

# Chapter 8: Historic Resources Inventory

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## INTRODUCTION

Much of the Northern Federation Region's character comes from its enduring history. The Region contains many historic resources which have retained their historic integrity and date back centuries to when Europeans initially settled the area. The history and past development patterns of the Region have defined, in part, current land use patterns, the road system, economics, various points of interest, and they provide an identity of place for those living and working in the Region. Historic preservation is an important element in the planning process because it ensures the legacy of the Region's history for the present and into the future.

This chapter includes an overview of the Region's history and architecture as it relates to community planning as well as an overview of what constitutes an historic resource. Next, the legal basis for historic preservation is presented and preservation programs, activities, and techniques are discussed within the context of that legal framework on the federal, state, and local levels. Activities in both the public and private sector are reviewed, along with any related regional education activities, and an overview of potential financial resources is given. Finally, historic resources that have been documented to date in the Region are outlined in order to give the Northern Federation an overview of the types of resources that exist and the extent to which they have been documented.

## ORGANIZATION OF CHAPTER

The inventory included in this Chapter is organized as follows:

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE	page 8-2
WHAT CONSTITUTES AN HISTORIC RESOURCE?	page 8-5
National Register Listed or Eligible Sites and Districts Summary	page 8-6
Summary of Historic Resources Surveys	page 8-6
LEGAL FOUNDATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAMS	page 8-9
Federal Level	page 8-9
State Level	page 8-15
Local Level	page 8-19
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR COOPERATION AND ACTIVITIES	page 8-33
Public Sector	page 8-33
Private Sector	page 8-33
COMMUNITY EDUCATION	page 8-34
State Historic Preservation Plan	page 8-34
Regional education Efforts	page 8-35
FINANCIAL RESOURCES	page 8-36
Public Funding Sources	page 8-36
Private Funding Sources	page 8-38
DOCUMENTATION OF HISTORIC RESOURCES IN THE REGION	page 8-39
National Register Listed or Eligible Sites and Districts	page 8-39
Chester County Historic Sites Survey/Historic GIS Atlas	page 8-43
Information from Municipal Plans	page 8-46
CONCLUSION	page 8-52

## HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

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Chester County is one of the three original Pennsylvania colony counties established by William Penn in October 1682. During the 18<sup>th</sup> century, sections of the County were subdivided to create Lancaster County to the west, Berks County to the north and Delaware County to the east. Located in the Mid-Atlantic Region, professional historians have recognized that Chester County has one of the best collections of historic resources, over 50,000, spanning more than three centuries.

In the 1970s, several municipalities (Warwick, South Coventry, East Vincent, West Vincent, and East Pikeland Townships) formed a coalition known as the Federation of Northern Chester County Communities. Their heritage story is just as fascinating as the landscape of extant historic resources.

The collection of diversified natural resources influenced the composition of what would become the man-made historic landscape of residential, commercial, transportation, industrial and agricultural resources. The Schuylkill River watershed supported the extensive stands of hardwoods in northern Chester County. Geologically, red sandstone, limestone, and iron ore became building blocks for the local economy. Elsewhere in the County, a limestone lode, one to three miles wide and 600 to 800 feet deep, dominated the middle section between what later became Paoli and Coatesville. Kaolin and clay were prominent natural resources in the southern part of the County.

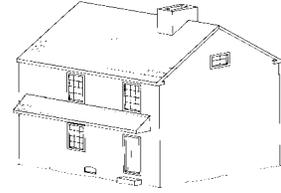
Although archaeological artifacts have identified human habitation during the Archaic and Woodland Periods, later evidence also documents the Lenni Lenape Indians residing in the area before and during the European contact period. Native Americans used two prominent routes that settlers later converted to cartways: French Creek Path (Phoenixville to Conestoga Indian Town) and Blue Rock Path (Phoenixville to Washington Borough). Wallace Township owns the only documented Chester County Native American burial ground.

Article IX in the 1681 land charter issued to William Penn from King Charles II to pay off a debt owed to Penn's father, Sir Admiral Penn, gave William the right to keep 10,000 acres out of every 100,000 acres for his own personal use. These tracts were to be organized as Manors, of which Springton Manor, 8,313 acres, is the largest in Chester County. In 1701 Penn authorized it to be surveyed along the Brandywine in central Chester County. It was moved and surveyed to what is now Wallace Township after Penn died.

On the Schuylkill River, fur traders Peter Bezellion, born in Canada in 1662 of French parentage, and Jacques LeTort joined Captain John Dubois to establish a fur trading post in the 1690s. Bezellion's knowledge about the customs of about forty Native American tribes served the trio well in their commercial endeavor to the dislike of the immigrants shortly after their arrival to the New World.

During the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Chester County was dominantly agrarian. English, Welsh, Swiss, and Swiss-German immigrants disembarked at the Philadelphia dock to pursue a better life in the New World. Probably traveling by foot or hiring a boat to take them up the Schuylkill River, they were known as 'squatters' as they sought vacant land upon which to settle. Each farmer paid several taxes, cleared the land, and built a log house. In time, the immigrants obtained warrants from the Surveyor General to have their plantations of 100 to 300 acres surveyed. After the Deputy Surveyors filed survey returns in Philadelphia, the heads of the households were able to

obtain the properties fee simple from the Penn family with Land Patents. Thereafter, deeds were drafted when property ownerships changed. Homes were constructed in the German Colonial, English Colonial, or Penn Plan architectural traditions. By the 1850s stone edifices supplanted the earlier log abodes.



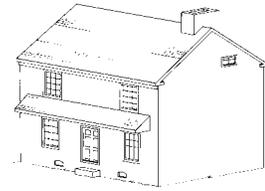
**German Colonial**

However, in some sections of northern Chester County other land ownership arrangements occurred. Dr. Daniel Coxe, Sir Mathias Vincent, and Major Robert Thompson formed a land company. Vincent died shortly thereafter and his 10,000 acres was confirmed by William Penn to Joseph Pike, which later became East and West Pikeland Townships. Dr. Coxe put 20,000 acres under the jurisdiction of the West New Jersey Society. This area later became East and West Vincent Townships. The title for the 20,000 acres was encumbered in the courts for one hundred years by Thomas Penn and his family until 1792.



**Penn Plan**

The English quickly recognized the value of the local natural resources: abundant water, iron ore, limestone, and stands of hardwood. In 1717, Samuel Nutt, a native of Coventry in Warwickshire, England, constructed Coventry Forge on French Creek, also known as St. Vincent's River – this was the 1<sup>st</sup> forge in Chester County. Although no longer standing, the site is marked in Warwick County Park. Within several decades this initial industrial initiative influenced the proliferation of iron furnaces and forges in the French Creek Valley: Reading, Warwick, Rebecca, and Vincent, the cradle of Chester County's 18<sup>th</sup> century iron industry. The Reading and Warwick Furnaces production was equal to any furnaces of their time in England and Sweden.



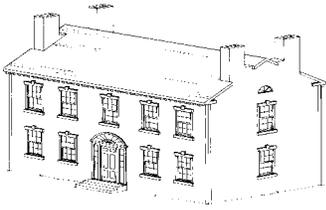
**English Colonial**

Later, Springton Forge (1766) and Hopewell Furnace (1770), located on the Brandywine Creek and French Creek respectfully, joined the iron industrial landscape. During the Revolutionary War, Reading and Warwick Furnaces produced cannons, etc. for the patriotic cause. Pennsylvania furnaces continued to operate during the Revolutionary War while the operation of furnaces financed by European funding stopped as soon as the war began.

Six percent of land was authorized in every deed to be set aside for cartways. Local citizens filed a petition with the County Clerk of Quarter Sessions for a County Court to layout a cartway "to mill, to meeting, to market." As examples, Samuel Nutt, the Coventry ironmaster, built what is now Route 23 to transport iron. Route 113 was surveyed from Jacob's Ford (Phoenixville) to Yellow Springs and unto the Red Lion (Lionville) and southwesterly to Downingtown.

Earlier in the century, Scots and Scots-Irish disembarked at New Castle, Delaware between 1725 and 1739, and walked north on the Nanticoke Indian Trail, now Route 10, to find vacant land upon which they could settle. They squatted on vacant land only to realize they were trying to claim portions of Springton Manor. An engaged dialogue ensued between the Deputy Surveyors, the Penn Proprietary government, and the thirty-one families. They received their land patents only after the Penns and the colonial government became more involved with the British during the latter part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

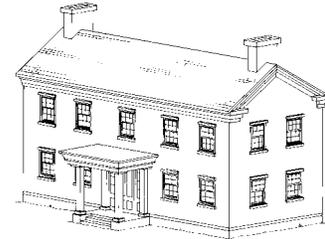
In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, iron continued to support northern Chester County's economy along with agriculture, especially gristmills. The increased demand for goods and services required the



**Federal**

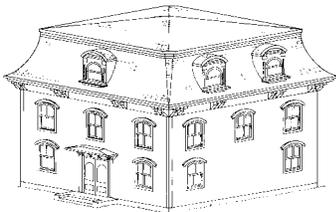
talents of artisan shops: blacksmiths, wheelwrights, saddlers, and cobblers. Crossroad hamlets expanded into villages, such as Coventryville, Kimberton, and Glenmoore, while others subsequently became commercial town centers. Larger, more diversified mills, including the textile industry, attracted more ethnic groups arriving from Europe. The Schuylkill Canal created a sub-economy at Pottstown Landing, Parker Ford, and Laurel Locks.

Shortly after the Civil War, the agrarian society began to change. Farmers realized they could turn a better profit by processing the agricultural production and shipping the end products on the various railroads that began to dot the countryside. They also organized local creameries to make the process more efficient. By 1880, most of the rural landscapes were dairy farms that sold huge quantities of butter, cheese, eggs, and poultry to the Philadelphia and Wilmington markets.



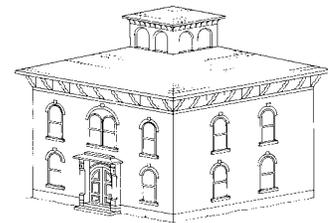
**Greek Revival**

Despite the economic downturns in the 1830s, 1840s, 1860s and 1870s, families in northern Chester County were able to build residences that interpreted various architectural styles: Federal, Greek Revival, Second Empire, Queen Anne Revival, Italianate, and Gothic Revival (the renderings of these styles are shown on this and the previous two pages). Using the red sandstone from the French Creek cliffs or the hilly terrain along the Schuylkill River, the new homes were either added to or replaced the residences constructed by earlier generations.



**Second Empire**

Other than the heyday of the 1920s when Sears Roebuck and Company, Chicago, shipped pre-fabricated houses to the area, overall, the early 20<sup>th</sup> century local economy was shaken by World War I and II and the Great Depression. However, the wartime economy between 1941 and 1945 actually enhanced the production at the Phoenix Iron and Steel Company.



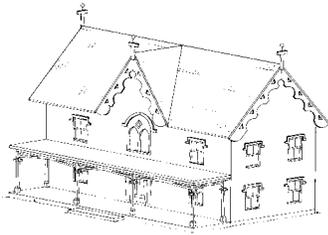
**Italianate**



**Queen Anne Revival**

After the war, returning to a peacetime economy in the 1950s brought its own challenges. Gradually, locally owned companies, administered by descendants of the founding families, were purchased by corporate conglomerates who didn't have any social connections or interests in the local community. The following decade was punctuated by several changes. New housing developments and loss of historic resources accelerated awareness and the need to obtain balance between the manmade and natural environments. The French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust was established; one-by-one municipalities adopted Zoning Ordinances followed by authorizations to create Historical Commissions. Wallace Township is the oldest Historical Commission in the Northern Federation having been organized in 1975.

Today, the Northern Federation communities are actively involved in maintaining a sense of place and at the same time enhancing their respective contributions to Chester County's heritage. Many of them participated in the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Revolutionary War in



**Gothic Revival**

Chester County, the Town Tours and Village Walks, an annual guided walking tour program of our historic village and towns, and the Schuylkill River State and Federal Heritage Region, including the iron and steel heritage initiative.

Northern Chester County's landscape is in constant change; but, through the efforts of its citizens and volunteer initiatives, there are still vestiges from the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries that interpret its local character and heritage.

Much of the northern Chester County landscape is, surprisingly, little changed from the earliest settlers. The river, creeks, streams, and rills still flow, in some cases in pristine condition and in some places in bucolic settings. The rolling hills with wooded slopes and occasional startling view sheds can sometimes still provide 21<sup>st</sup> century residents with vistas which would have been familiar centuries ago. Winding country roads continue to crisscross the countryside past still productive farmland and, for the observant traveler, past the remains of very old furnaces and forges, past houses, barns, and other structures which measure their age in centuries and through villages that still remind one of life in another time. These, as a whole, are the historic resources of northern Chester County.<sup>1</sup>

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## WHAT CONSTITUTES AN HISTORIC RESOURCE?

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The physical evidence of a Region's historical and cultural development is contained within its historic resources. These resources are not limited to architecturally significant buildings, but include all types of resources and collectively are considered to be those buildings, sites, districts, objects, or structures evaluated as historically significant. The National Park Service (NPS), the federal agency that administers several historic preservation programs, including the National Register of Historic Places, generally defines historic resource categories as follows:

- Building: A house, barn, church, hotel, or similar construction created principally to shelter any form of human activity.
- Site: The location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined or vanished, where the location itself possesses historic, cultural or archaeological value.
- Structure: A building used for purposes other than sheltering human activity.
- Object: A form of simple construction that is primarily artistic in nature and relatively small in scale. It may be movable, but is generally associated with a specific setting or environment.
- District: A significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of site, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development.

A comprehensive historic preservation program begins with the identification and evaluation of historic resources. Once the Northern Federation identifies its historic resources, it can implement actions or strategies to protect them. It is important to remember, however, that

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<sup>1</sup> Jane L. S. Davidson, County Heritage Preservation Coordinator, with contributions by Estelle Cremers, Historian, and Joe St. Georges, taskforce member.

historic resources change over time, and depending on the type and degree of the change, the change should be respected as part of the natural evolution. Documentation of historic resources in the Region to date is listed at the end of this chapter.

#### National Park Service Bulletins

The National Park Service has developed the following service bulletins that should be consulted by the municipalities of the Region: *Researching a Historic Property* (bulletin #39) and *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (bulletin #15). The latter bulletin serves as a guide in determining whether a property qualifies for National Register listing; even if a property does not appear to qualify for National Register listing, the types of criteria included in bulletin #15 can be used as general guidelines to be applied on a regional or municipal level for historic resources of locally-oriented significance. Bulletins are available at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins.htm>.

### NATIONAL REGISTER LISTED OR ELIGIBLE SITES AND DISTRICTS SUMMARY

All the municipalities in the Region have properties eligible for and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Figure 8-3 (at the end of this chapter) is an October 2003 inventory of these sites from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's (PHMC) website which has been updated by the Northern Federation through January 2005. Properties listed on the Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture, as furthered described under the *National Register of Historic Places* section later in this Inventory.

### SUMMARY OF HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEYS

In their publication *Guidelines of Local Surveys: A Process for Preservation Planning*, the NPS defines a survey as a "process of identifying and gathering data on a community's historic resources." Surveys are necessary for most local preservation efforts as they provide for the systematic collection and organization of information on historic resources.

#### CHESTER COUNTY HISTORIC SITES SURVEY (CCHSS)

The Chester County Historic Site Survey was conducted in communities throughout the County between 1979 and 1982. All municipalities in the Region took part in this survey. The CCHSS of communities could be considered a "preliminary" or "reconnaissance" survey as it gathered general information on the location, type, and condition of historic resources providing each community with a list of historic sites (with a focus on residential properties) and basic information about those sites. Information from the CCHSS for the communities in the Region is provided in existing municipal plans. Sites documented in the CCHSS are on file at the Chester County Historical Society, Chester County Parks and Recreation Department, as well as on file at some municipal buildings. Many municipalities in Chester County have updated the CCHSS for their community (see below under *Municipal Historic Resource Surveys*).

### CHESTER COUNTY GIS HISTORIC RESOURCES ATLAS (GIS Atlas)

Begun in mid-2004, a County-wide effort is underway between the Chester County Parks and Recreation Department and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Department in partnership with the Chester County Historic Preservation Network and the municipalities in the County to create a Chester County GIS Historic Resources Atlas.<sup>2</sup> This Atlas essentially serves as an update and digital version of the CCHSS. Some of the same participants for the original CCHSS are leaders in this initiative.

In undertaking this project, four orientation meetings to describe the project, solicit local support and input, and ask for volunteers were held for municipalities; the meeting for municipalities in the Region occurred as part of the Northern Federation's regular September 2004 meeting. Items discussed during the meeting included: (1) the status of the CCHSS (1979-1982); (2) the GIS Atlas display of historic resources 50 years or older; (3) field-checking of historic resources prior to inclusion in the GIS Atlas; (4) tax maps being provided for municipal volunteer draft historic resource mapping; and (5) data from draft mapping being digitized/produced by the GIS Atlas by Chester County GIS staff.

It is anticipated that this project will take several years to complete county-wide. Structures from 1956 or earlier are generally being considered as per the 50 year or older federal and state historic resource designation policy established under the NHPA. All of the communities in the Region are participating in this project.

### MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEYS

Although often referred to as 'local/ municipal historic resources surveys/inventories', most of these local surveys are closely based on *or* actually are the CCHSS for that individual municipality. As of late 2004, all of the municipalities in the Region are participating in the GIS Atlas project to supplement or update their local surveys, however some municipalities have already also undergone efforts to update their municipal historic resources surveys. This update process generally should include resource mapping by tax parcel, photographing, and recording brief histories of the resources/owners. Following is a brief synopsis as of late 2004 as to where each municipality in the Region stands in the process of updating their survey<sup>3</sup>:

#### East Coventry Township:

- In 1981, the township was surveyed as part of the CCHSS.
- This information was updated and mapped in the 1992 Township Open Space Plan.
- The township is currently participating in the GIS Atlas project.

#### East Nantmeal Township:

- In 1982, the township was surveyed as part of the CCHSS.
- In 1993, the Open Space and Recreation Task Force completed and added to the CCHSS through the Township Open Space Plan.
- The Historical Commission is currently working on the GIS Atlas project to update the CCHSS. They would like to use this information to create a Historic Resource Overlay District; this would be the first township effort to preserve historic resources through zoning regulations.

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<sup>2</sup> GIS is a computer mapping system for analysis and display of physical features, such as land parcels, roads and streams and other data.

<sup>3</sup> Much of this information was gathered from the Municipal Historic Survey done for this Plan and included in Appendix E.

East Pikeland Township:

- In 1980-81, the township was surveyed as part of the CCHSS.
- In 1992, Robert E. Bartmann conducted a reconnaissance survey to reevaluate the recorded resources from the CCHSS.
- Recently, the township has discussed updating their survey through the GIS Atlas project.

East Vincent Township:

- In 1982, the township was surveyed as part of the CCHSS.
- In 1991 a “windshield survey” was conducted by Robert E. Bartmann to reevaluate the recorded resources from the CCHSS and to consider additional sites.
- The township is participating in the GIS Atlas.
- As of 2004, the township is taking into consideration the following surveying/documentation projects:
  - ✓ Creating additional historic districts, e.g. in the village of Heistand (area of Ellis Woods, Sheeder and Ridge Roads), the settlement sites at Hoffecker and Hallman Mill, and along Ridge Road;
  - ✓ Organizing township historic records and exploring funding to complete a photographic and written report about historical and archeological sites using/updating information from prior surveys;
  - ✓ Conducting an oral history documentary of township residents and contacting township residents for historic documents and artifacts; and
  - ✓ Reviewing Class 1 and 2 historic sites designations and evaluating potential Class 3 sites.

North Coventry Township:

- In 1980-81, the township was surveyed as part of the CCHSS.
- Robert E. Bartmann conducted a reconnaissance survey in 1992 to reevaluate the recorded resources in the CCHSS and to consider additional sites.
- In 2004, the township updated their survey, but still needs to complete photos for a few sites and complete mapping. On file, the township has a list of historic houses 50 years or older, their date of construction, and names of owners, if known. In the near future, the township will be sending in historic resources information for the GIS Atlas project.
- The Historical Commission has completed some surveying of Cedarville village as part of their next project for a National Register Historic District application. They will be also be completing survey work when applying in the future for National Register Historic Districts that include Free-Love Valley and Urner Cemetery.

South Coventry Township:

- In 1981, the township was surveyed as part of the CCHSS.
- Currently, the Historical Commission had most historical resources identified and located on maps (this effort in process prior to the start of the GIS Atlas project), and is working on a database with information about each site.
- The Historical Commission is also participating in the GIS Atlas project.
- When the GIS Atlas project is completed for the township, the township intends to update definitions and other information in plans and ordinances.

Wallace Township:

- Information about the township’s historic resources have been compiled in different documents including: The Historic Resources Map in the Township Zoning Ordinance; CCHSS forms; and Chester County Historic Preservation Office files in the Chester County Parks and Recreation Department. Certain historic resources have been verified using the 1788 Springton Manor survey, 1873 Witmar’s Farm Atlas, and 1883 Breous Farm Atlas.
- Presently, the Historical Commission is initiating the process of updating their local historic resources survey. They are also working to help complete the GIS Atlas project.

Warwick Township:

- The township was surveyed as part of the CCHSS.
- There are a total of 8 historic districts (listed or eligible) in the township for each of which an in-depth survey was conducted as part of their National Register application; these surveys are available at the township building.
- In 2004 as part of their Comprehensive Plan update, a Historical, Architectural, and Archaeological Sites Map identifying Class I, II, and III historic resources, prehistoric archeological sites, and primary and secondary archeological sensitive areas including the boundaries of large North Warwick Historic and Archeological District was completed.
- The township is participating in the GIS Atlas project.

West Vincent Township:

- The township was surveyed as part of the CCHSS (results were completed in 1983).
- The 1992 Open Space Plan identified, inventoried, mapped, photographed, and added tax parcel information for the 231 historic resources in the township.
- The township has also conducted a detailed survey of the Birchrunville Historic District.
- As of late 2004, the township is participating in the GIS Atlas project, being coordinated for the township by the Township Manager.

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## LEGAL FOUNDATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAMS

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Many historic preservation techniques and programs are available to facilitate the protection of historic resources. Although they often differ in approach, most evolved either directly out of federal or state laws or are enabled by federal or state legislation. An understanding of the legal foundation of historic preservation is necessary to determine what techniques, regulations and programs should be addressed in Chapter 3: Historic Resource Protection Plan. It is also necessary to understand legal and other obligations associated with carrying out preservation activities using federal or state programs or funding. The following describes the legal foundation and programs for historic preservation within the context of the federal, state, and local levels, as well as documents the Northern Federation's current level of participation in those programs.

### FEDERAL LEVEL

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) earmarked the beginning of a broad scale federal historic preservation policy and created a strong legal basis for the protection of historic resources. The Act was a response to public outcry against the severe loss of historic resources (because of urban renewal and blight reduction) in larger cities and boroughs. The legislation's purpose was to create a comprehensive framework for protecting historic resources throughout the nation through a system of reviews, regulations and incentives that focused on preserving historic resources. The NHPA encouraged cooperation among federal, state and local governments as well as between individual agencies to address the protection of historic resources.

Several NHPA programs and mandates affect the Region. These are as follows:

- The NHPA formalized the National Register of Historic Places, on which there are sites listed or eligible for each municipality in the Region.
- Section 106 of the NHPA requires that any project that receives federal funds, sponsorship, or assistance review its impact on historic properties.
- A State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), authorized by the NHPA, helps to facilitate cooperation among governmental levels by coordinating preservation activities and administers preservation

activities contained in the NHPA on the state level. In Pennsylvania, this agency is the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC).

- The Certified Local Government Program, authorized by the NHPA, enables municipalities to participate directly in federal preservation programs and to access (through the state) certain funds slated for historic preservation activities.

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

The National Register of Historic Places is a comprehensive listing of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects of historical or cultural significance to the prehistory and history of the locality, the state or the nation that are deemed worthy of preservation. (Note that sites do not need to have national significance to be on the National Register, but instead could be of significance to regional or state history/development or a good example of an architectural style or construction method, among other factors.) The list is maintained by the US Department of the Interior, however, in Pennsylvania the National Register program is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), Bureau for Historic Preservation (BHP).

A site or district may be determined to have historic significance if it is important to the history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture of the particular community/locality, region in which it is located, state, or the nation. To determine historical significance, there is a set of established criteria against which a property will be reviewed and determined whether it should be listed on the National Register. The criteria for evaluation are as follows:

- Association with events, activities, or patterns that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- Association with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- That embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may have individual distinction; or
- That has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Sites or districts listed on the National Register of Historic Places are called 'National Register listed'. Through a preliminary review process, sites or districts also may be determined to be eligible for listing and are referred to as 'National Register eligible' or as having received a 'Determination of Eligibility' (DOE). In the case of a National Register Historic District, proposed District boundaries are delineated to include sites that have been determined to be significant; these sites are considered to be 'contributing' to the district. However, within District boundaries, there may also be sites that are not considered significant to the district; these sites are considered as 'non-contributing'.

In and of itself, National Register designation is mainly honorary and does not affect the rights of property owners nor place obligations or restrictions on the use or disposition of property. It does, however, impact the use of federal funds or assistance, in that federal or federally assisted projects need to be reviewed for their potential impact on National Register listed or eligible sites, as described below under *Section 106 Review Process*.

The PHMC is responsible to maintain a database of National Register listed and eligible properties in Pennsylvania, which is available at: [http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bhp/Inventories/NR\\_Reports/Chester.pdf](http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bhp/Inventories/NR_Reports/Chester.pdf). All the municipalities in the Region have properties eligible for and listed on the National Register; an inventory of these sites as updated through 1/2005 is at the end of this chapter.

### NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS (NHL) PROGRAM

The National Park Service (NPS) administers the NHL program for the Secretary of the Interior. There is a nomination process to become a NHL and a set of criteria is used to determine the quality of national significance. The NPS NHL Survey staff 1) oversee preparation of individual NHL nominations, 2) undertake American history theme studies which may identify groups of potential NHLs and other resources, and 3) evaluate potential NHLs for their ability to meet NHL criteria. The NPS Advisory Board considers completed NHL nominations (at 2 public meetings per year) and makes recommendations for NHL designation to the Secretary of the Interior. Once designated, the NPS NHL Assistance Initiative staff assist in the NHL's preservation through technical assistance to NHL owners/managers and through education of the public about the importance of NHLs. The NHL Stewards Association, a group of NHL owners and managers, also work to preserve, protect and promote NHLs. As of December 2004, there were only nine NHLs in Chester County, and 158 NHLs in all of Pennsylvania.

The primary difference between NHL listing and National Register listing is that NHLs have been recognized by the Secretary of the Interior as possessing national significance, having exceptional value in representing or illustrating an important theme in the history of the Nation. National Register properties may be of state and local significance. NHL designation automatically places a resource on the National Register of Historic Places if it is not already listed. However, a designated National Register listed site (of national significance) must undergo the NHL nomination process before being designated as a NHL. The National Register nomination process has different procedures and criteria than the NHL designation.

Benefits of NHL designation include:

- Required review under the Section 106 process as to the impact of projects involving federal funding or assistance;
- Limited Federal grants through the Historic Preservation Fund, and potential higher funding priority from other funding sources;
- Technical preservation assistance to NHL owners from the NPS.

Highlights of the NHL designation from the NPS:

- NHL designation recognizes that properties are important to the entire nation.
- NHLs are listed in the National Register.
- Owners of NHLs are free to manage their property as they choose, provided no federal license, permit, or funding is involved.
- As with other National Register listings, federal agencies whose projects affect a NHL must give the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment on the project and its effects on the property.
- Owners of NHLs may be able obtain federal historic preservation funding, when funds are available. Federal investment tax credits for rehabilitation and other provisions may apply.
- A bronze plaque bearing the name of the NHL and attesting to its national significance is presented to the owner upon request.

More information can be obtained at the National Park Service website: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nhl/>

### SECTION 106 REVIEW PROCESS

The Section 106 review process was one of the most effective components of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in reducing the loss of historic resources. This section of the Act requires that any federally sponsored, funded or assisted project, including those requiring a Federal permit, license, or approval, is reviewed for its impact on historic resources either listed on, or determined eligible for, the National Register. The federal agency directly or indirectly responsible for the activity is responsible for insuring compliance with the review process. This review can be delegated to federal field offices or passed through to the state, county or municipal governmental agency responsible for administering the federal funds. Conducting the review at the local level can encourage local input on projects and provide for a high degree of participation on the part of those who may be directly impacted by an activity. This is important as the Section 106 process also stipulates that the public be notified of such projects and their effects, which in turn is key as public involvement helps leads to more acceptable community solutions.

Section 106 does not necessarily protect historic resources from demolition or alteration, however, it requires an investigation of alternatives and consideration of mitigation measures. For example, for Community Development Block Grant funding, which is administered by the Department of Community Development, a County agency in Chester County, each National Register listed and eligible property and historic district must be reviewed for a project's potential impact on that resources(s) prior to project initiation.

### CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

The NHPA enables the Certified Local Government (CLG) Program, which strengthens the partnership of local governments and federal and state agencies in protecting historic resources. A certified local government is one that meets certain criteria including the adoption and enforcement of historic preservation regulations, establishment of an historical commission or similar body, and engaging in the survey of historic properties. Once "certified", qualifying local governments may play a greater role in protecting historic resources by participating directly in the federal process. One of the most important incentives is increased access to federal preservation funds. Ten percent of each state's allocation of historic preservation funds (as authorized by the NHPA) must be allocated to the CLG's.

Detailed information on this program, contained in the "Guidelines for Implementation of the Certified Local Governments Program in Pennsylvania" and "Certification Worksheet for the Pennsylvania Certified Local Governments Program," is available from the PHMC, as well as information about which local governments are CLGs.

### INVESTMENT TAX CREDITS FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The availability of federal income tax credits for the rehabilitation of historic properties has proven to be a very effective means of encouraging the voluntary preservation of historic buildings. Investment tax credits first became available for historic preservation in 1976, and for the next ten years, they served as a major incentive as billions of dollars were expended in the rehabilitation of historic properties. Although the program was scaled back in 1986, investment tax credits remain available and may result in substantial savings in rehabilitation costs, often making rehabilitation more financially feasible than new construction.

Section 47 of the Internal Revenue Code, promulgated after the Tax Reform Act of 1986, provides a rehabilitation tax credit of 20% for the rehabilitation of certified historic structures or 10% for non-historic buildings constructed before 1936. A 'certified structure' is one that is

either individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places or is certified as contributing to a National Register District. The property must be used for non-residential or rental residential purposes. The rehabilitation must be substantial (exceeding either \$5,000 or the adjusted basis of the building, whichever is greater) and in the case of a certified historic building, must comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. After rehabilitation, the building must be owned by the same owner and operated as an income producing property for five years. No certification process is required for those using the 10% rehabilitation tax credit. More information on the process may be obtained from PHMC.

Two government agencies must review the project: The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the National Park Service (NPS). In Pennsylvania, the Bureau for Historic Preservation, part of the PHMC, serves as the SHPO. An owner submits the application forms to the SHPO. They are reviewed and passed on to the NPS for review and comment and final certification decision.

The application is a three-part process. Part 1 documents the building as a certified historic structure and is eligible to receive the tax credit. Buildings that are individually listed on the National Register are automatically designated as certified historic structures. Part 2 explains the scope of the rehabilitation work and should be filed before work begins. Request for Certification of Completed Work (Part 3) documents the completed work and is proof (for the IRS) that the rehabilitation is "certified". The SHPO provides ongoing technical assistance throughout the application process and encourages early communication with their office.

The purpose of the tax credit is to encourage rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of older structures. Rehabilitation, particularly with the availability of tax credits, can be a viable alternative to demolition and new construction. Projects must comply with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation as determined through the certification process, however, the standards are flexible. The program successfully illustrates that both adaptive reuse and preservation of architectural character may be accomplished through thoughtful design.

#### FAÇADE EASEMENT PROGRAM

A preservation easement is a legal agreement designed to protect a significant historic, archaeological, or cultural resource. A façade easement is a type of preservation easement whereby a building's façade is to be maintained and protected in perpetuity.

There are potential financial benefits from the charitable donation of a facade easement to a tax exempt organization (IRS Code Section 501(c)(3)). The donation of a façade easement must be made for conservation purposes, such as the protection of a National Register listed historic structure, and must be protected in perpetuity. A conservation easement donation can be for structures for either non-residential or residential uses.

More information can be found on the National Park Service Website, Heritage Preservation Service at <http://www2.cr.nps.gov/tps/tax/IRSFacade.htm>.

## SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR'S STANDARDS FOR THE TREATMENT OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Many of the Region's established HARBs and Historical Commissions use the Secretary of the Interior's Standards as guidelines when providing recommendations to their respective Boards of Supervisors on the treatment of historic properties. These Standards provide advice on how to protect a range of historic resources including buildings, sites, structures, objects, and districts. The *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* includes guidelines for four approaches to the treatment of historic properties: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. By separate regulation, the Secretary requires the application of the Standards to certain programs that the Secretary administers through the National Park Service (NPS). More information can be found on the NPS Heritage Preservation Service website, <http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/>.

The Standards were revised in 1992 and were codified as 36 CFR Part 68 in the July 12, 1995 Federal Register (Vol. 60, No. 133).<sup>4</sup> Another regulation, 36 CFR 67, focuses on "certified historic structures" as defined by the Internal Revenue Code. *The Standards for Rehabilitation* in 36 CFR 67 are applied when property owners seek historic certification for Federal tax benefits.

## OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND ENTITIES

The **SAFETEA-LU**, the Federal Surface Transportation And Funding Act (formerly known as TEA-21) provides 10% of funds apportioned to Pennsylvania for the Surface Transportation Program for special transportation "enhancement" activities *or* provides the amount of funding apportioned for special transportation enhancements in Pennsylvania in 2005, whichever is greater. Projects funded may include historic preservation activities. Applications may include historic preservation research, planning, acquisition and developmental projects that are along transportation corridors, are related to surface transport facilities, or improve the quality of a highway and its surrounding area. Eligible activities include preservation of historic buildings, access improvements to historic sites, archaeological planning and research, and transportation-related museum projects. Under SAFETEA-LU's Environmental Stewardship program, a new preservation program, the National Historic Covered Bridge Preservation program, was also established. The programs are administered in cooperation between the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT).

Another national program, founded in 1989, is **Partners for Sacred Places**. It is the nation's only non-denominational, non-profit organization devoted to maintaining and making active community use of older religious properties. Partners for Sacred Places provides assistance and serves as an information clearinghouse about care and use of older sacred places, among other programs as found on their website <http://www.sacredplaces.org>. They provide assistance to those who care for sacred places while promoting a new understanding of how these places sustain communities.

For more than 50 years the **National Trust for Historic Preservation** has helped protect historic resources, through providing leadership, education, and advocacy to save America's diverse historic places and revitalize communities. The National Trust owns and operates a collection of nationally significant house museums and provides a wide range of preservation services across the country, including grant programs. More information can be found at their website, <http://www.nationaltrust.org/>.

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<sup>4</sup> The revision replaces the 1978 and 1983 versions of 36 CFR 68 entitled *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation Projects*.

## PROSPECTIVE FEDERAL LEGISLATION

While pivotal federal legislation and programs for historic resource protection has been discussed or indirectly referenced in this Inventory, information about new or proposed federal and other legislation affecting historic resources is available on the National Trust website and Preservation Pennsylvania's website (<http://www.preservationpa.org>).

## STATE LEVEL

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) authorizes the appointment of a State Historic Preservation Office to administer provisions of the Act at the State level. In Pennsylvania, the agency assigned this responsibility is the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), which is responsible for maintaining and administering the state's sites and museums, making determinations of eligibility for the National Register, managing the state archives, and administering a wide variety of historic preservation programs.

## PENNSYLVANIA HISTORY CODE

Many of the federal mandates required through NHPA are reiterated in the Pennsylvania History Code, Title 37 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes. The code pertains to the conservation, preservation, protection and management of historical and museum resources and identifies PHMC as the responsible agency. It outlines Pennsylvania's legal framework for historic preservation and also mandates cooperation among other state entities in identifying and protecting historic and archeological resources. Additional state legislation addresses preservation, supplementing the provisions of the History Code.

## ACT 167, THE HISTORIC DISTRICT ACT OF 1961

This Act authorizes municipalities to create local historic districts and protect the historic and architectural character through regulation of the erection, reconstruction, alteration, restoration, demolition, or razing of buildings within the certified local historic district. Local historic districts established under the auspices of Act 167 must be formally certified through PHMC. Act 167 also requires the appointment of an historic architectural review board (HARB) to advise the local governing body on the appropriateness of building activity in the district. Requirements for HARB membership are outlined in the legislation.

## ACT 247, THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPALITIES PLANNING CODE OF 1968, AS AMENDED (MPC)

The MPC authorizes the use of municipal land use controls such as use regulations and area and bulk regulations to protect historic resources. The MPC specifically regulates places having unique historical, architectural, or patriotic interest or value through the creation of a specific zoning classification. In Chester County, the MPC has been used primarily to protect historic resources through adoption of an historic overlay zoning district. However, other incentive measures, such as allowing additional uses to promote the protection of historic resources, has been implemented through zoning in some municipalities.

Specifically, **Article III** of the MPC establishes the basis for comprehensive planning in municipalities. Related to historic resource protection planning, Section 301(a)(6) states "The municipal, multi-municipal or county comprehensive plan...shall include...a plan for the protection of natural and historic resources...This clause includes.... historic sites."

**Article VI** of the MPC establishes the basis for zoning ordinances and provides for the protection of historic resources through zoning as follows:

- Section 603(a) – “Zoning ordinances should reflect the policy goals of the statement of community development objectives [which should generally reflect municipal policy goals of the comprehensive plan, as feasible] and give consideration to the character of the municipality, the needs of the citizens, and the suitabilities and special nature of particular parts of the municipality.”
- Section 603(b)(2) – “Zoning ordinances...may permit, prohibit, regulate, restrict and determine [among other provisions]...size, height, bulk, location, erection, construction, repair, maintenance, alteration, razing, removal and use of structures...”
- Section 603(b)(5) - “Zoning ordinances...may permit, prohibit, regulate, restrict and determine [among other provisions]...protection and preservation of natural and historic resources and prime agricultural land and activities.”
- Section 603(c)(7) – “Zoning Ordinances may contain: ...provisions to promote and preservation prime agricultural land, environmentally sensitive areas and areas of historic significance.”
- Section 603(g)(2) – “Zoning ordinances shall provide for protection of natural and historic features and resources.”
- Section 604(1) – “The provisions of zoning ordinances shall be designed to promote, protect and facilitate any or all of the following: ...[among other provisions] preservation of the natural, scenic and historic values in the environment...”
- Section 605(2)(vi) – “Where zoning districts are created, all provisions shall be uniform for each class of uses or structures, within each district, except that additional classifications may be made within any district: [among other provisions] ...for the regulation, restriction or prohibition of uses and structures at, along or near: [among other provisions] ...places having unique historical, architectural or patriotic interest or value...”

#### ACT 537, SEWAGE FACILITIES PLANNING - HISTORIC AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES PROTECTION

**Description and Procedure** - Act 537, the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act, requires each municipality in Pennsylvania to have an Official Sewage Facilities Plan that addresses the existing and future sewage disposal needs of the municipality. In most cases, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PaDEP) requires the completion of formal sewage facilities planning modules for new subdivision and/or land development to update or to revise the municipal Act 537 plan before a subdivision is created, thus ensuring a consistent means of sewage disposal. The package of completed forms and its supporting documentation is called a “sewage facilities planning module”, or “planning module.”

Once a planning module has been completed, it must be given to the municipality in which the project is located for review, along with other agencies such as PaDEP, Chester County Health Department and Planning Commission, and sometimes Chester County Conservation District. While most planning modules are reviewed by the PaDEP, some municipalities (or groups of municipalities working together) have requested and received PaDEP approval to complete review of planning modules themselves.

A planning module is required to be submitted for all land development projects with the general exception of projects 1) that PaDEP grants exceptions or 2) that propose less than ten units using on-lot septic systems.

Current PaDEP regulations require any application for revision of an applicable Act 537 plan to acknowledge the location of any prehistoric resources, including requiring archaeological studies if locations are suspected. Under the authority of 37 Pa. C.S.A., Section 101 et seq. and Article 1, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, the policy of the PaDEP is that it will cooperate with the PHMC in the protection of significant archaeological resources and historic structures. The PHMC-Bureau for Historic Preservation (BHP) has the power to review a

project under the authority of the Environmental Rights Amendment, Article 1, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution and the Pennsylvania History Code, 37 PA. Cons. Stat. Section 500 et seq. (1988). PHMC's review includes comments on the project's potential effect on both historic and archaeological resources.

The purpose of those regulations is to allow procedures to be established for PaDEP planning module approvals and permit reviews so that PHMC has the opportunity to review activities for possible impacts on significant historical and archeological resources. Agreement between the PHMC and PaDEP has been reached on a process whereby PHMC reviews and provides comments on these planning modules prior to the PaDEP's acceptance of the module for PaDEP review. When PaDEP checks for an application's completeness, the PaDEP checks for the completed Cultural Resource Notice (part of the application that PHMC reviews for historic and archeological resources on the proposed site) and a return receipt from PHMC.

The PHMC determines whether the location of the project applicant's proposed activity includes a significant archaeological site. If significance is found, the PHMC will respond in a 'Determination Letter' to the project applicant or the consulting engineer within 15 days of receipt. The PaDEP calculates the time of response starting with the date shown on the return receipt. If a site has a resource deemed "significant," PHMC will alert the following persons or agencies via Determination Letter(s): the reviewing office (listed in Section D or E of the Notice); the project applicant; and the PaDEP liaison with PHMC in the Office of Policy and Communications. For all other responses, PHMC Determination Letter(s) will only go to the project applicant or the consulting engineer (whichever one sent PHMC the Notice).

**What initiates a PHMC review of a proposed Subdivision and/or Land Development through Act 537?** – An applicant proposing a subdivision and/or land development who is not exempt from filing a planning module (see information above for exceptions) must plan for the treatment of sewer and must file a planning module with certain agencies, county(ies), and municipality(ies) in which the site is located, PaDEP, and PHMC. The applicant is required to send a Cultural Resources Notice form to PHMC if one or both of the following benchmark items occur for the proposed development site:

- If a proposal is 10 acres or more; and/or
- If a 50 year old or older structure(s) is on the site of the proposed development (the applicant must submit information and photographs for all the structures 50 years and older);

In either case, the PHMC also requests that the applicants submit information and photographs of all structures over 40 years old.

Many applicants send the Cultural Resources Notice form to the PHMC even if the applicant is technically not required to do so. When in doubt, most applicants are requested by the municipality in which the project is located to send the Cultural Resources Notice and any supplemental information to the PHMC for review.

**Determination of Historic Structures** - When the PHMC receives the Cultural Resources Notice Form from the applicant, the PHMC may determine that:

- The proposed activity affects a National Register historic resource; or
- A structure on the site of the proposed activity to be eligible for the National Register.

In making this determination, PHMC uses criteria A-D of the National Register of Historic Places determinants of significance (36 CFR 60.4).

PHMC'S HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM

Figure 8-1 is a listing of State historical markers in the Region by municipality.

**Figure 8-1  
PA State Historic Markers**

	Wallace	Warwick	Warwick
<b>Marker Name:</b>	Springton Manor	Hopewell Village	Warwick Furnace
<b>County:</b>	Chester	Chester	Chester
<b>Date Dedicated:</b>	October 5, 1984	August 5, 1948	May 12, 1948
<b>Marker Type:</b>	Roadside	Roadside	Roadside
<b>Location:</b>	Springton Rd. & Highspire Rd., 1 mile North of U.S. 322	Pa. 345 at Warwick, North of junction Pa. 23	Pa 23 between Warwick & Knauertown
<b>Category:</b>	Government & Politics 18th Century, William Penn	Business & Industry, Iron	Business & Industry, Iron, Furnaces
<b>Marker Text:</b>	The largest reserved estate of the Penns in Chester County. It was first authorized by William Penn as a 10,000 acre tract in 1701. After resurvey in 1730, it contained 8,313 acres, including most of present Wallace Township. The southern boundary line of the manor was near this point.	Forge built 1744 by Wm. Bird; furnace built 1770 by his son Mark. Furnace and other remains of an iron making community of the era, administered by the National Park Service, are about three miles away.	Built 1737 by Anna Nutt and Co. Made first Franklin stoves, 1742. Supplied shot and cannon for American revolutionists. Furnace a mile and a half away on side road; iron mines a mile west on the highway.

Established in 1946, the historical marker program is one of the PHMC's oldest and most popular/recognized state programs. The blue and gold markers located throughout Pennsylvania highlight people, places, and events significant in state and national history. A picture of an existing historical marker is shown here to illustrate the design of the actual marker as well as what type of historical information is contained on the marker itself. There are approximately 1,800 markers statewide. A Historical Marker Guide listing can be purchased through the PHMC.

New markers are approved and placed along Pennsylvania highways and streets each year. Most markers are dedicated in public events. Each dedication presents opportunities for Pennsylvanians to both celebrate and understand their heritage. The PHMC is owner of the markers, and maintains them after they are installed and dedicated. At present, markers are repaired and repainted approximately every 7 years.



PROSPECTIVE STATE LEGISLATION

While pivotal state legislation and programs for historic resource protection has been discussed or indirectly referenced in this inventory, information about new and proposed state legislation affecting historic resources is available on the Preservation Pennsylvania's website (<http://www.preservationpa.org>).

## LOCAL LEVEL

To promote historic preservation on a regional basis, preservation policy must be established at the regional level. Establishing a regional preservation policy will show support for preservation as an established priority. Once established, this policy will provide the guidance in pursuing preservation activities. This usually serves to reduce opposition and to elicit support when the Northern Federation initiates preservation programs and strategies.

Local planning documents, such as this Plan and the Federation of Northern Chester County Communities Regional Land Use Plan, are where regional preservation policy is most effectively established. Also to promote preservation, individual municipalities that make up the Northern Federation should thoroughly address historic preservation in their Comprehensive Plans and Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plans. The Northern Federation, by identifying preservation goals, recognizing how historic preservation relates to other community development objectives, and emphasizing the importance of preservation activities, indicates that historic resource protection is a key planning consideration and that future actions will support preservation.

In the Regional Land Use Plan, historic resources concerns were identified as follows:

- Ensuring that resources are not lost due to demolition or neglect; and
- Protecting the integrity of the resources using land use management and incentive techniques.

These concerns involve maintaining the historic resources themselves and their context. The plan proposes protection of resources through land use/growth management strategies and incentives. In addition, concern for the on-going use and viability of these resources requires considering opportunities to help owners accept and meet preservation objectives.

Implementation is the undertaking of those actions and activities determined to support historic preservation goals and objectives. A preservation program should include a wide variety of actions designed to meet those historic preservation goals and each action or strategy needs to be tailored to regional objectives. These actions are included in the implementation section of this Plan (Chapter 1).

## POLICY PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Historic resource protection as a successful regional policy must also be supported at the municipal level through comprehensive and open space plans. The following is an overview of the goals, objectives, and recommendations of each plan by municipality in the Northern Federation:

### East Coventry Township

***Comprehensive Plan (2003)***: Considers “historic resources” (homes and architecture) as “scenic resources.”

Goal for Historic Resources: Identify historic resources and their surroundings in the township and develop protective measures.

- Objective 2-1: Recognize the value of historic structures to the character of the township landscape by inventorying significant structures, including residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural buildings, bridges, walls and other engineered structures.

- **RECOMMENDATION:** Inventory a systematic and thorough inventory of all historic structures, to include use, ownership, style, condition, location, and National Register status. Floor plans, photographs and drawings should be included in the inventory.
- **STATUS:** At time of the development of this plan, the Chester County Parks and Recreation Department is aiding each municipality in the Northern Federation (and in the entire County) to inventory all historical resources (site, property, building, structure, etc.) worthy of further investigation that are 50 years old or older in age for the Chester County Historical Resources GIS Atlas project.
- **Objective 2-2:** Develop protective measures to encourage preservation of significant historic structures.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Develop regulations as part of the Zoning Ordinance that have a review procedure for all plans relating to an historic structure or district.
  - **STATUS:** At the time of this Plan, the SLDO, Section 407.3.K.L refers to site analysis plan requirements where historic resources and existing paths and trails are to be shown on any proposed plan. The township is in the process of updating their zoning and SLDO to include protection standards, including for historic resources, to implement recommendations of the Pottstown Regional Plan.
- **Objective 2-3:** Provide for adaptive reuses for historic structures compatible with the structure and the community.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** The Historical Commission should continually monitor the status of historic structures in the township, so as to be able to assist an owner in appropriate conversion of uses, architectural renovations, and placement of tenants or owners in historic buildings.
  - **STATUS:** The Historical Commission has been contacted by the County of Chester Parks and Recreation Department to update the existing 1981 CCHSS for the township.
- **Objective 2-4:** Create inducements to encourage preservation, such as site plan modifications and clustering.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** The township should adopt amendments to Zoning and the SLDO that acknowledge the uniqueness of historic structures and permit modifications to site planning regulations where appropriate to preserve the original character of a structure. Examples include yard standards, home businesses opportunities, and sign requirements.
  - **STATUS:** Representatives from the Historical Commission used to meet regularly, but have found it difficult to review plans to provide their recommendations on the site lay out, etc. to the Board of Supervisors due to the shear amount of time it takes to do this and they had limited number of volunteers. The Historical Commission will be discussing their future goals. This is ongoing in the township.

***Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan (1992):*** Considers “Historic Resources” as part of what is considered “natural areas” within the Township.

**Goal 1:** Establish an open space system for the entire township which preserves exceptional land and water resources for public passive recreation, for conservation of unique scenic and historic areas, and for protection of wildlife habitats.

- **Objectives Under Goal 1:**
  1. Identify, map and develop an inventory of East Coventry Township’s natural resources (water resources, woodlands, steep slopes, scenic, *cultural and historic resources*, etc.)
  2. Use this natural resources inventory in the planning and development process particularly for future subdivisions or land developments.
  3. Evaluate present land use policies, examine potential open space options, and revise present policies or develop additional ones to preserve and protect the township’s identified natural resources.

4. Evaluate identified natural resources to determine high priority natural areas for the township to seek public easements or acquire.
  - o **RECOMMENDATIONS:**
    - Identify resources which are not adequately protected and in need of further protection within the township.
    - Amend the zoning ordinance to include protection standards for historic resources should be implemented.
    - Direct growth to compact areas where adequate infrastructure is available or planned.
    - Historic areas could be protected through the creation of a historic zoning district that addresses architectural standards for new structures and alterations to existing structures as well as other requirements aimed at preserving the historic integrity of an area.
    - Cluster/open space zoning provisions could be used to decrease the visual intrusions of land developments and to protect scenic views.
    - To the greatest extent possible, new structures should be directed away from exceptionally scenic rural areas or ridges.
  - o **STATUS:** There are two National Register Historic Districts in the township (Parker Ford and Fricks Locks). There is also a historic bridge (arch bridge) built over Pigeon Creek, shared by East Vincent and East Coventry Townships. A Historic Marker was applied for through the PHMC State Marker Program. In October 2004, a 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration took place and both townships donated money to put a temporary marker on the bridge while fundraising was continuing for the permanent State Marker. This is the oldest existing stone bridge in Chester County.

#### East Nantmeal Township

***Comprehensive Plan (2002):*** “Historic resources” are included in what they consider “scenic resources.”

**Goal for Historic Resources Preservation:** Identify historic resources and their surroundings in the township and develop protective measures.

- **Objective 2.1:** Recognize the value of historic structures to the character of the township landscape by inventorying all structures: residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural buildings, bridges, walls and other engineered structures.
  - o **RECOMMENDATION:** Maintain a systematic and thorough inventory of all historic structures, to include use, ownership, style, condition, location, and National Register status. Floor plans, photographs, and drawings to establish character and resource identifications should be included in the inventory. Solicit advice from the Historic Committee as appropriate.
  - o **STATUS:** At time of the development of this plan, the Chester County Parks and Recreation Department is aiding each municipality in the Northern Federation (and in the entire County) to inventory all historical resources (site, property, building, structure, etc.) worthy of further investigation that are 50 years old or older in age, as part of the Chester County GIS Historical Resources Atlas; this will update the CCHSS for the township.
- **Objective 2.2:** Develop protective measures to ensure preservation of historic structures.
  - o **RECOMMENDATIONS:** Continually monitor programs and funding sources that address historic preservation for relevance to efforts in the township.
  - o **STATUS:** Continuing efforts and building a foundation to implement protective measures for historic preservation. Once this Plan is adopted, the Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors and Historic Committee will have an up to date Plan which outlines strategies and techniques the township can implement in order to protect their resources.

- Objective 2:3: Provide for adaptive reuses of historic structures compatible with the structure and the community.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** The Historic Committee should continually monitor the status of historic structures in the township, so as to be able to assist an owner in appropriate conversion of uses, architectural renovations, and placement of tenants or owners in historic buildings.
  - **STATUS:** On a continuous basis.
- Objective 2.4: Create inducements to encourage preservation, such as site plan modifications.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** The township should adopt amendments to the Zoning code and Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance that acknowledge the uniqueness of historic structures and permit modifications to site planning regulations where appropriate to preserve the original character of the structure. Examples would be yard standards, home business opportunities, and sign requirements.
  - **STATUS:** No amendments to date have been adopted by the township that allows special regulations for historic sites. There is one National Register Historic District (Reading Furnace Historic District) in the township, but no related regulations on the local level.

### ***Open Space & Recreation Plan (1993)***

Goal: Enhance environmental quality through the preservation of unique and sensitive areas within the township.

- Objective 1.d.: Use the findings of the Historical Study currently in progress to incorporate the cultural heritage of East Nantmeal into the overall plan for preservation and protection of resources and unique features.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Establish an overlay district to incorporate scenic and historic resources.
  - **STATUS:** The Township to date has not adopted an overlay ordinance.

### East Pikeland Township

***Comprehensive Plan (2001):*** “Historic resources” are considered what they consider “scenic resources.”

Goal for Historic Resources Preservation: To protect historically significant areas and to insure the preservation of inventoried resources.

- Objectives 1: To promote the preservation of historic areas and structures through the identification of all potential historic resources, the evaluation and documentation of meritorious resources and their prioritization for protection.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Establish a program to systematically identify and document all buildings, roads and engineered structures in the township that have local or greater historic significance.
  - **STATUS:** At time of the development of this plan, the Chester County Parks and Recreation Department is aiding each municipality in the Northern Federation (and in the entire County) to inventory all historical resources (site, property, building, structure, etc.) worthy of further investigation that are 50 years old or older in age, as part of the Chester County Historical Resources GIS Atlas project.
- Objective 2: To secure the appropriate certification of historical significance of eligible historic resources.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Coordinate with building owners and appropriate agencies to secure local, regional, or national certifications in order that the buildings acquire development protection and be eligible for relevant financial assistance.
  - **STATUS:** On a continuous basis by the Historical Commission

- **Objective 3:** To devise preservation strategies appropriate to the identified historic resources.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Utilize available resources, such as established historical commissions, national organizations, and local residents, to prepare methods and strategies to preserve historic elements of the township landscape. Such strategies should be adaptable to the unique situation of each structure and ownership.
  - **STATUS:** On a continuous basis by the Historical Commission
- **Objective 4:** To develop opportunities and incentives for the continued use or compatible reuse of historic structures.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Coordinate with local development interests, realtors, financial institutions and historical organizations to develop methods to encourage the continued use of historic buildings. Possible incentives are preferred rehabilitation loans, modified building and housing code requirements, and proactive efforts to locate occupants for historic structures.
  - **STATUS:** The Historical Commission actively encourages the continued use of historic buildings whenever feasible. A recent successful example was on an Assisted Living Facility proposal where there was a historic house and barn on the site. Through efforts of the Historical Commission and the willingness of the developer of this facility, the Assisted Living Facility is utilizing the historic barn on site and the historic house has been re-adapted for use as office space.
- **Objective 5:** To protect and preserve historic structures and areas by developing regulatory measures that would minimize the impacts of new construction and development on historic resources and their settings.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Recognize the area surrounding an historic structure as being significant to it by requiring adequate spatial dimensions for the siting of historic buildings within the context of contemporary structures. Standards will be particular to individual situations and may require the recommendation of historic preservation professionals.
  - **STATUS:** Figure 8-2 denotes the provisions adopted in township's ordinances to protect historic resources.
- **Objective 6:** To consider various preservation opportunities including historic districts and regulatory incentives.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** The establishment of historic districts, with unique development standards, should be encouraged where multiple structures existing in close proximity, such as in village. Special standards should
  - **STATUS:** Figure 8-2 denotes the provisions adopted in township ordinances to protect historic resources. Currently there is a Historic Overlay District.
- **Objective 7:** To foster public education and support private actions which promote the preservation and protection of historic resources.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Develop programs which increase the public awareness of and sensitivity to historic buildings. Emphasize their role these buildings have played in the history of the township and the region, as well as the roles they can play in the future. Tours to successful preservation sties elsewhere and public access to local sites should be considered.
  - **STATUS:** Currently the Township Historical Commission and the local Historic Society participates with the Chester County Town and Village Walks providing guided walking tours in the Villages of Kimberton and Merlin. The Historical Commission also gives tours at the Raps Dam site and the old mill, educating the public about the historical significance of this dam site where guns and gunpowder were manufactured and were later used in the Revolutionary War.

***Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan (1992):*** Considers “Historic Resources” as part of what is considered “natural areas” within the township.

GOAL 1: Preserve the rural character of the Township

- Objectives under Goal 1 which pertain to historic resources include:
  - Preserve and enhance the character of the Village of Kimberton and the settlement around Merlin.
  - Where development does occur, encourage settlement patterns sympathetic to the scale and character of a rural village.
  - Conserve rural lands by adopting appropriate zoning regulations.

GOAL 5: Preserve cultural and historic resources

- Objectives under Goal 1 which pertain to historic resources include:
  - Develop and support public awareness programs concerning historic and prehistoric resources.
  - Support the Historic Commission to act as guardian of historic, architectural, and archaeological resources.
  - Pursue and encourage the listing of historical/architectural sites and districts.
  - Adopt local ordinance to create historic districts and to protect historic and cultural resources.
  - Formulate provisions in the zoning regulations that will allow for the adaptive reuse of historic sites.
  - Include consideration for historic, architectural, and archaeological resources into the development review process.

## East Vincent Township

***Comprehensive Plan (1994), with Amendments (2002):*** “Historic resources” are included in what they consider “scenic resources.”

Goal for Historic Resources Preservation: Protect valuable historic resources from degradation or destruction in order to preserve the cultural roots of the township.

- Objective 1: Encourage public interest in, and concern for our historic resources.
- Objective 2: Continue support of the Township Historic Commission and encourage citizen participation in historic resource preservation.
- Objective 3: Pursue listing of historic resources on the national, state, county, and local level in order to create an awareness of their importance.
- Objective 4: Adopt ordinances designed to preserve and protect historic resources. Encourage the adaptive re-use of older buildings which will preserve them while allowing flexible design.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Zoning Ordinance revisions were set to be updated to include preservation of historic resources.
  - **STATUS:** The Township has adopted a Historic Overlay District in Zoning. In the SLDO, a historic impact statement is required if the proposed land development and/or subdivision falls under certain circumstances as elaborated in Section 30.6E.4.d. Section 426.G of the SLDO also requires identification of “historic features and other points of interest” and cross-references zoning ordinance requirements. The other updates to the SLDO for the preservation of historic resources were near completion at the time of this plan.

***Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan (1992):***

- **RECOMMENDATIONS:** Establishment of a historic districts could be considered for the following sites:
  - The small settlement at the intersection of Sheeder Mill Road, Ridge Road, and Ellis Woods Road;
  - The small settlement near the intersection of Hoffecker Road and Hallman Mill road;

- Along Ridge road from Buckwalter Road to Hoffecker road;
- Sheeder Mill Village on Sheeder Mill Road.

## North Coventry Township

### ***Comprehensive Plan (1989):***

Goal for Historic Resources Preservation: Protect valuable historic resources from degradation or destruction in order to preserve the cultural roots of the township.

- Objective 1: Pursue listings of historic resources on the National or State Register of Historic Sites in order to protect them from development pressures.
- Objective 2: Continue support for the Township Historic Commission and encourage citizen participation in historic resource preservation.
- Objective 3: Adopt ordinance designed to preserve and protect historic resources. Encourage the adaptive re-use of older buildings which will preserve them while allowing flexible design.

#### ○ **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- The Plan recommends a village inventory be conducted that documents the land uses and architectural style of the villages. The study should identify land ownership, development potential, and particularly valuable features contributing to the village character such as historic buildings. The inventory should support the creation of a certified state historic district which would allow for special protection of these resources.
- Upon completion of the village inventory, the township Planning Commission should make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors concerning the treatment of village features such as parking, signage, landscaping, architecture, historic land uses, commercial uses, and housing.
- The township can encourage the preservation of villages through public or private programs. Some of the provisions which could be included in such programs are:
  1. Create a state historic district which could require any conversions to existing and any new infill development to match the character of the village as identified in the inventory. The signs, parking, setbacks, and landscaping could be regulated in such a district.
  2. Provisions could delay the alteration or demolition of historic structures or other valuable village features as identified in the inventory.
  3. Adopt an ordinance that requires land uses to reserve rights-of-way for sidewalks, trails and future road improvements so that development can be setback appropriately from such improvements.
  4. Establish a village improvement fund for the acquisition of façade easements, village parks, and for matching grant program to encourage residents to restore or improve the village atmosphere.
  5. Zone the villages for residential uses at densities recommended in the Plan with provisions that allow for and encourage adaptive reuse of historic properties as neighborhood commercial or other compatible uses.
  6. Create village review boards that will be responsible for the review of development proposals in village in terms of compatibility and design. The review board should be made up of representatives from each village who are familiar with the land development review process.

#### ○ **STATUS:**

- A Village Inventory is being completed at the time of this Plan.
- The township Planning Commission is actively providing recommendations to the Board of Supervisors concerning the treatment of historical resources in villages. Once an inventory is complete, the Planning Commission will be able to provide more detailed recommendations. This is an ongoing process.

- The township has adopted an Historic Overlay in Zoning. An inventory was conducted and historic resources were classified into Class I, II, and III categories.
- No HARB or Act 167 Historic District has been established.
- No extra level of review for historic structures was established.
- A village improvement fund for the acquisition of façade easements, village parks, and for matching grant program to encourage residents to restore or improve the village atmosphere has not been set up.

***Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan (1992 with amendments):***

- Provides a comprehensive historical background and township history, including different types of architecture and an explanation about how township historic resources were documented and inventoried.
- Appendix D of the Open Space Plan includes descriptions of township cultural resources.

South Coventry Township

***Comprehensive Plan (1996):***

Goal for Historic Resources: Conserve historic appearance and scale of existing villages and key freestanding properties throughout the township.

- Objectives 1: Protect the historic resources and development pattern in the Village of Pughtown from encroachment by incompatible development.
  - **RECOMMENDATION 1.1:** Change township zoning of the village to “Village” District (same as Coventryville).
  - **STATUS:** The Township has adopted two separate districts to protect historic resources - a VM Village Mixed Use District and a HV Historic Village District; there are different levels of protection for these two districts.
  - **RECOMMENDATION 1.2:** Apply for the designation of the Village of Pughtown as an “Act 167” Historic District.
  - **STATUS:** Unknown.
  - **RECOMMENDATION 1.3:** Revise dimensional requirements in the village area to be more consistent with existing development in the Village.
  - **STATUS:** The zoning ordinance (2001 with amendments) has accommodated this recommendation. The HV District has a minimum front setback of 15 feet from the street line. This is keeping with the village character of the area. The only issue in the HV District is the large minimum lot size requirement of 1 acre, which doesn’t promote village-style development. The HV District is a recipient of transferable development rights subject to the provisions of Article XIII. The VM District has the option a minimum lot size of 10,000 sq. ft.; 50 feet minimum lot width at building line; 40% maximum building coverage; and 60% maximum lot coverage if central sewer is available at the site of the proposed development. This encourages a more efficient use of land within the District and encourages the property owners to participate in the public sewer system if they want to develop their land to the fullest potential/maximum density in this district. Additional uses are permitted on properties containing Class I or Class II Historic Resource(s) in accordance with the provisions of Article XIV. The VM District is also a recipient of transferable development rights subject to the provisions of Article XIII.
  - **RECOMMENDATION 1.4:** Monitor traffic volumes on both Route 23 and Pughtown road. To the extent that additional capacity is needed for the east/west bound drips carried by these two roads, lobby PennDOT to add capacity to Route 23, rather than Pughtown Road.
  - **STATUS:** Ongoing. According to the most current Transportation Improvements Plan (TIP), there is nothing planned to be studied or constructed on PA 23, Pughtown Rd., or within the township.
- Objective 2: Maintain the historic integrity of the Village of Coventryville.

- **RECOMMENDATION 2.1:** Continue to monitor new development and improvements of existing development under terms of existing “Act 167” district.
- **STATUS:** HARB is very active in responding to their duties under the Act 167 regulations set forth in the Coventryville Historic District. Ongoing.
- **RECOMMENDATION 2.2:** Develop a handbook of design guidelines for the HARB.
- **RECOMMENDATION 2.3:** Revise dimensional requirements in village area to be more consistent with existing development in the Village
- **STATUS:** The zoning ordinance (2001 with amendments) has accommodated this recommendation. In the HV District has a minimum front setback of 15 feet from the street line. This is keeping with the village character of the area. The only issue in the HV District is the large minimum lot size requirement of 1 acre, which doesn’t promote village-style development. The HV District is a recipient of transferable development rights subject to the provisions of Article XIII.
- **Objective 3:** Preserve the historic qualities of key structures and landscapes throughout the township:
  - **RECOMMENDATION 3.1:** Work with the Chester County Historical Society to identify key freestanding historic properties within the township and to identify methods of protecting these properties and structures.
  - **STATUS:** Ongoing.
  - **RECOMMENDATIONS 3.2:** Consider Historic Resource Zoning Standards.
  - **STATUS:** There is an established HARB for the HV District in Coventryville. If an Act 167 Historic District is enacted for the village of Pughtown, the HARB will also review development in this area as well. Section 1402 has established a Historic Resources Overlay to apply to all properties in the township that are classified as a Class I or a Class II resources on the Township Historic Resources Inventory.
  - **RECOMMENDATION 3.3:** Encourage individuals to donate façade easements of historical structures.
  - **OTHER RECOMMENDATION FROM TRANSPORTATION SECTION:** Apply for Federal ISTEA (now TEA-21) - Transportation Enhancement Monies that can be made available for acquisition of historic sites.

***Open Space, Recreation, and Environmental Resources Plan (1994):*** “Historic resources” are included in what they consider “scenic resources.”

- **RECOMMENDATION 1:** Incorporate a new section of the Comprehensive Plan documenting historic resources.
- **STATUS:** Was added in the 1996 Comprehensive Plan as stated above.
- **RECOMMENDATION 2:** Designate Pughtown as an Act 167 Historic District
- **STATUS:** Has not occurred yet.
- **RECOMMENDATION 3:** Zoning Ordinance Amendment: Within the Historic District’s designation for Pughtown, require a certificate of appropriateness prior to the issuance of a building or demolition permit as per Act 167.
- **STATUS:** Article XIV, Section 1402.D.3 requires those resources classified under Class I and II in the Township’s Historic Resources Inventory, to the extent possible, to meet the *Secretary of Interior’s Standards* for Rehabilitation for plans involving rehabilitation, alteration, or enlargement of structures. In approving a conditional use, the Board of Supervisors may set conditions requiring compliance with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standard for Rehabilitation, as applicable.
- **RECOMMENDATION 4:** Other Regulations and Programs: Develop interpretive plans to highlight the township’s unique heritage resources, particularly within the French Creek Corridor.
- **RECOMMENDATION 5:** Develop a handbook of design guidelines for the Historical Review Board.
- **RECOMMENDATION 6:** Private Industries: Encourage individuals to donate façade easements of historical structures.

## Wallace Township

### ***Comprehensive Plan (1986):***

Goal for Historic Resources: Protect and promote the historic character and assets of the township.

- Objective 1: Promote research of the history and historical resources of the township
- Objective 2: Encourage restoration and compatible reuse of historic structures affected by development plans.
- Objective 3: Develop ordinances which protect and preserve historic resources.
- Objective 4: Consider the various preservation opportunities available to the township including historic districts and zoning incentives.
  - **RECOMMENDATION/ACTIONS:** Continue efforts to establish a Historic Overlay District in the Village of Glenmoore. Consider adopting reuse/preservation standards for buildings with historic character. Complete a multiple resource listing of historic sites and actively pursue nominations to the National register. Designate the Wallace Township Historical Commission as the group primarily responsible for furthering preservation in the township. Adopt provisions which delay demolition of historical resources until a preservation analysis is completed. Encourage and facilitate the use of tax incentives for historic preservation (i.e., preservation easements and investment tax credits).
  - **STATUS:** The township has adopted two districts to protect historic resources. To date the Township is pursuing the establishment of an Act 167 Certified Historic District for the Village of Glenmoore. The township has already created a Historic Overlay District with a resource classification system, and with special provisions for Class I historic resources. The township has also adopted provisions in Zoning and the SLDO that require proposed developments and subdivisions to preserve the existing historic resources, including the surrounding historic landscape. Mitigation measures may be required to lessen impact of development on resources if applicable.

***Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan (1993):*** “Historic resources, historic farms and roadside barns” are included in what they consider “scenic resources.”

Goal for Historic Preservation: Protect and promote the historic character and assets of the township. (Same as Comprehensive Plan Goals and Objectives.)

- **RECOMMENDATION:** Establish historic zoning districts to protect structures and areas of local historic significance, based upon properly documented research and the consent of affected landowners. Such districts would protect building facades while providing flexibility and encouraging creative land development, which may be required to protect historic properties.
- **STATUS:** An Act 167 Certified Historic District is actively being sought for the Village of Glenmoore. There is also a Historic Resources Overlay adopted in the township. The township has adopted and implemented regulations which give the township latitude when working with a proposed development or subdivision, and have made great strides in preserving and protecting their historic resources through sound planning practices and by enforcing good planning techniques through their zoning ordinance.

## Warwick Township

***Comprehensive Plan (2003 Comprehensive Plan Addendum – The Natural & Historic Resource Protection Plan; Transfer of Development Rights Study; and Fair Share Analysis)***

Goals for Historical, Architectural and Archaeological Resources:

- Preserve Class 1, 2 and 3 Historic Sites.
- Preserve historic Village Clusters.

- Preserve National Register Historic Districts. (There are parts of six National Registered Historic Districts in Warwick Township including: Reading Furnace District, Warwick Furnace District, North Warwick Historic District and Archaeological District (which contains part of the Hopewell Village National Historic Site), the Coventryville Historic District, and the Saint Peter's Village.)
- Establish and support Areas of Archaeological Sensitivity.
- Establish and Preserve Natural Heritage Areas.
- Protect Scenic Viewsheds that Exemplify the Historic Character of the township.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Regularly distribute educational articles and information on the Township's historic resources in the township newsletter; develop a township web site and post educational materials, information, and the historic resources map on the web site; conduct educational programs focused on the township's historic resources and the protection of these resources.
  - **STATUS:** The Township distributes two newsletters annually, which include a feature on historic resources and historic preservation efforts in the township to keep the residents informed and up to date. To date, no established website has been set up for the township but it is still a possibility.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Encourage infill development in the Historic Village Clusters; promote adaptive re-use and rehabilitation of historic structures in accordance with existing township regulations; encourage use of the Village/Hamlet development option as provided in the Zoning Ordinance.
  - **STATUS:** Article 24 (Zoning Ordinance) encourages infill development in Historic Village Clusters, etc. It requires that all historic structures have to be used or be adaptively re-used so the property owners cannot demolish buildings or structures.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Recognize the significant historic sites within the township (i.e. furnace sites and villages) as points of interest.
  - **STATUS:** The Township has completed this task and has a detailed map providing this and more cultural resources information.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Collaborate with the PHMC to identify and inventory more historic and archaeological sites in the township; lobby for Registered Historic District status for the villages of Warwick, Knauertown and Harmonyville.
  - **STATUS:** In 2003 St. Peter's Village was listed on the National Register. The same has not been true for the other potential sites/districts at the time of this plan. This is an on-going project.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Pursue Certified Local Government status with assistance from the PHMC.
  - **STATUS:** The Township has some interest in this program but has not proceeded further than talking to a representative from PHMC about the program at the time of this Plan.

***Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan (1992):*** "Historic sites, stone bridges, furnaces, etc." are included in what they consider "scenic resources."

Goal: Preserve the Historic and Cultural Resources of the township

- Objective 1: Evaluate the efforts to date of the Historical Commission and map the resources previously surveyed.
- Objective 2: Outline supplementary ordinance provisions which address historic resources, potential historic districts, and measures to mitigate the impact of development upon historic resources.
  - **RECOMMENDATION:** Recommendations in the 2003 Comprehensive Plan Implementation Section will generally be discussed in the Historic Resources Plan.

## West Vincent Township

### ***Comprehensive Plan (1985 with amendments):***

Goals for Recreation and Historic Areas: To promote the adequate provision of recreational and cultural amenities.

- Objective: Preserve historically valuable elements of the community.
- Encourage private means of open space and historic preservation.

***Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan (1992):*** “Historic sites, stone bridges, furnaces, etc.” are included in what they consider “scenic resources.”

- **RECOMMENDATION:** The Township should consider undertaking research leading to the compilation of an official “Township Historical Survey,” and setting the tone for regulation to encourage resource protection. The Historic Survey should take the form of a written (architectural and historical description) photographic, and mapped recordation of sites and structures within West Vincent. While either trained volunteers or professionals can conduct the survey, it should include an assessment of the degree of historic and material integrity of inventoried sites and structures based on professionally accepted standards. The standards most commonly used and accepted within the historic preservation and planning professionals are the “Criteria for Evaluation” established for the National Register program.
- **STATUS:** At time of the development of this plan, the Chester County Parks and Recreation Department is aiding each municipality in the Northern Federation (and in the entire County) to inventory all historical resources (site, property, building, structure, etc.) worthy of further investigation that are 50 years old or older in age, as part of the Chester County Historical Resources GIS Atlas.
- **STATUS:** There are two historic villages in the Township. A survey of Birchrunville has been completed. The West Vincent Highlands Historic District is listed on the National Register and has been surveyed for this process. The township also has an open space protection tool which also helps to preserve historical features.
- **STATUS:** There are some provisions in the Zoning Ordinance for adaptive reuse and special setbacks to encourage infill within the village areas. Currently Article XXIV of the Zoning Ordinance describes the Historic Preservation Overlay District, which include four classes of resources, demolition, relocation, special use provisions, landscaping and screening of historic resources, and an historic resource impact study. Also, Article X of the Zoning Ordinance describes provisions for development within Birchrunville Village District (BV), which encourages uses compatible with rural village. Section 702.H, K, J of the SLDO deals with protection of historic resources, scenic resources and trail preservation.

### EXISTING LOCAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION REGULATIONS

To implement plan goals and objectives, most of the Northern Federation communities have adopted regulations to help protect identified historic resources. Figure 8-2 identifies these regulations per municipality. As shown in this Figure, eight out of the nine municipalities in the Northern Federation have enacted historic protection standards in their zoning ordinance and/or subdivision ordinances. Each historic protection measure is cited for ease of reference in Figure 8-2, providing the appropriate section number and in which ordinance these regulations can be found. East Nantmeal Township has yet to adopt historic resource protection standards.

**Figure 8-2  
Historic Resource Protection Regulations in the Region**

Township	Ordinance/Section(s)	Description of Protection Measures
East Coventry	SLDO/Section 302.C.2.l	The location of all township-mapped historically significant areas and structures on the site and on all adjoining tracts must be shown on the Sketch Plan.
	SLDO/Section 303.C.1.q	The location and dimensions of all historic resources, where known, must be shown on a Preliminary Plan.
	SLDO/Section 305.C.4.e	Historical Resources Impact Study may be required if a proposed new building or structure is to be developed within 100 feet of a historic resource; or if a plan proposes adaptive reuse of a historic resource; or if a general bridge or road construction or substantial repair passes within 100 feet of a historical resource.
North Coventry	Zoning/§905	Historic Preservation Overlay District (applies to township-wide Class I, II, and III resources; requires impact statement for nearby development proposals). Infill development and Historic structures are preserved through the use of flexible standards.
East Pikeland	Zoning/Article XVI	Historic Resource Protection Article - includes an Overlay District, delay of demolition, modification of building and use for historic resource preservation, review of alterations and rehabilitation, and Certified Historic Districts
	Zoning/Article XV	Transfer of Development Rights - AP Zoning Area is the sending area. Can be used to preserve historic resources
	SLDO/§306.D.4.e	Historic impact study is required under certain circumstances elaborated in this section
	SLDO/§425.F	Includes incentives for the protection of historic resources and other points of interest
East Vincent	Zoning/Article XIV/§1402	Special Provisions for Historic Resources (includes the creation of a Historic Resources Overlay District in §1402.C)
	SLDO/§306.A.1.l; B.1; F. 5.d	Requires historic resources to be identified on plans; requires Site Analysis and Impact Narrative including considering historic resources; Historic Impact Study required under specified circumstances.
	SLDO/§428.D	Requires identification of “historic features and other points of interest” and cross references zoning ordinance requirements as well as includes conditions under which historic resources may be credited toward open space requirements

Municipality	Ordinance/Section(s)	Description of Protection Measures
South Coventry	Zoning/§901.A.11	Special Provisions for historic structures in the Village Mixed Use District (VM)
	Zoning/Article VIII	HV Historical Village District – Purpose is to protect areas which reflect cultural, economic, social, political and architectural history of the community, and to awaken interest in historic areas, and promote the use of the historic portions of the township for cultural, education, pleasure and general welfare of the area (special Provisions for historic structures).
	Zoning/Article XIV	Historic Preservation article - classifies historic resources, creates historic resource overlay district (§1402), provides for delay of demolition (§1403), and historic resource impact study (§1404).
	Zoning/Article X /§1001 C.14	MU Mixed Use Development District - Conditional Use allows additional uses where permitted on properties containing Class I or Class II Historic Resource(s) in accordance with the provisions of Article XIV (Historic Preservation).
Wallace	Zoning/Article X	Historic Preservation Standards - creates historic overlay district. Defines three classes of historic resources on map (included in ordinance); special provisions for Class I historic resources.  Separate regulations for certified historic district and HARB; includes delay of demolition provisions.
	SLDO/§401	401.H – Cross-references Article X of Zoning Ordinance. Subdivision and land developments are to preserve existing historic resources and their surrounding historic landscape; mitigation measures may be required to lessen impact of development on resources.
	SLDO/§401	401.I – Historic Rural Road and View Corridors- Identified scenic visual corridors (in the OSRER Plan) are to be included in Greenway area or preserved through other means.
Warwick	Zoning/Article 24	Historical, Architectural, and Archeological Resources Protection – Appears to establish both a township-wide overlay and a HARB consistent with Act 167. Act 167 district regulations appear to be applied to registered historic districts in Section 2409 of the Ordinance.
West Vincent	Zoning/Article XXIV	Historic Preservation Overlay District – Defines four classes of resources, covers demolition of historic resources, relocation, special use provisions, landscaping and screening, and historic resource impact study
	Zoning/Article X	Birchrunville Village District (BV) - Encourages uses compatible with rural village
	SLDO/§702.H, K, J	Deals with protection of historic resources, scenic resources, and trail preservation.

## PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR COOPERATION AND ACTIVITIES

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Many preservation activities require a combination of public and private efforts and activities. There is an interdependent relation between the public and private sectors. When the private sector is successful it creates a strong economic base, keeps property values high and generates taxes. When the public sector is successful, it creates necessary infrastructure, supports economic activities and creates a desirable quality of life. By identifying the roles and responsibilities of both the public and private sectors, it will help demonstrate how both contribute in achieving historic preservation goals.

Both sectors can play a role in seeking funding, coordinating available financial resources, educating the public on important historical preservation issues, advocating historic preservation in the community realm, creating supportive historic preservation policies, and implementing actions to effectuate historic preservation. The public sector can, in addition, coordinate historic commissions or committees, provide technical assistance to the public, and serve as liaison between the public and private organizations or technical bodies. The private sector, in addition, can fund projects, volunteer services, provide like-kind services, serve as advocates for historic preservation, own/operate historic sites, as well as commit to reuse historic sites for business or new activities.

### PUBLIC SECTOR

Public sector involvement is crucial for the preservation of historic resources throughout the Region. There are a number of active Historical Commissions and like bodies (as discussed previously in this chapter) which have a number of special preservation efforts and projects underway in the Region.

A phone survey tailored to each township (Appendix E) was conducted to collect current information about each Historical Commission's (or like body's) projects and goals. All the information gathered through this survey has reinforced already existing information and provided clarification on some locally significant historic features and projects.

### PRIVATE SECTOR

The following private sector preservation efforts are underway in the Region:

- *French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust. (Trust).* Founded in 1967 by Samuel W. and Eleanor M. Morris, the Trust has led the way in preserving open spaces and protecting historic places in Northern Chester County for over 35 years. It is a 501(c)(3) organization that works collaboratively with individual landowners, local, county and state government, and other conservation organizations in preservation efforts throughout the Region. Through the successful implementation of public-private partnerships, the Trust has protected more than 7,000 acres of open space and placed more than 60 sites on the National Register of Historic Places. The Trust receives funding from a variety of sources: grants from foundations, Chester County, townships, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; as well as private donations, memberships; and fundraising events such as Derby Day, an annual auction, and a Bike Tour. More information can be obtained at <http://www.frenchandpickering.org/>.
- One particular project the Trust was involved with was the restoration of the Coventry House, located in the historic district of Coventryville, where their office is located.

- The Trust recently conveyed its Mill at Anselma in West Pikeland Township to a local trust, which has plans to restore and operate the Mill as an educational site.
- The Trust administers a façade easement program.
- *East Vincent Township.* Upon completion of a master plan, there will be a drive to create a “Friends of the Parker Ford Tavern.” It is intended that will be a private group who will raise money to restore this historic tavern.
- *Pikeland Historical Society.* They are looking into the idea of applying for nostalgic directional road signs in and around the Village of Kimberton (East Pikeland) that would replicate the historic/older direction road signs in the village.
- *Fricks Locks Canal Village Association.* Formed in East Coventry Township in 2000, this private non-profit group is one of concerned citizens and includes one township Historical Commission member representative. This group was formed to oversee renovations, maintenance, etc. in the village of Fricks Locks, a National Register Historic District.

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

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### STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

In 1999, the PHMC and its partners developed a five-year State historic preservation plan. In 2005, the PHMC’s BHP completed an update to that plan entitled *Honoring the Past, Planning for the Future: Pennsylvania’s Historic Preservation Plan 2006-2011*. In creating that Plan, focus groups were convened around the state, and an online survey was developed. The responses of both are reflected in the Plan priorities and goals as follows:

GOAL I - Enhanced Education and Awareness: Statewide awareness and education regarding the value of historic preservation is vital to creating desire, will, and investment that results in the maintenance and appreciation of historic and cultural resources.

GOAL II - Secure Stable Public Policy and Public Funding Support at all levels for the Preservation of Historic and Cultural Resources: To ensure the future of historic preservation, all publicly funded initiatives that enable historic preservation and historical interpretation need to be adequately appreciated and funded by elected and appointed federal, state, and local public policymakers. Such initiatives include the PHMC’s grants program. In addition, the SHPO must continually apply fresh ideas to manage its programs in ways that provide optimum public service.

GOAL III - Celebrate Preservation Accomplishments Through Recognition, Leadership, Stewardship, and Outreach: It is important to celebrate the many achievements evident in historic preservation that result from the work of individuals and organizations that comprise the preservation community in Pennsylvania. These achievements include the important day-to-day work of preservation partners, PHMC, and the SHPO in collaboration with state and federal agencies. This goal can be achieved through simple forms of recognition and with continued leadership, stewardship, service, and outreach.

More information is available at <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bhp>.

## REGIONAL EDUCATION EFFORTS

Outreach efforts to educate the public on historic resources protection, regulations, and efforts are as follows:

**EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP:** In 1997, the Historic Commission participated in their first walking tour for Chester County Towns Tours and Village Walks summer program.

**EAST NANTMEAL TOWNSHIP:** The Historical Commission holds four public meetings annually at the township building where they invite historians and others to present historical information; on average 10-20 members of the public are in attendance per meeting. The Historical Commission has also published a Township History book, which is through the township. In the future, the Historical Commission hopes to conduct educational seminars and presentations to school students to encourage and foster the appreciation of the rich history of the township.

**EAST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP:** The Historical Commission has been participating in the Chester County Town and Village Walks where they have conducted walking tours through the Villages of Kimberton and Merlin. In the past, the Commission provided tours in and around the Raps Revolutionary Dam Site.

**EAST VINCENT TOWNSHIP:** In 2004, the township hosted the Independence Day Revolutionary Soldiers Memorial Ceremony and the Annual Christmas celebration at old Hickory Grove Schoolhouse. Both were successful as well as educational events where the public could come to a historic resource and learn about it as well as communing with other residents in their communities. A goal in 2004 for the Historical Commission was to provide an Oral History documentary of township residents and outreach to township residents for historic documents and artifacts. The township has also participated in the Chester County Walking Tour Program, conducting a walking tour of the Parkerford tavern/historic area.

**NORTH COVENTRY TOWNSHIP:** 1) The Historical Commission conducts walking tours of the Pottstown Landing area and in the village of Cedarville. 2) In the future, the township would like to erect signs in various villages (Kennelworth, South Pottstown, Cedarville) to evoke village recognition. Pottstown Landing has historical markers in and around the village area (these markers are not through the PA State Marker program; in fact a recent application to the PA State Marker program was denied).

**SOUTH COVENTRY TOWNSHIP:** 1) The township has participated in the Chester County Town and Village Walks to showcase Coventryville, and is planning to include Pughtown in that program in 2007. 2) Historic properties are highlighted in the township newsletter and information on these properties are displayed in the township's display case. 3) The township is working to gather oral histories. 4) The township became a Certified Local Government (CLG) in 2006.

**WALLACE TOWNSHIP:** The Village Taskforce (a private entity) is involved in applying for the Glenmore Historic District for Act 167 (Certified Historic District) status and for National Register listing. The township has and will continue to conduct a walking tour through the Village of Glenmore.

WARWICK TOWNSHIP: 1) Historical resources information has been relayed to the public through a new newsletter the township is publishing as of 12/04. Each newsletter has an article dedicated to showcasing an aspect of historic resources in the township. They would like to write an article to inform the public about guidelines for remodeling historic resources published by the Department of Interior. 2) When website is developed for the township, the Historical Commission would like to include information and articles about historic preservation as well as interesting facts about local historic resources. 3) The Historical Commission has also conducted walking tours through St. Peter's Village. There is interest in conducting a walking tour through the Village of Warwick; however, no walking tours have taken place to date. 4) When the township celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Historical Commission conducted a township-wide tour for the public showcasing the historic resources in the township.

WEST VINCENT TOWNSHIP: Historic preservation efforts and general information about the historic resources in the township is included in the township's newsletter.

THE FRENCH AND PICKERING CREEKS CONSERVATION TRUST: The Trust has a newsletter to educate residents and others about their contributions in preserving historic resources in the Region. The Trust is very active in preserving lands in perpetuity that have historic structures, as well as accepting donated historic building facades from private owners, and acting as an information resource for residents.

## FINANCIAL RESOURCES

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Funding for historic preservation is available through both public and private sources depending on the type and scope of the proposed project or activity. Funding comes in many forms and generally no one source covers all preservation projects or activities. As the Northern Federation develops preservation strategies, it is important to understand the financial resources available so that the Northern Federation may appropriately match projects and funding sources.

### PUBLIC FUNDING SOURCES

#### HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), derived from Outer Continental Shelf mineral receipts, was authorized by the NHPA to provide financial support for historic preservation activities. The HPF serve as a catalyst and "seed money", providing matching grants-in-aid to the states, local governments, and Indian Tribes to assist in their efforts to protect and preserve properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Since 1968, over \$1 billion in grant funds has been awarded to 59 states, territories, Indian Tribes, local governments, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Out of a fy2003 appropriation of \$33.8 million for HPF grants to the states, the average state allocation was about \$573,000, which typically is matched by \$382,000 in non-federal matching share contributions. Projects eligible for funding and selection criteria are developed annually by the SHPO. Funding decisions are made by the state, not NPS. Applications for HPF grants are available by contacting the SHPO.

Although federal support for preservation activities has declined over the years, the HPF was an important funding source for many early survey efforts, including the Chester County Historic Sites Survey. Although each state sets its own funding priorities, a required minimum mandate

is the allocation of at least 10% to CLG's. In Pennsylvania, these funds are provided to the PHMC and passed through to the CLG's. Among the kinds of activities funded are the following: surveys; National Register nominations; preservation plans; public outreach materials; architectural plans, historic structure reports, and engineering studies necessary to repair National Register listed sites; and rehabilitation of National Register listed sites.

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Another important federal funding source is the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. This program is a system of broad-based block grants that are passed through to States and to "entitlement communities" such as Chester County, to fund community and economic development activities. While certain historic preservation activities are eligible for CDBG funds, their use must be linked to an eligible community development objective.

#### TAX INCENTIVES

Two federal tax incentive programs currently apply to preservation activities in Pennsylvania: the rehabilitation investment tax credit and the charitable contribution deduction (both discussed under *Federal Level* above).

#### NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUNDING

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, discussed above under *Federal Level*, offers several grants: Preservation Services Fund, Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors, Local Initiative grants, and the Collaborative Pilot. These grants range from \$500 to \$10,000; however, some require local matching funds.

#### SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES GRANTS

In partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, The National Park Service administers Save America's Treasures Grants.

Grants are available for preservation and/or conservation projects for "nationally significant" sites and artifacts (as defined at <http://www2.cr.nps.gov/treasures/national.htm>). Grants are awarded through a competitive process to government agencies, 501(c) nonprofits, Indian Tribes, and historic religious sites/collections, and require a dollar-for-dollar non-federal match, which can be cash, donated services, or use of equipment. The minimum grant request for projects varies starting from \$25,000 federal share for collection projects in fy2006. There is also a maximum grant request for projects, which is \$700,000 for fy2006. The Save America's Treasures Grants Selection Panel may, at its discretion, award less than the minimum grant request. In 2005, the average federal grant award to collections was \$179,000, and the average award to historic properties was \$299,000.

## PHMC FUNDING

Grants are available from PHMC under the following categories:

- Certified Local Government Grant Program
- Keystone Historic Preservation Grant Program
- Pennsylvania History and Museum Grant Program
  - Project Grants
    - Archives and Records Management Grants
    - Historic Preservation Project Grants
    - Local History Grants
    - Museum Project Grants
  - General Operating Support
    - General Operating Support Grants for Museums
    - General Operating Support Grants for Official County Historical Societies
  - Historical Marker Grants
  - Technical Assistance Grants
  - Statewide Conference Grants
  - Statewide Organization Grants

Grant funding to County Historical Societies is the only noncompetitive program. Grant match requirements vary among the programs. Eligibility requirements and application forms can be found in PHMC's annual publication, *Pennsylvania History and Museum Grants*. For more general information on grants see <http://www.artsnet.org/phmc/grants.htm>.

## TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENTS PROGRAM

See *SAFETEA-LU* above under *Other Federal Programs and Entities*.

The Northern Federation may consider these funding programs when evaluating funding options for the historic preservation plan strategies in Chapter 3. Although matching is required in many cases, private sources can often be used to fill this gap.

## PRIVATE FUNDING SOURCES

Private funding sources include assistance provided by private foundations, company-sponsored foundations, corporate giving programs, and community foundations. Foundations are non-governmental, non-profit organizations with funds and programs managed by its own trustees or directors, established for the purpose of providing aid to social, educational, charitable, religious, or other activities mainly through making grants. Information on foundations and corporate donors is available in directories located in most libraries. A sample of the major foundations located in southeast Pennsylvania that have funded historic preservation activities include the Annenberg Foundation, the Bartol Foundation, Claneil Foundation, the William Penn Foundation, and the Philadelphia Foundation, the Oxford Foundation, the Mermont Foundation, and the Warwick Foundation. A charitable trust is a type of private foundation; one of the most noted, is Pew Charitable Trusts.

Corporate foundations are those that derive funds from the sponsoring company or corporation. Usually the recipient of corporate funds has some link to the corporation and through a specific project, can help further corporate goals. Corporations often give funding to projects in proximity to corporate facilities. These actions are often considered goodwill gestures and help to build local support for the corporation. Large corporate foundations in southeast Pennsylvania include the CIGNA Foundation, the Dietrich Foundation, the Hankin Foundation, the Houston Foundation, Meridian Foundation, and the Lukens Foundation.

Community foundations receive funding from various private sources including endowments. They are managed through the community with the stipulation that they are used for charitable purposes for organizations within a specific geographical area. The number of community foundations is increasing. The Chester County Community Foundation was established in 1996 and its importance is growing as a funding resource for local projects, programs and activities.

Other sources of funding for historic preservation include donations and services provided by local businesses, organizations, and individuals. Prior to federal and state grant availability, nearly all preservation projects were privately funded. A foundation or corporation's funding priorities should match the project. Before the Northern Federation prepares any type of request or application for funding, it should research the funding organization thoroughly to identify the organization's goals, motives, and preferred method of support. Tailoring the application or request is essential.

## DOCUMENTATION OF HISTORIC RESOURCES IN THE REGION

This section displays lists of historic resources in the Northern Federation.

### NATIONAL REGISTER LISTED OR ELIGIBLE SITES AND DISTRICTS

**Figure 8-3  
National Register Listed and Eligible Historic Resources (by municipality)**

Historic Name	Address/Location	Status	Status Date
<b><i>East Coventry:</i></b>			
Fricks Locks Historic District*	S. end of Fricks Lock Rd., approx. 1000 ft. E. of Sanatoga Rd.	Listed	2003
River Bend Farm	Sanatoga Rd. @ dead end	Listed	8/29/80
John Mattis Farm	250 Kolb Rd.	Eligible	3/26/02
Parker's Ford*	Old Schuylkill Rd. (Registered historic blgs. are located in E. Vincent)	Listed	3/17/83
<b><i>East Nantmeal:</i></b>			
Welkinweir	1368 Prizer Rd.	Listed	9/7/01
The Dolby House	E. end of Warwick Furnace Rd.	Eligible	1976/77
The Tilt & Fertig's Mill	Rt. 100 @ Flowing Springs	Eligible	1976/77
Pleasant Hill Plantation	Little Conestoga @ Adams Rd.	Eligible	1982
Wynn Hollow Rd. Historic District*	Temple, Hollow, Fairview Rds.	Eligible	2001
Jacob Hause log smokehouse	Rt. 401 @ Mansion Rd.	Eligible	3/1/1972
Murray/Lynn Homestead	Nantmeal & Coventryville Rds.	Eligible	3/1/1972
Brower's Bridge	Mansion Rd. L.R. 15195	Listed	6/22/88
Thomas Bull House	Bulltown Rd.	Listed	8/3/79
Fremont Academy	172 B Fairview Rd.	Eligible	11/14/95
Warwick Furnace Farms (only land, not registered buildings in Twp.)	Warwick Furnace Rd.	Listed	9/13/76
Jonathan Rooke House	Nantmeal & Iron Bridge Rds.	Eligible	3/1/1972

Historic Name	Address/Location	Status	Status Date
<b>East Pikeland:</b>			
	<b>Address/Location</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
Bernard Property	Hare's Hill Rd.	Eligible	3/28/94
Hare's Hill Rd. Iron Bridge	Hare's Hill Rd. @ French Creek	Listed	3/28/78
George Hartman House	Church Rd. off Pickering Ck. Rd.	Listed	3/26/76
Kimberton Village Historic District*	Kimberton Rd. & Hares Hill Rd.	Listed	5/6/76
Kimberton Historic District* (Boundary Increase)	Hare's Hill Rd., Prizer Rd., Kimberton Rd.	Listed	7/30/87
Middle Pickering Rural Historic District with part of Merlin Village* <sup>3</sup>	Pikeland, Yellow Springs, Merlin, Pickering Rds.	Listed	9/6/91
Prizer's Mill Complex	Mill Ln. Kimberton	Listed	9/6/78
Casper Snyder House	Camp Council Road	Eligible	1972/73
Henry Hipple House	Merlin Road	Eligible	1972/73
Peter Hartman Residence	S.S. Rt. 113	Eligible	1977
John Emery House [Norland Sq]	Art School Rd. off Rt. 113	Eligible	1972/73
Queen Anne House	E. Rapp's Dam Rd. & South of French Creek	Eligible	9/21/83
Rapp's Covered Bridge	Rapp's Dam Rd. @ French Creek Rd.	Listed	6/18/73
<b>East Vincent:</b>			
	<b>Address/Location</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
Camp Sankanac*	66 Bertolet School Rd.	Eligible	6/15/93
Egress Acres	Rt. 724	Eligible	1/31/91
Hall's Covered Bridge	Hollow Rd. (L.R. 15194) at French Creek	Listed	4/23/73
Kennedy Covered Bridge	Seven Stars Rd. T-522. Northwest of Kimberton	Listed	1/21/74
Pennhurst State Hospital*	Dunlap & Pennhurst Rds.	Eligible	6/00/84
Rogers/Beaver House	W. Seven Stars Rd. @ Lucas Rd.	Eligible	7/10/73
Samuel Rosen Farm	Ellis Wood Rd.	Eligible	1/31/92
Isaac Schlichter House & Barn	S. Stony Run Rd.	Eligible	11/15/95
Frank Titanic Property	Bertolet School Rd.	Listed	10/9/91
Frederick Sheeder House	Sheeder Mill Road	Eligible	1972/73
Henry Chrisman House	Pughtown Road	Eligible	1972/73
John Yeager House	Miller Road	Eligible	1972/73
Conrad Bode Farm	Pughtown Road	Eligible	1976/77
Samuel Bertolet Farm	Pughtown Road	Eligible	1976/77
Jb. & Elizabeth Keeley House/Inn	Sheeder Mill Road	Eligible	1972/73
Young Vincent Forge Mansion	Cook's Glen Rd.	Listed	5/9/85
Parker's Ford*	Old Schuylkill Rd. (Tavern)	Listed	3/17/1983
William Yeager Farm	Hoffecker Rd.	Eligible	4/11/91
<b>North Coventry:</b>			
	<b>Address/Location</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
Pottstown Landing Historic District (incl. Shaner's Bakery)*	Laurelwood Rd. from Rt. 422 overpass to Rt. 724	Listed	8/31/01
Walters Tract Subdivision	1338 W. Schuylkill Rd. S.R. 724	Eligible	11/22/95

<b>Historic Name</b>	<b>Address/Location</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
<b>South Coventry:</b>			
N/A	Pughtown Rd.	Eligible	2/20/01
Simon Meredith House	Daisy Point Rd. W. of Pughtown	Listed	12/16/74
Stephen Meredith House	Half way between Pughtown & Bucktown on Rt. 100	Listed	4/29/93
Nathan Michener House	S.S. Ridge Rd. (Rt 23)	Listed	4/3/76
Pughtown Village Historic District*	Pottstown Pike (Rt 100) & Pughtown Rd.	Eligible	12/19/88
Robert Thomas House	Pottstown Pike west side of S.R. 100	Eligible	1/31/96
Samuel Townsend House	West side of Rt. 100, S. of Pughtown	Listed	12/16/74
Leah Young House	Pottstown Pike west side of S.R. 100	Eligible	1/31/96
Trading Post & Farm	Coventryville Rd. @ Pigeon Creek	Eligible	1981
Buck Tavern	Rt. 100 @ Rt. 23 NE Corner	Eligible	10/8/98
Coventry House	3340 Coventryville Rd. (Off Rt. 23)	Listed	12/16/74
Coventryville Historic District* <sup>2</sup>	Old Rt. 23: S. Coventry, Warwick, & E. Nantmeal Twps. included	Listed	1/31/78
<b>Wallace:</b>			
William Ferguson Farm	Marshall Rd. SW of Rt. 282.	Listed	4/10/80
Springton Manor Farm	Springton Rd. & Creek Rd. (Rt. 282)	Listed	8/7/79
Pleasant Hill Plantation	Mostly in E. Nantmeal twp.)	Listed	1982
Steel Bridge	Devereux Rd. @ Brandywine Creek	Eligible	4/11/94
<b>Warwick:</b>			
Brower's Bridge – Part of Reading Furnace Historic District	Mansion Rd. L.R. 15195	Listed	6/22/88
Reading Furnace Historic District* <sup>2</sup>	Mansion Rd. Near French Creek	Listed	7/30/87
Henry Hockley Mill Farm	Warwick Furnace Rd. @ County Park Rd.	Listed	12/18/90
Hopewell Village National Historic Site*	Rt. 345 and Berks County, Union Twp.	Listed	10/15/66
Knauer Patent Thematic District*	Pa Rt. 23 (Ridge Rd.), County Park Rd. in Knauertown (4 Knauer Properties)	Eligible	1/27/82
Christopher Knauer House & Inn (House #1)	Rt. 23 in Knauertown	Eligible	1/27/82
Davis Knauer House (House #4)	County Park Rd. in Knauertown	Eligible	1/27/82
Christopher Johann Knauer House	Rt. 23 in Knauertown	Eligible	1/27/82
John Knauer House and Mill	N.S. Rt. 23 in Knauertown	Listed	5/30/85
Lahr Farm	S.S. Rt. 23 & W. of Grove Rd.	Listed	9/7/79
North Warwick Historic & Archeological District*	Rt. 345, Northside, Hopewell, Harmonyville & Trythall Rds. (incl. 1845.45 acres)	Listed	2/24/95
Phillip Rogers House	Rt. 23 E. of Knauertown	Listed	5/25/73
Warwick Mills/ Hager Mill	James Mill Rd. @ Grove Rd.	Listed	12/30/74
Bennett Toll-House	S.S Rt. 23 behind St. Peter's Church	Eligible	9/18/90
St. Peters Village Historic District*	E. & W. sides of St. Peters Rd. between School Rd. and Rock Run Rd.	Listed	11/21/2003

Historic Name	Address/Location	Status	Status Date
Coventryville Historic District* <sup>2</sup>	Rt. 23: S. Coventry, Warwick, & E. Nantmeal Twps	Listed	1/31/78
Jacob Winings House & Clover Mill	James Mills Rd. near Mansion Rd.	Listed	8/17/79
Warren Point	Rt. 23 W. of Knauertown	Listed	11/11/75
Warwick Furnace Farms Historic District* <sup>2</sup>	Warwick Furnace Rd. & Valley Way (enlarged in 9/13/76)	Listed	1972/73
St. Mary's Episcopal Church	Warwick Village	Listed	1996
David Griffith House	Warwick Funace Rd. near County Park Road	Eligible	1972/73
David Davis House	County Park Road	Eligible	1972/73
Henry Hockley Mansion	Warwick Furnace Rd.	Eligible	1972/73
1808 Springhouse	Ret. 345 N. of Northside Road	Eligible	1972/73
Henry Swinehart Tenant House	Bethesda Road	Eligible	1972/73
<b>West Vincent:</b>	<b>Address/Location</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Status Date</b>
N/A	Kimberton Rd. Old Rt. 113	Eligible	6/16/78
Birchrunville General Store	Hollow & Flowing Springs Rds., Birchrunville	Listed	3/21/78
West Vincent Highlands Historic District* <sup>4</sup>	Almost 2000 acres from Birchrunville SW to Ludwigs Corner with 100 properties	Listed	5/7/1998
Birchrunville Historic District*	Hollow & Flowing Springs Rds. & Schoolhouse Ln.	Listed	4/28/92
Camp Sankanac*	66 Bertolet School Rd. (also in E. Vincent Twp, on both sides of the French Creek)	Eligible	6/15/93
Deery Family Homestead	Art School Rd. 1.5 mile North of Chester Springs	Listed	12/23/77
John Brownback House	Birchrunville Rd.	Listed	4/2/73
French Creek Farm	Kimberton Rd. Pughtown	Listed	11/3/88
Hall's Covered Bridge	Hollow Rd. @ French Ck.	Listed	4/23/73
Robert Rooke House	Horseshoe Traill at Fellowship Rd.	Listed	9/19/78
John Mackey Residence	Rt. 100 & Birchrun Rd.	Eligible	6/16/91
George & Phoebe Hipple House	Davis Lane	Eligible	7/19/74
(Judge) Roberts/ Strickland Homestead	St. Mathews Rd.	Listed	1/30/78
* Indicates a National Register District, including several contributing properties within the established boundaries.			
<sup>2</sup> Although documentation from the PHMC indicates that there are three historic districts located in East Nantmeal, local verification has been conducted which presents counter findings. Coventryville H.D. is located in both Warwick Township (eastern boundary) and South Coventry Township; Reading Furnace Historic District and Warwick Furnace Historic District are located just north of the South Branch of the French Creek in Warwick Township with land area in East Nantmeal but all registered buildings within these districts are located in Warwick Township. (East Nantmeal Comprehensive Plan, pg. 3-22, 1993.) There only listed National Registered Historic Districts entirely within East Nantmeal Township is Parker's Ford.			
<sup>3</sup> Middle Pickering Rural Historic District is located chiefly in Charlestown Township with a small portion located in East Pikeland Township. It contains 1055 acres total. It was listed in 9/6/1991.			
<sup>4</sup> West Vincent Highlands Historic District includes 100 properties and is almost 2,000 acres. It includes previously eligible nominations: James John House; John Rhoads House; Robert & Thomas Rooke houses; George and Phoebe Hipple House; John Brunner Farm; James Whelen House (Upper Uwchlan); John Brownback House; and all the farmland & buildings in between.			

## CHESTER COUNTY HISTORIC SITES SURVEY/ CHESTER COUNTY HISTORIC GIS ATLAS

Information about *local* historic resources in the Region from the Chester County Historic Sites Survey, conducted between 1979 and 1982, is provided below as found in municipal plans.

East Coventry Township: Chester County Historic Preservation Office surveyed the township in 1981 for historic sites and structures. At that time the Preservation Office identified over 250 sites and structures by using historical atlases as guides. Forty-two of these identified sites comprise the historic village of Parker Ford. Map 8 of the 1992 Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan shows the township's historic resources. This has not been updated in the township for 22 years and they are now participating in the County Atlas Program to update their local inventory.

East Nantmeal Township: Chester County Historic Preservation Office surveyed the township in 1982 for historic sites and structures. Many buildings over 50 years old were recorded in the Chester County Historic Building Survey. Since the formation of the Historical Commission in 1983, almost 200 sites have been identified and verified, with some additions made to the original historic sites inventory (1982) by the Commission, among which are structures on the National Register of Historic Places and the [former] Pennsylvania Historic Register. Additionally, five sites were classified as Pennsylvania Century Farms, and have been continuously family-owned by members from the same family for more than a hundred years. Indian artifact sites were also identified, bringing the total number to two and have been registered with the PHMC. These artifact sites are known to the township and Historical Committee, and are mapped for township use but are purposely not indicated on any published township map or open for general public use.

In 1993, the Open Space and Recreation Task Force completed an inventory of those sites, facilities, structures, and activities that provide the distinct character of East Nantmeal. They performed an in-depth windshield survey to document any other resources that were not included in the original historic survey that the township would like to preserve.

East Pikeland Township: Chester County Historic Preservation Office surveyed the township in 1980-81 for historic sites and structures. At that time the Preservation Office identified 156 sites and structures having architectural significance, with various styles being represented, by using historical atlases as guides. Most of the resources sited are residences and others are farmsteads which were rated by the quality of the resource (high, medium, or low value). Thirty sites (19.2% of the resources) were judged to be of high value.

Robert E. Bartmann conducted a reconnaissance survey in 1992 to reevaluate the recorded resources and to consider several additional ones. The reconnaissance survey revealed changes from the 1980-81 Chester County Historic Survey.

- **Losses:** Some resources have lost integrity because of renovations and/or additions which were done in a more "modern" style. Overall, thirteen (8.3%) of the resources have been lost or downgraded; eight were of high value, resulting in a loss of 20.0% in high-value resources.
- **Gain:** The 1992 survey also found that a number of sites had been upgraded by the removal of inappropriate additions or building materials and serious efforts to restore their historical architectural integrity. Therefore, seven sites were upgraded from a rating of low or medium to

that of high value. Nine other resources were upgraded because they are examples of styles rare to East Pikeland or because they are highly fragile farmstead sites. The recent survey also noted that resources of more recent vintage, missing from the original survey. Since the 1980-81 survey of historic buildings, the Chester County Office of Historic Preservation has conducted a survey of historic bridges. Two bridges in East Pikeland have been noted as having historic value (the Hare's Hill Road Iron Bridge over French Creek and the Rapp's Dam Covered Bridge, also over French Creek).

East Vincent Township: Chester County Historic Preservation Office surveyed the township in 1982 for historic sites and structures. At that time the Preservation Office identified 212 sites and structures having architectural significance, with various styles being represented, by using historical atlases as guides. Most of the resources sited are residences and others are farmsteads which were rated by the quality of the resource (high, medium, or low value). Forty-three sites (20.3% of the resources) were judged to be of high value.

In 1991 a "windshield survey" was conducted by Robert E. Bartmann to reevaluate the recorded resources and to consider several additional ones. Some additional resources have been added to the list, while others have been lost by the demolition of buildings or through the loss of integrity because of "modernization" and/or inappropriate additions.

- **Losses:** In 1994, some resources were documented to have lost integrity because of demolition, renovations and/or additions which were done in a more "modern" style. Overall, sixteen (7.5%) of the resources have been lost or downgraded; four (10%) were of high value, and demolition was the cause of loss for six resources, while the rest were caused by renovations and/or additions which were not done to blend in with the rest of the historic architecture.
- **Gain:** Previously unrecorded resources were added to the original list of historic resources and at least one of these was considered of "high" value, although this information was not disclosed in the Plan. In addition, historic bridges have been listed. There are 7 historic bridges in East Vincent. As of now, the number of architectural sites totals 206.

North Coventry Township: Chester County Historic Preservation Office surveyed the township in 1980-81 for historic sites and structures. At that time the Preservation Office identified 308 resources having architectural significance, with various styles being represented. Most of these sites are residences; others are farmsteads.

A reconnaissance survey was conducted by Robert E. Bartmann in 1992 to reevaluate the recorded resources and to consider several other additions.

- **Losses:** Within the twelve years that passed from the first survey to the 1992 reconnaissance survey, there were some resources that had lost integrity because of "modernization" and/or inappropriate additions. Others have been demolished. Overall, twenty-three (7.5%) of the resources have been lost over the past ten years; two were lost to demolition. Of the 23 sites that have been lost, eight were considered "high value" according to the County Survey. This was a net loss of 13.3% in high-value resources in the township.
- **Gains:** There were a number of sites that had been upgraded by the removal of inappropriate additions or building materials and serious efforts to restore their historic architectural integrity were made by the property owners. Therefore, 31 sites were upgraded from a rating of low or medium to that of high value. There were also some missing from the original survey such as: homes of the Tudor Revival style, American Four Square style, and Bungalow style and the farm buildings on Laurel Locks Farm. Twenty-two more resources have been added and rated of high value.

Since the 1980-81 survey of buildings, Chester County conducted a survey of historic bridges. Two County bridges in North Coventry have been noted as having historic value including the Keim Street Bridge over the Schuylkill River and the Keim Street Bridge over Kenilworth Creek. In addition, there are five smaller historic bridges on other roads, most of them are noted as being stone arched with stonewall railings.

South Coventry Township: Chester County Historic Preservation Office surveyed the township in 1981 for historic sites and structures. At that time the Preservation Office identified 83 historic sites/structures in the township having historic value. Also included in the study was an inventory of 47 total sites and structures located in the villages of Coventryville and Pughtown. This brings the total to 132 sites and/or structures. Coventryville is the only National Register Historic District within the township. Pughtown has not been registered as an official Historic District, however it is "Eligible" to be listed on the National Register.

Wallace Township: Wallace Township's historic resources have been compiled in several different documents which can be found in the following sources: The Historic Resources Map included in the township's Zoning Ordinance; Chester County Historic Sites Survey reports; and Chester County Historic Preservation Office files. Certain historic resources were verified using a 1788 Springton Manor survey, the 1873 Witmer's Farm Atlas, and the 1883 Breous Farm Atlas.

In 1988, the Chester County Historic Preservation Office submitted a National Register District nomination to the PHMC for the Village of Glenmoore. PHMC altered the proposed boundary lines and granted the district a Determination of Eligibility (DOE). Properties eligible for the National Register receive the same Advisory Council on Historic Preservation review accorded to listed properties. The Village of Glenmoore Historic District is in process to become a Certified Historic District in accordance with the Act of June 13, 1961, P.L. 282, as amended: 53 P.S. Sec. 8001 et. seq. The boundaries are delineated on the Wallace Historic Resources Map in the Wallace Township Zoning Ordinance (1988 with amendments).

Warwick Township: As part of the Chester County Historic Site Survey, which the French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust conducted in northern Chester County, many sites of possible historic and/or architectural significance have been identified in Warwick Township. Over 200 structures were identified in the Township as being built prior to 1930, more than 100 are of potential significance.

In 2004 Warwick Township completed a Historical, Architectural, and Archaeological Sites Map identifying Class I, Class II, and Class III historic resources, prehistoric archeological sites, primary and secondary archeological sensitive areas including mapping the boundaries to the large North Warwick Historic and Archeological District.

West Vincent Township: As part of the Chester County Historic Site Survey, West Vincent Township was surveyed from 1979 to 1982 and the results were given to the township in 1983. There were many sites identified of possible historic and/or architectural significance. The County Survey inventoried 231 sites scattered throughout West Vincent Township, inferring potential historic value. These are mapped in the West Vincent Township Open Space and Recreation Plan, Appendix VI. Sixty were noted at that time to have potential National Register nomination, including 26 within a historic district at Birchrunville. Across the township as a whole, further research is necessary to render more concise evaluation of historical significance.

## INFORMATION FROM MUNICIPAL PLANS

### East Coventry Township:

- In December of 1986, John Milner Associates, Inc. documented the architectural and historical value of the Fricks Lock district for PECO. The Fricks Lock district consists of approximately 18 acres along the Schuylkill River. Within the district are 13 contributing and 2 non-contributing buildings and eight structures that comprise a largely intact agricultural hamlet, spanning a period of approximately 180 years from 1757 to 1969. The district's buildings and structures provide an excellent example of the local evolution of rural domestic architecture. This district is also significant because of its role as a small commercial center that served the local agricultural population and boatmen traveling on the Schuylkill Canal.
- The Township has a high level of probability of archeological resources. The PHMC has established an inventory of archaeologically sensitive areas. Due to the confidential nature of this inventory, the PHMC is unable to produce a township-wide sensitivity map of known archeological sites. It is only known that early native populations inhabited areas within most of Chester County, often located along stream banks. It can be presumed that such sites are to be found in the township, particularly near stream corridors.
- The Ellis Woods Cemetery is a Revolutionary War cemetery with local historical interest.
- First Mennonite Congregation (1724) and was rebuilt in 1817 and 1890.
- Brownbacks German Reformed Church (1743) was log in 1750 and then stone in 1800.
- There was at one point nine working mill sites on Pigeon Creek, which is an astounding number along a relatively smaller creek.
- The School House located on Schoolhouse Road is also another site with local historical interests.

### East Nantmeal Township:

- Once a much larger area named "Nantmeal", it is now divided into East and West Nantmeal Townships, Wallace, Honey Brook Townships, and Elverson Borough.
- The Township Historical Commission has participated in educating the residents of their township by composing two books which document the history of the Township. These books are for sale and one should contact the township to obtain a personal copy.
- They hope to conduct educational seminars and presentations to school students to encourage and foster the appreciation of the rich history of East Nantmeal Township

- Creation of a “mini-museum” in which to display township history and artifacts, which hasn’t occurred yet to date.
- Give Historic House Tours and provide data on each house visited for the attending guests on their tours.

East Pikeland Township:

- One district has been established as a Historic District (the Village of Kimberton).
- A proposal to establish another National Historic District was mentioned in the Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan was to include the area around Merlin, which is part of the Middle Pickering Rural Historic District.
- Rapp’s Covered Bridge, Silver Covered Bridge, and Kennedy Covered Bridge are also an important feature in the township, which are shared with their neighbors (East Vincent Township).
- A revolutionary site that was recommended to be added to the National Register of Historic Places is the Continental Powder Mill Site.
- In addition to the historical architectural resources that have been noted in the surveys, there are other resources that are part of East Pikeland’s history. These resources include historic bridges, 2 churches, graveyards, the remains of mills, wagon roads, etc. These are noted on the map entitled “Cultural, Historical and Architectural Resources” and are described in Appendix C of the Data Book related to the Township’s Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan.

East Vincent Township:

- Other historic resources of interest were identified in the Appendix D of the East Vincent Township Open Space, Recreational and Environmental Resources Plan. The following were mentioned:

The Site of Parkers Ford*	Edward Miler’s Machine Shop and Mill
Schuylkill Canal Trace and Lock No. 57	Alexander Kennedy’s Covered Bridge*
Pennhurst Center	First Hickory Grove School
The site of Towers’ Ford	Bridge and Henry Christman’s Mill
The Site of Craters Ford	Pughtown Road Bridge
Island/Mill Pond	Hollow road Industries
Hipples Ford/Yost Mill	Sheeder Mill Raceway
Washington Rees Mill	Vincent Forge Raceway
Conrad Haus (Haws) Mill	Sow Belly railroad
Rhoads Mennonite School House	Abraham Detweiler’s Mill
Schuylkill Canal Trace and Lock No. 58	Daniel Bucher’s Mills
Locust Grove Schoolhouse	Edward Simpson’s Store
Revolutionary Soldiers Cemetery	French Creek Path
Vincent German Reformed Church and St. Vincent Reformed Church	A Railroad

\* listed on the National Register

Archaeological Sites in East Vincent Township: The 1994 Comprehensive Plan mentions that there are sixteen (16) sites in East Vincent Township that have been recorded with the PHMC, Division of Archaeology. Artifacts were found at thirteen (13) sites. Nothing was discovered at three (3) sites.

- Of the thirteen sites where some evidence was found, three sites are exclusively of the

Archaic Period, two are exclusively of the Woodland Period, seven produced evidence of both periods, and one site's period was undetermined.

- Seven of the sites are found along the Schuylkill River and tributaries immediate to the river.
- One of these sites (located along Stony Run) is exclusively from the Archaic Period; the other six span both the Archaic and Woodland Periods.
- Of the three sites along French Creek, one is Archaic, one is Woodland, and one is undetermined.
- Many of these sites typify seasonal campsites along the Schuylkill River, French Creek, and/or many small streams and tributary streams, and the ridgeline path, known as the French Creek Path, that traverses through the township.

#### North Coventry Township:

- Clusters of Historic Resources: Pottstown Landing Historic District is the only nationally registered historic district. There are other places where a district could be formed. There are clusters of historically significant buildings and sites potential to become historic districts. Some to be considered for Registration include: Laurel Locks Farm, Cedarville, South Hanover Street, and Kenilworth.
- Appendix D of the OSRERP has descriptions of all cultural resources on the County Historic Survey as well as the 1992 reconnaissance survey, as well as other sites including: graveyards, churches, bridges, remains of mills, wagon roads, collier sites, etc. Map 7 maps all Cultural and Historical architectural resources.
- There is a Master Plan called Reconnections: "Reconnecting the people of North Coventry Township and Pottstown Borough with each other and their Schuylkill river Heritage" where two municipalities examine the possibility to make physical, economic, social, heritage and aesthetic connections between Pottstown and North Coventry. The plan focuses on the Schuylkill River as the "heart" of each community's shared history. The township completed an inventory of the cultural, social, educational, historical, environmental and recreational resources in the study area to be considered when the municipality aids in updating the 1980-81 Historic Survey. Through this process, the joint committee steered the efforts of a consultant to provide recommendations for improvements to be completed to reconnect their citizens to each other and to their river. The following are major physical improvements recommended by this Plan:
  - Enhancements to the Hanover Street Bridge to create a functional and symbolic link and gateway for both communities;
  - Establishment of the River Road Trail from the Hanover Street Bridge to River Park in North Coventry;
  - Other Improvements along Hanover Street, Laurelwood Road and Rt. 724 to create more attractive and walkable links between the Borough and the Coventry Mall;
  - Conversion of the existing unused railroad trestle into a pedestrian bridge across the river to connect River Park and Riverfront Park;
  - Creation of additional pathways along the south bank of the Schuylkill River; and
  - Plan for and advocate the replacement of the Keim Street Bridge.
- Other recommendations include:
  - Visual enhancements including the creation of a scenic protection overlay district along the Schuylkill River and selective clearing to expose views into the "Hidden River";
  - Improved communications between the two communities including comprehensive signage and community information kiosks, electronic kiosks and shared events and recreational programming; and
  - Involve local schools in the "Reconnections" process and philosophy through the shared history and heritage of the Schuylkill River. Opportunities include hands on learning, local history curriculum and community participation on park and open space initiatives.

South Coventry Township: Nothing listed in township Plans

Wallace Township:

- The Historic Resources Map contained in the Wallace Township Zoning Ordinance delineates three historic resource classifications. Class distinctions were reproduced in Figure 3-5 in the OSRERP. The initial construction dates were ascertained using information supplied on completed Chester County Historic Site Survey forms.
- Evidence of eighteenth century property boundaries exists throughout much of Wallace Township. Historic property boundaries mapped in Figure 3-5 were verified using a 1788 survey of Springton Manor, the 1873 Witmar's Farm Atlas, the 1883 Breou Farm Atlas, and a current Wallace Township property map.
- Limited numbers of archaeological resources were identified on the Historic Resources Map in the Wallace Township Zoning Ordinance, including prehistoric and historic archeological sites. Task Force members substantially updated the mapped information related to historic archeological resources.

Warwick Township:

- *Historic Districts:* According to the 2003 Warwick Township Comprehensive Plan, Cupola Furnace Historic District has received a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) from the PHMC indicating that the site meets the criteria for the National Register Historic Places, but is not actually listed on the National Register to date. Reading Furnace, which was the biggest Iron Furnace in Pennsylvania, Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site, and Coventryville Historic District as well as the North Warwick Historic & Archeological District are all Listed on the National Register
- *There are Historic Village Clusters* that represent the villages and hamlets that grew around the early iron and farming industries that include: Warwick (St. Mary's), Knauertown, which date from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and Harmonyville, which dates from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.
  - Warwick (St. Mary's) hamlet contain approximately 29 structures dating from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and approximately five structures dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> century.
  - Knauertown has approximately three structures dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, 20 structures dating from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and 11 structures dating from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. There are several sites in Knauertown are eligible for the National Register status.
  - Harmonyville contains approximately 6 structures dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, 13 structures dating from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and seven structures dating from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.
  - Four Historic villages, including the most recent addition to the National Register (Saint Peter's Village) are still thriving today. Residents have been very active in preserving the historic character of their communities. Many historic buildings have been reused for more modern uses yet still maintain their historic character which contributes so much to each individual community, and to the township as a whole.
- *Primary and Secondary Archaeological Sensitivity:* These areas are shown in the Comprehensive Plan's Appendix A, Map 17. They are areas where the likelihood of the existence of an archeological site is high within the township. Primary Areas of Archaeological Sensitivity exhibit a high probability of the existence of a site; Secondary Areas of Archaeological Sensitivity exhibit a lower probability of the existence of a site.
- *Churches and Cemeteries:* There are eight churches and two cemeteries that have been identified in the township as having historical significance. The Churches include: Old St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Old Bethesda Church, Pine Swamp Church, St Peter's United Church of Christ, Ebenezer Bible Church, St. Peter's First Baptist Church, Harmonyville Church of the Brethren and Mount Carmel Church of the Brethren. Historic cemeteries include the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Baptist Cemetery (from 1727) and the Revolutionary Commemorative Cemetery (from 1777).

- *Furnace Sites:* Furnace sites are reminders of the township's role as the first center of the county's charcoal iron industry in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. It continued well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Furnace sites include the Reading Furnace, the Warwick Furnace, Cupola Furnace, Hopewell Furnace, the Rock Run Furnace (also referred to as Kristeen Furnace), and charcoal lands for all plus for Hopewell.
- *Bridges and Dams:* Bridges that are specially noteworthy for their architecture are the Iron Bridge near Cupola Furnace; Brower's Bridge – a stone arch bridge – near Reading Furnace; and the Valley Way Stone Arch Bridge," near Warwick Furnace. Several dams also lined the township's streams. Although remnants now, these sites are noted in Appendix A, Map 17 of the Comprehensive Plan (2003).
- *Railroad Lines:* The presence of the railroad in the township changed the shape of the Township and changed the way industry was run. It was important for productivity and commerce of the quarry industry as well as the farming industry. The Wilmington & Northern Railroad (a consolidation of the Berks & Chester Rail Road and Pennsylvania & Delaware Railroads) ran up the Brandywine Creek to Coatesville where it joined the East Brandywine & Waynesburg Railroad (Honey Brook) all the way up to Elverson Borough. In 1880, a spur was laid from Elverson to St. Peter's, traversing Warwick Township, known locally as "the Boar's Back, or the Hog's Back" because it was laid on high ground. There were three trains daily to and from Birdsboro where connection could be made to Philadelphia and Reading, (where connections could be made (eventually) to Allentown and New York). Another line that was laid, which only lasted 4 years, was the line connecting St. Peter's east to the Pickering Valley line of the Reading Railroad at Kimberton.
- *Unique Geology:* The township has an extremely unique and rare form of granite that is only found 3 places in the world (California, Sweden and Warwick Township (St. Peter's)). The iron furnaces used this granite to make plates of the nose cones.
- *Horseshoe Trail:* This is a historic 130-mile hiking and equestrian trail that extends from Valley Forge National Historic Park to the Appalachian Trail in central Pennsylvania. This trail closely relates to the development of the iron industry in southeastern Pennsylvania during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The several furnaces and many forges were connected by trails leading through the charcoal forests. Portions of these trails have survived to become today's Horseshoe Trail. There is approximately 9 miles of this trail that traverse through Warwick Township.

West Vincent Township:

- *Historic Districts:* According to the 1992 West Vincent Township OSRP, Birchrunville is one of two historic districts which have been accepted and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. West Vincent Highlands Historic District is a very large area within the township, encompassing almost 2,000 acres with 100 contributing properties. The township has adopted a historic Preservation Overlay District. Provisions and regulations are contained in Article XXIV of the most updated consolidated Zoning Ordinance, which was adopted in 2003.
- *Archaeological Resources:* Little detailed or site-specific information is available regarding archaeological resources. PHMC has provided mapping of areas where archaeological resources are likely to be found, based upon prehistoric settlement and transport patterns. This is shown on the Historic Resources Map in the OSRP, showing the areas of "high" and "medium" probability for location of prehistoric resources. Generally, areas with a "high" probability are usually found coincide with most steam corridors and certain nearby upland areas. Sheeders (1845) cites claim an Indian settlement on the West Vincent side of French Creek, across from his home and mill. Local histories designate a spot where the last Indian was buried along the Horse Shoe Trail. Medium probability areas are found along a few headwaters streams not mapped as "high probability," and otherwise comprise most nearby flat upland areas.

**Figure 8-4:  
Chester County-owned historic bridges in the Region\***

<b>Bridge</b>	<b>Twp.</b>	<b>Road</b>	<b>Stream</b>	<b>Structure Type</b>	<b>Year Built</b>	<b>Posted Limit</b>
Steel's	Wallace	Devereux	E. Brandywine	Pin Pony Truss	1877/ 1995	20 Tons
Kennedy's	E. Vincent	Seven Stars	French	Covered Wood Truss	1856/ 1988	20 Tons
Hallman's	E. & W. Vincent	French Creek.	French	Thru-Plate Girder	1854/ 1928	12 Tons
Sheeder's	E. & W. Vincent	Sheeder Mill	French	Pinned Thru Truss	1887	6 Tons
Tyson's	E. & W. Vincent	Bertolet School	French	Riveted Pony Truss	1905	8 Tons
Coventryville	S. Coventry	Coventryville	French	I-Beams	1837/ 1879/ 1942	20 Tons
Knauers	Warwick & E. Nantmeal	Warwick Furnace	S. French	Pin Pony Truss	1889	8 Tons
Pigeon Creek	E. Coventry	Old Schuylkill	Pigeon	Filled Arch	1804	5 Tons
Madison	N. Coventry	South Keim	Schuylkill	Riveted Pony Truss	1867/ 1890/ 1938	32 TonS/40 Ton Combos.
Warwic Furnace	Warwick & E. Nantmeal	Valley Way	S. French	Filled Arch	1913	N/A
Lattshaw's Mill	E. Coventry	Halteman	Pigeon	Thru-Plate Girder	1914	8 Tons
Knauertown	Warwick	County Park	French	Thru-Plate Girder	1915	10 Tons
Kenilworth	N. Coventry	South Keim	Small Run	Filled Arch	1916	5 Tons
Reeses Mill	E. Vincent & E. Pikeland	Pikeland Rd.	Stony Run	Encased I-Beams	1916	20 Tons
Parkerford	E. Coventry	Baptist Church	Pigeon	Encased I Beams	1916	20 Tons
Porter's Mill	E. & S. Coventry	Porters Mill	Pigeon	Encased I-Beams	1928	20 Tons
Deerys	W. Vincent & E. Pikeland	Art School	Pickering	Encased I-Beams	1928	20 Tons
Eckers Run	N. Coventry	West Cedarsville	Eckers Run	I-Beams	1929	15 Tons
Eachus	W. Vincent	Horseshoe Trail	Birch Run	I-Beams	1930	N/A
Hallman's	E. Pikeland	Pickering Road	Pickering	Thru-Plate Girder	1931	6 Tons

\* This list only contains existing bridges owned by Chester County. Thus if State owned, such as the Sheeder-Hall covered bridge in East Vincent Township, a bridge will not be listed in this table.

\*\* Daily Traffic Count

## CONCLUSION

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The Region has many historic resources and the communities in the Northern Federation have implemented various protection measures. Chapter 3: Historic Resources Plan, includes recommendations about what measures are available to protect historic resources on a regional basis.

### Figure Sources

- Figure 8-1: PHMC Historical Marker Program as of 12/04, [www.phmc.state.pa.us](http://www.phmc.state.pa.us)
- Figure 8-2: Historic Resource Protection Regulations in the Region as of 12/04 from Individual Municipal Zoning and Subdivision and Land Development Ordinances.
- Figure 8-3: PHMC, BHP; Inventory of National Register Listed and Eligible Historic Properties and Districts. PHMC Website, 10/03, with updates by the Northern Federation through 1/05. Websites:  
[http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bhp/nr/NR\\_districts.pdf](http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bhp/nr/NR_districts.pdf) and  
[http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bhp/Inventories/NR\\_Reports/Chester.pdf](http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bhp/Inventories/NR_Reports/Chester.pdf).
- Figure 8-4: Chester County-owned historic bridges in the Region, current information as of March 2006. This list came from Sandy Detterline with McCormick Taylor who has the County contract for bridge maintenance and repairs/rehabilitation work for all Chester County-owned bridges.

### Photograph Sources

Historic Marker Photo: PHMC website.