

# Summer 2007 Town Tours & Village Walks

The nostalgic delights of our historic villages and countryside are yours to discover as you spend lovely summer evenings on FREE Town Tours & Village Walks. Hundreds of volunteers spent the past seasons developing an astounding assortment of new (and former favorite) fun and fact-filled tours for your enjoyment and learning. Designed to evoke memories of life in simpler times, these are evenings to share with family and friends. Come and celebrate a Chester County summer. Your guides, some in period dress, are experts in local history and architecture. They bring to life the people who lived and worked along the streets you will travel. For years, they have researched old records to learn about their neighborhoods' historic buildings. Both residential and commercial properties are highlighted, revealing the fabric of three centuries of domestic, social and industrial life in our region, one of William Penn's first named counties. Homes are lovingly restored and show the charm of small town life in the Colonial, Federal, Greek Revival, Victorian and nineteenth century styles. Many of these, along with designated Historic Districts, are part of this summer's tour itineraries. In Pennsylvania, Chester County has a significant number of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Once again, West Chester, Chester County's county seat, is the location of the festive kick-off ceremony. Select from one of eight new tours in the borough's South High Street Corridor. Later, explore and encounter tales in Kennett Square, East Marlborough and Phoenixville. Anniversaries are always a special time in the community. In October 2007, Chester County will celebrate its 325th birthday, and Historic Yellow Springs honors the 230th commemoration of the first military hospital built in North America. Several new tours will be showcased this summer. Explore East Fallowfield's Mortonville, a small village on the Brandywine. Nantmeal Village, a sleepy hamlet, reveals a colorful past. Discover Kimberton - Valley Dell, a fine mid-20th century village built on the former Kimberton Boarding School property. The state of tours concludes with the Village of Pughtown in South Coventry Township. In 2005, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and Preservation Pennsylvania honored Town Tours & Village Walks at the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards ceremony as one of two statewide education awards in the Initiatives Category. The partnership of the Chester County Parks and Recreation Department, Chester County Conference and Visitors Bureau, the Chester County Historic Preservation Network and Westtown Township was also recognized. Through various partnerships withdrawing facts from filling cabinets, we are able to share stories and folklore with neighbors and visitors. We welcome you to our FREE summer-long program with stories and scenery that will appeal to all ages and interests.

Sponsored by



Chester County Conference & Visitors Bureau

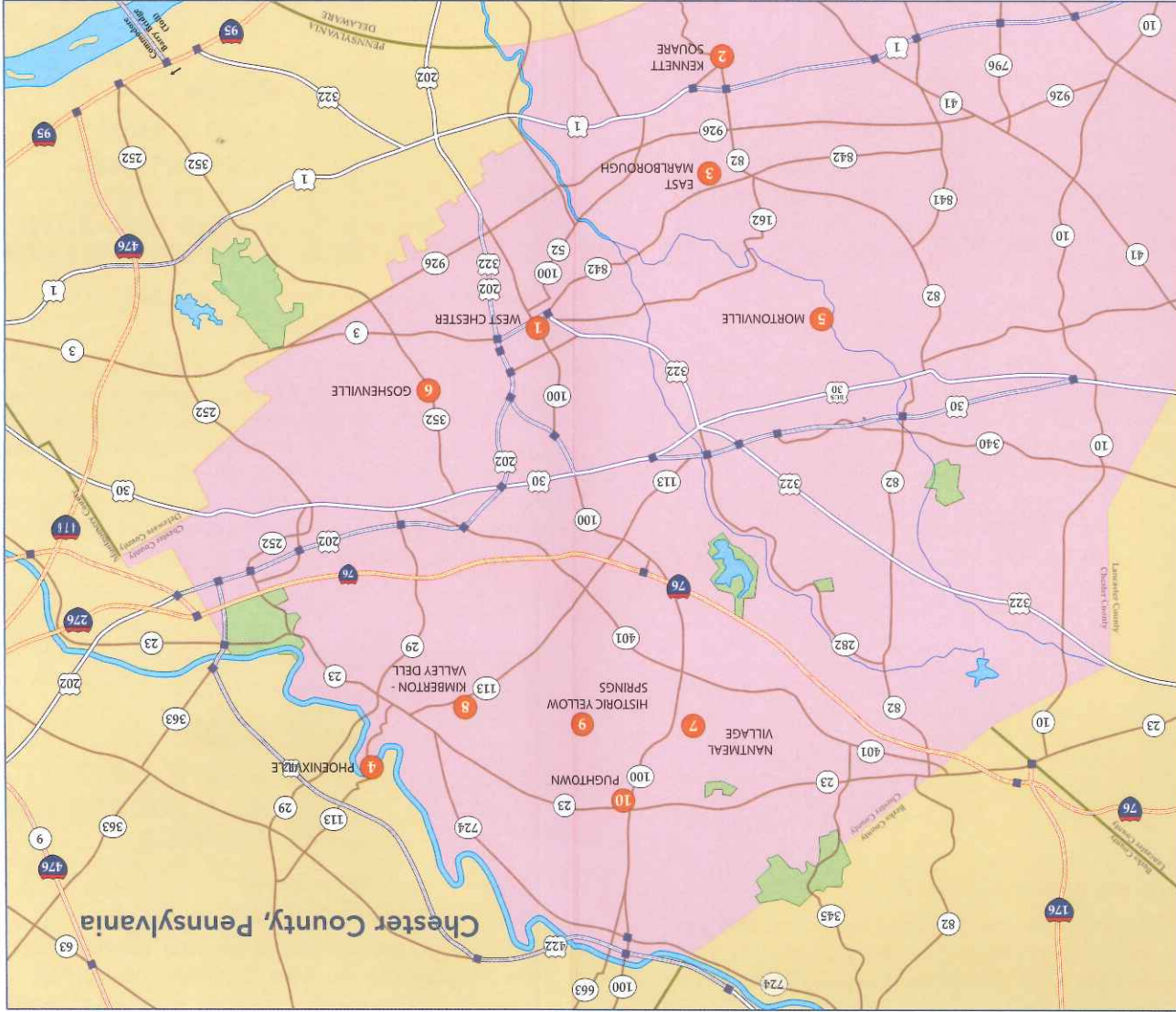
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Chester County Board of Commissioners

www.chesco.org

Chester County Historic Preservation Network  
PO BOX 174  
West Chester, PA 19380  
www.cchpn.org

Chester County Parks & Recreation Department  
601 Westtown Road, Suite 160  
West Chester, PA 19380-0990  
www.chesco.org/ccparks

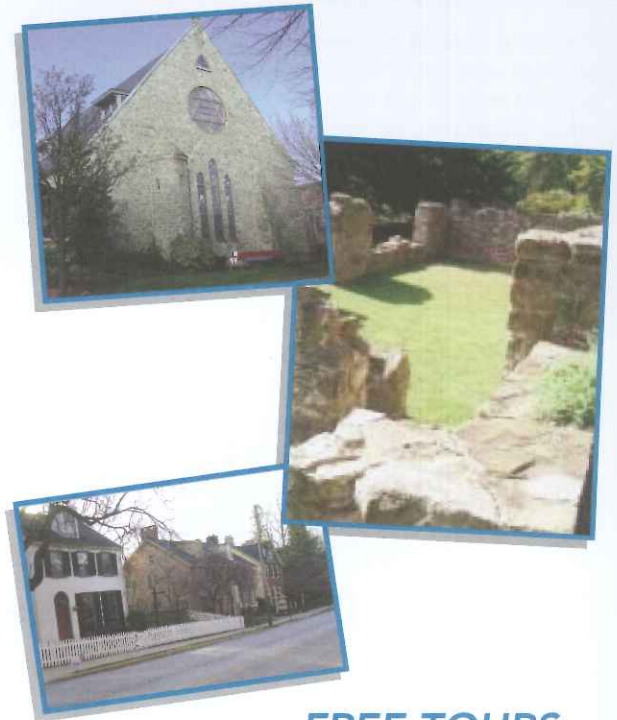


Summer 2007



# Town Tours & Village Walks

Celebrating its 13th Anniversary!



**FREE TOURS**  
Thursday Evenings  
June 7 through August 23, 2007

BRANDYWINEVALLEY.COM

# Town Tours & Village Walks

Mark these dates on your calendar!

## JUNE

- June 7 West Chester: Artists & Architects, Singers & Storytellers
- June 14 Kennett Square Historic District: The Northeast Quarter
- June 21 Marlborough Village
- June 28 Phoenixville: Historic Bridge Street

## JULY

- July 12 Mortonville: River Yarns & Highway Tales
- July 19 Historic Goshenville
- July 26 Nantmeal Village: A Victorian Country Village

## AUGUST

- August 2 Kimberton - Valley Dell: A Fine Mid-20th Century Village
- August 9 Historic Yellow Springs
- August 23 The Village of Pughtown

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.**

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Chester County Board of Commissioners  
Chester County Conference & Visitors Bureau  
Chester County Historic Preservation Network  
Chester County Parks & Recreation Department  
601 Westtown Road, Suite 160  
West Chester, PA 19380-0990



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**NEW!**

June 7, 2007  
**WEST CHESTER:  
OF ARTISTS &  
ARCHITECTS,  
SINGERS &  
STORYTELLERS**

1

Sponsor: West Chester Historical and Architectural Review Board  
Tour Reservations: 610-918-7348

Come! Be our guest as we visit West Chester's South High Street Corridor. Discover West Chester's artistic secrets. Relive the stories that West Chester's architecture tells. Uncover West Chester's musical heritage! Come! Explore with us the byways and alleyways surrounding South High Street! The Tours will start and end at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, High and Union Streets. Pick from eight tours that will wend their way among sites dated from 1820 to 1950.



**NEW!**

July 12, 2007  
**MORTONVILLE:  
RIVER YARNS &  
HIGHWAY TALES**

5

Sponsor: East Fallowfield Township  
Tour Reservations: 610-384-7144

Come with us and explore this small village on the Brandywine! Witness the ongoing revitalization of a village almost forgotten by time. Learn the roles the Strasburg Road, the Brandywine River, and the Railroad all played in the development of Mortonville. Tours will start next to the former Mortonville Inn and end at the picnic grounds on the Brandywine, where a spooky treat awaits those who are NOT faint of heart!



**NEW!**

August 2, 2007  
**KIMBERTON -  
VALLEY DELL:  
A FINE MID-20TH  
CENTURY VILLAGE**

8

Sponsor: East Pikeland Historical Commission  
Tour Reservations: 610-933-1770

Valley Dell is an early (1939-40) housing development built in historic Kimberton on the former Kimberton Boarding School for Girls property. At the time they were built, an ad for the houses read, "In the heart of Kimberton, with cooperative ownership of a lake - a 'Valley Dell' in name and location." These houses were built in part using stone taken from a portion of the old school building. Come see this attractive and peaceful location in Kimberton.



June 14, 2007  
**KENNETT SQUARE  
HISTORIC DISTRICT:  
THE NORTHEAST  
QUARTER**

2

Sponsor: Borough of Kennett Square  
Tour Reservations: 610-444-6020

Kennett Square was settled by Europeans in 1686 and has remained an important crossroads community ever since. The northeast corner of the National Register Historic District contains an intriguing blend of architectural styles and personal stories of abolitionists, industrialists, agrarians and authors. Here you will find Victorian, Gothic, Federal, Italianate and vernacular architecture ranging from the late 18th to the early 20th Centuries. Notable on the tour are the recent revitalization efforts of East Linden Street, a 150 year-old neighborhood in the heart of the town, and Fairthorn, the 1790 home to the great-grandfather of local literary hero, Bayard Taylor.



July 19, 2007  
**HISTORIC  
GOSHENVILLE**

6

Sponsor: East Goshen Township  
Tour Reservations: 610-692-7171

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places and located in East Goshen Township, Goshenville was founded in 1704. The William Sharpless Blacksmith and Wheelwright Shop was built in two sections (1704-1740), retained its functioning forge and is located at the center of the district. The Historic American Building Survey lists the Milltown-Hickman Plank House (1808) - a "Hall and Parlor House" filled with period pieces. Other buildings in the Historic District as well as the Wetlands Boardwalk will be included.



**NEW!**

August 9, 2007  
**HISTORIC YELLOW  
SPRINGS**

9

Sponsor: Historic Yellow Springs  
Tour Reservations: 610-827-7414

This summer's tour will kick off the 230th commemoration and celebration for the "Year of the Revolutionary War Hospital" at Historic Yellow Springs. A shroud of mystery surrounds this structure, the first military hospital built in North America, now a ruins. Historic Yellow Springs is launching a yearlong effort to research, interpret, celebrate, and publicize the importance of this structure, which played a key part in the unfolding of American History. Join us for an evening tour with an 18th century revolutionary flavor. Meet characters such as Doctors Samuel Kennedy and Bodo Otto and local community women, who nursed the sick soldiers. Tours begin at 6:00 PM at the Lincoln Building; last tour starts at 7:30 PM.



June 21, 2007  
**MARLBOROUGH  
VILLAGE**

3

Sponsor: East Marlborough Township  
Tour Reservations: 610-347-2237

Fortunate in its off-the-beaten path location, Marlborough has kept much of its mid-nineteenth century look. 150 years ago this quiet village was busy with shops, schools, a post office, blacksmith, carriage maker, and various tradesmen serving the surrounding farms. Most redolent of the past is the 1801 Friends Meeting with its burial ground - long ago the scene of conflict over the problem of slavery; now an acre of tranquility.



**NEW!**

July 26, 2007  
**NANTMEAL VILLAGE:  
A VICTORIAN  
COUNTRY VILLAGE**

7

Sponsor: East Nantmeal Township  
Tour Reservations: 610-469-2379

Nantmeal Village, Welsh for "sweet water," began as a quiet Quaker settlement in the early 1700's, convenient to nearby forges. When the meeting closed in strife, the village was reborn through the "wheelings and dealings" of John Murray and others. With a church, two schools, band hall, store, smithy, wheelwright, cabinetmaker and more, it became quite the destination by the 1880's. This now sleepy residential hamlet hides a colorful past illuminated for the first time on the Town Tours!



**NEW!**

August 23, 2007  
**THE VILLAGE  
OF PUGHTOWN**

10

Sponsor: South Coventry Township  
Tour Reservations: 610-469-0444

The Village of Pughtown is situated in a hollow wide bowl surrounded by wooded hills to the north and rocky inclines to the south. The French Creek and Beaver Run pass through this valley. James Pugh, a Welsh Quaker, settled here and began a plantation in the 1700's; hence the name "Pugh Towne." This historical village once housed businesses such as blacksmiths, wheelwrights and tailor shops, as well as a creamery, a hotel and a general store.



June 28, 2007  
**PHOENIXVILLE:  
HISTORIC BRIDGE  
STREET**

4

Sponsor: Historical Society of the Phoenixville Area  
Tour Reservations: 610-935-7646

Back by popular demand, come and discover the ethnic and historic churches of Phoenixville! Unique photographs from our archives will assist you in imagining how these sites looked in years' past. Step back in time and explore St. Peter's Episcopal, Sacred Heart Roman Catholic, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran (site of the former Mennonite Church), and the Baptist Churches. The tour will start and conclude at the Historical Society of the Phoenixville Area.

