



NEWTOWN HISTORIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. BOX 303 - CENTRE AVENUE & COURT STREET - NEWTOWN PA 18940

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

December 3, 1988 was probably the nicest weather we have ever had for our Open House Day - temperatures were mild and the day was sunny. There were six private homes and five public buildings open and each was distinctive in architecture and decor.

Eleanor Janney and her committee did a terrific job of organization and implementation of the essentials of the Open House Tour. In addition, many of our members and their friends aided the homeowners, their families and friends worked as hosts and hostesses. Everyone involved deserves a vote of thanks and our heartfelt appreciation.

The paid attendance was 1454 and the net income was approximately \$13,000. After the bills incurred by the Open House - busing and printing being the largest - the remainder of the proceeds is used to meet our operating expenses (i.e. Court Inn utilities, research facilities, postage, maintenance etc.) any balance is placed in the general account for capital expense.

The Christmas Open House Tour, along with Market Day, supply the bulk of our budget needs (which is always tight).

RESTORATION AWARDS

Roger Cook, chairman of the restoration awards committee, announced that his committee would be making no awards this year. The committee feels that by waiting another year there will be a greater number of candidates to offer for the judges evaluation.

MANUSCRIPTS SOLICITED

Short manuscripts concerning Newtown area history are always welcome for this newsletter. Please call Fran Smith - 968-3519 or mail NHA, Box 303, Newtown, PA 18940.

SIDEWALK UPDATE

"If the Lord is willing and the creeks don't rise" work will begin on the sidewalk on Court St. from Centre Ave. to Mercer St. in March. According to Dave Callahan and Ernest Millard the present bricks will be removed and new bricks will be laid in cement. The sidewalk will be widened to match the Court St. block of Centre Ave. to Washington Ave. Four areas for tree planting will be provided. All wires, i.e. electric, telephone, cable TV, will be underground in this block. Our upcoming fund drive will feature the opportunity for you to contribute to the purchase of new bricks for this project.

MANSIONS ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI

MAY 3-7, 1989

The Newtown Historic Association presents Mansions Along the Mississippi a five day trip. Included is round trip air transportation, all ground transportation from Newtown and returning, four nights lodging, breakfast daily, lunch on three days and dinner on two. The trip will highlight the Mississippi River area's of Vicksburg and Natchez. Overnight accommodations and restaurants will reflect the ante bellum atmosphere of the area. Sightseeing with local professional guides and free time for napping or shopping is included. For information call Fran Smith - 968-3519.

WILLIAM PENN LANDING AT UPLANDS

A PAINTING BY EDWARD HICKS

NEWTOWN HISTORIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
NEWTOWN, BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The recent installation of Penn's swing tavern sign has brought to public view a unique two sided painting by the renowned local painter.

The one side shows William Penn's treaty with the Indians at the treaty elm site in Philadelphia. It is one of fourteen versions of the treaty that were painted by Hicks.

The other side shows the landing of William Penn at Uplands, now called Chester. in what was later called Chester County, Pennsylvania. This is the only painting known by Hicks that shows that scene.

In order to clarify the title the following information is developed:

William Penn arrived in the Delaware River in 1682. We quote from the book Friends' Library, Vol. 5, as published in 1841: Excerpts from page 170 - As he sailed up the river, the inhabitants, consisting of English, Dutch and Swedes met the proprietary, and manifested their satisfaction with his arrival. The town of New-Castle, where he first landed, was originally commenced and at the time of his landing principally occupied by the Dutch. It was first called Fort Cassimir, subsequently Delaware town, and finally designated by the name which it now bears. Having arranged his concerns at New Castle, he soon afterwards proceeded to Uplands. The name of this place was then changed to Chester in compliment to one of the companions of his voyage, who emigrated from Chester in England

This memo has been prepared by

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Great grandson of Thomas Pearson