

**SPECIAL  
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## Trust Receives Signage Mini-Grant

The Historic Preservation Trust has been awarded a Schuylkill Highlands Mini-Grant for the purpose of enhancing the potential of Old Morlatton Village for Heritage Tourism. Because this historic site borders on both the Schuylkill River and the Schuylkill River Trail, it eminently qualifies as a site for Nature-based Tourism within the river corridor.

The Trust will work with the Schuylkill River Heritage Association in developing and installing Interpretive Signs to welcome trail users into the site and offer a self-guiding tour of the historic area. Specifically, the Trust will:

- Design an orientation panel for the SRHA Kiosk at the Morlatton Village Trailhead along the Schuylkill River Trail
- Install another orientation panel at the new parking lot that will be constructed by Amity Township in the wooded tract next to the township sewer plant and immediately across the road from the White Horse Tavern.
- Design and install four interpretive panels to tell the stories of the four historic buildings, and
- Place another interpretive panel at the Schuylkill River site of an early ford and a former covered bridge.

The Morlatton Project Committee will include Board members who have served on the previous Master Planning and Interpretive Projects as well as new Board members who are experienced in historic research and writing. The Trust's archivist who is skilled in computer graphics will be an important part of the committee. This group will be responsible for designing the panels. Other Trust volunteers who will help install the panels are members who have experience in hands-on construction projects. We also anticipate assistance from Amity Township personnel who will be constructing the parking lot where one of the orientation panels will be located.

The Trust will work closely with Robert Folwell, Trails Manager of the Schuylkill River Heritage Association. It will follow recommendations of the SRHA Master Sign Program. Based on initial discussions, the signs chosen for the site are double pedestal-mounted 36" by 24" interpretive panels produced by Pannier Graphics, who has provided cost estimates.

This project will be completed within the 24 month implementation period. Anticipated costs are estimated to be \$18,000. The Trust will receive 50% of the total costs.



# From the President



**Matt Barnhart, President, in discussion with a volunteer.**

*Mention the Trust to your friends and neighbors as well, your enthusiasm is infectious*

**Volunteer working on the Hottensein House**



Sitting down to write this, I am afraid I am beginning to sound like a “broken record”.

Before proceeding, a digression. It is amusing to note that the phrase “broken record” will become meaningless with the advent of CDs and downloaded music. Nevertheless, there are numerous vestiges of long out dated “technologies” that still are a part of our everyday speech. Phrases like “flash in the pan” and “going off half cocked” relate to the flint lock rifle. If not for re-enactors, the original meanings would be lost, yet they are wonderfully descriptive and often appropriate.

At a visit to the White Horse by the Amity Heritage Society, several other phrases were suggested as having become recently archaic: “rolling” down the windows in a car, “dialing” the phone. A little quiz: why do we say “speed up” and “slow down”? Why up and down? Why not in and out? Over and under? If you want to

answer (and win precisely nothing), drop me a line at [matt@historicpreservationtrust.org](mailto:matt@historicpreservationtrust.org). Tune in next issue for the answer.

Now to the broken record part. I have commented on our volunteers, seems like every newsletter. Some of the significant accomplishments in the Fall and through the lousy Winter months are worth note. The Tea, as always was a rousing success. The time and effort invested by dozens of folks made a gray day most enjoyable for all who attended. The work yielded several thousand dollars profit which was, with the blessing of the organizers, earmarked for the Bridge Keeper’s House restoration. With the “double match” from a local benefactor, we completed our fund raising.

The work on the Bridge Keeper’s House continued through all but the coldest week or two, thanks to the contractor and our volunteers who went to the site on dark and dreary evenings and weekends to set and reset heating blankets so the masonry would not freeze. Among those

folks deserving special mention are Doug Eisman, our caretaker at the White Horse, Scott Stepp, property committee chair, Tom Keim, board member and Larry Ward who has been an invaluable resource in both this and the DeTurk project.

We have been awarded a grant for signs throughout Morlatton Village. That will establish our open air museum displaying our collection of early buildings. Again, a volunteer, Phoebe Hopkins, completed the application and volunteers will develop the copy and graphics.

Still, with all the work done on behalf of the Trust, there is much to do. The scouts will be working on the grounds this Spring, the gardens will be tended, the luncheon will be served. The Country Fair committee could use some help, our researchers could use some help, the property committee could use some help.

So, like a scratched CD, I would ask you to give it some thought. Mention the Trust to your friends and neighbors as well, your enthusiasm is infectious.

# River Traveler Visits Morlatton



On December 1, 2010, Todd Baumann, Director of Land and Facilities at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, began a 250 mile canoe trip from the Sanctuary to Cape May, New Jersey. The purpose of the journey was to raise \$10,000 for the Sanctuary. In the end, he succeeded in raising over \$10,000.

You may be asking, “why is this important to the Trust?” Because on December 2, Todd landed in front of the Mouns Jones House and spent the night in the White Horse Tavern.

He was met by board member Phoebe Hopkins, her husband “Hoppy,” and daughter Lorah. Phoebe recounts the evening:

“He [Todd] had phoned earlier from the Schuylkill's confluence with the Tulpehocken Creek, saying he might be a little be-

**The Schuylkill River as viewed from Morlatton Village**

hind schedule. We drove to Morlatton Village about 4:00 PM, and he had already arrived! The river was running at high speed, hastening his journey. He secured his canoe along the river bank, and we escorted him to his second evening's accommodations, the White Horse Tavern. Doug was there to greet us and assume the role of tavern-keeper. He heated the hearty soup that Linda had made, the pork and sauerkraut that I brought, even warmed the bread and the plates. He also made coffee and poured lemonade for the repast. Our small group ate in the main dining room, having the place to ourselves—a quiet evening at the Inn. However, just as we finished our dinner, a merry group of dancers arrived [the Amity Colonial Dancers]. Doug showed the River Paddler to the best bedroom, which were to be his accommodations for the night. While Doug was washing the dishes, the Dancers

began their Rehearsal. Todd took a video of their dance which will go into his Blog. He had one more request—to see one of his good friends, Linda Ingram, who lives just across the river in Unionville. Linda was Todd's teacher for the Nolde Forest Environmental Career Education program. (By coincidence this is a course I had taught several years before Todd enrolled). Unfortunately, Linda was not at home. Regardless, we had a great time with Todd and were very glad to represent the Historic Preservation Trust in welcoming him to Morlatton Village.”

**The river was running at high speed, hastening his journey**



**Todd Bauman before shoving-off the morning of Dec. 3, following his evening at the White Horse Tavern**

## Oley Valley Bus Tour - April 16, 2011

**The bus tour, led by historian James Lewars, will include:**

- Daniel Boone Homestead
- Old Morlatton Village with catered lunch at White Horse Inn
- Examples of English and German Architecture
- Scenic Oley Valley Tour



**The cost is \$55 for members of the Friends of the Daniel Boone Homestead and Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County and \$65 for non-members (lunch & admission fees included). The bus will be filled on a first-come basis so reserve your space now! The registration deadline is April 5.**

Please call 610-582-4900 or visit [www.danielboonehomestead.org](http://www.danielboonehomestead.org) for more information and a registration form.

## Michael Fulps (Bridge Keeper's) House Masonry Restoration 2010-2011



As reported in previous Newsletters, a major campaign, begun in the Fall of 2010, achieved the structural stabilization of the interior cellar walls and the entire foundation perimeter of the 1783 Fulp House.

This phase of the project included:

- Temporarily supporting the walls, timber framing, and floor loads with posts and timber braced-buttresses (“raking shores”);
- Raking out disintegrated bed, joint, and pointing mortar;
- Re-setting displaced and unstable stonework in traditionally formulated line mortar, inserting small stone “pins” and shims to fill voids and prevent movement within the all core;
- Coating (“pargetting”) the below grade foundation walls with a water repellent lime-sand-cement mix and a rubberized liquid barrier; and,
- Lining the coated walls with a waterproof membrane “drainage board”, protected by a non-woven geotextile fabric from soil infiltration and clogging of drainage pathways.



*“The 19th century attic window frame and sash, not contemporary to the original construction period, was restored and reinstalled...”*



Another major phase of masonry work consisted of the dismantling and re-laying of the unstable [“de-laminated”] southern bay of the east eaves wall, and re-setting the dislocated fireplace lintel in its bearing position in the east

wall.

During the winter months (weekends and Holidays not excepted) virtually all of the south gable wall was dismantled and re-built, stone-by-stone, “toothing” bond stones strategically through the wall to ensure a more durable structure into the distant future. Over ten tons of new mortar was required to conform the gable to preservation standards.

An elaborate set of propane [daytime] and electric [night-time] heaters and electric blankets was deployed to enable the mortar to cure sufficiently for at least seven days, and to maintain an overnight temperature threshold of 40 degrees in the next-days’ ingredients.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century attic window frame and sash, not contemporary to the original construction period, were restored and re-installed in order to preserve elements of the architectural evolution of the house during its first century.

Based on vintage photographic evidence, the gable interior, including the wall ascending the attic stairway and the corbelled chimney, were rendered with a “brown” coat, a “scratch” coat, and a “finish” coat of traditionally mixed plaster, textured to receive a future

coating of whitewash. Patches of the original rendering, a compound including lime and red clay from the local alluvial soils, with cow hair as a binder, and segments of stable early plaster-work, were preserved as historic fabric wherever possible.

An abundance of thanks is due to loyal members and other friends of the Trust, to advocates for its historic mission, and to those who participated directly or indirectly in this campaign, for their generous and indispensable support, including financial donations, time, advice, and in-kind contributions toward this critical restoration effort.

The nearly-completed restoration and stabilization work should ensure that the Michael Fulp House, a modest monument to a Revolutionary War soldier, laborer, and “yeoman farmer” in Berks County’s earliest community, will endure for another two and a quarter centuries...and beyond.

\*Submitted by the Property Committee



# SPRING LUNCHEON & PLANT SALE

## AT THE WHITE HORSE TAVERN

*MAY 7, 2011*

### Seatings @ 11 AM & 1 PM

- Choose 1 of 2 entrees: chicken a la king en croute or spring vegetable medley
- Iced tea, coffee, hot tea
- Dessert buffet
- Plant sale
- Old Morlatton Village walking tour
- Open hearth cooking demonstrations
- Harpsichord music

*Tickets are \$25 per person*

### Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Guests \_\_\_\_\_

Time: 11:00 am \_\_\_\_\_ or 1:00 pm \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount (\$25 per person) \_\_\_\_\_

*Please complete this form & send it along with a self-addressed stamped envelope and payment to*

HPTBC Luncheon  
P.O. Box 245  
Douglassville, PA 19518

## Help with Searching the Trust Online Archive



Image from the  
Online Archive

*When completed,  
the instructions  
will be published  
on the Trust's  
web site as an  
introduction page  
to the Online  
Archive.*

Over the last few months we have received numerous requests from individuals and organizations seeking information about—and access to—the photographs, architectural drawings, field notes drawings, and text documents recorded in the Trust's archive.

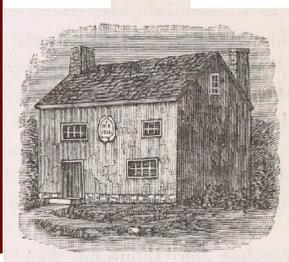
We are working on a comprehensive set of instructions for navigating the archived documents. When completed, the instructions will be published on the Trust's web site as an introduction page to the Online Archive.

Meanwhile, for those of you who would like to browse the archive but have no idea where (or how) to begin, here are a few simple pathways and guidelines for searching the current online records:

1. Proceed to the Advanced Search page through the Online Archive Link on the Trust's home-page or via this direct link: <http://hptbc.pastperfect-online.com/37619cgi/mweb.exe?request=advform>
2. In the Collection field on the Advanced Search page, enter the first word of the site in which you are interested. The following list contains all collections presently available online:
  - Mouns Jones House
  - Bridge Keeper's House (or Fulp House—NOTE: Fulp House is not currently a searchable collection. All Fulp references appear under the Bridge Keeper's collection. Please use Fulp in a search of Keywords, Search Terms, People, or Description)
  - George Douglass House
  - White Horse Inn/Tavern
  - DeTurk House
  - Keim (Farmstead) House, Cabin, and Barn
  - Hottenstein House (and Doctor's Office Building)
  - Morlatton Village
  - General Information

Searching in this manner will produce all available records pertaining to that site or building. Limiting the search to a specific type of document can be accomplished by also entering "photo," "drawing," "text," or "field notes" in the Keywords field.

3. If you only want to view older photos, enter the site designator (Mouns, Bridge, George, etc.) into the Collection field and "vintage photo" in the Search Terms field.

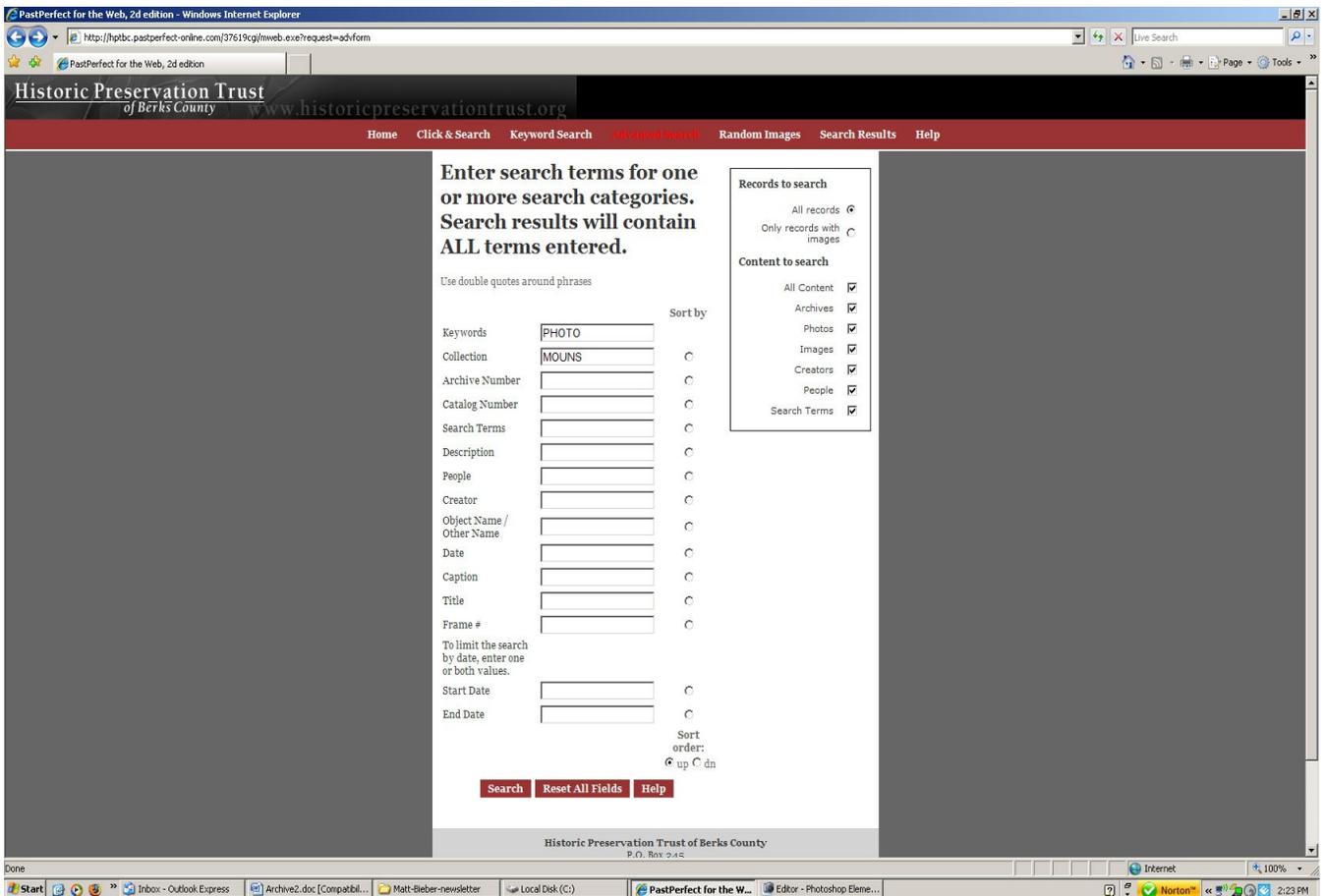


OLD SWEDE'S BUILDING.

Image  
from the  
Online  
Archive

# Help with Searching the Trust Online Archive-Continued

4. For records relating to restoration projects, enter one of the following in the Search Terms or Keywords fields:
  - DTR09 for DeTurk House—filling in the type of document after 09: “PH” for photos; “DWG” for architectural drawings; “FN” for Field Notes drawings and annotations; or “TX” for text documents. Thus, DTR09PH would retrieve all DeTurk restoration photos
  - BKR10 for Bridge Keeper’s House—use the same PH, DWG, FN, or TX designations to find specific document types.
  
5. To search the entire archive for material relating to a particular architectural feature or detail, enter a detail word or phrase in the Search Terms or Keywords field. Currently, an easily navigable index of the archive’s search terms is unavailable online. However, you may access a crude form by clicking on the archive’s Click & Search link to access the drop-down menus under the Search Terms Field. Or please contact our archivist Jon Hartman at [jon@historicpreservationtrust.org](mailto:jon@historicpreservationtrust.org) to receive a list of current search terms used in our archive records.



**Entering the search criteria as seen above will retrieve all photographic records of the Mouns Jones House**

Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County  
P.O. Box 245  
Douglassville, PA 19518

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Reading, PA  
Permit No. 730

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**The Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County**

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Douglassville, PA 19518

Phone: 610-385-4762

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**The Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County was organized on April 30, 1964 by a group of public spirited individuals under the leadership of Dr. Arthur D. Graeff, a well known teacher, newspaper columnist, and local historian. As an active member of the National Trust of Historic Preservation, the Berks County Trust initiated a survey of 180 local structures in order to identify, investigate, and evaluate their historical importance in relation to our larger American Heritage.**

**Today the all-volunteer membership of The Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County continues this important work. The Trust currently owns and maintains eight historically significant properties in Berks County.**

[www.historicpreservationtrust.org](http://www.historicpreservationtrust.org)