



## Hidden Treasures

### A SNEAK PEAK AT THE 2012 ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY TOUR

Lancaster County in the fall is often looked forward to for its rich harvest and comfortable weather. This year, the anticipation will only grow as the Historic Preservation Trust announces its Architectural History Tour on Saturday, October 20th. Tucked quietly in the northeastern corridor of the county, "Hidden Treasures 1" will feature the Peter Martin Log Cabin in New Holland; Historic Poole Forge, Caernarvon Historical Society, Windsor Forge Mansion, Washington Inn and Bangor Episcopal Church in Caernarvon; Bowmansville Roller Mill and John B. Good House in Brecknock; and the Fichthorn House in East Cocalico – nine in all!

The tour will take place from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. allowing plenty of time for participants to stop at some of the numerous farm markets, enjoy a picnic (Historic Poole Forge is an ideal spot) and take a leisurely drive through the autumn countryside. Tickets are \$18 for members, \$20 for non-members and \$10 for children 12 and under. They can be purchased in advance by contacting the Historic Preservation Trust office at 291-5861 or the day of the event at two of our designated sites.

As the event opens the door for the public to observe some of the finest, historically significant structures in Lancaster, its proceeds will also benefit the Historic Preservation Trust's mission to "preserve and protect Lancaster County's rich historic and architectural character." We hope you will join us! ○

By Michelle Landis





# Gala Wrap-Up



## BY THE NUMBERS

29 vendors

80 auction items

300 guests

10 months of planning

50+ volunteers

500 volunteer hours week of event

25,000 square feet to clean

3,000 plates, 4,000 forks and 5,000 napkins

12 brooms, 6 shovels, 3 hammers, 1 leaf blower

1 birds nest with babies in rafters

*Over \$30,000 raised!*

*Contributing Architects: Dana Clark, Tippetts Weaver Architects; Steve Funk, LeFevre Funk Architects; and Carol Hickey of Hickey Architects*

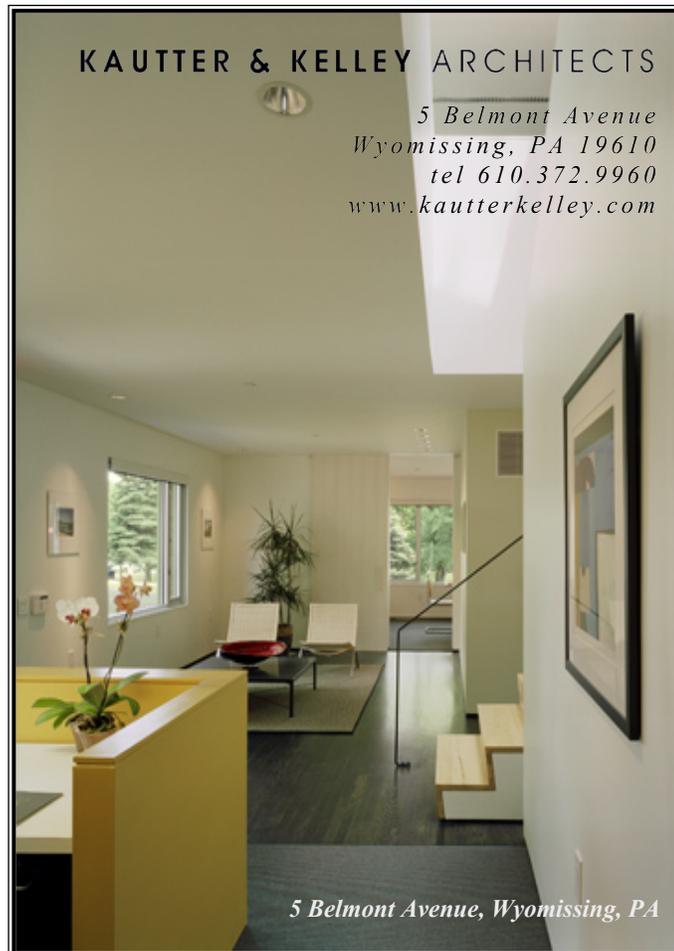
**Q:** Why hire an architect?

**A:** An architect can guide you through the process of design, building and zoning and land development codes and regulations, budget issues, and provide ideas for efficiency, future uses and long-term maintenance, to name a few reasons. Many people really want the creative inspiration of an architect, someone who can see beyond the immediate issues and provide a space of beauty and comfort. They look at things with a different eye and bring a wealth of knowledge, experience and creativity to the project. In the end, that's what people appreciate most. Yes, an architect can bring innovative construction methods, new heating and cooling techniques, effective lighting design and even furniture suggestions, and placement. Particularly with residential design, the way the space will be used – sitting, reading, cooking, playing – is taken into consideration at the very beginning. Even with commercial design the architect must really understand the workings - physical and emotional - of the environment and its inhabitants.

With regard to the re-use, renovation, or addition to historic buildings, architects with the proper training and experience can be a great help. An understanding of the original structure is very important. Often there are physical clues in the extant building which a lay person may not perceive or understand. An architect also has an understanding of the structural capabilities of the historic building and can use that to design improvements which make sense and respect the original building. This speaks to the economy and integrity of the project. An architect with historic building experience can provide resources for salvaged materials, contractors capable of working with historic buildings and other special consultants; as well as recommending books and articles for a better understanding of the building and/or the process. Architects often have experience with historic research and can provide insight into the history of the property. This research often opens up avenues for the project design. A great design will fit into the fabric and atmosphere of the property, scale, character and setting. Do not be surprised if an architect proposes a “modern” addition, as it may be the best way to respect an older building. Imitation and reproduction can often be confusing and actually take away from the original building's presence. An architect will also lead you through the exploration of the historic building in terms of the architectural basics of light, scale, and space so that one appreciates not only the historic features, but also the true architectural quality of the building. An architect can guide against unnecessary destruction of historic material, and has knowledge of repair techniques that have been proven. Often repairs to historic buildings are deemed too costly, but in the end, they result in an extension of the building's life well beyond that of vinyl siding. We have learned that the old materials - especially wood, (if kept dry!) are of a much better quality than the same materials available today, and better than faux materials for which we don't know what will happen after 75 years.

When you make the decision to re-use/develop a historic building – whether it is for a residence or a business - you have made a very sustainable, responsible decision. Not all historic buildings are suitable for what you may want to do, and an architect can help you understand if the project will be a good fit, before you make significant investments.

And, if all really goes well, you will have made another friend, and all of you will have had an adventure. ○





# 2012 STATEWIDE CONFERENCE ON HERITAGE TO BE HELD IN DOWNTOWN LANCASTER



The Statewide Conference on Heritage will be held July 15th-19th, 2012 at the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square in Downtown Lancaster, PA. The small town charm, walkable downtown and rural landscapes of Lancaster County set the stage for the Statewide Conference on Heritage which features workshops, sessions and speakers from the historic preservation, archaeological, heritage tourism, transportation, legislative, and planning communities.

The Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County is organizing a special tour based on our successful 2010 Architectural History Tour. It is scheduled for Monday, July 16<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to Noon.

## LET'S TAKE A WALK: HOW C. EMLEN URBAN DEFINED THE CITY OF LANCASTER

For us, Lancaster's landmark buildings have never changed. Yet, just a century ago, the buildings in Penn Square and throughout the downtown were red brick structures dating from the colonial period through the 1880's. C. Emlen Urban's designs changed all that.

Urban was a prolific and talented architect at the turn of the last century. He was a reserved man who quietly designed over 100 buildings in Lancaster County and Hershey, PA. Two-thirds of them were public buildings: schools, churches, and businesses. About one-fourth of his work has been demolished or substantially altered. Nevertheless, some of the most beautiful are on the National Register of Historic Places and will be preserved for future generations. Join us for a look at some of our favorite landmark buildings.

**ACTIVITY NOTES:** Line up at 9:00 a.m. Tour departs at 9:15 a.m. and will return by noon. Please wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Will include walking up to 1.5 miles on city sidewalks.  
Presented by The Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County.

The Historic Preservation Trust will also be represented on the panel for Balancing Preservation & Urban Development: Lessons Learned from the Lancaster Marriott & Convention Center Project. This discussion is scheduled for Monday, July 16th from 1:30 to 3:00 PM.

*For more information about the conference log on to [www.preservationpa.org](http://www.preservationpa.org).*



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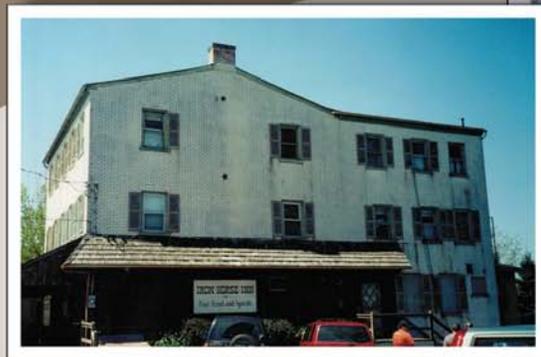
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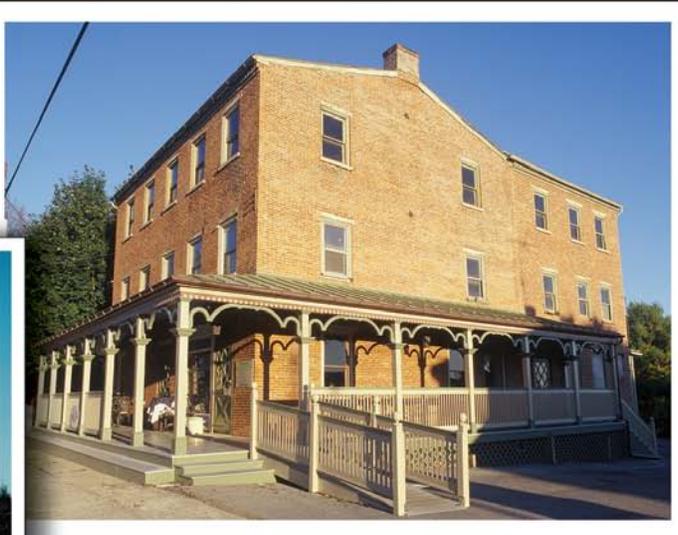
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*What are  
TEN COMMON MISTAKES  
People Make 'Fixing'  
Older Buildings?*



*Before: Mid 20th Century Crisis*



*After: Iron Horse Inn/Hotel Strasburg, built Circa 1875.  
Wrap-around porch rebuilt 2005.*

To receive your free report of the 'Ten Common Mistakes People Make When Working on Their Older Building' and to learn how to avoid them visit our website at [www.Historic-Restorations.com](http://www.Historic-Restorations.com) or call 717-291-4688.

*"Appreciated having the same crew throughout the project... and the clean up when the job was completed."*

*-Laura and Ron*



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# Upcoming Events

## JULY

*Summer Social in the Trust Garden*

15<sup>th</sup> | Sunday  
Noon to 3:00 PM

## AUGUST

*Cruise to Nova Scotia*  
25<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> | Saturday -  
Thursday

## SEPTEMBER

*Mix & Mingle*  
TBD

## OCTOBER

*Architectural History Tour*

20<sup>th</sup> | Saturday  
10 AM to 5 PM  
\$18 members  
\$20 non-members  
\$10 for children 12 and under

## NOVEMBER

*Annual Meeting  
Lancaster Country Club*

7<sup>th</sup> | Wednesday  
5:30 to 9:00 PM

\$65 members  
\$75 non-members

*Mix & Mingle  
Lily's on Main (Ephrata)*

14<sup>th</sup> | Wednesday  
5:00 to 8:00 PM

# The Ellmaker House

BED AND BREAKFAST

A HOME OF HISTORICAL ELEGANCE

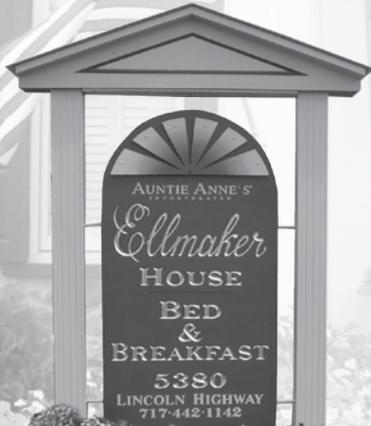
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## President's Perspective



### HELP WANTED

Sustaining the work of the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County is an on-going challenge, not because what we do is not relevant or important. It is... very much so, especially now that Lancaster County seems to have had a reawakening as to

the significance and importance of historic structures. Look around at the 18th and 19th century former mills, warehouses and other structures that are undergoing extensive work to become beautiful restaurants, shops and residences. That is very gratifying.

The Historic Preservation Trust has made major contributions toward creating a culture of historical awareness and preservation throughout Lancaster County. Since the Historic Preservation Trust was formed in 1966, county residents and others have depended on us as the go-to organization when a piece of our history has been threatened by neglect, demolition or development. Our vital mission remains to preserve and protect Lancaster County's rich historic and architectural character through education, advocacy and direct action.

However, I'm going to be candid and share with you that these are not easy times for the Historic Preservation Trust. We need support. Like any volunteer, non-profit organization, our life blood is our membership and the generosity of individuals, companies and foundations.

Because of a tough economy and reasons associated with the Thaddeus Stevens and Lydia Hamilton Smith project, our fund-raising and membership drives have struggled. This had never been a problem for us in the past. With the influx of new businesses and residents, as

well as our community's heightened awareness of our historic architectural landscape, we should be growing.

Past major donors are still fulfilling commitments made to the Stevens-Smith project, which left the Historic Preservation Trust weakened financially. Our spirit prevails and we remain a valuable resource for a broad range of constituents – architects, builders, lawyers, educators, students, and property owners.

If you have not donated to the Preserve Our Past Campaign or joined as a 2012 member, I urge you to do so. Your time and talents also are welcomed. Our committee activities range from surveying historic properties to maintaining our headquarters building (circa 1787), or planning exciting events like our annual Gourmet Gala. Our wish list includes much needed computer upgrades, a new roof for our headquarters, volunteers to help organize our archives, and help with mowing and trimming our courtyard. This is a partial list.

Our help wanted sign is out. If you can help, please do. Thank you. ○

*By Stephen Dietrich*

## Wright's Ferry Mansion



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Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays & Saturdays  
from 10:00 to 3:00 (*last tour begins at 3:00*)

2nd & Cherry Streets P.O. Box 68  
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Telephone 717.684.4325



ASK THE ELECTRICIAN



We have had a few unusual calls within the last few months involving the electrical service cable coming into the house.

The service cable is your exterior wire that either comes down from the top of your home or it could come into your house underground. The one call we received was because a car turning into an alley overshot the turn and ran into the side of the building shorting out the main service cable. The cable was protected by a large fuse on the pole but the wire burned in half without blowing the high amperage fuse. There were a lot of sparks and black burn marks on the brick wall. The power company was called out and they cut the power to the building until repairs were made by the electrician. The cable is now in conduit and out of harm's way by relocating it out of the path of another car taking a wide turn.

The other call we received was from a homeowner in distress after a cable TV installer drilled into her 200 amp service cable in the basement that was feeding the main electrical panel. Once again the power company's fuse didn't knock off the power. After a fair amount of sparking, the cable burned off enough to stop the shorting. Luckily no one was hurt and there was no property damage except for the damaged service cable.

Always be aware when working around electrical service equipment. Drilling holes for plumbing, cable tv, outdoor speaker wiring are a few examples. Even weed whacking and lawn mowing around the electrical meter can damage the cable.

Last I want to mention the condition on the outer covering of the service cable. The PVC casing will dry out and crack in time especially on a south facing wall. Once the insulation is cracked open, water will enter the interior wiring which acts like a hose and the water will follow the cable down into your circuit breaker panel. This situation will rapidly destroy the breakers, buss bar and neutral connections. A coat of paint on the exterior casing will help prevent deterioration and save possibly thousands of dollars in repairs. It's always good to know about the systems in your home. The exterior cable and meter base are important components to keep an eye on.

Have a great summer and enjoy what makes Lancaster County such a special place to live.

Please email your "Ask the Electrician" questions to [AmyGaston@HPTrust.org](mailto:AmyGaston@HPTrust.org).

By Stephen Daniels, Stephen M. Daniels Electrical Contractor

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LANCASTER COUNTY PRESERVATION TRUST

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Historic Preservation Trust  
of Lancaster County

MISSION

To preserve and protect Lancaster County's rich historic and architectural character through education, advocacy and direct action.

