops, Morris, Perry and Burns, and have had lots more who were qualified for that office.

We are thinking of those who have left their imprint on the place and enriched the River through the welfare organizations of Germantown, but particularly of the four Williams of the old YMCA, William Adamson, the founder, William Brockie, William B. Whitney and William H. Scott. What a power for righteousness were these men! We also recall John B. Gough, Francis Murphy, Lewis D. Vail and other temperance crusaders who labored here.

Much more might be said of other elements that entered into the River of Life, but space fails us to give the record of those who have wrought in local and foreign missions, stores, offices, on newspapers and in hospitals. They are watching us, who now compose the River, and they expect every one to do his duty.

Seeing we are encompassed with such a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every impediment and paralyzing influence that might so easily beset us and let us do with patience the task that is set before us of keeping the River of Life as clean as we found it, that outsiders may desire to come and plunge—if only momentarily—into it and be helped, as have many in the past.

Among these were Generals Lafayette, Greene, Wayne, Fleetwood, Armstrong, Muhlenberg and other officers of the American army who were here during the Germantown campaign, some of whom came again. Also Generals Cornwallis and Howe, of the British army, who, with the latter's brother, Admiral Richard Howe, favored the American Colonies during the controversy that preceded the Revolution.

George Washington and his family were here in 1793 and fell so in love with Germantown's River of Life that they spent the following summer here. They were helped by their visits, so was the River. Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, and the first Secretary of the Union, made a long visit here. Did his visit with us result in his becoming President? Perhaps. Alexander Hamilton, the brilliant statesman and first Secretary of the Treasury, had the privilege of abiding with us for a season. Had he lived up to the principles which prevailed in Germantown he would not have consented to a duel with Aaron Burr, which cost him his life.

Henry Knox, of Massachusetts, first Secretary of War; Timothy Pickering, of our own State, second Postmaster General, and Edmund Randolph, of Virginia, first Attorney General, took a dip in our River and were helped. While these statesmen were here many others of prominence were also in Germantown and were so impressed with its River of Life and its surroundings that an effort was made to make of Germantown the Nation's Capital.

President R. B. Hayes and his cabinet were here as guests of Edward T. Steel, in May 1877; Mrs. Grover Cleveland visited "Torworth" later, and Henry Ward Beecher, the man of big brains and mind, dropped in for a visit, and became a better preacher as a result of his dip in the River.

When General Pershing stood at the tomb of Lafayette in Paris seventeen or eighteen years ago, and said, "Lafayette, we are here," he was simply echoing what Lafayette said, when, entering "Cliveden" (the Chew House) upon his reception there in September, 1824: "People of Germantown, we are here." An oil painting depicting this scene may still be seen at "Cliveden."

Groups of cricketers, composed of members of some of the best families in Canada, England, Ireland and Australia have counted it a privilege to visit in our midst and have been charmed with Germantown's River of Life, some even inviting themselves to come again. Many others besides those mentioned have taken a plunge into our stream and, judging by what they have said and written, have been benefited by the dip.

From "*The Beehive*" of April, 1935

EDITOR'S NOTE—
What a creditable list in areas mentioned, and some new ones, could *now* be added.
We have so much of which we should be proud.

ONCE FAMOUS FISHING CENTERS

(From an old newspaper clipping)

The Schuylkill River in the Manayunk neighborhood was once an important shad fishing center. Local islands were once so valued because of their fishing facilities that their land brought a higher price than river frontage on the mainland.

Fishing rights in the vicinity were so prized that each angler was allowed only one casting of his net every 24 hours, and regulations also provided that residents on opposite banks must fish on alternating days. Andrew Anderson, who owned the land now occupied by West Laurel Cemetery, apparently was the fishing czar of the river, for he leased out most of the fishing rights.

The natives must have smoked or salted the shad for year-round eating. When the property of Melchior Meng, a Manayunk tory, was confiscated at the end of the Revolutionary War, his personal property, as listed by the public escheator, included "One half barrel of choice Schuylkill shad."

The shad disappeared from the river after the building of the dam further downstream.

Catfish Fans

Equally celebrated and considered by some even more of a gourmet's delight, were the catfish formerly found in such abundance in the Wissahickon. Just below the mouth of the Wissahickon, in colonial days, stood a log fishing house called Fort St. David, frequented by a group of well-to-do sportsmen from Philadelphia who paid an annual rental in catfish. The club had semi-military functions, but was organized principally for the purpose of catching and eating catfish. During the Revolution, Hessian soldiers lived in the club's quarters and vandalized the place so thoroughly that the St. David's group never returned. Later it merged with another body of fishermen who called themselves "Colony in Schuylkill," and moved further down the river.

Inspired Poem

Catfish, however, continued to be a staple culinary treat in the vicinity for another 150 years. Christopher Morley writes that "in his salad days," he would take a hansom and drive out to the Lotus tavern in Shurs Lane, for a catfish dinner. He celebrated the custom in verse:

Ho! away for the Wissahickon
For the dance and good stewed chicken.
Catfish and waffles! good hot toddy.
Cheers the heart and warms the body.

Still Around

Unlike the shad, a few catfish still are still to be found in local waters. Small boys fishing along the banks of the Schuylkill and Wissahickon occasionally catch one. So if junior comes home from a fishing expedition proudly toting a bewhiskered finny creature, don't make him consign it to the garbage pail. Remember catfish have historic significance hereabouts.

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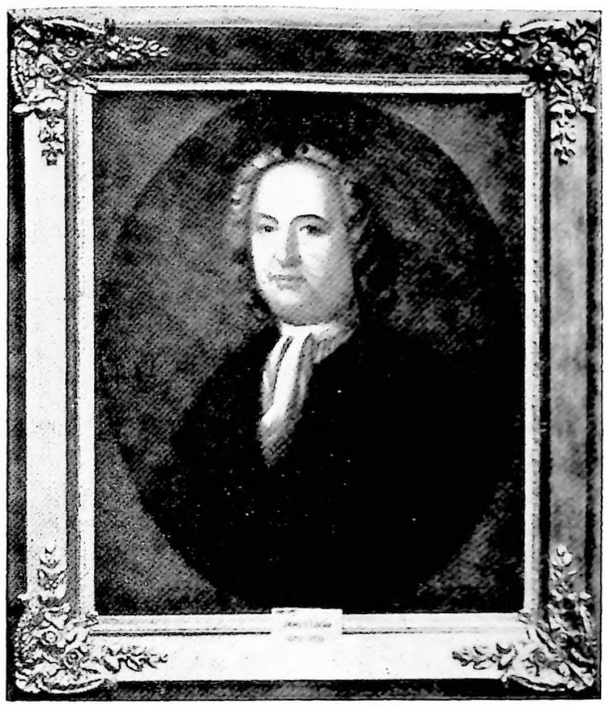
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James Logan of "Stenton" on The Germantown Road

By SARAH A. G. SMITH



JAMES LOGAN

by Hesselius

Statesman, jurist and scholar. Secretary to William Penn; for over fifty years faithful friend to him and his family.

OCTOBER 20th, 1974 will mark the 300th anniversary of James Logan's birth at Lurgan, County Armagh, Ireland. The date will be observed by several groups in Philadelphia, and we, of Germantown, will also be thinking of him, for he spent the last twenty-one years of his life in our community. As a frequent reminder of this we have several street names closely associated with him—Stenton and Wingohocking; of these more to come.

James Logan, a poor young Quaker schoolmaster, came to this country with William Penn in 1699 as his secretary. Penn, with all his dedication, was a dreamer and not a practical man of government. It was up to Logan to administer as best he could often difficult ideals. Only briefly was Penn here, having to return to England in 1701 to defend his charter to the Colony of Pennsylvania. This left young Logan to cope with frontier problems, land grants, Indian treaties and the increasing demands of the colonists. He had, also, to try to raise funds for the impoverished William Penn from sources often unacceptable to the people. A series of usually incompetent governors sent over by the Penns did not lessen his trials, for it did not long continue to be William Penn who was in nominal control of the colony. In 1712 he suffered a serious stroke and the responsibility then fell on his able second wife, Hannah Callowhill Penn. When she died in 1727 the less able sons of Penn assumed the Proprietorship.

Logan worked tirelessly and with the utmost devotion to the Penn family. It was twice necessary for him to return to England to settle the weighty problems of the Colony. The voyage often took as long as 6 weeks and very few men of the period attempted it more than once. Several times Logan tried to free himself from the heavy burdens the Penns continued to lay upon him, but in this he was quite unsuccessful. It is no wonder his often anguished mind looked

forward to a quiet farmer's life away from the noise and harrassment of Philadelphia, in actuality so unlike the virgin city of Penn's dream.

By very slow steps Logan made his way toward the goal he had in mind. His first object was to obtain sufficient income which was gradually achieved. He conducted a trading business with the Indians exchanging goods imported from England for wild animal pelts. Good profits were made from the sale of beaver, fox and deer skins in England. An additional venture was real estate. He held much acreage in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey and found such business activities necessary as his salary from the Penns was nominal. Sometimes he even made loans to the impoverished Proprietary family.

Logan's next step was to abandon bachelorhood and assume a family style. By 1714, aged 40, he had recovered from the disappointment of being twice turned down by prominent wealthy women, and felt himself able to address Sarah Read. She was of a plain Quaker family, quite lacking in education and sophistication he had admired in the others. But she was young, well settled in the environment where he found himself, and with good connections. They were married by Quaker ceremony in December 1714.

The year 1714 also saw Logan's acquisition of the first part of the plantation in Bristol Township which was to be the location of his long desired home. He gave the place the name of "Stenton" in honor of the town in East Lothian, Scotland, where his father had been born. It was planned as a working plantation; tobacco and other field crops and a dairy farm were the first undertakings. In the early years of his ownership only brief visits were made to the plantation. Here Logan and his increasing family of children came to breathe freedom and fresh country air. By 1747 Logan's holdings at "Stenton" had increased to some 511 acres, mainly on the East side of Germantown Road and watered by several creeks, the largest of which flowed Eastward to join the Delaware.

In 1723 Logan began to build his dream home. As we observe "Stenton" now we are amused by his ingenuity and his ability, too, for he was his own architect. It was no farmer's cottage he finally built but a very presentable Georgian home suitable for the daily living of a person of his standing and, at the same time, in keeping with the Quaker ideals of simplicity and functionality. Its construction was dogged by troubles. First, the stone quarry on his ground ran out. He had to build with brick which was far more expensive than he had planned. This forced him to discard his original plan for a plain stone farmhouse. A sudden crisis in the government sent him back to England; when he must have secured the names of dealers there who could send to Philadelphia hardware and building supplies that had been impossible to obtain at home. Window glass was an especially difficult item to import and often arrived in fragments. He soon determined local Germantown artisans were not sufficiently skilled for his work and had to employ more experienced men from Philadelphia. In spite of all setbacks, the year 1728 saw the raising of the roof at "Stenton." A very special celebration must have been held by the Logan family for on that same day Sarah Logan was safely delivered of her 5th child, a fine son whom they named James Logan Jr.

Whether or not James Logan was at "Stenton" to see the roof-raising we do not know. A serious injury, incurred in January 1728, made it impossible for him ever again to enjoy the free and easy comings and goings throughout the Colony and along its frontiers which had been so much a part of his life. Slipping on the ice outside his home in Philadelphia, he broke the end of his thigh bone in such a fashion it never healed. His left leg was completely useless compelling him to hobble about on crutches. The one good result of this accident was that it hastened his retirement. The Logan family removed to "Stenton" in the late fall of 1730.

Complete retirement was not yet achieved by Logan. He was still obliged to carry on certain responsibilities for the Penn family in the City Council which culminated in a 3-year term as its President, in 1738. During this time, due to disputes in connection with the settlement of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundaries, there were constant consultations requiring his attendance, and, in spite of his infirmities, he was obliged to participate in some of the surveys.

Logan worked out a compromise between life at "Stenton" and personal Philadelphia-centered business that still required his oversight. He kept an apartment in his house on Second Street where his apprentice was in charge of daily routine. Even travelling 5 miles to and from Philadelphia was a painful ordeal for the crippled Logan and to go by boat on the Delaware was no easier than the trip by land. Finally the Penn family, realizing his sorry condition, supplied him with a four-wheel chaise which somewhat lessened the jolts of the rough ride. He normally spent two nights in the apartment every week (Sunday & Monday) and in this time was able to carry on his concerns.

After 1738 Logan was at "Stenton" more of the time and able to follow his own pursuits at long last. Looking at his accomplishments of this period, it is amazing to observe the many facets of his mind which made it possible for him to switch so easily from the call of politics to the field of unexplored science.

Botany had long been one of his favorite hobbies. Before moving to "Stenton" he carried out experiments with corn that proved the theory of cross-fertilization—that even plants have their male and female parts. In 1735 after continuing this experimentation, he wrote a letter from "Stenton" to the well-known British botanist, Peter Collinson, clearly setting down the results of his work. This letter was read before the Royal Society in London and was later published in the Transactions of that Society. He also published a treatise in Latin on the same

subject which was published in Leyden in 1739 and translated into English by Fothergill in 1747. This was judged to be the most decisive explanation of sex in plants of its time. And Logan showed himself to be more than a scientist; he was also a scholar.

A further development of his botanical interest was his friendship with American botanists and his success in putting them in touch with their English counterparts. He not only helped John Bartram with his Latin, a knowledge of which was so necessary for plant classification, but introduced him to the great Swedish classifier, Linnaeus—an association of importance to them both as well as to the other leading botanists of the time.

In other fields of science James Logan also proved himself an outstanding scholar. In his last years he published essays on optics and came to be recognized as the most accomplished mathematician of the Colonies. He arrived at an early explanation for the jagged form of lightning and for the apparent illusion that the moon is larger near the horizon than risen into the heavens. In spite of his infirmities Logan seems to have climbed to the roof-deck at "Stenton" and from there made important astronomical observations on the "comet" that appeared in January 1744. It is not surprising that young Benjamin Franklin as well as other men of science came often to "Stenton" to talk with such a wise man.

Another activity of Logan's "Stenton" years which may have special interest for some of today's Germantowners, was his continued friendship with the Indians. He always tried to carry out Penn's wishes in dealing with them and was concerned when unable to do so. In a letter to William Penn's son Thomas, then in Residence in Philadelphia, he wrote (from "Stenton" on July 7, 1734) to explain that Chief Sasoonan and about ten of his people "fared very poorly with us comparatively with their former entertainment here, for we had dined, and because of excessive heat we happened to have no fresh meat in the house . . . my wife doing the best she could with them sent for a joynt (of meat) to make them a good breakfast in the morning, but they packt up and were gone before sunrise which really gave me some uneasiness for the poor Creature having always been well entertained and with markes of respect while he had anything, I would myself have been at some charge rather than he should now think as others must also notice of it, that having parted with all his land, and also with all the Pay for it, tho' he holds the same rank with his people, he is slighted & disregarded when there is no further advantage to be made of him. I am sensible that this is below thy spirit & since it fell out so unhappily here with me, I could not be easie without giving thee this hint of it, requesting thee to make amends for the appearing slight he met with here." Surely Thomas Penn, on receiving this letter, must have followed Logan's advice and given the Indians a handsome meal.

Another instance of Logan's interest in the Indians and one that is even more oriented for us of the Germantown community, is the story of his conversation with Chief Wingohocking. The date is not given but the setting of the tradition is surely "Stenton." "Chief Wingohocking, standing with Logan on the border of the beautiful stream that wound through his place proposed to change their names, for he loved the white man, and this was the Indian way of showing it. Logan told him that the law would make it difficult to give up his name, but said 'Do thou, Chief, take mine and give thine to the stream which passes through my fields, and when I am passed away, and while the earth shall endure, it shall flow and bear thy name.' " How disappointed both Logan and the Chief would be today to find that the stream by which they stood has disappeared and flows through a pipe beneath Belfield Avenue.



Aerial View of "Stenton" taken in Spring of 1974 by "Sunday Fliers" of Willow Grove, Pa.

Another of James Logan's projects during the retirement years was the collection of a fine library of classical and scientific books. It was an amazing library for its time considering that all the volumes had to be located in various European shops and then sent across the hazardous Atlantic. There were over 3,000 books in the collection and Logan reading and annoting them in his careful handwriting spent many happy hours in his library at "Stenton"—the room we may still enter today, to the right of the front door. He was ever ready to share these books with his friends, even the humble ones like Thomas Godfrey, the glazier. One day while working on a scaffold at "Stenton" Godfrey had a sudden flash of insight, which, after reading Newton's *Principa* and others of Logan's books, resulted in his invention of the mariner's quadrant. This invention was later credited to the Royal Astronomer, Edmund Halley, but many, even today, believe that the credit belongs to Godfrey of Germantown.

In the quiet of "Stenton" Logan contemplated on the fate of his cherished library. What would happen to it when he was gone? He hoped that at least one of his children would follow his taste for reading and studying but an effort to instruct his son, William, had come to nothing. The boy was sent to England for his education and never became a scholar. Perhaps his eldest child, Sarah, might have lived to enjoy some of her father's scholarly tastes. She had shown real ability in Arabic and married the scholarly Isaac Norris II. But dying early in Childbed her full potential was never realized. Thus it became clear to Logan that if the library was to remain intact, he himself must determine its disposal. In 1744 he decided to establish the Loganian Library in a small building of his own design on a Sixth Street Lot belonging to him near the State House. He planned to endow the library so that all who were interested might have free access to the books he had so cherished. Although his original deed of trust was cancelled and a new one never made, his heirs, knowing his intentions, carried out his wishes after his death. So it is, even today, any of us can go to the Library Company of Philadelphia and see Logan's books.

James Logan, now become an old man living at "Stenton," turned his mind to philosophying. For the edification of his elderly friend and neighbor, Isaac Norris, of Fair Hill, he translated Cicero's essay on old age called "Cato Major," which was printed by Franklin in 1735. The calm pleasures of old age so clearly defined in this essay, did not continue for Logan. In his final years he suffered from recurrent fits of palsey and became so helpless the life at "Stenton," which had so long revolved around his respected and scholarly person, was now centered about his trying sick-bed. One bright moment illuminated the trials of the old man when news was brought to him of the peaceful settlement of the boundary dispute between Maryland and Pennsylvania, for which he had labored many years. He was mercifully released from his sufferings on October 31st, 1751.

The obituary of James Logan, appearing in the Pennsylvania Gazette of November 7, 1751, pays brief tribute to his services as statesman of Pennsylvania. Yet, interestingly enough two-thirds of the article is devoted to his gift to the people of Philadelphia of the library. It is believed that the article was written by Benjamin Franklin and to him the library seemed of primary importance. Dr. Tolles is probably more able to assess Logan's real contribution than Franklin when he writes "he was the region's most influential statesman, its most distinguished scholar, its most respected . . . citizen. . . . Easily the most considerable man in the Delaware Valley in his lifetime, he was, taken by and large, one of the three or four most considerable men in Colonial America."

There is a good portrait of James Logan by Hesselius, hanging on the wall in the "Stenton" hall. He is a handsome man, even in his old age. When next we stand before this portrait let us feel gratitude for the still abundant inspiration of James Logan—our fellow Germantowner.

Sources used for this article

1. James Logan and the Culture of Provincial America by Frederick B. Tolles.
2. Raymond V. Shepherd, Jr. "James Logan's Stenton—Grand Simplicity in Quaker Philadelphia." Thesis—1968.
3. Pennsylvania Magazine of History & Biography. The Germantown Road & Its Associations. By Townsend Ward. Vol. 5, 1881.
4. Historical Society of Penna., MSS Dept., William Logan Fox Papers, Box No. 1 letter from James Logan to Thos. Penn, Stenton, July 7, 1734.

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 1974-1975
The Historical Society of Germantown

October 24, Thursday,

Trinity Lutheran Church
Germantown Avenue and Queen Lane
7:30—Annual Meeting: Election of Officers and Board
8:15—Speaker: *The Reverend Edward T. Horn*
(Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church)
"The Formation of the Lutheran Church in Germantown"

November 21, Thursday,

Germantown Theatre Guild
4821 Germantown Avenue
8:00—Speaker: *Beatrice B. Garvin*
(Associate Curator of American Art, Philadelphia Museum of Art)
"Early Views of Philadelphia: City-Country Life in the Eighteenth Century"

January 16, Thursday,

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church,
East Chestnut Hill Avenue, Chestnut Hill
8:00—JOINT MEETING WITH CHESTNUT HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Speaker: *Betty Cousins*
(University Museum, University of Pennsylvania)
"Archaeology at the Monestary Site, Fairmount Park"

March 20, Thursday,

Germantown-Stevens Academy Chapel,
Greene Street and School House Lane
8:00—Speakers: *Carol and Colin Franklin*
"The Nature in Man's Structures"

June 8, Saturday

(Rain date, Sat. June 15) 1:00—dark
Second Annual Barn-Raising (Paint-Up/Fix-Up Day)
Museum Complex—5208–5222 Germantown Avenue

An Introduction to Germantown Street Names

PART 1

By LAURA A. TAYLOR

I wrote the following paper in 1972, when I was a 19-year-old sophomore at Temple University. I know of no inaccuracies in the text, except some missing page numbers in footnotes. But more serious inaccuracies should be chalked up to youthful inexperience with historical research and writing, and lack of familiarity with the manipulation of source materials. I was as careful as I knew how to be, having already been inculcated with the necessity for scholarly integrity.

I actively enjoyed every moment spent in the writing of this paper, and my professor spoke truthfully when he wrote in his comments:

You must have a true love for Germantown.

GERMANTOWN was the first permanent American colony organized and established independently of governmental or commercial patronage.

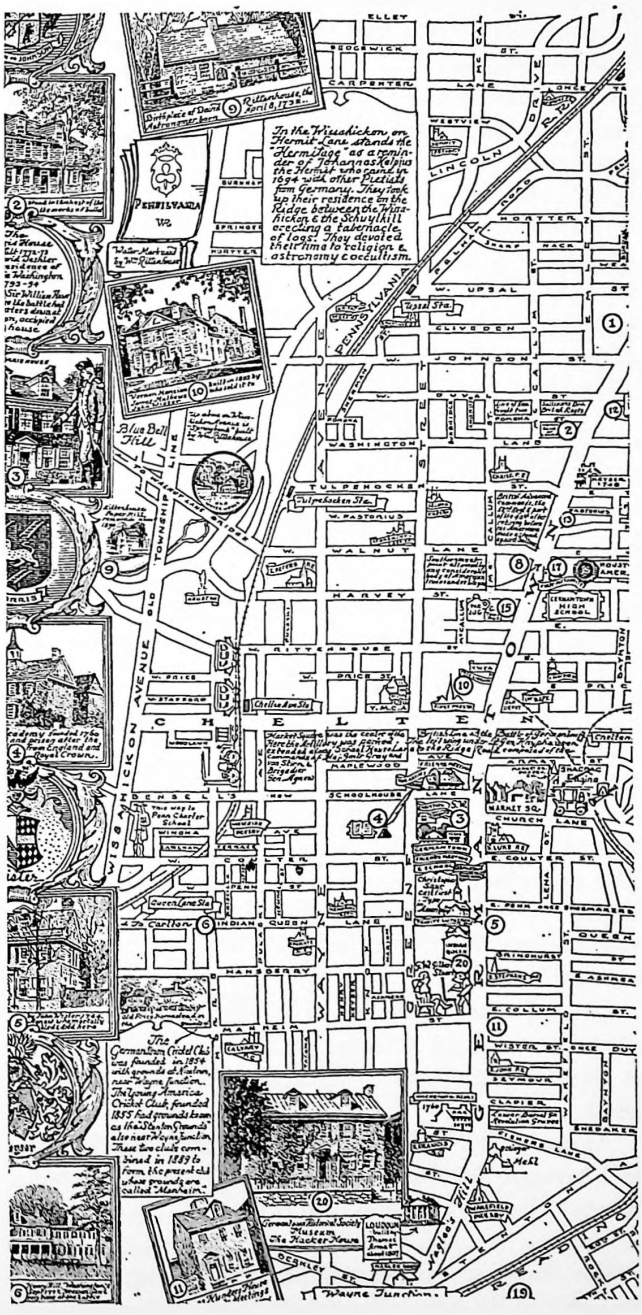
Germantown has quite an interesting history. It was settled less than a year after Penn's arrival in Pennsylvania, yet a hundred years later it was still a straggling village of a few hundred inhabitants, still largely German in language and customs. It had no better communication with Philadelphia, only six miles away, than a rattletrap, four-horse stagecoach. It is rather amusing to think, in this day of the Broad Street subway, that in the eighteenth century the bi-weekly stage coach from Philadelphia to Germantown and back made a "rest stop" to take lunch and rest from the journey, at "Rising Sun village," a cluster of buildings at Rising Sun Avenue and what is now Broad Street.

Yet it was in Germantown, in 1688, that the first formal protest ever made against human slavery was drawn up by Francis Daniel Pastorius and three other Germantown settlers. Christopher Saur printed a German Bible in Germantown thirty-nine years before the first one printed in English in America appeared. Christopher Dock wrote the first treatise on general pedagogy and the first on etiquette in America; and it was, in 1690, on Monoshone Creek on the Wissahickon that William Rittenhouse established the first paper mill in the colonies. Germantown was the site of the first grist mill in the county, the first forge in the province, and it was the people of Germantown who introduced the manufacture of fine linens which they sold in a shop in Philadelphia.

The persecuted sects of Germany were intrigued by Penn's promise of religious liberty, and a small group of Pietists began to talk seriously of buying land in Pennsylvania.

Historic Germantown

Designed by J. Riegel, Jr.



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

Francis Daniel Pastorius, a well educated Pietist, visited Frankfort and he too became intrigued. Pastorius decided to make the trip himself, and acting as an agent for a group of people calling themselves the "Frankfort Land Company" he purchased 25,000 acres from Penn. None of this body except Pastorius ever actually made the trip. This distinction was left to a band of thirteen Mennonite weavers from Crefeld, Germany:

Lenert Arets	Reynier Tison
Abraham Op den Graeff	Jan Seimens
Dirck Op den Graeff	Jan Lensen
Hermann Op den Graeff	Peter Keurlis
Willem Streypers	Johannes Bleikers
Thones Kunders	Jan Lucken
Abraham Tunes	

and their families, numbering 33 persons in all. These first settlers lived in half cave-half log house dwellings. The original grant of land, deeded to them by Penn, was in what is now Manayunk and Roxborough, but they were displeased with the hilliness of the land and petitioned to Penn. As a result they were granted 6,000 acres farther east, today's Germantown.

To these industrious settlers, used to a borough system, it was an easy transition from frontier settlement to well-ordered township. The settlement grew quickly, comprised of German Mennonites, Pietists, Dunkards, Mystics, Quakers, and members of various Protestant faiths.

The first roads established were for convenient access to the mills in the vicinity, as they were being built on nearby creeks. Other roads led to churches, ferries, and lime kilns.

Germantown was never primarily an agricultural settlement. In addition to weaving and mills the settlers were interested in grape culture (for wine). The town seal incorporated a grape vine, a bunch of flax (the settlers' main crop), and a weaver's spool set in a clover. Their motto was "Vinum, Linum et Textrinum." This evolved into a clover with the motto "Der Wein, der Lein, und der Weberschrein."

Tanning was an important pre-Revolutionary industry carried on by Peter Keyser, among others. The manufacture of pottery was another Germantown industry. The wool made in Germantown was of such superior quality that it was asked for by the name of Germantown wool.

Penn stimulated industry in his colony by a lack of restrictions on manufacturing and encouragement of the holding of fairs to create a market for domestic goods.

As early as 1698 the colonists were producing linen and hempen goods, druggets, serges, crepes, camblets, kerseys, linsey-woolseys, etc. All these were cottage industries.

The improvements by William Ashmead and John Bringhurst in the clumsy carriages and wagons of colonial days made vehicle building yet another of Germantown's industries.

The terrible quality of the roads between Germantown and Philadelphia made many pioneers prefer to stop in Germantown to provision their wagons than try to get through to Philadelphia. The industrious Germantowners saw an opportunity and took advantage of it, and merchant families formed a new important category of inhabitants.

Germantown was reasonably isolated until 1793, when the yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia sent the government and wealthy Philadelphians running to the clean open spaces of Germantown. These men were largely Anglo-Saxon, and they brought with them their English names: Cumberland, Bexley, Armat, Loudoun, Vernon, Wakefield, etc. All of these names reflect this influx. These men established summer houses and suburban houses, and Germantown began its evolution into a part of Philadelphia. Railroads were built and Germantown was no longer isolated.

Germantown was not merely a beehive of commercial activity. The artists Charles Willson Peale (founder of the Peale Museum) and Gilbert Stuart lived and worked in Germantown. It was in Germantown that Stuart painted the famous portrait of George Washington that adorns the U.S. one-dollar bill.

Louisa May Alcott, author of *Little Women*, and Owen Wister, author of *The Virginian*, were both born in Germantown.

For nearly a quarter of a century Germantown had its own government, with greater powers than any other town in Pennsylvania possessed. From 1707 until 1844 Germantown was a township in Philadelphia County. For the next ten years the most populous part of Germantown was a borough, while township government continued in the remainder of the original tract. Upon consolidation (in 1854) of all local governments in Philadelphia County with the City of Philadelphia, Germantown ceased to be a municipal entity. It is now the 22nd Ward of Philadelphia.

The area I originally chose to cover was from Wayne Junction west to Wissahickon Creek, north to Cresheim Creek, following that east to Stenton Avenue, and following Stenton Avenue south to Wayne Junction again. Once I got started and realized the enormity of what I was attempting, I had to modify these grandiose plans somewhat. I cut my area by approximately a third, taking it north only as far as Upsal Street and east only to Chew Street. It was no great loss, however, as I have managed to retain the oldest and most historically flavorful part of the town.

A cogent treatment of place names in this area would have been virtually impossible without the facilities of the Germantown Historical Society and the consistently kind and patient attention of the librarian, Miss Irle.

A dictionary listing of Germantown street names past and present follows.

THE NAME CHANGES AT A GLANCE

Present Name	*Historical Name*
Abbottsford Avenue	Wyoming
Alfred	
Ambrose	
Apsley	
Armat	
Armstrong	
Ashmead	
Baynton	Hancock
Belfield Avenue	Cedar Lane
Berkley	
Bringhurst	
Brinton	
Burbridge	
Carnation	
Chelten Avenue	Market
Cherokee	Jefferson
Carswell	
Chew	Division
Church Lane	Mill Road
	Townshend's Mill Road
	Luken's Mill Road
Clapier	Mechlin (East)
Clarkson	
Cliveden	Norton (West)
Collom	
Concord	
Copley	
Cosgrove	
Coulter	
Crowson	
Duncannon	Wynne
Duval	Kirk
Earlham Terrace	
Elwood	
Erringer Place	Sevier
Fernhill	
Gardenia	
Garfield	Clifton
Germantown Avenue	Great Road
	Germantown Road
	Main Street
Gray	
Greene (or Green)	
Haines	Lafayette (West)
	Methodist Lane (East)
	Pickius Lane (East)
Hansberry	
Harvey	Roop's Lane
Heiskell	
Herman	
High Street	
Homer	
Johnson	
Kenyon	Cumberland
Keyser	
King	
Knox	Godfrey
Laurens	Marshall, Bexley
Lehman Lane	
Lena	Evans
Lensen	
Lincoln Drive	
Locust Avenue	
Logan (East)	Busby's (Buzby's) Mill Road
	Fisher's Lane
Magnolia	Cedar Lane
	Wilson
Manheim	Cox's Lane
	Bockius Lane
Maplewood Avenue	
McCallum	Adams, LeBrun
McKean	
McMahon	Underhill
Mechanic	Ployd
Milne	
Morris	
Morton	Schaeffer, Willow
Moylan	
Musgrave	Cedar Lane
Newhall	Whittier, Baird
Nash Lane	
Osceola	Engle
Parnell	
Pastorious	
Penn	Linden (West)
	Shoemaker's Lane (East)
Pomona	
Portico	Spring Alley
Potterton	
Price	Lehman (West)
Priscilla	
Pulaski Avenue	Baumann Lane
	Plum Lane
	Plank Road
Queen Lane	Indian Queen Lane
	Riter's Lane
	Schuylkill Ferry Road
Reger	
Rittenhouse	Centre (East)
	Poor House Lane (West)
Rockland	Louden (West)
Roop's Lane	
Ross	Nash
Royal	
Rubicam Avenue	Shoemaker's Lane
	Mercer Street
Rufe	
School House Lane	Bensell's Lane
Schuyler	Marshall
Seymour	Mehl (East)
Shedaker	Wisteria
Sheldon	Miller

Present Name	*Historical Name*
Stafford	Bowman Street (East)
Stenton Avenue	
Stokes	
Sylvania	
Tacoma	
Tulpehocken	
Upsal	
Utah	
Wade	
Wakefield	Clinton
Walnut Lane	
Washington Lane	Abington Lane or Road
Wayne Avenue	
Wingohocking	
Winona	
Wissahickon Avenue	Lamb-Tavern Road
Wister	Duy's Lane
	Danenhower's Mill Road
Woodlawn	Laurel
	Woodbine
	Crout's Lane
Wyneva	Wyoming
Zeralda	

STREET NAMES FOR WHICH NO INFORMATION HAS BEEN FOUND

Alfred
Ambrose
Apsley
Baird
Berkley
Brinton
Burbridge
Carnation
Carswell
Cherokee
Clarkson
Clifton
Clinton
Copley
Cosgrove
Crowson
Douglas
Duncannon
Earlham
Elwood
Evans
Gardenia
Garfield
Gray
Hancock
High
Jefferson
Kenyon
King
Kirk
Lena
Linden
Maplewood
Marshall
Morris
Morton
Parnell
Pickius Lane
Portico
Priscilla
Rockland
Rufe
Schuyler
Sevier
Sheldon
Stafford
Sylvania
Tacoma
Underhill
Utah
Whittier
Willow
Wilson
Winona
Woodbine
Woodlawn
Wyneva
Wyoming
Zeralda

DICTIONARY LISTING OF GERMANTOWN STREET NAMES PAST AND PRESENT

Abbottsford (or Abbotsford) Avenue. Abbottsford is the name of a village perched on the hills on the east side of the Schuylkill River, below the Falls. Abbottsford Avenue travels west from Germantown Avenue to the ferry across the Schuylkill just below the Falls Bridge (see map).

Abington (or Abingdon) Road—now Washington Lane. This road is designated on the 1746 atlas as the "Road from Abington to Roxborough."

Adams Street—now McCallum. The only reference I could find to an Adams in Germantown was that he was, along with Ashmead, Bringhurst, Bockius, and Miller, one of the Germantown merchants lucratively engaged in stocking Conestoga wagons going west.

Alfred Street. I could find nothing about this name, but the fact that it was located side by side with Priscilla Street, both tiny streets, would suggest that they were named after someone's children, or a couple, perhaps.

Armat Street. Armat Street is so named for the Armat family but more directly for the Armat Mills that stood on this street. The meadow in which it was situated was for many years called "Armat's Meadow":

> Armat's, afterward Bensell's meadow, was next on the north, extending to Laurel Street which was Crout's lane.[1]

The Armat family are descendants of Thomas Armat of Dale-Head Hall, Cumberland County, England. He emigrated to this country and settled first in Loudoun County, Virginia. He came to Philadelphia around the time of the Revolutionary War and removed to Germantown during the yellow-fever epidemic. He gave the name of Loudoun to the country seat he built for his son, Thomas Wright Armat, in 1801. Armat was a merchant in Philadelphia and a distinguished philanthropist, especially toward churches and churchmen.

Armstrong Street. "Danenhouwer's mill and Armstrong's mill are thought to be the same, a little north of Duy's [Wister] Lane. A lane running to the mill (Armstrong's) is called on a chart the 'Road to Shellabarger's Mill.' It appears to have been about where Armstrong street now is."[2]

In other words, Armstrong Street is named for Armstrong's Mill, situated near Wister's Woods in East Germantown.

According to an 1871 atlas, John Armstrong owned almost all the land between Shoemaker Station and Duy's Station along the Wingohocking Creek, the area where Armstrong Street now runs.

Ashmead Street. The name of Ashmead appears in an inventory of town lots as early as 1766. I was un-

able for a long time to find any exact documentation for why Ashmead Street was so named, until I chanced upon the fact that since the end of the nineteenth century, when most of my references were written, there has been a shift in street numbers to the effect that one adds 400–500 to the street number as it was in, say, 1889, to make it up to the present number. Thus, when one finds a quote such as ". . . The old scales were opposite his house, now #4788, Dr. Ashmead's residence."[3]
or
"#4772 was Albert Ashmead's residence"[4]
or the fact that in 1742 Count Zinzendorf began the first Moravian school in this country at #4792, which he rented from the Ashmeads, and when one adds the 400–500, the street numbers become 51—or 52—Germantown Avenue, and the present Ashmead Street is located at 5200 Germantown Avenue. Generations of Ashmeads lived in a cluster of houses right along where the present Ashmead Street crosses Germantown Avenue.

William Ashmead, a Germantown blacksmith (together with the Bringhurst family—both are credited with the invention) conceived of the idea of building a light-weight carriage to replace the lumbering, imported ones of his day. He built one and hired it out at a dollar a day. It was so popular that there was a waiting list to use it. He resisted offers to sell it until someone offered him $120 (!) and he couldn't resist. The Bringhursts, who had been chaise makers, took up its manufacture and the "Germantown Wagon" became their livelihood. Perhaps their most famous customer was George Washington.

Baumann's Lane—now Pulaski Avenue. In 1837 "Pulaski Avenue was Baumann, or Plum Lane,"[5] so named for Martin Baumann, probably the first professional landscape gardener to come to America. After earning a good reputation through his work on the showplace gardens of Stephen Girard and Louis Clapier's "Fernhill," he opened a nursery on the south side of Manheim Street (then Bockius Lane) and extending west to the present Pulaski Avenue. His son, Louis Clapier Baumann, continued his father's work, and this area of Germantown was for many years called "The Nursery."

Baynton Street. ". . . also Squire Baynton . . . whose name is kept before us by a prominent familiar nearby street."[6]
Squire Peter Baynton was Adjutant General of the Pennsylvania Militia.

Belfield Avenue. Belfield Avenue is named for the estate of "Belfield" which was situated along its route (before the street was built). It was a house of the colonial and federal periods, built in the late eighteenth century. The artist, and founder of the museum, Charles Willson Peale, lived there with his family during the Revolution and immediately afterward.
"Belfield adjoins Wakefield,"[7] the Fisher mansion. Afterward the house was occupied by William (eldest son of John Wister of "Vernon") and Sarah Logan (of "Stenton") Wister, and their descendants, until its destruction.

Bensell's Lane—now School House Lane. "Dr. George Bensell built the building that stood there before the Saving Fund built its handsome home about 1795 . . . School House Lane was called Bensell's Lane."[8]

Bexley Street—now Laurens. Bexley Street was part of what is now Laurens Street, the part nearest Chelten Avenue. One of the Stokes homesteads was in this area, and I know only that John Stokes was born in Bexley, Kent, England, so it may have been a sentimental transfer.

Bockius Lane—now Manheim Street. "At the southwest corner of Main and Manheim is an old fashioned inn with hipped-roof . . . Pickus and Bockius . . . kept it . . . The lane at the side has been called Pickus', 'Betton's and Bockius' ' and Cox's . . ."[9]
"We retrace to Bockius Lane, now known as Manheim Street . . ."[10]
For more references to the Bockius family, see: Coulter Street.

Bowman Lane—now E. Stafford. ". . . His property reached almost to the north side of the present Chelten Avenue, joining Bowman's lot."[11] This corresponds with the street one block north of Chelten Avenue, called Bowman Street (now Stafford).

Bringhurst Street. John Bringhurst, with William Ashmead, was the inventor of the well-built lightweight "Germantown Wagon" and caused Germantown to be important in the carriage-building industry early in the nineteenth century. Thomas Bringhurst succeeded his father in the business, and his shop stood on Germantown Avenue near where Bringhurst Street now crosses it.
John Bringhurst was also important civically and was the founder of the famous Germantown Academy.
"At the southwest corner of Bringhurst and Main Street was the Bringhurst Mansion."[12]

Busby's (or Buzby's) Mill Road—now East Logan Street. "Fisher's Lane bounds the burying ground on the south. It was laid out 'to Busby's, late Morris's Mill, in June, 1747. . . .' The city ordinance styles it East Logan Street."[13]

Cedar Lane—now Magnolia Street and Belfield Avenue. I could not find any information, but the street was probably named for a stand of cedars, that is, from a natural formation rather than for a person. I never came across anyone named Cedar in my studies.

Centre Street—now East Rittenhouse. No documentation, but because of its central location, almost

exactly midway between Apsley and Phil-Ellena Streets (given by one source as the original boundaries of Germantown), the name is a natural one.

Chelten (or Chelton) Avenue. The intersection of Germantown and Chelten Avenues is the primary commercial crossroads of Germantown—the center of Germantown, the Germantown "downtown"—yet I could find no information on the origin of the name "Chelten." I feel, however, that since there is no record of a family by the name of Chelten in Germantown history that there is a good chance it was named for Cheltenham, England. In several old books I read Chelten*ham* Avenue referred to as the "Old Chelten Road" and so forth, and by the time Chelten Avenue was opened (West, 1854; East, 1855) Germantown was full of people of English origin. This is the only meaning for the name that I've been able to construct.

Chew Street. Chew Street is so named for the Chew family who owned virtually all the land along its route. The Chew family has been very influential in Germantown's history and has lived continuously in their stately mansion of Cliveden since its construction in 1763–4 until only the last few years. Benjamin Chew, the best known member of the family, was Attorney General of the Province of Pennsylvania, Provincial Council Member and later Chief Justice. See also: Cliveden.

Church Lane. For most of its life this street was called Mill Road, either with the owner's name and changing as the owner changed, or later simply as Mill Road. It was called Church Lane for the German Reformed Church at its end. I guess there comes a point when churches become more important than mills.

Clapier Street. This street was named for Louis Clapier who built the adjoining estate of "Fernhill" in the southwest corner of Germantown on the tract of land now known as Fernhill Park, bordered by W. Clapier Street. (See also: Fernhill, McKean.)

Cliveden (or Clivedon) Street. The present Cliveden Street formed the northern boundary of what is left of the Chew family estate, "Cliveden," built in 1763–4 by Benjamin Chew (see Chew). I was unable to find the origin of the name Cliveden as such, but it was probably a carryover from England. "Cliveden" was the site of the heaviest action of the Battle of Germantown. The British, under Lieut. Com. Musgrave, held Cliveden as a fort, and its thick stone walls made it impervious to American artillery and infantry fire from across Main Street (now Germantown Avenue) on what is now the lawn of the Johnson mansion, "Upsala."
"Chews Woods" (between Johnson and Cliveden on Chew Street is now called "Cliveden Park."

Collom Street. Collom Street is named in some way for the Collom family, whose name I saw on many small parcels of land in old atlases.

Concord Street. If it were not for its location I would think Concord Street was named for the Concord schoolhouse just north of Washington Lane on Germantown Avenue, but it is nowhere near it. The Concord schoolhouse was built in 1775, the year of the Battle of Concord, but there is disagreement as to whether it is named for the battle or for the ship the "Concord" on which many of the early settlers came to Germantown. I think the same arguments could be applied to Concord Street, as I found no reference to a Concord family in Germantown history.

CLASSIFICATION OF SOURCES OF GERMANTOWN STREET NAMES

When I began this study I had not the slightest idea how to go about it. I am indebted to Robert L. Ramsey for his concise instructions on the procedure of a place-name study, in his "Introduction to a Survey of Missouri Place Names," in *The University of Missouri Studies, A Quarterly of Research.* I have borrowed heavily from the classification system he outlines. I have classified my findings as follows, to facilitate an understanding of the sources of Germantown street names.

I. *Borrowed Names*

A. Foreign Transfers
- Bexley
- Chelten*
- Cumberland
- Manheim
- Wakefield

B. Transfers from Other States
- Loudoun

Key: *—Doubtfully solved.
**—Unsolved.

C. Local Transfers (from natural phenomena)
- Carnation**
- Cedar Lane**
- Gardenia**
- Greene*
- Laurel*
- Linden**
- Locust**
- Magnolia**
- Maplewood**
- Plum Lane**
- Walnut Lane
- Willow**
- Wingohocking
- Wissahickon
- Woodbine**
- Spring Alley

Local Transfers from Other Sources
- Belfield
- Church Lane
- Cliveden
- Fernhill
- W. Louden
- Methodist Lane
- Mill Roads (various)
- Plank Road
- Pomona
- Poor House Lane
- Queen Lane
- (Indian Queen Lane)
- School House Lane
- Schuylkill Ferry Road
- Wakefield
- Washington Lane

D. Transfers from Industry
- Osceola
- Potterton Hts.*
- Seymour*

II. *Historical Names*

A. Indian Names
- Cherokee**
- Tulpehocken*
- Wingohocking
- Wissahickon

B. Revolutionary War
- Baynton
- Concord*
- Greene*
- Knox
- Lafayette
- Moylan
- Musgrave
- Nash
- Pulaski
- Washington Lane
- Wayne Avenue

C. War Between the States
- Lincoln Drive

D. Local History
- Godfrey
- Lafayette

III. *Personal Names*

A. Indian Personal Names
Tulpehocken* Wingohocking

B. Foreign Personal Names (of famous foreigners)
Lafayette Pulaski
Parnell**

C. National Figures
Greene* Moylan
Jefferson* Nash
Knox Penn
Lincoln Drive** Wayne

D. State Figures
Chew Penn
Logan

E. Local Figures

Adams*	Hansberry	Morris**
Armat	Harvey	Newhall
Ashmead	Heiskell	Pastorious
Baumann	Herman*	Pickius**
Baynton	Homer	Ployd
Bensell	Johnson	Potterton*
Bockius	Keyser	Price
Bowman	Laurens	Reger**
Bringhurst	Le Brun	Riter
Chew	Lehman	Roop
Clapier	Lensen	Ross
Coulter	Logan	Royal
Cox	McCallum*	Rubicam
Crout	McKean	Schaffer*
Duval	McMahon	Shedaker*
Duy	Mechlin	Shoemaker
Engle*	Mehl	Stokes
Erringer	Mill owners	Wade
Fisher's Lane	Miller	Wister
Godfrey	Milne	Wynne
Haines		

IV. *Environmental Names*

A. Landscape and Situation
Abbottsford Fernhill
Abington West Louden
Belfield Main Street
Centre Market
Cliveden Schuylkill Ferry Road
Division Wakefield

B. Flora
Carnation** Magnolia**
Cedar Lane** Maplewood**
Gardenia** Plum Lane**
Laurel* Walnut Lane
Linden** Willow**
Locust Wisteria**

C. Minerals and Soil
Rockland

V. *Subjective Names*

Sentimental and Advertising Names, Sobriquets
Little Wayne Street

CONCLUSIONS

One definite conclusion to be drawn from this study is that Germantown was undeniably a Patriot community. The name of only one British soldier, Musgrave, is memorialized in a street name. This is balanced, as it were, by the Reverend Schaffer who "defected" from the Hessians and may have given his name to Schaeffer Street. Generals of the Revolutionary Army are plentifully commemorated: Greene, Wayne, Knox, Moylan, Nash, Pulaski, and, of course, Lafayette.

Early Germantown had largely German and Indian place names. Many of these were lost with the influx of influential, moneyed Philadelphians of English origin, whose names comprise the bulk of present-day Germantown street names. Indeed, the clearest finding of the study is that Germantown streets reflect preponderantly the names of local landowners.

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NOTE: "Dictionary Listing of Germantown Street Names Past and Present" to be continued in next issue.—Editor

"LITTLE WOMEN"

Reborn in Germantown, Birthplace of Creator, Louisa M. Alcott

Where Masonic Hall now stands, 5425 Germantown avenue, a girl baby was born November 29, 1832, just a little more than 101 years ago. When she was two years old her parents moved to Boston, where her father conducted a school. Then, six years later, they moved to Concord, where this little Germantown girl became world-famous. Concord claims her as its own, but the fact remains that she first saw the light of day in Germantown and lived here for the first two years of her life.

Louisa M. Alcott was born to be a story teller. O, no, not that kind of story teller. A writer of stories which other people, both old and young, would enjoy. And she became a very famous writer. Her first big success was "Little Women," which she wrote in 1868 when she was 36 years old.

Because of this story her birthday is observed by thousands all over the world. And just now a very special celebration is being carried on in honor of her centennial anniversary. "Little Women" was done into a play and later into a moving picture. Thus many, many thousands of a newer generation who never read the book have become acquainted with the story.

Now Germantown, the birthplace of "Little Women," is to see its rebirth in a play to be presented at the Woman's Club on the evening of January 30. The Three Oaks Dramatic Club, a local organization of experience, will give the play.

Jo, the famous character of Miss Alcott's book, will be represented by Mrs. Harold Porter Melcher; Meg, by Miss Violet Terrill, who needs no introduction to Germantown folks. Amy, will be featured by Mrs. Albert Holmes. Mrs. William Kurz will interpret the difficult part of Beth. The part of Mrs. March will be ably characterized by Mrs. Florence Calhoun. The players are being directed by Mrs. William Tomlinson, assisted by Stanley Ruth.

From "*The Beehive*" of January, 1934

BEGINNING OF PHILADELPHIA'S FREE LIBRARY SYSTEM

One of the men who helped to establish Philadelphia's great Free Library system forty-three years ago, has long been a resident of Mount Airy. He is Neil H. Lafferty, who, up to his retirement, was in charge of the Nicetown Branch of the Free Library. He was the last male librarian employed, other than the chief of the system, the policy of engaging only women as librarians having been adopted.

Back in 1893, when George S. Pepper's bequest of $250,000 for free library service in Philadelphia became available, Mr. Lafferty was one of a group of workers who prepared for the opening of the first library. Three rooms on the southwest corridor of the first floor in the then uncompleted City Hall were assigned for this purpose, through the interest of Samuel C. Perkins, President of the Public Building Commission, then still in charge of City Hall.

Here the library was opened to the public in March, 1894, under the direction of the following staff: John Thomson, chief; Sarah E. Goding and Rost Stewart, both members of the first class in the Library School of Drexel Institute; the Misses Hanaway, Jean Graffen, Helen Sartain, Frank D. Baugher and Neil H. Lafferty.

Mr. Lafferty handed out the first of the many millions of application cards distributed from the Free Library, and Miss Sartain registered the first numbered card issued to a reader.

In February, 1895, the library was removed to the old Concert Hall, 1217–19 Chestnut Street, and prior to opening here Mr. Lafferty personally arranged the shelving and placed thereon all the books the library then owned. The library occupied all of the second floor of this building until its removal to Thirteenth and Locust Streets, where it remained until the present magnificent Central Library Building, on the Parkway, was occupied. Meanwhile branches were opened in different parts of the city, including Germantown, Mount Airy and Chestnut Hill.

Late in 1895 Mr. Lafferty was detailed to open the Free Library's first branch, at Seventh and Lombard Streets, and late in 1897 he was selected by his chief to establish the branch in Nicetown. For thirty-two years he remained in charge of the Nicetown Branch retiring on pension in January, 1930, after a total service of thirty-six years with the Free Library.

"I have vivid and pleasant memories of the many public-spirited citizens who fathered the library in its formative stage," said Mr. Lafferty. "Among those worthy of mention in this connection were Dr. William Pepper, Dr. Isaac Norris, Joseph G. Rosengarten, Clarence Clark, Thomas Lynch Montgomery, old-time Germantowner who afterwards was State Librarian; Samuel W. Pennypacker, afterwards Governor of the State; Clarence Sears Kates and Dr. Albert L. Smyth, the latter a resident of Germantown."

From "*The Beehive*" of October, 1936

HAPPENINGS IN GERMANTOWN

October 1973—October 1974

LEONARD DENIS, *Historian*

The following chronology covers some of the events connected with our Society and our community.

The new year (1973) started with the very bad news that the two store dwellings at 5900–5902 Germantown Avenue, corner of Rittenhouse Street, were to be demolished and replaced by an addition to a dry cleaning establishment. It was learned from the Philadelphia Historical Commission that 5900 Germantown Avenue was certified because both premises were once one dwelling, the intention being to cover the whole structure (the rear section was pre-Revolutionary and the front Federal). The Commission imposed a six-month stay on demolition. Various officials of museums and historic commissions indicated their disapproval of the demolition pointing out it would lessen the importance of Germantown Avenue (The Great Road) which for some time has been designated a National Historic Landmark. As of now the status quo remains the same.

In August 1973 a Bill to enlarge the boundaries of the Germantown portion of Independence National Historic Park has been introduced in Congress by our Senator Hugh Scott. The properties include Market Square, the Presbyterian church and its manse, the offices of the Germantown Insurance Company, the Germantown Savings Society and Hamilton-Alliance Savings Association. The Scott Bill, introduced the first of August, would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the listed properties.

The Deshler-Morris House has been a part of the Park for many years. President Washington, and his family, lived in this house for brief periods in 1793 and 1794 when the seat of our government was moved to Germantown because of the yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia.

The most important event in 1973 was when our Society accepted the administration of Wyck, the oldest house in Germantown. It was built in 1690 and has been owned and lived in by the same family line for 283 years. Kinfolk making Wyck their home were named Milan, Jansen, Wistar, and Haines. The last family owner, Mrs. Robert B. Haines, deeded the house and land into a trust for historic purposes. The First Pennsylvania Company becomes sole trustee of the newly established Wyck Charitable Trust and our Society is administrative agent through our Wyck Committee.

The Philadelphia '76 Committee granted a contract to our Society to study proposals for establishing an 18th century farm and a flea market among other things. A tourist information center is to be completed in the Bringhurst House by 1976. The National Parks Foundation will fund these projects. Other proposed projects include Restoration of the barn at James Logan's "Stenton," Completion of the Victorian Museum and resource center at the Maxwell Mansion. A historical sound and light production is also planned for our area.

The annual Christmas Party was given in December at the Deshler-Morris House by the Women's Committee. As usual, the house was charmingly decorated in the spirit of Christmastide. Always a festive occasion it was well attended.

In recognition of a lifetime of public service, a dinner was given Thursday, March 14th, at the Philadelphia Cricket Club in Chestnut Hill in honor of Judge Harold D. Saylor, our Society's President for the past 21 years. It was sponsored by The Germantown Historical Society in cooperation with the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Fairmount Park Commission, the Philadelphia Historical Commission, the Friends of the Wissahickon and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. Nearly 200 guests attended. A "growing gift" of 150 new trees was contributed to the "10,000 Trees" program sponsored by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society as a token of esteem and gratitude for his long and dedicated service.

One of the more outstanding speakers at our regular member's meetings was Dr. Evan H. Turner, Director of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. The meeting was held in the Germantown Stevens Academy. Dr. Turner spoke on the constant succession of public monuments to illustrate the stages of its development. He singled out Germantown as being in itself a chapter of urban history. He declared our streets to be a public museum. He illustrated his lecture with color slides.

After almost four years trying to upgrade the general appearance of Germantown Avenue, the Germantown Historic District Committee of the Germantown Historical Society, formed for this purpose, can now report some progress.

Unsightly projecting signs, graffiti, and boarded-up abandoned stores have been a large part of the problem. On March 6, 1974 an Ordinance was approved by the Mayor and City Council concerning

signs along Germantown Avenue. Fairmount Park cooperated by removing the dilapidated former gas station from the corner of Wyneva and Germantown Avenue and this piece of land will be incorporated in Loudoun Park.

Some painting has been done and graffiti removed by volunteer groups. Trees are to be planted along the Avenue at the Good Will Baptist Church and the Lower Burial Ground and additional improvement ideas are under consideration. Committee Chairman, Mrs. John W. Farr feels the original plan is beginning to work.

On the 5th of May (Sunday) in 1974, the Annual Tour of Historic Houses was held. The tour was a success with an excellent attendance. Unlike the previous years, the weather was most agreeable. About this same time it was learned that the Pennsylvania State Historical Commission has approved a $25,000 matching Federal grant for the restoration of the barn at "Stenton." The barn was built in 1790 and will become a farm museum and a special place of interest during the Bicentennial. "Stenton" is managed by The National Society of Colonial Dames of America.

As part of the first major Bicentennial celebration in Philadelphia there will be a six-week celebration in September and October 1974 in conjunction with the 200th anniversary of the First Continental Congress. Saturday the 19th of October is scheduled to be Germantown Day. Local business and community groups plan to participate in Germantown's contribution to the city wide celebration. Plans for the day call for the closing of Germantown Avenue to Maplewood Avenue and the closing of Schoolhouse Lane and Armat Street from Germantown Avenue to Greene Street. Present plans call for a portable stage in the closed-off area to be set up by the city. Also an exhibit on black history in Germantown which will set up in a local store; a clothesline art exhibit and flea market at the Germantown Stevens Academy; a series of performances by local groups and 18th century military drills and displays by the Maplewood Mall shop owners. Local museums will be open to the public. The Germantown Theatre Guild will offer street theatre. Mr. Reed L. Engle, our Society's administrator, is a Consultant to Philadelphia '76.

In July of 1974, Philadelphia '76 Inc., the Bicentennial Planning agency has approved projects for the historic Germantown area which would create four separate improvements in the Central Germantown, Morton and Wister redevelopments areas.

They include: Demolition of five properties in the 5100 block of Germantown Avenue. An educational park commemorating the location of the first anti-slavery in our country, in 1688, would be built on the site. Market Square would be improved with excess walkways and landscaping. The second oldest railroad station in our country at Germantown Avenue and Price Street would be restored. Demolition of six stores at Germantown and Rittenhouse Streets to provide a parking lot near the Germantown YWCA and historic Vernon Park.

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Coming Special Events in Germantown

You Will Want to Know About

October 12-19—

BLACK HISTORY IN GERMANTOWN

Fidelity Bank, Market Square, Germantown

An exhibit dealing with the history of blacks in Germantown from the first anti-slavery protest in the seventeenth century until today. Sponsored by Philadelphia '76, and created by the Germantown Historical Society in co-operation with an editorial board composed of:

Mrs. Patricia Clifford
Mr. Jack Saunders (Ed./Publisher, *Philadelphia Tribune*)
Dr. Margaret Tinkcom
Mr. Thomas Allen
Mr. Robert Brusic
Mr. Robert Ulle

The exhibit will open at the Fidelity Bank, Germantown, and is scheduled to travel to branches throughout the City.

October 19 (Rain date October 20)—

GERMANTOWN FESTIVAL '74

Sponsored by Germantown Historical Society and funded by Philadelphia '76.

Germantown's share in the Bicentennial *First Continental Congress* festivities. A melange of activities from 10:00 until dark.

Sat. 10:00 (location will be announced)
(Sun. 12:00) *National Marching Band Parade*

Bands from all over the United States competing for the National Marching Band honors in a great parade.

Sat. 12:00 until dusk
(Sun. 1:30 until dusk)
Germantown Performing Arts Festival

On a portable stage on Market Square will be performed a series of Germantown's finest groups, including:

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Germantown Dance Theatre
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The Germantown Country Dancers (English Folk Dance)

Sat. 11:30 until dusk
(Sunday 1:00 until dusk)
Flea-Market/Craft Show/Antiques Show/Art Show

All day at Germantown-Steven's Academy. Massive demonstration of Germantown's creativity.

Sat.—All day
(Sunday—All day)
PONY RIDES—AMUSEMENT RIDES
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Sat. (Sun.) At Dark
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Amusements and pony rides will benefit the Greater Germantown Appeal and the Germantown Y.W.C.A. Food Booths will be provided by Germantown Neighborhood groups. This is *YOUR CELEBRATION*, sponsored by Philadelphia '76. *Please support it.*



GOOD NEWS

You will recall that our "Spring" issue gave a brief account of our much admired President, The Honorable Harold D. Saylor's retirement after twenty-one years as a Judge of the Orphans' Court of Philadelphia.

Some of our members have anxiously questioned whether it is his intention to retire from the Germantown Historical Society at the end of our current year. I am most happy to report that this is not the case. Judge Saylor has graciously agreed to continue his long and dedicated service to the Society, and we can count ourselves extremely fortunate.

EDITOR

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A Map of
Historic Germantown

Designed by J. Riegel, Jr.

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

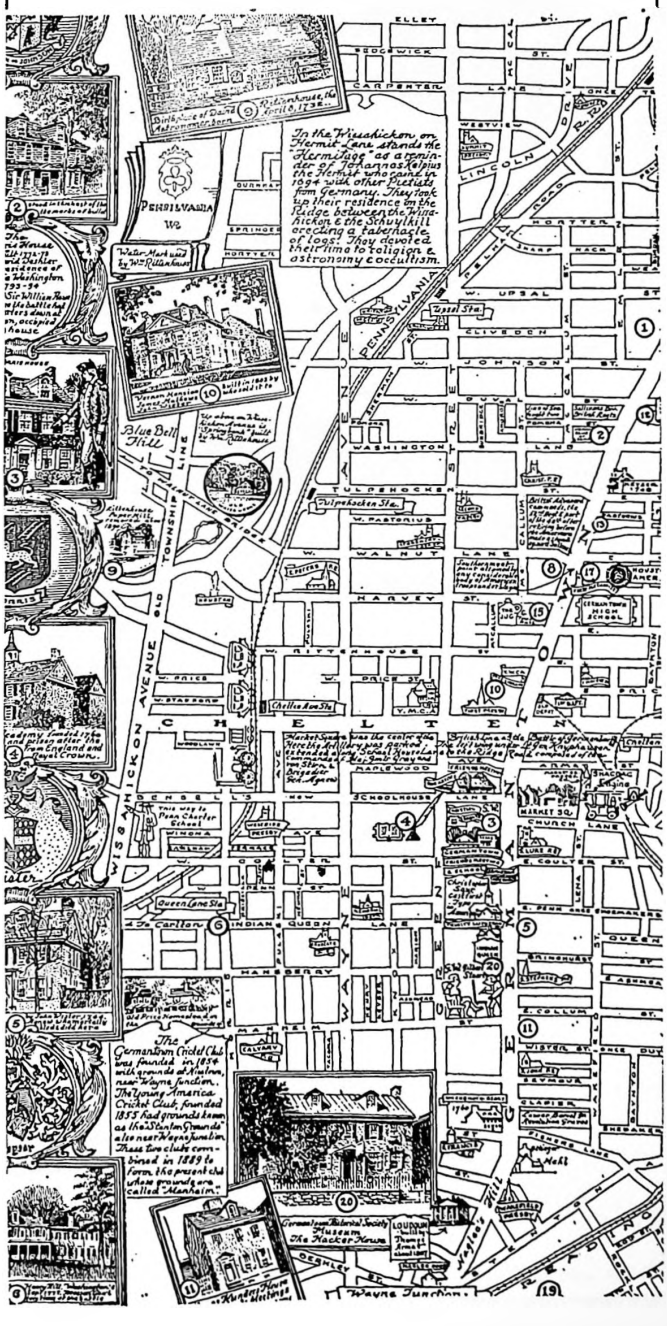
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HOSPITALITY CHAIRMAN

Mrs. James (Peggy) Bishop, active with the Women's Committee of Deshler-Morris House, and committee member of the Historic House Tour Committee, has agreed to become Hospitality Chairman. We welcome her.

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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

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

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

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