



Chester County Ledger

The Newsletter of the Chester County Historic Preservation Network

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September 2010

Pipeline Expansions: Balancing the Need for Utilities and the Preservation of Historic Landscapes and Community Character

Currently in Chester County, there are four different pipeline companies vying for real estate to expand their transmission of liquid natural gas; an energy source quite popular in our temperate climate. To get the gas from its source to distribution centers within the County, pipelines need to be installed or increased in size to meet the demand.

However, creating more pipeline right-of-ways or expanding existing right-of-ways means disturbing the countryside that we are so proud to call our home. Hence, the dilemma.

Senator Andrew Dinniman and Representative Curt Schroder have voiced concerns as early as 2009 regarding the impact on our landscape and the need to regulate from a regional perspective. Their concern is for how the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission addresses the county and local residents' points of view.

The four pipelines requesting expansion and installation in Chester County are AES Mid-Atlantic Express, Keystone Dominion Company,

Transcontinental Gas (Williams Transco), and Eastern Shore Natural Gas.

AES Mid-Atlantic Express will traverse 88 miles from Sparrows Point, MD. to Upper Uwchlan Township. The pipeline would go through 13 Townships and the Borough of Downingtown. It is



The gas pipelines are coming, raising the question: what will the impacts be to our historic resources, archeological sites, and landscapes?

proposed to parallel the existing Columbia Gas pipeline. However, the company is requesting expansion of the existing right-of-way for installation of this proposed pipeline.

Keystone Dominion proposed to build a new pipeline through East Nantmeal, West Pikeland, West Vincent

The Chester County Historic Preservation Network is an affiliation of local organizations and individuals dedicated to promoting, protecting, and preserving Chester County's historic resources and landscapes through education, facilitation, and public and private advocacy.

and East Whiteland Townships. Due to resident notification to township officials that they were being approached by land agents to secure a right-of-way, the township officials contacted elected officials about the proposed plan and it has since stalled.

Transco has expanded the section of their pipeline called the Downingtown Loop Replacement Project from 30 inch to 42 inch pipe except that which traverses the east branch of the Brandywine Creek. This was a compromise from adding a fourth transmission line to the existing three pipes in this area which would have expanded the right-of-way.

The latest pipeline expansion is for Eastern Shore which will traverse West Sadsbury Township. The Chester County Planning Commission stated that the project is inconsistent with Landscapes2, the county's comprehensive plan, because of plans to build in agricultural and natural areas.

The Brandywine Conservancy has used similar arguments against the transmission companies proposing to expand.

This is an ardent subject depending on your point of view for the reasons stated earlier; the demand for more fuel versus the preservation of landscapes and historic resources defining Chester County

The Chester County Historic Preservation Network suggests you become knowledgeable if any of the pipelines are traversing your municipality in two ways:

1. Learn what is happening in your township or borough and voice your opinion regarding the proposed plans.
2. Become involved with the Historic Preservation project review already in place. Known as the Section 106 Review, the procedure provides ample citizen participation opportunities during the entire review. **YOU WILL BE HEARD!** Procedure details can be found on the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's website. For more information, each Historical Commission should call your Network Municipal Services Coordinator who can guide you or contact the Chester County Historic Preservation Network 877-442-2476.

- Steven M. Brown, AJA
CCHPN Board

The Chester County Ledger

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Direct all queries to: The Editor, CCHPN, P.O.Box 174, West Chester, PA 19381. Letters to the Editor and articles for the *Chester County Ledger* are welcome. There is no guarantee, however, that submissions will be published. No such submissions will be returned. The CCHPN does not necessarily endorse the content of advertisements herein.

Save the Date!

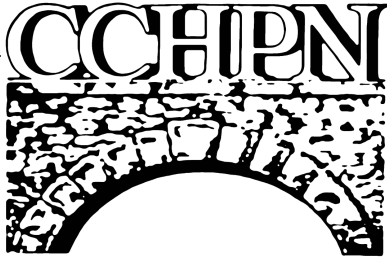
The Network's Education and Program Committee announces:

The annual CCHPN
Spring 2011 Workshop
 is scheduled for
March 12, 2011

Topic: The Section 106 Review

its procedure and your role regarding federally funded or permitted projects in the county, including gas pipelines, nuclear power station permits, roads, bridges, cell towers, et cetera.

We hope you can join us!



Fall 2010 Presentation

Maintaining Your Historic House

October 7, 2010
7pm, Thursday

West Whiteland Township
Municipal Building
Exton, PA

All are welcome!

Free for all attendees,
but space is limited,
so please call to register:

877-44-CCHPN
(877-442-2476)

Press 2 and leave your name,
the number of attendees, your phone
number, and email address so we can
contact you if there are changes to the
schedule. Thanks!

Presented by
James B. Garrison, AIA
Frens & Frens, LLC
Restoration Architects

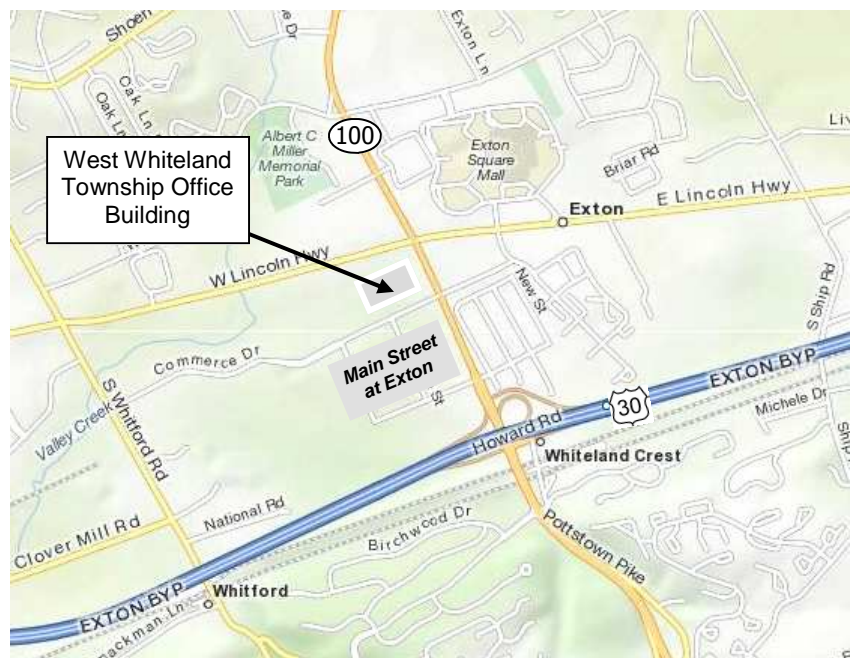
Preservation is an inherently sustainable undertaking and one of the key activities that makes it so is a maintenance plan. Whether a single family home or a complete campus, the key components of a maintenance plan are similar. The presentation will provide guidance for setting up a plan using examples from projects and sites of different sizes and uses. There will be references to green construction and sustainability, but the real focus is on a good conditions assessment and a methodology for converting that to an action plan for the continued health of the historic resource.

This program is a follow-up to the CCHPN Spring 2010 Workshop on Green Preservation.

This event is co-sponsored by the
West Whiteland Township
Historical Commission.

Directions:

From the Exton Bypass (Route 30 Byp) exit at Route 100 Pottstown Pike and head north. Turn left onto Commerce Drive and right into the Township Office Building parking lot.



James B. Garrison, AJA Fall 2010 Presenter Biography

Jim Garrison has been in architectural practice for nearly 30 years with a particular focus on working with existing buildings – for restoration, adaptive re-use, or rehabilitation. In addition to dealing with existing buildings, he has used his extensive knowledge of architectural history and technology to produce award winning new buildings and additions using traditional design motifs. His project credits also involve many significant works involving National Historic Landmarks and iconic historic buildings for private clients, government, institutional, and non-profit clients. He joined Frens and Frens Restoration Architects of West Chester in 2009 to continue his practice focusing on local and national landmarks.

Jim's other interests have included leadership positions in local and regional preservation and professional organizations. He has chaired his local Historical Architectural Review Board and was cofounder of the township's preservation advocacy organization. In addition to these activities, he has authored two books, *Mastering Tradition, The Domestic Architecture of John Russell Pope*, and *Great Houses of Philadelphia, The Wissabickon Valley*, and has several other book projects in progress including a pictorial monograph on R. Brognard Okie to be published in 2012. Jim also lectures nationally on subjects related to his books and preservation activities. He recently moved into an historic farmhouse in East Pikeland.

A Celebration of Note

On June twenty-third of this summer, there was a loud mixture of sounds, as when the orchestra is tuning up for a concert. For the non-listening ear the appreciation of all the notes and tunes were not so melodic and perhaps, equal to nothing more than noise. To the discerning ear, the air was full to capacity of joyful sounds of the voices of friends and members of the historic preservation family joining in the annual Chester County Historical Preservation Network Volunteer Recognition Celebration. What a wonderful gathering of colleagues to honor those who have given extensively in time, tenacity, tested and true spirit, trials conquered, mediated and lost, thus, resulting in establishing role models that prevail in the continuing efforts to preserve America in Chester County. Joining us this year, as our primary Sponsor, was the Stewart Huston Charitable Trust to whom we are most grateful for their faith and belief in CCHPN members and historic preservation in our communities.

Thank you's are often a closing paragraph, yet in this instant the Thank You comes first for the CCHPN Individual and Municipality Awardees. This was demonstrated through Citations from our ever alert and caring Chester County Commissioners presented by Commissioners Terence Farrell and Kathi Cozzone; the appreciation and recognition of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives by the Honorable Tim Hennessey, and another Citation complementing Awardees was

presented by the Honorable Andy Dinniman for himself and State Senator John C. Rafferty from the State Senate.



*Preservationist Estelle Cremers received a CCHPN Individual Award and a citation of appreciation by the Pennsylvania Senate.
Photograph by Darryl W. Moran*

The CCHPN Individual Awards were given to Estelle Cremers of Warwick Township and Gene DiOrio of The Greystone Society, by CCHPN Founder, Jane L.S. Davidson, Board member. The summary of Estelle's life, who delved deep into the history in Chester County; dedication to research and development of the arena of historic truth was extensive. Many of us have learned and referred to Estelle's publications many times. Gene DiOrio

prevailed in preserving the history of Luken's Steel, through documentation and saving physical structures that tell the history of that industry now known as The Graystone Society. He too has published a book. Each Awardee merit separate individual life story telling time.

The 2010 CCHPN Municipal Historic Preservation Award was presented to New Garden Township, particularly the Historical Commission, for the in-depth work they did to preserve the historic integrity of the Landenberg Bridge and the building of local support to champion the bridge.

Grace Under Fire Awards went to the East Bradford Historical Commission for the Darlington Seminary/Ingram House & Barn project, The Mill at Anselma's Jennifer Green for her leadership as Acting Executive Director, and the Wallace Township Historical Commission for the Springton Road Bridge project. These awards acknowledge our historical organizations who have dedicated time and energy to projects which were unusually demanding of time and energy. Awards are artfully designed and hand scribed by Artist and CCHPN Board Member, Ann Bedrick.

A Big First for CCHPN was put into place when we acknowledged the perfect attendance to our Volunteer Recognition Celebrations by the Honorable Andy Dinniman. A Honorary Life Membership was extended by past CCHPN Board member, Don Hannum, as he profiled this very special man and friend of preserving the heritage of Chester County.

This year, Uwchlan Township was honored for completing the Chester County Historical Resource Atlas. Karen Marshall, Chester County Heritage Coordinator, along with John Mikowychok, Director of

Chester County Parks and Recreation extended their congratulations.

The facilitation of the evening was smoothly executed by Master of Ceremonies, Acting President of CCHPN, Bruce Knapp. Situated on the lovely estate of



A good time was had by all! Photograph by Darryl W. Moran

Welkinweir, a brief welcome was made by its Director, Victoria Laubach. Along with Welkinweir, East Nantmeal Historical Commission Chair, Kristine Gordon-Watson, along with other commission members were our hosts for the event. The strikingly elegant bouquets of flowers, arranged by this group plus Lynn Coine of East Coventry Township Historical Commission, made the foyer and dinner tables blend with the stately surroundings.

The cheery voice of Kathryn Yahraes, member of the CCHPN Board and many of its committees, made the Roll Call for all attending Historic Commissions and HARBs. Each group identified their successes and projects of the past year. Energy and enthusiasm ran swiftly and pleasantly through the crowd of over one hundred people.

For those who were unable to tour the historic Estate House and Gardens of Welkinweir at the beginning of the evening, you are welcome to return and yes, to become a member of Green Valleys Association which is housed there.

To end the evening that pushed into the hours of darkness, the CCHPN Board as reflected by Education & Program Committee Chair, Elaine Husted, extended the best to all as the progress continues at measurable levels, small and large, to assure that history in Chester County is real for all ages over time to appreciate.

- Elaine Husted, Ph.D
CCHPN Board

The CCHPN Traveling Roadshow will arrive in Oxford!

Once again our
Sears Kit House Presentation
will be given on

September 16 at 7pm
Ware Presbyterian Home
7 E. Locust St., Oxford, PA

Presented by
Jane L. S. Davidson and Bruce Knapp

See you there!



THE GRAYSTONE SOCIETY WILL HONOR THOSE LOST ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 WITH A CEREMONY IN COATESVILLE'S GATEWAY PARK
7:30 A.M. TO 10:30 A.M.



THE CEREMONY WILL BE PUNCTUATED BY A BELL RING TO COMMEMORATE SIGNIFICANT TIMES ON THAT HISTORIC MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001. LOCAL SCHOOL CHILDREN WILL BE SELECTED TO RING THE BELL. COUNTY, STATE AND FEDERAL POLITICIANS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND. LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIRE FIGHTERS, SCHOOL CHILDREN, CIVIC GROUPS AND CIVILIANS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE GRAYSTONE SOCIETY. ALSO EXPECTED ARE THE LUKENS BAND, AS WELL AS LOCAL CHOIRS AND SINGERS.

- ◆ THE GRAYSTONE SOCIETY IS THE TRUSTEE OF THE LARGEST COLLECTION OF 9/11 RELICS OUTSIDE OF NEW YORK CITY.
- ◆ A SELECT GROUP OF THE MASSIVE WORLD TRADE CENTER STEEL "TREES" WILL BE ON DISPLAY TO GIVE ATTENDEES AN OPPORTUNITY TO "CONNECT WITH 9/11 HISTORY."

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED. THE EVENT WILL BE HELD RAIN OR SHINE.
ADMISSION IS FREE
FOR INFORMATION CALL 610-384-9282



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A Letter to Us Regarding the Schuylkill School

Dear Friends:

I want to tell you that we have lost a 9 year struggle to save and preserve the historic Schuylkill School in Schuylkill Township. The Phoenixville Area School District asked for a waiver of the historic ordinance procedure for demo application and the Board of Supervisors approved the waiver by-passing our Historical Commission. Need-to-say, we are not pleased.

The Supervisors said that we did not have a critical mass of people wanting to save the school, the granting possibilities were poor due to the economic conditions today, and they couldn't commit taxpayers dollars for a lawsuit with the district as the same taxpayers would be footing the bill on both sides of the bench. They said the issue has continued long enough and wanted to end it.

Of course, the building has been deteriorating daily due to lack of care from the district. The township had sent letters asking for repairs to the building and to stop the "demolition by neglect" which the district never responded to. It is a long saga and sad tale of losing such a great building.

I have been in touch with PHMC and many of the people in Harrisburg who have been supportive and provided consultation. I don't know that this made any difference. The school was on the historic resource list as a Class I resource in the township and had the Designation of Eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

It has been a long 9 years, but I just did not think this would happen.

Sandy Momyer
Friends of Schuylkill School
Chair, Historical Commission, Schuylkill Township



Chester County Historic Preservation Network

P.O. Box 174

West Chester, PA 19381

www.cchpn.org 877-442-2476

PLEASE FORWARD

Please come and
join us for our

Fall 2010 Presentation:

Maintaining Your Historic Building

West Whiteland Twp
Municipal Bldg
Exton, PA

Oct. 7, 2010, 7pm

Details Inside!

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Matthew E. Roberson Restoration Carpentry

610-620-4656 meroberson@gmail.com

www.meroberson.com

Board Member: CCHPN & Historic Yellow Springs, Inc.

For technical help you with your preservation efforts or with
your historic house, and for information on preservation
events around the county, please visit:

www.CCHPN.org

The CCHPN requests your organization's events
for posting on our website. Please send your list to
Matthew Roberson, editor of *The Ledger*, at
meroberson@gmail.com and I will put it on
www.cchpn.org

Thanks!