

The Chester County Board of Commissioners through the Chester County Planning Commission; the Chester County Historic Preservation Network; and the Chester County Conference & Visitors Bureau announce the 24th summer of sharing Chester County's heritage during the annual "TOWN TOURS & VILLAGE WALKS."

Town Tours & Village Walks is a series of free summer strolls through historic neighborhoods, hamlets, villages and sites. This summer, you can explore Chester County's heritage on Thursday evenings, June 14th-August 30th. Tours generally last 50 minutes and begin at 5:30 pm with the last tour leaving at 7:00 pm unless daylight allows for additional tours. Each tour is designed to inform, entertain and increase awareness of Chester County's rich heritage and historic landscape. A number of our sites offer a selection of restaurants and shops to enjoy after your tour. Please note:

The June 14th Kick-Off Program begins at 5:30 pm at the Chester County Historical Society with an option to tour the museum after 4:00 pm for a donation of your choice. CCHS is celebrating their 125th anniversary. On August 23rd we will feature our first ever Lecture & Supper as a new Town Tour offering.

Chester County has a long and distinguished industrial heritage. Beginning in 1682, the county's Quaker founding settlers established a strong work ethic that remains today. Their tenacity coupled with abundant natural resources and rich farmland resulted in a fascinating array of industrial innovations that are still evident in our historic landscape from the two-level, bank barn long admired as one of the outstanding vernacular north American structures; to the Phoenix Column which provided the structural foundation to bridges throughout the world; to the home of the mushroom capitol of world. From cannons to roses, we strove to supply the country's needs. Just consider, there were over 130 mills operating on the Brandywine Creek alone at the height of its industrial use! This summer, we will explore one of Chester County's proud family farms that exemplifies agriculture as the economic foundation of the county. We will visit mills in West Pike and East Brandywine that processed everything from flour in the 18th century to automobile upholstery in the 20th. In West Nantmeal, we will learn about the remarkable Isabella Furnace and our proud iron production heritage; and in Coatesville experience the steel industry. We will tour a canal town and learn about the engineering challenges of the Schuylkill Canal's 92 lift locks.

For more information, refer to: Chesco.org/Planning/TownTours, or contact Karen Marshall, Heritage Preservation Coordinator, at 610-344-6923 or kmarshall@chesco.org for a brochure.

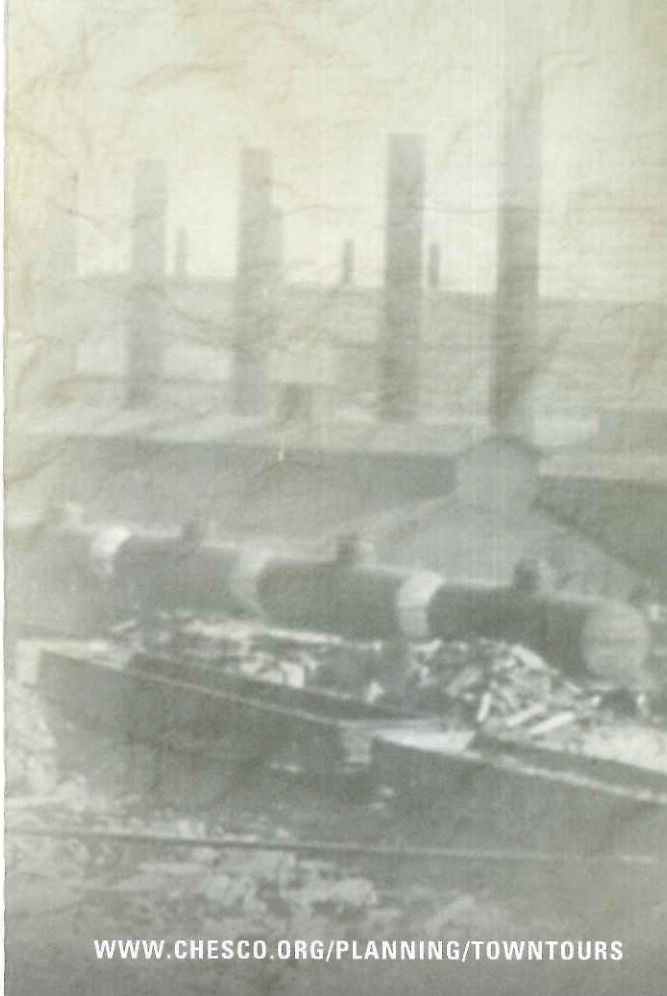
SUMMER 2018

Town Tours & Village Walks

SUMMER 2018

• FREE TOURS •

HONORING INNOVATION AND
INDUSTRY IN CHESTER COUNTY



WWW.CHESCO.ORG/PLANNING/TOWNTOURS

Sponsored by



Chester County Board of Commissioners
 www.chesco.org/planning
 Chester County Conference & Visitors Bureau
 www.BrandywineValley.com
 Chester County Historic Preservation Network
 www.cchpn.org
 The Chester County Historical Society
 www.chestercocohistorical.org



IRON AND STEEL HERITAGE

Come Home to Iron and Steel Country Hiking, Biking, History and Fun

One of Chester County's most enduring industrial legacies is our relationship to some of the earliest iron and steel industries in this country. To support this summer's town tours, we invite you to explore

the Iron & Steel Trail to experience the industrial past and present. You can also select a complimentary self-guided heritage tour blending history and recreation to discover the Iron & Steel landscape's many "Faces of Freedom". These tours and information about historic sites are available at ironandsteelheritage.org

A AMERICAN HELICOPTER MUSEUM & EDUCATION CENTER



Town Tour Special:
\$2.00 off admission with this brochure

The Cradle of Rotary Wing Aviation was born as the Iron & Steel industry matured in southeastern

PA. From the Frank Piasecki's first flight in 1943 to modern tilt-wing rotary aircraft, the Iron & Steel heritage lives on.

Excitement awaits those who dare to plunge into the captivating world of rotary wing flight at the American Helicopter Museum & Education Center. Nestled amid several sites of pioneering helicopter invention, the nation's premier helicopter museum features one of only a few V-22 Ospreys on public display in the world. See and touch helicopters that saved countless lives, changed the course of the Vietnam War and began the aircraft revolution. Learn about industry innovators like Igor Sikorsky, Arthur Young and Frank Piasecki. Enjoy the cheerful kids Helipad. Master the exciting Cobra simulator, and experience informative, hands-on exhibits, movies and more - even climb aboard five interactive helicopters!

1220 American Blvd, West Chester, PA 19380
610-436-9600 | www.americanhelicopter.museum

Summer 2018
 Town Tours and
 Village Walks

Sponsored by
 Chester County Board of Commissioners
 Chester County Conference & Visitors Bureau
 Chester County Historic Preservation Network
 The Chester County Historical Society
 Chester County Planning Commission
 601 Westtown Road, Suite 270
 West Chester, PA 19380-0990
www.chesco.org/planning/towntours

Town Tours & Village Walks

SUMMER 2018

1 JUNE 14 FROM FARMHOUSES & MEETINGHOUSES TO MANSIONS

SPONSORS: West Chester HARB & Historical Commission
Annual Kick-off Celebration: Chester County Historical Society



Scattered farmhouses in the land of Goshen will evolve into a 19th century "walking town" called West Chester. Innovation, government, education, and industry will help create a county seat that will become known as the "Athens of Pennsylvania." Join us on the kick-off evening to learn about these developments. We will start the evening at the Chester County Historical Society which is celebrating its 125th anniversary. West Chester welcomes thee!

PARKING & REGISTRATION: 225 N. High Street. Arrive at 5:30 pm for pre-registration, all tours leave at 6:30 pm after the celebration. The closest public parking for the Chester County Historical Society is the Chestnut Street Garage at 14 E. Chestnut Street. Many business and restaurants validate your garage ticket with purchase, so take it with you. There is some metered street parking as well.

2 JUNE 21 THE AGE OF STEEL TOUR

SPONSOR: National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum



Our history is painted with many brushes — the evolution of steelmaking and products that kept pace with a growing nation; and the spirit of the men and women of steel marked in the homes, art and artifacts we hold in safekeeping. Start your visit at the Lukens Executive Office (circa 1902-03).

Among the highlights are our Lukens Steel Fire Department vehicles and deep sea submersible GUPPY! The 120" Rolling Mill was an active Lukens production facility from 1942 to 1985. Visit the Steelworkers' Memorial which features a World Trade Center Column made from Lukens' steel.

PARKING & REGISTRATION: 50 S. 1st Avenue, Coatesville; www.steelmuseum.org.

3 JUNE 28 AN INDUSTRIAL GIANT, ISABELLA FURNACE 1835-1894

SPONSOR: West Nantmeal Historical Commission



A unique area of rural Chester County will be on display as hay wagons provide a tour of the Isabella Furnace Local Historic District in West Nantmeal Township. Isabella Furnace, and several of the buildings related to iron making, will be on the tour. The route follows the dry stonewalls built by furnace workers of that time. Isabella was a cold blast furnace which reflected its owner's adaption from water to a more reliable source of steam power to enhance the production of the furnace. Many innovations were brought over from Europe and implemented in the area. It was the last furnace to go out of blast in Chester County. The stone walls reflect Mr. Potts' commitment to his employees; they were commissioned to build them after the furnace blew out for the last time.

PARKING & REGISTRATION: Board wagons for the tour at Wyebrook Farm located at 150 Wyebrook Road, Honey Brook.

4 JULY 12 THE BIRTH, GROWTH AND FUTURE OF THE MUSHROOM INDUSTRY

SPONSORS: Kennett Township Historical Commission and Historic Kennett Square



"Come to the "Mushroom Capital of the World" to learn about the Quaker florist credited with the birth of mushroom farming in our area. You will be a special guest at a 4th generation farm owned and operated by the Phillips family. There you will learn about the growing practices of the past, present and future, see actual mushrooms growing, talk to the growers and tour their restored 1828 farm house. At the American Legion Hall, you will hear about the 1930 *Mushroom Day*, see models of mushroom transportation trucks and displays by spawn and compost companies.

PARKING & REGISTRATION: Parking garage, 120 E. Linden Street. Follow signs to American Legion Hall, Broad and State Streets for registration and the start of the program. A short bus ride to mushroom farm; last bus leaves at 7.

5 JULY 19 INDUSTRY REBELS: WOMEN AT YELLOW SPRINGS

SPONSOR: Historic Yellow Springs



In the 18th, 19th and even the 20th century, when women's sphere of domesticity was hearth to cradle, there were women who were stepping up in innovative ways to defy stereotypes of proper female behavior and exhibiting their powerful and multifaceted competence. At Yellow Springs Abigail Hartman

Rice, wife and mother of 21 children, left her home each day to nurse the sick soldiers at the Revolutionary War Hospital. Margaret Holman is the widow who functioned successfully in the male world of business, managing the spa here. Eleanor Moore, a Civil War widow, was appointed principal of the Pennsylvania Soldiers' Orphan School at Chester Springs, the only woman in the state to be appointed. By the 1950s, Jean Bruce Yeaworth, wife of film producer and mother of 5, continued her music career as music director for Good News Productions. Each of these rebel women has steered society to institute changes in recognizing the capabilities of women in innovative ways.

PARKING & REGISTRATION: Historic Yellow Springs located at 1685 Art School Road, Chester Springs. Follow directional signs for parking after entering the village.

*Handicapped access limited

6 JULY 26 THE MILLING THAT MADE CHESTER COUNTY

SPONSORS: The Mill at Anselma Preservation & Education Trust



Nestled along the Pickering Creek in Chester Springs, Pennsylvania, the Mill at Anselma is an extraordinary artifact of 250 years of Chester County's industrial heritage.

Constructed in c.1747 by Samuel Lightfoot, the Mill retains its original colonial-era power train. The Mill and the village of Anselma demonstrate how 18th century technology was adapted to serve the prosperity of the Industrial Revolution and the challenges of the Great Depression. Today, the Mill at Anselma connects visitors with Chester County's rich industrial and agricultural past through tours, flour milling demonstrations and its stone ground flour. A special milling demonstration will be offered the evening of the tour.

PARKING & REGISTRATION: The Mill at Anselma located at 1730 Conestoga Road, Chester Springs.

7 AUGUST 2 THE PHOENIX COLUMN: A BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE

SPONSORS: The Historical Society of the Phoenixville Area and Schuylkill River Heritage Center



Come visit and walk the grounds of one of Chester County's most important industrial companies, the Phoenix Iron Company. The history begins as early as 1732 with a grist mill built along the French Creek to the late 1700s when nails were being produced at highest amount in the Colonies.

Jump forward and learn about when the Phoenix Iron Company started and became one of the most powerful iron companies on the east coast of the United States. You will explore an original example of a Phoenix Bridge and learn about the Phoenix Column which was patented in 1862 by the Iron Company, something that would go on to be used in the building of bridges and structural supports across the world. On this tour you will see lesser known buildings that still stand that were part of this company and also learn about buildings that no longer stand using then and now photographs. We look forward to your visit to Phoenixville!

PARKING & REGISTRATION: Phoenixville Foundry located at 2 N. Main Street, Phoenixville.

8 AUGUST 9 AGRICULTURAL ANTIQUES & MODERN MACHINES

SPONSORS: Upper Oxford Township Historical Commission & Chester County Agricultural Development Council



Come visit scenic Maple Lawn Farm in southern Chester County and experience the evolution of agriculture. Find out how technology and innovation have changed the way corn, hay, grain and dairy are produced. There will be a range of museum-worthy farm equipment from the late 1800s and early 1900s, up to and including some of the modern combines and tractors used today.

A blacksmith will be on hand with the tools of his trade to demonstrate how farm implements and horseshoes are forged. In addition, Maple Lawn Farm features a stunning example of a historic bank barn, hand hewn by master carpenter Ferdinand Wood, who built many of the covered bridges that make Chester County's landscape so distinctive in the region.

PARKING & REGISTRATION: Parking on site at the farm, 380 Forest Manor Road, Cochranville, with shuttle services provided from overflow parking area. Self-guided on-site farm tour, expect uneven terrain.

9 AUGUST 16 FRICKS LOCK: BIRTH OF A CANAL VILLAGE

SPONSOR: East Coventry Historical Commission



John Frick married an heiress, fifteen-year-old Catherine Grumbacker. As was the custom of the time, Catherine's property became John Frick's property, but Catherine married well. He made many improvements to the Grumbacker farm, but none as significant as his agreement with the

Schuylkill Navigation Company to run the Girard Canal through his property. Visit John Frick's legacy — Fricks Locks Historic District — and learn about the innovations that made the Schuylkill River Canal possible and stroll through the restored village at the foot of the Limerick Nuclear Power Plant Cooling Towers which time forgot.

PARKING & REGISTRATION: Turn onto Fricks Lock Road from Route 724 in East Coventry Township and follow signs. For navigation direction use Fricks Lock Road, Pottstown.

10 AUGUST 23 SPECIAL NEW PROGRAM: LIGHT SUPPER & LECTURE AT THE SPRINGS THE MILLS OF CHESTER COUNTY

SPONSOR: Chester County Historic Preservation Network
6 – 7:30 pm; limit 50 participants



Come experience Historic Yellow Springs from a completely new perspective. Chester County Historic Preservation Network invites you to enjoy a light box supper and listen to Preservation Architect Dan Campbell, AIA, speak about the history of milling in southeastern Pennsylvania and the process

of locating and identifying mills, whether still existing, re-purposed or in some degree of decay. This engaging perspective on Chester County's milling legacy will be in preparation of the tour of Bondsville Mill on August 30th and will inform you as you continue to explore our historic landscapes on your own.

PARKING & REGISTRATION: **Advanced Reservations Required:** \$15.00 will include the lecture, a box supper and refreshments, and a guided stroll of the grounds after dinner, weather permitting. Call 610-344-6923 or email kmarshall@chesco.org to make your reservations.

11 AUGUST 30 THE EVOLUTION OF POWER AND FABRIC PRODUCTION AT BONDSVILLE

SPONSORS: East Brandywine Township



Bondsville Mill, located in East Brandywine Township, operated as a textile mill from 1841 through 1954 (over 100 years). An important feature of the Mill is the evolution of power sources used there as new technologies became available over its period of operation.

Materials were manufactured for a wide variety of products over that time, including: civil war uniforms, top brand name jeans, car seat upholstery, and a velvet material known as "plush", to name a few. The Mill was significant to the area, creating its own community complete with school, post office, general store, and housing, and employed 350 people in its heyday. The Mill is currently part of a Township Park that combines its regional heritage with a large natural area (47 acres in all) that is now traversed by a network of trails. Rehabilitation of the Mill is a work in progress, with much already done and more planned.

PARKING & REGISTRATION: East Brandywine Township Building, 1214 Horseshoe Pike, Downingtown. Groups will be shuttled from the township building to the Mill for tours then back to the township building.

JOIN THE CHESTER COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION
in developing the county's
next long-range plan, Landscapes3!

Visit www.chescoplanning.org/CompPlan.cfm
for more details.

Landscapes

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
CHESCO.ORG/PLANNING/TOWNTOURS.

All sites have handicapped access limitations.
Call Karen Marshall at 610-344-6923 for specifics.