The BULLETIN
of the
RADNOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume VI  2003  No.4

Incorporated April 30, 1948

Headquarters and Museum

THE FINLEY HOUSE
113 West Beech Tree Lane
Wayne, Pennsylvania 19087
Telephone: 610-688-2668
Visitors Cordially Welcome

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President's Letter

This is my first president’s letter. I took over the Society’s leadership from my mentor, J. Bennett Hill, in June of 2003. As with any new job, one begins with great enthusiasm and plans for many new goals. As you will see below, the seeds have been sown for some exciting new projects.

Our lovely grounds underwent significant tree pruning and removal. With all the tree damage caused by the hurricane in September, this was a prudent move. The azaleas and rhododendrons at the front of the Finley House have been cut back so that the view of the house from the lawn is quite dramatic. New signage has been added on Beech Tree indicating our hours, and a special tree was planted honoring our past president, Bennett Hill.

Part of the exterior was painted and this has really enhanced the appearance of our new roof.

We also began, or should I say re-started, our oral history program that originated in the mid 1970s with the videotaping of 101 year-old Larry Adelberger. Channel 21 taped the interview, and we have quite a few more people to do. This will be a very valuable resource, and with today’s technology these interviews will be put on DVDs for permanent storage. Hopefully, in the not too distant future, they will be viewable on our website.

In November we launched our website: HYPERLINK <http://www.radnorhistory.org>. Right now it is mostly basic information, but as time goes on we will be adding online research capabilities. To that end, Steve Pendergast, one of our board members, has been scanning
our photographic collection with the goal of making it available for online research. In the future, when the project is completed, visitors to the Finley House will not have to touch the original photos but will be able to view them on our new computer system and be able to make prints or download an image to a CD. This will be a great enhancement!

Along the same line, we have begun the long and tedious process of cataloging our collection. With our updated museum software, we are able to input a lot of data about each object, including a photograph. Again, this will be accessible online at some point, but more importantly, it gives us complete knowledge of our collection. We are also learning about our collection and have made some interesting discoveries!

Our programs this year have continued to explore local history. To facilitate some of the presentations, we purchased a slide projector and large screen. As in the past, we have hosted a number of school tours, always a rewarding event!

Our display at the Radnor Fall Festival was a smashing success. We had about a dozen old photo posters of Wayne scenes on easels, which could be seen from across the field. This attracted many viewers and we got several new members.

As with the end of any year there is always the beginning of a new one with new goals and dreams. The acquisition of our original carriage house is still a possibility; we would like to do a photographic inventory of Radnor (tomorrow's history!); perhaps air condition the building and...a dream...a new addition so we can display our collection better.

I would like to thank all of you for your continued support! Without it we would not have been able to accomplish what we did this past year. In addition, I would like to thank our very active board for managing the affairs of the Society and pitching in on many of our projects.

Ted Pollard, President
July 3, 2004
Historical Society 2003 Programs

February 11 - The Finley House - “Thomas Jefferson, the Later Years,” was the subject of an illustrated lecture by Mrs. Sally Spargo. Drawing on her extensive knowledge gleaned from ten years experience as a tour guide for Jefferson’s home, she reviewed his retirement years at the home he designed and named Monticello and spoke of the ingenious devices he invented to make his life at home more enjoyable.

March 11 - The Finley House - The St. Davids Gold Club’s history was presented by Mr. Peter Trenham, the Club’s golf pro since 1966 and a historian for the Philadelphia Section of the Professional Golfers Association of America. The Club, organized in 1897 as a golf driving range, grew over the decades to its present substantial course.

April 9 - The Saturday Club - Olde Inns Dinner was held at the Saturday Club, built in 1898. Members of the Club reviewed its long and fascinating history starting in providing educational instruction for young women to its present wide-ranging philanthropy.

May 4 - The Poplars - The Annual Meeting of the Society, was held at the home of Mrs. Harrison Therman, Wayne, PA. It was followed by “An Afternoon with Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln,” a presentation of their lives together, with its trials and tragedy, presented in costume by William and Sue Wills, impersonator-presenters.

September 28 - The Finley House - A Garden Party held to celebrate the completion of the traditional metal roof for the Finley House and to recognize the generous contribution by Township Commissioners towards its installation. A certificate of appreciation and recognition by the Society to the Commissioners was given to Township Commissioner Hank Mahoney.

October 21 - The Finley House - Theophilus P. Chandler, Main Line architect, was discussed by Joseph Kimmel who provided illustrations of Chandler’s many buildings on the Main Line and in Philadelphia. A survey of Chandler’s work and insights into his many important projects in The Philadelphia area was provided by William Bassett, who is preparing an exhibition of Chandler’s extensive work to be presented at the Athenaeum in 2005.

November 18 - The Finley House - Wharton Esherick, renowned Main Line artisan, was discussed by Mansfield Bascom, Curator of Esherick’s studio in Paoli. His extensive illustrations covered the wide range of Esherick’s award-winning furniture and his many sculptures.

December 21 - The Finley House - The North Wayne Protective Association held its annual Christmas Carol Sing at the Finley House. The House was open for guests and visitors and Christmas Cheer for the carolers.

December 28 - The Finley House - Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol was read in traditional style at the Finley House fireplace by Bennett Hill. Eggnog and Christmas delights were served to the guests.
“Thomas Jefferson, the Later Years,”

Brought to life by Mrs. Sally Spargo,
Veteran House Tour Guide for Monticello.

Jefferson, after authoring the Declaration of Independence, returned to Monticello to work on improving the legal statutes of Virginia which established its courts of law and public education. His outstanding work led to his being elected Governor of the State of Virginia, and eventually, President of the United States. After a public career of 40 years, he retired to Monticello to work on a system of common (public) schools for Virginia, the result of which became his crowning achievement, the University of Virginia.

Mrs. Spargo told of her insights into the life of Jefferson at his home based upon her wealth of knowledge gleaned from ten years of experience as a tour guide for one of the most famous homes in America. She illustrated her talk with photographs of the many fascinating pieces of furniture Jefferson designed and had made by his chief slave carpenter John Hemings.

The History of the St. Davids Golf Club

Mr. Peter Trenham, who began as a golf pro for the Club in 1966, and is now an honorary member, reviewed the long and colorful life of the St. Davids Golf Club. Organized in 1897, it began as a simple golf driving range.

The first golf club in the Philadelphia region was organized in 1893, and shortly thereafter golfers organized a club in Devon. The course was a simple triangle with a hole at each apex, the land now occupied by Waterloo Gardens.

William Peterson, Wayne resident and avid golf enthusiast, built a 9-hole course on his property. After a number of years and with a growing number of players, he and fellow Radnor golfers felt it was time to establish a professional-grade golf course. In 1898 at a meeting at his home, the assembled golfers asked Herman Wendell of the firm Wendell & Smith, builder of some 100 homes in Wayne, to design and build them a course.

As soon as the large private property on both sides of Lancaster Pike (now occupied by the Radnor Hotel, the Micro Center, and Genuardi's Market) became available for lease, a larger course was constructed; Encke Park is a remnant of it.

In June 1927, a 25-acre tract was purchased from the disbanded St. Luke's Church and the Club opened the course to the public as the Main Line Open Golf Club. A ladies contingent was organized in 1927.

In 1928, the Valley Forge Military Academy bought the Club's property. This substantially provided the funds to purchase the present acreage, the remainder of which was financed during the depression.

During WWII, to meet the restrictions of gas rationing, the Club provided horse and wagon service for golfers from the PRR Wayne Station. Since WWII, the Club has become a golfer's delight as well as a large open-space asset to the Radnor community that it is today.
Olde Inns Dinner - 2003

The 2003 Olde Inns Dinner was held February 11, at the Saturday Club, founded in 1886 as an educational organization for women. Their clubhouse, built in 1898, was designed to resemble Shakespeare’s home. It is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

Miss Ann L. Hyser surveyed the Club’s active history noting their early meetings covering literature, art, science, music, household matters, and geology of the countryside. In the early 1890s, member doctors gave lectures on home emergencies, nursing, and guidance for mothers. During 1912 to 1915 they conducted the first free kindergarten in Wayne.

During WWI, they entertained US Marines from the Navy Yard with canteen luncheons, and raised money for the service men, and by holding a vaudeville show to raise money to help French orphans. During the flu epidemic in 1918 they opened the Club as a small hospital with 50 beds, and as hospitals were overcrowded, the Club set up a large tent in front of the building for children with the flu and organized the townspeople to supply food for them.

During the 1930s the club prepared 70 volumes of 12 different books in Braille, and it has also donated money to the Royer-Greaves School for the Blind in Paoli.

Their Health and Welfare Committee helped out in emergencies like the fire at the Rush Hospital in Malvern.

Their drama group eventually became The Footlighters, and their singing group the Main Line Musical Coterie.

The Club organized band concerts, raised money for scholarships, and made available community Christmas trees, like the one at the corner of Walnut Avenue and North Wayne Aves.

After Pearl Harbor, they set up a 10-bed emergency hospital under the Red Cross, sold War Bonds, made dressings, knitted wool sweaters, caps and gloves, donated blood, and entertained enlisted men from Fort Dix with dinners and socials. They contributed to the Valley Forge Army Hospital, supplied books, radios, magazines, and furnished a waiting room for relatives of Valley Forge Hospital patients. The Health and Welfare Section collected 334 pounds of clothing for overseas relief.

The Senior Group sponsored a Greek girl named Dimetria, bought her school books, and provided money for a tonsillectomy; she wrote often of her progress.

Radnor High School class socials have been held at the Club, as have meetings of the League of Women Voters, the Girl Scouts, and church services. The Club formed a senior citizens group to provide recreation for the older residents of Wayne.

In the 1950s they entertained over 40 members of the United Nations and their families, and housed them in the homes of members and entertained them in conjunction with the League of Women Voters.

The Junior Group started the Peter Pan Nursery School in the 1960s for retarded children for early education and to get used to other children. The nursery was held at the nearby Methodist Church, and filled a desperate need for mothers who needed free mornings. The nursery was headed by an accredited teacher and continued until accredited schools were established.

They have supported scholarships to nursing students, the Royer-Greaves School, Melmark School, Paoli Hospital when it first opened, and the Hospital Ship HOPE for which they supplied money for the curtains for all the port holes. They gave money to restore the base of the Statue of Liberty.

Their present interest is to provide financial support to women with breast cancer, to support MOMS (single mothers), and to make healthy bag lunches for children in downtown Philadelphia schools.
The Saturday Club now has some 125 members. In the 1880s the Club met on Saturdays, but in 1884 members started to meet on Tuesdays with an evening group for about 30 working members. There is a junior group (ages 17 to 23), a group 23 to 40, and a senior group.

The main fund-raiser has been the Main Line Classic Cookbook, an national award winner. They are now raising money for restoration of the Club building.

The Annual Meeting of the Society- 2003

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held Sunday afternoon, May 4, at “The Poplars,” the home of Mrs. Harrison Therrman. Following the protocol required by the Society’s Annual Meeting, “An Afternoon with Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln,” was presented in costume by William and Sue Wills, impersonator-presenters.

Dressed in clothes of the times, the Willses presented the story of the early lives of Lincoln and Mary from their first meeting at the home of a co-campaigner of Lincoln in 1839, to their marriage on November 4, 1842.

The Willses then pursued the steps by which Lincoln entered politics and became a significant political figure in Illinois, setting the stage for his eventual entry into the national scene which led to the Presidency. They highlighted the traumatic difficulties Lincoln experienced with his Commanding Generals and their conduct of the Civil War.

Sue Wills described the heart-rending anguish that Mary Lincoln endured with the deaths of her sons, and then her complete collapse with the assassination of her husband. Sue carried the tragic story through Mary’s lonely trials until the close of her life.
Garden Party Celebration  
Sunday, 28 September, 4-6 p.m.

A Garden Party was held Sunday September 28, 4 p.m, to celebrate the installation of a standing seam metal roof on the Finley House. A major responsibility of the Society is to keep the house and its collections in prime condition and when replacement of the roof was required, both the historic and long-life solution indicated an expensive standing seam metal roof. To aid in this project the Township Commissioners generously agreed to contribute to the installation. This substantial roof provides the Society with long term protection of both the house and its collection of Radnor’s history.

The ceremony to thank the Radnor Township Commissioners was highlighted by the presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation to Hank Mahoney, who represented the Radnor Commissioners, in appreciation of their substantial contribution toward the new roof.

Radnor residents joined Society members to celebrate the event. Music was provided by the Radnor High School Jazz Ensemble. The Society's newly restored Conestoga Wagon was rolled out for exhibition.

Theophilus P. Chandler, Main Line Architect

Joseph Kimmel, and management consultant and past Radnor 4th Ward Commissioner, resides in a home that encompasses Theophilus Chandler’s former studio located on Chandler Lane, Wayne. Kimmel summarized Chandler’s work, presenting over 40 illustrations of the buildings, homes, and churches designed by Chandler that still exist on the Main Line and in downtown Philadelphia. Kimmel described the significance of Chandler’s work to modern architecture.

William Bassett, architectural historian and graduate of MIT School of Architecture, described his research on the collection of Chandler’s memorabilia in the Athenaum, Philadelphia. This collection includes over 1000 pieces of his correspondence, photographs, and books. Bassett described his preparations for the T.P. Chandler Exhibition to be presented at the Athenaeum in 2005.

Theophilus P. Chandler, Jr. (1845-1928), professional architect, became the first director of the School of Architecture at University of Pennsylvania in 1891. He developed the school into the finest architectural school in the U.S. whose graduates completed some of the most prominent commissions of his era. With some 24 architects in his office, Chandler exerted a significant influence on his profession.

Although Chandler’s style was eclectic, much of his work emphasized gothic revival, with some classical revival as well. An interesting departure was The Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Company building south of Independence Hall done in Egyptian style (though most of the building was torn down, one side still stands). The range of his work was significant, including six office buildings in Philadelphia, five stations for the Philadelphia Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad, private homes in Merion and Radnor, including that for Lincoln Godfrey (now the Notre Dame Academy) (see: Morrison’s Book on Main Line Houses), and structures for the Philadelphia Zoo.
Chandler’s churches include the Tabernacle Presbyterian Church, 37th Street and Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, the Swedenborgian Church at 22nd and Chestnut Streets (now converted into an office building), St Asaph’s Church, Bala Cynwyd (patterned after St. Asaph’s in Wales), and Christ Church on Conestoga Road, Ithan. Christ Church is an appealing realization of an English parish church and was Chandler’s personal project. It was built on his property at his own expense so as to be unfettered in its realization exactly the way he envisioned it. It was completed in 1919 and has many interesting features including simplified interior columns which provide the visitor a direct and powerful impression. The building is one of Chandler’s finest, and its white limestone construction sets it apart from other local churches mostly built of local dark Wissahickon schist.

Theophilus Chandler’s English Chapel, Ithan

Wharton Esherick, Studio Furniture Craftsman

Mansfield Bascom, Curator of the Wharton Esherick Studio in Paoli, presented an illustrated guide through the delights of Esherick’s personal and practical living space.

Wharton Esherick was probably the leading furniture designer of the 20th century, but few people really knew of him because he made almost all his furniture on commission. They were one of a kind pieces, made to order, and mostly for private collections.

When he started work, Esherick’s style was very much his own. He left the Academy of the Fine Arts in 1910 to move out into the country near Paoli, first as a painter during the days of impressionism when painters were leaving their studios for the great out-of-doors. Desiring organic food, the Esherick’s farmed their property to be at least partially self sufficient. It was here in 1920 that he began to use the wood found on his property to carve natural appearing frames for his paintings; this led to wood cuts, then to designing and building furniture.

Being a sculptor, he built his own studio, really a habitable sculpture. It took him 40 years to do just about everything except the light bulbs. Following WWII, a number of returning soldiers turned to wood-working and they were schooled under the GI Bill to learn furniture making in Esherick’s studio. Though Esherick held no formal classes, he influenced their furniture designs. Thus Esherick became the virtual godfather of the present trend of custom made studio furniture.

Esherick’s cleverly designed music stand is displayed at the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art. A number of his pieces are on display at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, which acquired his entire music room from an estate in Gulph Mills. The Art Museum plans to reproduce this room with its original fireplace and doorway. A plaster-stucco mold was made of the music room’s curvilinear wall so as to be able to reproduce the room in its entirety. It will include all his furniture pieces now exhibited in the museum and be a premier example of the “Studio Furniture” period.
Esherick's Studio, now open to the public, was actually his living space. It contains over 200 fascinating pieces of his work, plus many of his wood cuts and paintings with unique frames, his desk, tables, chairs, etc, all fascinating, all in designs unlike anything ever seen before -- his sculptured shapes are very organic, all in flowing lines as in nature.

Esherick's decorative wood cuts illustrate pieces of his life: sledding down Diamond Rock hill, waves crashing on a rocky shore, Theodore Dreiser working in his studio, an old octagonal school house, and people at the Academy of Music.

Wharton Esherick's Studio in Paoli is now a National Historic Landmark for Architecture. It provides the public with the delights of his genius in making living spaces fascinating and as well as practical.

An Evening with Charles Dickens

Continuing a tradition that extends into early times in England, Bennett Hill, Past President of the Radnor Historical Society, read an abridged version of the beloved *A Christmas Carol*, by Charles Dickens, on December 28.

Mr. Hill read the Christmas tale seated next to the Finley House's early fireplace surrounded by holiday season decorations with the Society's Christmas Tree trimmed and lit for the occasion. Parents brought their children to hear a retelling of this wonderful story to be enjoyed by young and old alike.

Refreshments typical of the time were served during a social intermission.

Mr. Hill reading Charles Dicken's *A Christmas Carol*
Wayne Elementary School Visits
The Finley House
by Bennett Hill

On April 26, 2004, the Finley House was visited by 104 third-grade students from the Wayne Elementary School. This visit has been an annual event for a number of years begun by Mary Jane Schrader, who then had the children walk over from South Wayne Avenue.

This year they arrived in three successive bus loads. After each load was welcomed the students were divided into four groups, one to see the Conestoga Wagon, one the 1789 Kitchen, one the Victorian Bed Chamber, and the last to the Parlors. Each Finley House “station” had a volunteer guide from the Society to point out and discuss items of interest, and the students had “scavenger hunt” lists to complete. Since each bus load had only one hour to complete the course, the pace was fast, but everyone had a good time, and all learned a lot. We look forward to next year’s visit, and would like the other two Radnor elementary schools to visit us too.

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Holiday Window at the Radnor Memorial Library

For the 2003 Winter Holiday, the Radnor Historical Society was asked to present a display in the three display windows in the Radnor Memorial Library. In the first of the three windows, a wide variety of early and recent holiday toys were displayed ranging from an antique Noah’s Ark to old toy trains.

The second window featured the evergreen tree to symbolize the successful struggle of nature through adverse conditions. It was decorated with nuts and berries to provide aid to birds and animals who remained in the region despite the cold and snow.

The third was devoted to the long tradition of holiday greeting cards; these were drawn and published by Carol Creutzburg, long time Wayne resident.

Carol’s artistry was amply displayed in a selection of her “Washington Arch Cards” which she drew as pen and ink scenes of New York City and Greenwich Village. These drawings were printed in various designs and colors as greeting cards. Although she did all of her greeting card production in New York City, Carol grew up in Radnor.

Following her return to Radnor, Carol wrote and illustrated articles for the Suburban & Wayne Times, and for many years was an active member of the Radnor Historical Society, serving as Vice President from 1991 to 2001. Her father started the Main Line School Night in 1937, and Radnor’s Creutzburg Center on Gulph Creek Road is named in his honor.
The Victorian Bed Chamber
by Bennett Hill

Mr. William H. Finley bought the house at 113 West Beech Tree Lane from Drexel and Childs in 1887, having rented it as a summer retreat for two seasons previously. The following year he added to the house, using stone from the old barn, which he demolished. With this addition, on the northern side of the house, he almost doubled its size.

The original house, built by Captain John Pugh in 1789\(^1\), followed a typical vernacular double-pile, side passage plan of the late eighteenth century:

In these dwellings, the passage runs the full depth of the house, and the stair occupies half the depth. Two ground-floor rooms, often of equal size, are situated to one side of the passage. On the second floor the passage often occupied only the side of the rear room, with the front chamber taking up the full breadth of the house\(^2\).

It is this front chamber which today is furnished as the Society’s Victorian Bed Chamber.

The core of the furnishings in this room is a set of bedroom furniture given to the Society in 1970 by Gertrude Ware Case. This set is believed to have been made in Philadelphia in 1840. The pieces, consisting of a “sleigh” bedstead, a chest of drawers, a washstand (both with marble tops), a wardrobe, a small table, and three cane-seated side chairs, exactly match those described by Andrew Jackson Downing (The Architecture of Country Houses, 1850) as “Simple French furniture, in the . . . plain, modern, classical taste.” He explains:

The high, four-post bedstead, with curtains, still common in England, is almost entirely laid aside in the United States, for the French bedstead, low, and without curtains. Indeed, for the majority of country houses, of the first class, we prefer...

Captain John Pugh died in 1834, and his son, John Pugh III, inherited the property. He died intestate in 1842, and the property was sold several times before it was bought by Drexel and Childs in 1880, presumably for demolition and subdivision. Fortunately the Finleys saved it.

At some point, we do not know when, part of the front chamber was cut off to install a bathroom. What is left now reflects the period of John Pugh III’s short occupation: rural Radnor, before the Civil War. Its architectural features – the windows and the mantel – are of this style. But we must imagine the room as half again as large, with three windows across the front, full of light and air.

The Victorian Bed Chamber is the middle step in the progression of the house from farmhouse to suburban home. We are grateful to the Finleys for preserving the house, and for entrusting it to us.

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1 For the documented history of the property, see: Katherine Hewitt Cummin, A Rare and Pleasing Thing: Radnor, Owlswick Press (1977), pp 114 - 118. Cummin questions the 1789 date for the building of the Finley house.


3 Andrew Jackson Downing, The Architecture of Country Houses, 1850, Dover Publications, Inc. (1969), pp 417, 431; Downing, like Currier & Ives, and John Rogers, popularized American style and taste for the rising middle class in the years before the Civil War. The cost of a set of bedroom furniture comparable to this would have been about $200 (pp. 416, 418).

4 Roberta Manecker, Every Schoolgirl’s Story, Art & Antiques, July 1997, p. 84.

painted cottage furniture to the more elaborate and expensive designs carved in expensive woods.

The Society’s set is made of pine, painted with floral motifs and gilt trim on a black ground. The paint appears to be original; one of the chair seats has been re-caned.

Over the years we have added to the furnishings of this room objects which are appropriate to country living in the first half of the nineteenth century. Among these are two samplers: one, over the fireplace, sewn by Mary McClees, at the Radnor School, in 1813; the other, over the bed, unsigned, dated 1833. Samplers, done by American girls in the 18th and 19th centuries, displayed “alphabets, numerals, and perhaps a short pious verse, thought to instill virtues and morals along with skill at the ubiquitous cross-stitch.”

Other items of interest include a pair of brass andirons, a brass-rimmed wire fireplace fender, and a pierced brass bed-warmer, in which one placed hot coals and passed it between the bed sheets to take the chill off on a cold winter night. On the walls are three prints, two by Currier & Ives, showing fashionable middle-class styles of the period.

The sea shells on the mantel, although not themselves “of the period”, reflect the mid-19th century “shell mania” of those who visited the shore for holidays, and brought home souvenirs of their visit for remembrance and for show.

The hooked rugs on the floor, and the quilts on the bed (one for summer and one for winter) remind us of our ancestors’ thrift and industry: “Use it up, wear it out; Make it do, or do without.”
Gifts to the Radnor Historical Society, 2003

Coin silver tablespoon, coin silver dessert spoon (all marked R & W Wilson) – Joan Baer
Pair of silver sugar tongs, marked H. Porter & Co. – Joan Baer
Coin silver salt spoon, marked A. T. Prentice – Joan Baer
Set of six coin silver teaspoons, marked J. W. Cortelyou – Joan Baer
Suburban & Wayne Times 11/28/63 (Kennedy’s Assassination) – Lynn Ellis
Edison Diamond record – Lynn Ellis
“Mayflower” pattern white/floral milk pitcher – Lynn Ellis
War ration pouch (red) with coupons & tokens (Emma Hepler) – Lynn Ellis
Baby’s Cradle, 19th Century - Liz Noble
Radnor HS vs Springfield basketball program 3/9/61 – Ted Pollard
St. Luke’s School play program (“Uncle Caleb’s Will”) 2/13/04 – Ted Pollard
More Than Knowledge (Eastern College) by John Baird – Ted Pollard
Ashtray from A. Hansberry, jeweler – Ted Pollard
Photo (4x6) of Minella’s diner (pre-demolition) – Ted Pollard
Lewis Walker genealogy papers – Anne Walters
Christmas card “Mary Tell James” – Wayne, PA – Ted Pollard
1964 Boy Scout Jamboree insert from the Suburban & Wayne Times – Ted Pollard

St. Luke’s School ad – 9/03 – Ted Pollard
Old St. Davids Church (1842) engraving – Ted Pollard
Radnor United Methodist postcard – Ted Pollard
St. Davids Golf Club membership directory, 1979 – Ted Pollard
Johns Manville ad for house on Louella Avenue – Ted Pollard
Country Life ad for Lord & Burnham Greenhouses on the Walton estate – Ted Pollard
St. Luke’s School yearbook 1909-10 – Ted Pollard
17 postcards of Wayne & St. Davids – Steve Pendergast
May 1921 Country Life ad for “Thornhedge” – Ted Pollard
Third-rail insulator from the Strafford Branch of the P&W railroad – Greg Pritchard
1994 yearbook & commencement program – Hilltop Preparatory School – Tim Short
16 Anthony Wayne movie theater weekly listings programs (1937) - Surrey Services for Seniors
Cabinet card photo of Henry Martin (Martin's Dam), poem "Ode to the Flute" by Henry Martin, Wayne Lyceum commencement article (3/7/1871), 3 photos and 3 newspaper articles about the Radnor First Baptist church – Nina Peterman.
Since 1891, the WPSA has been dedicated to maintaining the quality of living in the South Wayne Neighborhood. In supporting the Radnor Historical Society, the WPSA has sought to extend these aims by helping preserve the historical interests of our part of the world.

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Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Dewey
Roy Perry
Barbara Kraus-Blackney and Kevin Blackney
Diana Barringer
Mary Meeker
Mr. and Mrs. John Toebe
Mrs. William Dewitt
Peggy and Chuck Conrad
Volunteers - House Sitters 2003

The following members of the Society have given of their time and provide their knowledge of the Society's collections to the public during the open periods of the Finley House on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons during the year:

Lavalette Boles
Betty Rowland
Maxine Brennan
Nancy Fischer
Judy Bloomgarden
Beatrice and Bill Lord
Samuel and Mary Jane Etris
Bennett and Patricia Hill
Dorothy Therman
John Dale
Lorie Greeley
Lois Mamourian
Cyrus Sharer
George Smith
Anita Walker
Sally Spargo
Nancy Kneeland
Brian Noll
Cathy Siple
James Garrison
Steve Pendergast
Peter Thomson
Susan DiMeo
Edward Pollard
The Radnor Historical Society
Mission Statement

The purpose and mission of the Radnor Historical Society shall be:
1. to develop, maintain, and preserve a permanent collection of manuscript, printed, and iconographic records pertaining to the history of "Radnor Township and its immediate environs;"
2. to provide library facilities for the interpretation of the collections and for the purposes of research.
3. to collect, maintain, and preserve and exhibit artifacts from the Township's past, and to provide access to them for visitors.
4. to maintain a historic house museum, and any auxiliary buildings and grounds, for the purposes of education and for any meetings or other events desired and/or approved by the Board of Directors.
5. to provide a regularly scheduled program of speakers on topical subjects, and to make this program available to the community as well as to the membership of the society.
6. to support a publications program, through various media, including a regularly issued Bulletin, devoted to the study of Radnor Township and other relevant subjects.
7. to collaborate with local schools and colleges, and especially with the Radnor Township schools, on programs of education pertaining to the history of Radnor Township and its environs.
8. to cooperate with other historical and community organizations in support of programs undertaken for the purposes of historic preservation, conservation, and education, as the Board of Directors may deem appropriate.

Approved: 4 April 1994
LOANS TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS

The Radnor Historical Society has loaned a musket and powderhorn to Historic Waynesborough. A schoolmaster's desk is on loan to Old Eagle School. Perhaps the most significant loan is of 722 architectural drawings and associated Wendell and Smith manuscripts to The Athenaeum of Philadelphia. The drawings represent the work of more than 30 architects, including David K. Boyd (1872-1944), Joseph Huston (1866-1940), William L. Price (1861-1916), and Horace Trumbauer (1868-1938). This collection is particularly helpful to researchers who are interested in the development of Wayne. The cataloging records are available at www.PhilaAthenaeum.org.

To apply for membership in the Radnor Historical Society visit or write the Society at

The Finley House
113 West Beech Tree Lane
Wayne, Pennsylvania 19087

or call
(610) 688-2668

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