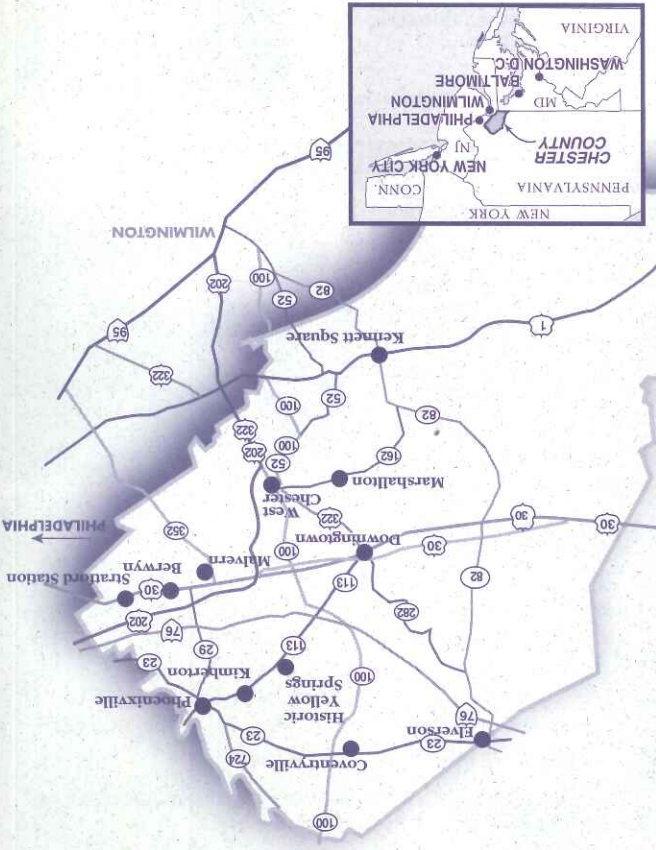


Photograph on cover: West Chester Central  
 Courtesy of the Chester County Historical Society  
 Photograph to the left (in oval): Fricks Lock, 1997  
 Photograph on mailing panel: Kennett Square, 1997

IN THE HEART OF THE  
 BRANDYWINE VALLEY

**CHESTER COUNTY**  
 TOURIST BUREAU

601 Westown Road  
 Suite 170, P.O. Box 2747  
 West Chester, PA 19380-0990  
 www.brandywinevalley.com



For exact starting times and locations,  
 please call the number listed with each  
 weekly tour. Light refreshments follow  
 each walk. Don't forget to wear  
 comfortable shoes!

Discover how our  
 waterways and mills—French  
 Creek, the Schuylkill and branches of  
 the Brandywine—influenced life in  
 our valleys and along our early toll  
 roads. Tales told of the characters,  
 great and small, who lived here will  
 intrigue and amuse the entire family!  
 For years, local citizens have  
 researched old records to learn about  
 the historic buildings in their neigh-  
 borhoods. Not only are they learning  
 18th and 19th C. construction meth-  
 ods, but how the Industrial Revo-  
 lution changed their streetscapes. Descen-  
 dants of founding families hear amusing  
 anecdotes about their ancestors' coping with  
 "modern" 19th C. technology. Partnerships  
 have been established to take facts out of fil-  
 ing cabinets and share stories and folklore  
 with neighbors and all the visitors we wel-  
 come to our FREE summer long program.



Historic Places. Many of  
 these, along with designat-  
 ed Historic Districts are  
 part of this summer's  
 new tour itineraries.  
 Observe the preservation  
 and adaptive reuse of our  
 period architecture, it will  
 give you ideas for your  
 own lifestyle.

The nostalgic delights of our historic  
 villages are yours to discover as you spend  
 lovely summer evenings on any, or all, FREE  
 evening one-hour **Town Tours & Village  
 Walks**. Designed to evoke memories of life in  
 simpler times, they're an experience to share  
 with family and friends.  
 Your guides, some in period dress are  
 experts in local history and architecture. They  
 bring to life the people who lived and work-  
 ed along the streets you'll travel. Highlighted  
 are properties, both residential and business,  
 revealing the fabric of three centuries of  
 domestic, social and industrial life in our  
 region, one of William Penn's first named  
 counties.  
 Early Quaker families continue to play  
 a part today, just as do those of later arrivals  
 who came to live, work and make important  
 contributions to Pennsylvania's diverse cultur-  
 al heritage. Here, homes are lovingly restored  
 and show the charm of small town life in the  
 Colonial, Federal, Greek Revival, Victorian  
 and pre-war eras.  
 In Pennsylvania, Chester County is  
 second only to Philadelphia in the number of  
 sites listed on the National Register of

.....

**TOWN  
 TOURS  
 &  
 VILLAGE  
 WALKS**

.....

**MAKE AN EVENING OF IT!**

Why not make these FREE **Town  
 Tours & Village Walks** your excuse for a  
 summer getaway? Some of Brandywine  
 Valley's most charming B&B's and inns offer  
 special package rates. Many are historic  
 properties so you can extend your experi-  
 ence of times past as you enjoy our coun-  
 tryside for an overnight or even a long  
 weekend.

Many of our restaurants will feature  
 "early bird" specials for pre-tour suppers or  
 other dining values for after your TT&VW.

To request a copy of our TT&VW  
 Summer Specials, call the Brandywine  
 Valley Tourist Information Center at  
 1-800-228-6933.

Mark these dates on your calendar:

- JUNE 2 WEST CHESTER
- JUNE 10 DOWNINGTOWN
- JUNE 17 COVENTRYVILLE
- JUNE 24 KENNETT SQUARE
- JULY 8 PHOENIXVILLE
- JULY 15 BERWYN
- JULY 22 MARSHALLTON
- JULY 29 MALVERN
- AUGUST 5 ELVERSON
- AUGUST 12 STRAFFORD STATION NEIGHBORHOOD
- AUGUST 19 KIMBERTON
- AUGUST 26 HISTORIC YELLOW SPRINGS

Sponsored by  
 Chester County Board of Commissioners  
 Department of Parks and Recreation  
 and the Chester County Tourist Bureau  
 601 Westown Road, Suite 170  
 West Chester, PA 19380-0990

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**TOWN  
 TOURS  
 &  
 VILLAGE  
 WALKS**

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1999

Brochure design by Suzanne D. Gaadt

FREE guided evening strolls  
 The 5th Annual

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**TOWN  
 TOURS  
 &  
 VILLAGE  
 WALKS**

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Evenings  
 June 2 through August 26, 1999

Chester County, Pennsylvania  
 in the Heart of the Brandywine Valley



## WEST CHESTER – JUNE 2

The opening tour of the series is that of West Chester, our only Wednesday evening of the summer. At 6 p.m. the three County Commissioners will officially start the season in front of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 212 S. High St. The Town Tour itself will begin with a tour of the Church, (est. 1835), and continue along a number of routes in the southwest and southeast streets of the Borough. Architecture, history and local lore will be stressed, from the rich resources of churches, dwellings, commercial buildings and government structures that dot "The Athens of Pennsylvania." Light refreshments will be served after the tour-after which, a dazzling array of West Chester's restaurants, pubs and coffeehouses await you.

*Tour Hosts: West Chester Historical and Architectural Review Board*

*Reservations and Directions: (610) 431-7010, 431-1238*



1st Baptist Church (ca. 1930)

## KENNETT SQUARE – JUNE 24



Chalant residence

Site of the British and Hessian encampments prior to the Battle of the Brandywine in 1777 and later a "station" along the Underground Railroad, Kennett Square has a long and fascinating

heritage. The Historic District retains an outstanding collection of well-preserved nineteenth and early-twentieth century buildings representing its commercial, industrial and architectural development. Enjoy a leisurely stroll along cool, tree lined streets and delight in the beautiful and ornate details and flourishes that reflect the artistic talents of long-ago builders and carpenters. The town's architectural styles range from Federal through Italianate and Queen Anne Revival to early twentieth century revivals. A special surprise is the Baseball Museum.

*Your Hosts: Borough of Kennett Square Historic Commission*

*Reservations and Directions: (610) 444-6020*

## MARSHALLTON – JULY 22

This nearly untouched village named for botanist Humphrey Marshall (born 1722) was an important stop on a freight and drover's road. There are two hotels in town and one outside, dating back to 1765. Among the outstanding features of this village were a Quaker Meeting dated 1730 (present building 1765), a cradle factory which made grain cradles and scythes, a blacksmith shop, a pump maker, a cigar factory, a tinsmith shop, a clothing store, a bakery, a plumbing business, a restaurant, in 1805 a post office and in 1829 a Methodist Church.

*Tour Hosts: West Bradford Township Historic Commission*

*Reservations and Directions: (610) 486-0790*



The Humphrey Marshall House

## STRAFFORD STATION NEIGHBORHOOD – AUGUST 12

Since Colonial days, the area around where the Strafford train station now stands has been an important crossroad. In the eighteenth century, the Old Eagle School and the Spread Eagle Inn served the community and travelers on the Lancaster Turnpike. By the late nineteenth century, the Pennsylvania Railroad Main Line enabled office workers to commute to and from



Station in 1958

Center City from the elegant little station at Strafford. These executives and professionals commissioned Philadelphia's most noted architects to design their residences in the fashionable Colonial Revival style. Many of these houses remain, clustered about the station in their original settings.

*Tour Hosts: Tredyffrin Township Historic Architectural Review Board*

*Reservations and Directions: (610) 408-3625*

## DOWNINGTOWN – JUNE 10

Downingtown is Chester County's oldest town, and features, on its tour, one of the oldest-remaining dwellings in the county, the noted "Log House," built around 1700. Downingtown's most prosperous era, however, came with the arrival of the railroad in mid-nineteenth century, and many of the Italianate stores built at the time of this boom remain for us to view this evening. Period lighting now graces the commercial district for our evening tour.

In 1861, at the outbreak of the Civil War, Downingtown had but 800 citizens, including all ages and sexes. Some 100 of the town's men—a huge percentage—left to fight in the war. This evening's tour will conclude with a concert in Kerr Park, of Civil War era music, in honor of that extraordinary commitment.

*Tour Hosts: Downingtown Historical and Parks Commission*

*Reservations and Directions: (610) 269-2139*



Log House interior

## PHOENIXVILLE – JULY 8

Well-watered by the Schuylkill River and the French Creek, Phoenixville has been, in turn, a market town, a light-industry town, a heavy-industry town, and, now, a growing commuter town with a historical past. The tour of the Historical District will showcase vivid reminders of a steel town whose iron bridges were marketed throughout the civilized world. At the railroad station visitors will see the baggage room where a grand ball was held to celebrate the end of the Civil War, and many other fascinating pieces of the past. The final stop will be a tour of the Historical Society Museum for more history, and some very contemporary ice cream.

*Tour Hosts: The Historical Society of the Phoenixville Area*

*Reservations and Directions: (610) 935-7646*



Antique car in Reeves Park

## COVENTRYVILLE – JUNE 17

The village of Coventryville is probably much quieter than it was in the eighteenth century, when it was a hub of iron-making commerce, and played an important role in the War for Independence. One of the features of this evening's tour is the United Methodist Church, which this year is celebrating its 225th anniversary—older than the United States. Another high spot in Colonial days was Coventry Hall, where Ironmaster Robert Grace and his wife, Rebecca, entertained officers of the Continental Army, and where their friend Benjamin Franklin had installed the first Franklin Stove, in 1742. The Coventry Forge Inn, world famous for fine food, is on the site of the old Rising Sun Inn, which opened for business in 1750.

*Tour Hosts: South Coventry Township and Historic Coventryville*

*Reservations and Directions: (610) 469-0444*

*The 225 year-old United Methodist Church*



## BERWYN – JULY 15

Despite vigorous growth surrounding it, the Main Line village of Berwyn today looks and operates much the same as it did a century ago, as it straddles the Philadelphia-Lancaster Turnpike (America's first toll road), today's Route 30. Skillfully-restored and lovingly-maintained Victorian houses endure as residences, antiques shops and family-owned businesses. In earlier times, farmers of the countryside found needed services in the village. Today, Berwyn serves the sprawling suburbs. Tonight, we concentrate on the south side of Route 30, visiting many of the remaining links with that earlier time.

*Tour Hosts: Berwyn-Devon Business and Professional Association and the Tredyffrin-Easttown History Club*

*Reservations and Directions: (610) 644-0138*



Explaining the carriage-maker's trade (Ansley)

## MALVERN – JULY 29

The quiet tree-lined streets of Malvern shelter a remarkable past that is notorious and unique. Hear about the brutal and bloody battle during the Revolutionary War that was lost here. Also ghosts haunt stately homes; the railroad brought prosperity, commerce, technological innovation, and greed to town. The temperance movement sparked bitter family feuds. All a far cry from today's bustling and friendly borough.

*Your Hosts: Borough of Malvern Historical Commission*

*Reservations and Directions: (610) 644-2602*



Hearts and hosta of a bygone era

## ELVERSON – AUGUST 5

Once upon a time in Chester County, (in 1849), a little village called "Springfield" finally rated its own post office. But there were too many Springfields. How Springfield became Elverson to suit the Post Office is part of local lore to be covered tonight. Indian artifacts discovered here go back thousands of years, and in later years, Dutch, Swedish, and French traders bartered here with the Conestoga Indians well before William Penn. Tonight's tour will focus on Colonial, early and late-Victorian, instead, including one of the town's last remaining log houses. Also, an early German Bank House, some of the spacious Victorians owned by prominent nineteenth century gentry, and a Victorianized Colonial Church.

*Tour Hosts: Elverson Historical Commission and Tri-County Heritage Society*

*Reservations and Directions: (610) 286-7477*



Methodist Church

## KIMBERTON VILLAGE – AUGUST 19

Kimberton is one of those movie-set villages that is at the heart of most peoples' image of Chester County. The warm fieldstone of many of the buildings and adaptive reuse of structures whose original functions have passed from the scene give an air of serene vitality to this place. The tour will visit the Grange building, now reborn as a dance studio. Visitors will also see three former schools, two general stores and Old Kimberton Inn. All are still in use, but have been adapted, as Kimberton has moved with the times to still serve as an active village center.

*Tour Hosts: Pikeland Historic Society and East Pikeland Historic Commission*

*Reservations and Directions: (610) 933-1770*



General store on site of 1786 inn

## HISTORIC YELLOW SPRINGS – AUGUST 26

The Native Americans first discovered the mineral waters and utilized them for medicinal purposes. Meet a member of the Lenape tribe and learn of life in his land. Later settlers traveled west from Philadelphia to "take the waters." Mrs. Holman, innkeeper, describes life at the spa. Revolutionary War physician Dr. Bodo Otto provides details of medical care at the Yellow Springs Military Hospital. Enjoy the beauty and ambiance of this quaint country village and discover that the body was healed in its early history, but today the soul may be touched to heal the spirit.

*Tour Hosts: Historic Yellow Springs, Inc.*

*Reservations and Directions: (610) 827-7414*



Gazebo near the springs