In the beginning, 1972 to be exact, the Lancaster County Planning Commission completed a report called “Lancaster’s Heritage.” Using that as a springboard, the Historic Preservation Trust conducted a local Historic Resource Survey in the early 1980s as a pilot project for the state, and in 1983 published a catalogue listing of these results known as “Our Present Past.” This survey was then partially updated in 1992 but ended when the money for the project ran out.

The purpose is to update records on historic resources and provide a basis for new township ordinances that provide for broader protection of historically significant structures.

Now more than 25 years later, the Preservation Trust is taking on the task again - one municipality at a time. Members of the Preservation Action Committee, led by chairperson Shirlie O’Leary, have an ambitious goal of meeting with leaders of each municipality to discuss three specific priorities: 1) the status of their historic resource surveys; 2) does their local code include a provision for preservation and, if so, is it enforced; and 3) do they have a historic review committee.

Committee members are taking the lead arranging visits and meeting with respective leaders. As is often the case, the genesis of this project began with a phone call from a concerned citizen named Judy Fry. She contacted the Preservation Trust looking for guidance and help and was referred to the Preservation Action Committee. Judy has family ties to a late 1700’s historic property in West Hempfield Township called the Gerber-Garber Farmstead. Sadly, during the production of this newsletter it became another lost part of our local heritage when it was demolished.

As Judy and Shirlie began working with officials at West Hempfield Township on the Gerber-Garber project it became evident that help was also needed on another important front – updating their own historic resource survey list. West Hempfield Township only had 41 of the more than 300 historic resource surveys the Preservation Trust had available for their township.  Continued on page 4.
P.S. Want to be part of the excitement? We’re in need of docents to staff the sites for short periods throughout the day and volunteers to help with registration and other duties the day of the event. Volunteers and docents receive their tour tickets for just $10 as our “thank you.” Please contact Amy Gaston at 291.5861 to sign up or email her at amygaston@hptrust.org today!

Hidden Treasures I - Architectural History Tour

Did you ever look for treasure in your own backyard? This year the Preservation Trust will help you find it. Every two years the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County helps to open your eyes to special historic places in Lancaster County when we present our Architectural History Tour. This year we’re exploring a real gem – the northeast corridor.

For those of you who never get past the antiques in Adamstown this will be a real treat.

Scheduled for Saturday, October 20th from 10am-5pm Hidden Treasures 1 features nine sites -- from a property that sits on the grounds of what used to be a harness racing track to a log cabin in New Holland. The variety of historically significant buildings on the tour will provide a look back in time at the county’s industrial corridor and the many interrelationships in the iron forge industry. In the 18th and first half of the 19th centuries, the iron industry dominated the economy of the area. In this election year, we can also offer juicy political insight at one private home that turned a community from supporting states’ rights and the Confederacy to pro-Union after a pro-Lincoln rally was held on their front porch.

Your tour ticket also includes a beautiful keepsake program (worth the price of the ticket alone) that provides architectural descriptions and historical research about each property, along with magnificent black and white photography.

Tickets are $18 for members, $20 for non-members and $10 for children 12 and under. They can be purchased in advance at Yoder’s Country Market & Restaurant in New Holland, the Rohrer Family Farm stand at Central Market, Rivertowne Antique Center in Columbia or by contacting the Preservation Trust office at 291-5861. Tickets are also available the day of the event at two of our designated registration sites. We hope you will join us! 😊

P.S. Want to be part of the excitement? We’re in need of docents to staff the sites for short periods throughout the day and volunteers to help with registration and other duties the day of the event. Volunteers and docents receive their tour tickets for just $10 as our “thank you.” Please contact Amy Gaston at 291.5861 to sign up or email her at amygaston@hptrust.org today!

Thank You!
to our Corporate Members
as of August 21, 2012

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Caldwell Heckles and Egan
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Two Dudes Painting Co.
In this issue I want to share my experiences concerning the privilege of being asked to work on the renovations at St. James Episcopal Church. Built in 1882 on the corner of East Orange and Duke Streets the church is in the most historic acre in Lancaster City. It is a church I had first visited during a New Year’s Eve concert when my children were young. At that time, it struck me as a really dark old church with pews much like historic Christ’s Church in Philadelphia. The interior was dark, the stained glass was dark, and the exterior brick was hidden in the shadows of the street light shining down on cars passing by. Little did I know that years later I would be working on this same church building.

I was asked to work on the existing older part of this project because of our expertise in rewiring older homes. This was much different than an older home but each building has challenges, whether it’s a home or church sanctuary. This project was on a larger scale than any home. The walls are solid brick and the architectural features needed to be preserved. Our first 30,000 feet of wire, yes, I said thirty thousand feet of wire, was run from the basement to above the sanctuary without cutting one hole into the walls. The purpose of these thousands of feet of wire was to power up the new lighting systems designed by Bill Simmons of Clair Brothers Systems. He selected a mixture of standard stage type lighting and LED lighting to highlight the interior and exterior of this sacred historic building. The lighting is controlled by a computer to illuminate different areas of the interior at different times. The beauty of the stained glass windows had been unnoticed for years by anyone passing by outside. Now, each window has color corrected, focused LED lighting designed to bring out the unique colors of each individual window. At a preset time, all of the beautiful stained glass is brought to life for those that are outside to enjoy. This is done with LED technology generating the same amount of power used by two hair dryers running at the same time.

The interior lighting designed for worship is completely different than the exterior lighting designed for stained glass. First of all, it is intentional just like it would be in a theater. It is computer controlled and designed to bring focused attention to the different locations of worship, preaching, or baptism all using 21st century technology in a 19th century church. The project architect, Donald Main, of MM Architects, points out that the new and old can live together and that we should not be embarrassed by the new. A good example is the chandeliers hanging above the congregation. New modern low voltage bulbs reflect the feeling of an 1880s type of lighting. The chandeliers serve a combined purpose of focused lighting using halogen bulbs and festoon ambiance lighting to give the whole space a wonderful atmosphere. Father David Peck of St. James says upgrading the systems has changed the way the building is used for worship. It no longer competes with the old building. Now with the use of new lighting, sound and video technology in this historic building, ancient worship and sacred traditions can be brought forth effortlessly. The brick exterior of St. James is a marvel of design which can easily go unnoticed. With the help of eight red color-corrected LED up lights programmed into the computer, the beautiful brickwork is now accentuated.

St. James Episcopal Church is an excellent example of preserving a historic property using modern technology. Hopefully, it will help others appreciate the significance of this sacred space. On a closing note, this historic church had many important members in its congregation including a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Make sure you stop in to see this gem of Lancaster City. Please email your “Ask the Electrician” questions to amygaston@hptrust.org.

By Stephen Daniels, Stephen M. Daniels Electrical Contractor
And the Survey Says… Continued from page 1.

In order for municipalities to make informed decisions about protecting sites that are historically significant to their communities, it is vital that they have the available resources at their fingertips. The Preservation Trust plans to help make that happen.

With six committee members and 60 municipalities to cover partnering with other organizations is vital. The committee began by contacting the Lancaster County Planning Commission’s Cultural Heritage Division. (Isn’t it interesting how things have come full circle with the Planning Commission?) Emma Hamme is working with the committee providing technical assistance, as well as making sure efforts aren’t being duplicated. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) was also contacted about providing training to volunteers so the current historic resource survey can be updated and new sites can be added. To that end, an informational meeting was held at the West Hempfield Township building a few months ago. It was attended by representatives from the Preservation Trust, PHMC and the Bureau for Historic Preservation, Lancaster County Planning Commission, Ron Youtz, West Hempfield Township Manager, and interested volunteers. (Most were residents of West Hempfield but it was not a requirement.)

Slow and steady is often how preservation initiatives are accomplished. However, progress is already being made:

- West Hempfield Township received copies of the missing historic resource survey files from the Preservation Trust and they are being entered into their system. Information for the 41 survey files they already had is being updated including new photos, valid street addresses, parcel ID numbers, and observations on the present condition.

- When survey files for these 41 sites are updated, teams of volunteers will begin doing the same kind of updates for the remaining 300+ sites. This information will then be entered into local, county and state records so everyone can have access to the same information.

- After current information is updated, volunteers will then survey the area for possible new submissions based on standards set by PHMC’s Bureau for Historic Preservation.

- Preservation Action Committee members are making appointments to meet with the appropriate municipal officials to discuss updating the historic resource survey records in their area. To date, six municipalities have been contacted.

- Some townships have already updated their historic resource survey information. Fourteen municipalities will work with Historic York and volunteers to make similar updates before the end of the year.

This is a great opportunity to do hands-on preservation work that will have a lasting effect on Lancaster County’s historic and architectural character. As you can tell, more volunteers are needed and will be trained. Minimum requirements include being available during the day, a valid drivers license and willingness to use your car, and a digital camera.

Please contact the Preservation Trust at 291.5861 to sign up!

By Amy Gaston
As we move into the fourth quarter, we can look back at the Historic Preservation Trust’s activities with pride:

- Release of our top 10 watch list in January and the front-page news that it garnered;
- A very successful Gourmet Gala at the Stehli Silk Mill (exemplifying the value of adaptive re-use);
- Our involvement with the statewide conference on heritage at the Lancaster Convention Center in July;
- Helping to persuade Willow Valley to relocate and re-use the historic Harnish House on their campus rather than demolish it;
- Well attended Mix & Mingle events at popular restaurants; and
- A fundraising cruise to Nova Scoita in August.

Yet to come, we have our Annual Meeting and Awards presentation set for Wednesday, November 7th, 5:30 PM at the Lancaster Country Club (circa 1913 in its present location). I hope you will join us for this very exciting evening. The cost is $65 per person for members of the Preservation Trust and $75 for non-members. Join if you haven’t already!

While volunteers and staff work tirelessly behind the scenes to bring events to life such as fund raisers, we cannot depend solely on events to sustain our vital mission to preserve and protect Lancaster County’s rich historic and architectural character. We must regain our financial footing if we are to remain a strong voice for preservation that encourages neighborhood revitalization, economic development, heritage tourism and conservation.

Everyone loves historic preservation once it has occurred. At the Preservation Trust, we understand that successful preservation comes only after extensive research, community awareness, negotiations and coalition building. All of this takes resources.

All non-profits in our sluggish economy, especially those that are not human services connected, are struggling to make budget. The Historic Preservation Trust is no different. With your help, we can regain the solid financial footing that we had prior to Stevens-Smith.

The Historic Preservation Trust’s “Preserve our Past” annual fund raising campaign will begin in September. When your mailing arrives, please give thoughtful consideration to our appeal for financial support. By Stephen Dietrich

Above: The Gerber-Garber Farmstead was on the HPT’s 2012 Watch List.

Left: Stephen Dietrich speaks at last year’s Annual Meeting.

Below: The Stehli Silk Mill was on our 2012 Watch List and was the location of our 2012 Gourmet Gala.
A Fresh Look....

FOR OUR WEBSITE

The Historic Preservation Trust is pleased to announce that we're updating our website in order to better meet the needs of our constituents. Our current website has served us well for almost a decade but is ready to be perked up.

One of our goals is to make hptrust.org more interactive so we're asking for your help. We would like to include personal stories about preservation be it a rousing success or a difficult lesson learned. We can all learn from and be inspired by each other. So if you have a story to tell please contact me at amygaston@hptrust.org or 291.5861. I look forward to being inspired by you!

By Amy Gaston
Regional Preservation Events

October
Architectural Walking Tour: The Mid-Town Market District
6th | Saturday
10 AM to Noon
$5 members & $10 non-members
Visit www.historicharrisburg.com for more information.

Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area: Free Lecture: Lancaster County Conservancy
16th | Tuesday
6:30 to 8:30 PM
Visit www.susquehannaheritage.org for more information.

Architectural Walking Tour: What’s New in Olde Uptown
20th | Saturday
10 AM to Noon
$5 members & $10 non-members
Visit www.historicharrisburg.com for more information.

Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area: Heritage Lecture: PA German Gravestones: Art & History in Stone
21st | Sunday
1:30 to 4:00 PM
Visit www.susquehannaheritage.org for more information.

November
Central PA Preservation Society (CPPS) Monthly Meeting: Quirks & Anomalies in PA’s Built History
13th | Tuesday
8:00 to 9:30 AM
$10 members & $15 non-members
Visit www.centralpennsylvaniapreservationsociety.org for more information.

Historic Harrisburg Association Presents: Elegant Progressions
20th | Tuesday
5:00 PM to Midnight
Visit www.elegantprogressions.org for more information.

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Preservation Trust Upcoming Events

**OCTOBER**

*First Friday*
5th | Friday
5:00 to 8:00 PM

“Happenings at the Historic Preservation Trust”
Central PA Preservation Society Monthly Meeting
9th | Tuesday
8:00 to 9:30 AM
Cork Factory Hotel
$10 CPPS members
$15 non-members

Architectural History Tour
Hidden Treasures 1
20th | Saturday
10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
$18 members
$20 non-members
$10 children 12 years and under

(More information on page 2)

**NOVEMBER**

Annual Meeting & Preservation Awards
7th | Wednesday
5:30 to 9:00 PM
Lancaster Country Club
$65 members
$75 non-members
Tickets available in October.

Mix & Mingle
14th | Wednesday
5:00 to 8:00 PM
Lily’s on Main, Ephrata