

Heritage Outlook

News from the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County

April 2014

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Historic Preservation Trust Documents Now Available Online

A major first step toward making records on more than 10,000 historic properties in Lancaster County available online has become a reality. The Preservation Trust's *Our Present Past* has been digitized and is posted on the Preservation Trust's website - www.hptrust.org. More than 400 people accessed the site during the first week it was posted.

"This is a significant achievement not only because it makes research of our county's architectural history easier but also because it gives us peace of mind in knowing that we have digital files of the massive paper records that we maintain at our downtown Lancaster library," said Lisa Horst, president of the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County Board of Directors. "Our records date back to the founding of Lancaster County in 1729 so it is very reassuring to have digital backup files. Digitizing *Our Present Past* is phase one. The second phase involves digitizing hundreds and hundreds of file folders and other references. The third phase will merge phase one with phase two."

Funding for the Preservation Trust's digitization initiative came from the Steinman Foundation and the Lancaster County Community Foundation.

The 559-page *Our Present Past* is a compilation of thousands of thumbnail sketches on homes, barns, bridges, mills and other Lancaster County structures that are historically significant. The reference is organized by township or borough and then property by street address based on county-wide surveys of historic properties that were conducted in the 1970s and 1980s. It also contains chapters on "The History and Development of Lancaster County," "Lancaster County's Architectural Terms and Styles," "Preservation Aids" and "Preservation Techniques."



Our Present Past was published in 1985 and was compiled by Historic Preservation Trust volunteers with support from the Lancaster County Planning Commission, the City of Lancaster, the Bureau for Historic Preservation, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and LancasterHistory.org.

Mrs. Horst said online users of *Our Present Past* -- such as realtors, attorneys, contractors, students and historians -- can now find information on historical properties with a simple word search. "This is a vast improvement over manually going through almost 600 pages looking for addresses and sometimes partial information on property locations," she added.

Lancaster-based NxtBook Media, a global full-service digital publication platform developer, is digitizing the Historic Preservation Trust archives. Nxtbook Chief Inspiration Officer Michael Biggerstaff said: "Digitizing historic documents opens up the possibility of discovery to anyone with access to a computer or smartphone, and allows for future linking of assets with related information. This is a best-case scenario of using the technology of today to build upon the history of yesterday."

Biggerstaff said the NxtBook development team is already working on phase two with a goal of having it ready to post online over the next 24 to 36 months, depending on how well the manual scanning of Preservation Trust's paper archives goes. Mrs. Horst said volunteers are needed to help with the scanning of documents as well as the general maintenance of the archives. "Phase two will be an on-going process as new information on historical properties is gathered through survey updates and individual property owner sources," she added. "The work by NxtBook Media is making all of this possible."

Volunteers interested in helping with the scanning should contact the Historic Preservation Trust at 717-291-5861 or joepatterson@hptrust.org.

Gourmet Gala Tickets Now on Sale



Mylin House (1787)

Tickets to the much anticipated 2014 Gourmet Gala are now on sale. Prices are \$75 per person for Preservation Trust members and \$85 for non-members. Blocks of 10 tickets may be purchased for \$650. To order, call 717-291-5861 or send an e-mail to joepatterson@hptrust.org

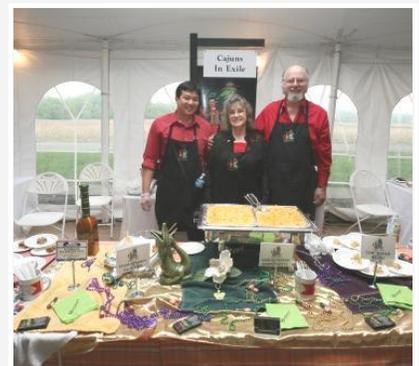
Thirty-two of the region's best restaurants, caterers, bakeries, specialty shops, wineries and breweries will serve their specialties to gala guests from 4 pm to 7 pm on Sunday, May 18, at the historic Mylin House (1787) and the adjacent Cultural Center at Willow Valley Communities in Willow Street.

Food and beverage participants are:

BYERS BUTTERFLAKE BAKERY
CAJUNS IN EXILE CATERING
CATERING BY CHRISTINA
CITRONNELLE RESTAURANT
DUTCH HAVEN SHOO FLY PIE BAKERY
FOOD FOR THOUGHT CATERING
FRESH. CATERING
GRACIE'S ON WEST MAIN
GYPSY KITCHEN
THE HAMILTON CLUB
THE INN AT BULLY'S RESTAURANT & PUB
INTERMEZZO BY STEPHANIE
JOHN WRIGHT RESTAURANT
LA PETITE PATISSERIE
LANCASTER BREWING COMPANY
LANCASTER COUNTY COFFEE ROASTERS
LOMBARDO'S RESTAURANT
LONELY MONK COFFEES
MIESSE CANDIES
NISSLEY VINEYARDS AND WINERY ESTATE
PENN SQUARE GRILLE



Chef Pierre DeRagon



Cajuns in Exile

PIERRE DERAGON PERSONAL CHEF
THE SCARLET RUNNER
SEASONS OLIVE OIL & VINEGAR TAPROOM
SKINNY PARK JUICE
TAMANEND WINERY
THORN HILL VINEYARDS

TWIN BROOK WINERY
UPOHAR
WILLOW VALLEY COMMUNITIES CULINARY SERVICES
YARDS BREWERY

Music will be provided by Temple Avenue, the same group that delighted attendees at the 2013 Gourmet Gala. In addition to great music and food and beverage tastings, attendees can bid on auction items ranging from vacations to sports passes to art to gift baskets. WGAL-TV news anchor Lori Burkholder will emcee, and former Lancaster County Commissioner Pete Shaub will be the auctioneer.



Sponsors for this year's gala are:

Willow Valley Communities (host site)
Lancaster County Magazine (media sponsor)
PPL Electric Utilities (\$1750)
Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority (\$750)
Pennington Partners, Ltd. (*Nathaniel Ellmaker House*) (\$750)
Bertz, Hess & Co., LLP (\$500)
Conestoga View & Rehabilitation (\$500)
Discovery Map (\$500)
Hi-Tech Soil Stabilization (\$500)
Performance Avenues (Despard Associates LLC) (\$500)
RLPS Architects (\$500)
Ville Painters (\$500)
Wohlsen Construction (\$500)
CCS building Group (\$250)
Donegal Insurance (\$250)
Greenebaum Structures(\$250)
GSM Roofing (\$250)
Kline's Services (\$250)
Prudential Homesale Services - Jeff LeFevre (\$250)
Rhoads Energy (\$250)
Rohrer's One Hour Heating and Air Conditioning (\$250)
Select Security (\$250)
Senator Lloyd Smucker (\$250)

Student Groups Visit Historic Bowmansville Roller Mill



Bowmansville Roller Mill

Home schooled and private school students from across Lancaster County visited the Bowmansville Roller Mill (1850) on Friday, April 11, to learn about the importance of simple machinery that drove the economy in the 1700s and 1800s. Students were given demonstrations of both the grist mill and saw mill operations, both powered by water.

One of the parents who accompanied the students wrote: "My children and I had a wonderful time at the mill. It was very well done, very interesting, and very educational! We were part of the first group that came through, and we each thought it was great! Each person involved was very knowledgeable

and shared that knowledge in a way that was respectful and warmly received. I can't think of anything that would improve it!"

The Bowmansville Roller Mill, owned by Ron Funk and Nancy Bell, has a historic preservation easement on it which protects it from neglect or alterations. The easement holder is the Historic Preservation Trust which monitors the mill's upkeep and opens it for visits. The next opening for school students will be in October.



Miller Mason Maddox explains operations to students.

Fence Replaced at Preservation Trust Headquarters on Prince Street



Dave Brooks with Wohlsen Construction

Thanks to the generosity of Wohlsen Construction Company, the support of Tippetts Weaver Architects and discounted materials from J. C. Snavely & Sons, the Historic Preservation Trust has a new fence along Prince Street for its headquarters -- the Sehner-Ellicott-von Hess House. The fence that was replaced had begun to rot. The work was done by Wohlsen employee David Brooks who worked on the Sehner-Ellicott- von Hess house when it was restored from 1978 to 1981.



Sehner-Ellicott-von Hess House

Ville Painters will paint the exterior of the building as soon as the weather cooperates.

Courtyard Tea to Be Held at Preservation Trust on May 10

La Petite Patisserie will host an English tea in the courtyard at the headquarters of the Historic Preservation Trust at 123 North Prince Street on Saturday, May 10, from noon to 4 p.m.. The price is \$35 per person. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the Historic Preservation Trust.

La Petite Patisserie is a dessert boutique, with a distinctive French flair, owned by pastry chef Donna Lussier. A lifelong baker, who graduated with honors from The Pennsylvania Culinary School Pastry Arts program, Mrs. Lussier offers an abundant selection of pastries, specialty cakes, cupcakes, bars, cookies, tarts and authentic French macarons at her shop at 157B East King Street.



The tea will include scones with lemon curd and crème fraiche, chilled strawberry soup with chocolate balsamic drizzle, asparagus crostini, fresh baked Parmesan cracker with basil cream cheese, ham and cheese en croute, spinach souffle, turkey and pesto pinwheels, an assortment of sweets and a variety of teas. The full menu can be seen at petitedessert.com. Chef Lussier said seating will be limited so reservations are required by contacting her at 717-424-1631 or donna@petitedessert.com.

The courtyard at 123 North Prince Street is available for rent for social and business occasions. Contact 717-291-5861 or joepatterson@hptrust.org for details.

Opportunities

- Mark your historic house, barn, bridge, store or other structure with a **historic preservation site marker plaque**. In addition to designating a historic structure, the plaques program encourages historic preservation and gathers information on historic properties for the Preservation Trust's extensive archives -- the largest descriptive archives on historic properties in Lancaster County.
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- Apply for a **2014 historic preservation award**. Categories are *leadership, sustainability, preservation, restoration/adaptive reuse, community revitalization* and *master craftsman*. The deadline for submissions is July 4. The awards banquet will be on Tuesday, November 11, from 6 p. m. to 9 p. m. at the Lancaster Country Club.
 - Volunteer to help with surveying historic properties countywide or interacting with public officials. This is the work of the **Preservation Action Committee** which meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 5 p. m. at 123 North Prince Street in downtown Lancaster.
 - Volunteer to help organize, promote and implement the Gourmet Gala on May 18, the historic architectural tour on October 18, and the annual preservation awards banquet on November 11. Events and education programs are the work of the **Education and Communication Committee** which meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. at 123 North Prince Street in downtown Lancaster.
 - **Join**. The Preservation Trust depends upon memberships, sponsorships and contributions to sustain its mission of encouraging and facilitating historic preservation throughout Lancaster County. Business members received recognition for their support online: [Resource Directory for businesses](#)

For information on any of the opportunities listed above, call 717-291-5861 or send an e-mail to joepatterson@hptrust.org.

The Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County
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