



LANCASTER COUNTY
**PRESERVATION
TRUST**

Heritage Outlook

News from the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County

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2014 Most Threatened Historic Properties Identified

The 2014 Watch List of the most threatened historic properties in Lancaster County has been released by the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County. Two properties from the 2013 Watch List have been replaced - the Elizabethtown Borough Freight Station (1915) at South Wilson Avenue in Elizabethtown and the Smoketown Farm House (c. 1850 and 1911) at 2425 Old Philadelphia Pike in East Lampeter Township. The Elizabethtown Freight Station was demolished to provide additional parking for the passenger station. Owners of the Smoketown Farm House are to notify the Historic Preservation Trust should they decide to make changes to the historic house.

The two sites added to the list are the Dorsey Station (1876) in Fulton Township and the former Long Funeral Home (1895) in Columbia.

"Being on the Watch List is not a negative because each of the 10 properties represents an opportunity to save a significant structure that helps define our Lancaster County history," said Lisa Horst, president of the Historic Preservation Trust Board of Directors. "Everyone loves historic restoration after it occurs, but it takes vision, leadership and resources to make it happen. The Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County works to bring together individuals and organizations to make it happen."

Properties on the 2014 Watch List are:

Circle Creek Farmhouse/Guy's Distillery (1826) - 1467 Long Lane, East Donegal Township

The Circle Creek Farmhouse was originally a commercial distillery (Guy's Distillery) and was converted into a farmhouse in 1834 by Christian Haldeman. Located in the Chickies Historic District, this building has been designated as being important to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2005. Since 1988, it has been unoccupied and not appropriately maintained.



Guy's Distillery

Dorsey Station (1876) - near Peach Bottom village on the Susquehanna River, Fulton Township

Built for the Peach Bottom Railway, this is the last of the original stations

to have survived on the railway's 28 miles of narrow-gauge track between Dorsey and Oxford. In Oxford travelers could catch a train to Philadelphia or they could take a stage coach to York, crossing the Susquehanna River by ferry boat. On Oct. 13, 1919, the last train chugged from Dorsey Station, ending a 41-year run. The railroad's tracks were pulled up and sold for scrap, and the two-story station was left. The station is in disrepair. Friends of Dorsey Station are trying to save it as an education center.



Dorsey Station

Eagle Tavern (1815) - 901 Village Road, West Lampeter

This two and one-half story, federal style stone building was one of the best of all taverns ever built in a small town in Lancaster County. Known as the Eagle Tavern, it was built first as a house for Samuel Miller and his wife, Anna in 1815, as noted in a date stone centered on the western gable end -- one of the earliest uses in Lancaster County of a lozenge shaped date stone. This was one of the best of all federal period taverns ever built in a small town in Lancaster County during the first third of the 19th century.



Eagle Tavern

Herr's Mill Covered Bridge (1875) - 101 South Ronks Road, Paradise

The only double-span covered bridge in Lancaster County crosses the Pequea Creek and the adjacent mill race. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. Concerned citizens and organizations are working with the Lancaster County Commissioners to save this structure.



Herr's Mill Bridge

Hooper-Eby Barn (c. 1860) - 2797 Lititz Pike, Neffsville

Built by John Eby, this distinctive bank barn with a date stone is a character-defining element of the Lititz Pike streetscape. The barn retains a high degree of integrity and would be National Register eligible. The house and pig barn on this property have already been demolished. An adaptive re-use could be a community center for the residential development for this unique and historically significant Lancaster County barn.



Hooper-Eby Barn

Log House & Root Cellar (c. 1800-1825) - 522 Norwood Road, Columbia

The 1864 Atlas lists C. J. Sweeney as occupant of this log structure -- no previous deed records have been found. Despite alterations and evident neglect, this is a good example of a simple log house. The nearby root cellar is noteworthy in itself. The site is presently for sale.



Columbia Log House

Former Long Funeral Home (1895) -- 855 Chestnut St., Columbia

Built in what is usually termed either the Shingle style or a variant of the Queen Anne Style, this house is one of the finest of all residences dating from the late 1800's in Columbia. The exterior is about 85% intact to the original basic design, and the architectural details that are missing or damaged could be restored to the original design.



former Long Funeral Home

Mayer-Hess Farmstead (c. 1870-1874) - 1580 Fruitville Pike, Lancaster

This distinguished Italianate style Mansion and adjacent barn, both built by David Mayer, are on the last remaining farmstead off Route 30, before entering downtown Lancaster. The current owner is planning to save the mansion -- the three story, five bay residence complemented by a central cupola with a bracketed cornice. The barn, however, is deteriorating and remains a major concern. It matches the scale and integrity of the mansion and enhances the farmstead environment.



Mayer-Hess Barn

Stehman-Rohrer House (1833) - Charlestown Road, Manor Township

This modified Georgia stone house is one of most unusual stone houses in the township. The structure is 2 ½ stories, eight bay façade with slate roof, three dormers and paired entrances in the 3rd bay from eastern and western ends. The front porch, with its dentils, serrated friezes, and polygonal posts, is one of the finest of its type remaining in Lancaster County. The date stone reads "Built by Henry & Mary Rohrer, AD, 1833."



Stehman-Rohrer House

Swan Tavern and Carriage House (1824) - East Vine & South Queen Streets, Lancaster

This 19th Century building is part of the largest group of Federal Period buildings extant in Lancaster. This was a combined tavern and hospital...Lancaster Infirmary and House of Recovery. The structure is sufficiently documented to permit a total restoration to the original. It was one of two private hospitals in the city and a longstanding tavern; one of the oldest in the city. To the rear of this structure is a two story brick stable and carriage house, now stuccoed. This is also part of the original property and one of the oldest extant stables in Lancaster City. The stable has a corbelled brick cornice and a platform lift for carriages. The carriage house remains in a highly threatened condition; one wall has been replaced due to structural damage.



Swan Tavern/Carriage House

Preservation Trust Officers for 2014 Installed



Lisa Horst, President

Lisa Horst with the Horst Group will serve as president of the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County for 2014, completing the second year of her two-year term. Dana Clark with Tippetts/Weaver Architects will serve as vice president. Mike Richardson with Janney Montgomery Scott will serve as treasurer and chair the organization's investment committee.

The Preservation Trust is the only volunteer organization in Lancaster County dedicated to protecting the county's historically significant homes, barns, covered bridges and other structures.

"2013 was a pivotal year for the Preservation Trust as we built stronger relations with municipal officials, launched a new website, reintroduced the county's historic site marker plaques program, began digitizing our archives of more than 10,000 historic properties and worked with individuals and organization to identify and protect homes, barns, bridges, mills and other Lancaster County structures of historical significance," Horst said. "Our goal in 2014 is to build on the accomplishments of the past year. Some of the benefits of successful historic preservation efforts are neighborhood revitalization, economic growth, heritage tourism, conservation, job creation and overall community well-being."



Dana Clark, Vice President

Horst said the Preservation Trust is currently conducting its annual "Preserve Our Past" campaign to raise funds for programs that lead to the protection and ultimate reuse of historically significant structures. Its 2014 membership drive also has been launched.



Mike Richardson, Treasurer

Work is underway for the Preservation Trust's major fundraiser - the 2014 Gourmet Gala which will be held on Sunday, May 18, at the Mylin House and Willow Valley Communities Cultural Center in Willow Street. Sponsors and auction items donors are being sought for the event. Any person or organization interested in helping should call 717-823-7556 or send an e-mail to joepatterson@hptrust.org.

26 Historic Marker Plaques Awarded through end of 2013

Through the end of 2013, more than two dozen historic marker plaques have been awarded by the Historic Preservation Trust to recognize historic homes, barns, bridges, mills and other Lancaster County structures that are historically significant.



Historic site marker plaques are made for the Preservation Trust by Zimmerman Foundry in Columbia, Pa.

The 26 properties that have received historic marker plaques are:

Caernarvon Township

Historic Poole Forge (1700s and 1800s)

Columbia Borough

Mount Bethel Cemetery (1730)

Conestoga Township

581 Pequea Blvd. (c. 1750)

Ephrata Borough

313 West Main St. (1886)

Smithton Inn (1763)

Lancaster City

1222 Clark St. (c. 1909-10)

239 North Concord St. (1854)

416 North Duke St. (c. 1873-74)

409 East King St. (c. 1916)

201 East Orange St. (1864)

322 North Prince St. (1902)

131 South Prince St. (c. 1870s)

Allegra Building (c. 1880)

Cityscape Lofts (1875)

Geten Building (c. 1915)

Saint James Episcopal Church (1820)

Scheid Funeral Home (c. 1890s)

Woodward Hill Cemetery (1851)

Manheim Borough

Birney Safety Car (1926)

Marietta Borough

Colonel Lowry House (c. 1762-73)

Marietta Senior Apartments

Mount Joy Borough

Siegrist Bridge (1885)

Mountville Borough

Mountville Area Community Center (1901)

New Holland Borough

111 West Main St. (1887)

Pequea Township

The Farm at Eagles Ridge (1820)

West Lampeter Township

Mylin House (1787)

Click [for plaque application information](#).

"Preserve Our Past" Annual Fund and 2014 Membership Drives Underway

You may have received e-mails and/or letters about supporting the Historic Preservation Trust during the year ahead. Many of you have responded with tax-deductible contributions and/or annual membership fees. Your generosity makes it possible for us to bring individuals and organizations together to identify and protect homes, barns, bridges, mills and other Lancaster County structures that are historically significant. During the past year, operating funds made it possible for volunteers to:

- make presentations to officials from 49 of the counties 60 municipalities, seeking closer working relationships so more historic structures can be identified early and then, if threatened, saved
- complete the pilot survey to update information on thousands of historically significant structures throughout the county
- reintroduce historic marker plaque program to recognize historic structures and to gather information and photos for the Preservation Trust's extensive archives
- begin three-phase process to digitize and computerize Preservation Trust paper record archives of more than 10,000 historically significant properties. *(The John Frederick Steinman Foundation and the James Hale Steinman Foundation have provided funding for Phase I and Phase II of this important initiative. We also are appreciative of a grant that the Preservation Trust received from the Lancaster Community Foundation for this important initiative.)*
- help with the evaluation and preservation of numerous structures, including the relocation of a log spring house (1762) that was in Witmer

Click [for Preserve Our Past information](#) and [for membership information](#)

Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County

123 North Prince Street

Lancaster, PA 17603

717-291-5861

717-823-7556 (cell)

joepatterson@hptrust.org

ceckert@hptrsut.org

office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 3 pm

www.hptrust.org