



HTHS



610-446-7988

HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FALL 2003

General Membership Meeting

Thursday, October 16, 2003
Llanerch Presbyterian Church
Lansdowne and Park Avenues
Havertown, PA
8:00 PM

Topic: Art That Warms:

The Firebacks of James DeLaCour Conner

Mr. Conner is co-founder of Pennsylvania
Firebacks.

He is known for his original designs and in 1993
received Winterthur Museum's Technical Excellence
Award for his historic reproduction firebacks

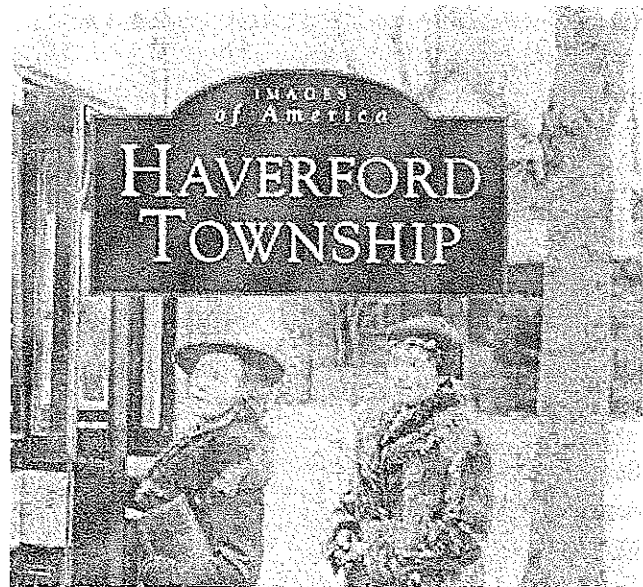
Placed against the back wall of a hearth, cast iron
firebacks, in use from ancient times, not only radiate
a fire's heat, they protect the masonry. Firebacks
may be plain or elaborate, allegorical, heraldic, even
biblical; those with descriptive and whimsical names
like *Urn of Lilies* and *Three Bears* enhance the hearth
as works of art. (See photo on page 3.)

Images of Haverford Township

The Arcadia Project Committee, chaired by Susan Faccioli, is happy to announce that a pictorial history of Haverford Township will be available before the end of the year. With the Society's mission to preserve and promote interest in the history of the township firmly in mind, committee members and friends spent the summer gathering photographs, researching and writing captions and formatting the book, which includes over 200 pictures of Haverford Township environs. Historians, researchers and archivists at the Hagley Museum and Library, the Chester County Historical Society, The Massey House, the Philadelphia Jewish Archive Collection and St. Denis Parish were most generous in their contributions of time and photographs. The vintage photographs document our community and its nearly 325 year history. Published by Arcadia Press, the book is part of the Images of America series with its trademark sepia cover and will be available through the Society and at local bookstores. 🍂

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Descendents of Samuel Garrigues Hold Family Assemblee

By Mary Courtney

The Garrigues family knows how to have a family reunion. This summer, members too numerous to count gathered in Philadelphia, the home of their first American ancestors. They toured the area by chartered bus, socialized in the Garrigues hospitality room at the hotel where family photographs, history, maps and memorabilia were available, dined together, and learned more about their family's heritage and roots in Haverford Township.

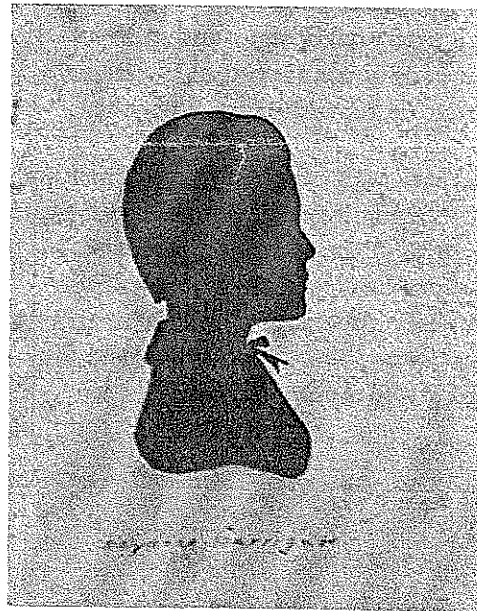
In 1806 Samuel Garrigues, descendent of French Huguenots, moved from Philadelphia to Haverford Township. The next year, Samuel and his wife Sarah purchased 130 acres near Haverford and College Avenues from William Hill, William White and Miers Fisher. William White was the Reverend William White, rector of Christ Church, former Chaplain of the Continental Congress and founder of Episcopal Academy.

Samuel Garrigues, a carpenter and farmer soon learned to operate the mills on his property along the Cobb's Creek; however, by the time of the mill survey in 1826, Samuel Garrigues' mill was unoccupied. Millbrook Farm, the home Samuel built on College Avenue just beyond the P&W tracks, was sold in 1880 and unfortunately burned in 1900. "In 1877, the early subdivision of Millbrook belonging to Haydock Garrigues was laid out in the northeastern sector of the Township. By 1881, the Garrigues name had vanished from this tract and a new subdivision called Preston (just above Millbrook) was in existence", according to Historic Resources Survey, Delaware County Planning Department, 1994. A study of current maps reveal street names like Millbrook Lane and Haydock Lane and the home on College Avenue today retains the name Millbrook.

When Samuel's great-grandparents settled in Philadelphia in 1713, they became members of the Society of Friends. As stated in the Centennial Supplement to the Meeting (CSM), November 1944, when Samuel and family moved from Philadelphia to Haverford, they worshipped at Radnor Monthly Meeting where up to 200 carriages would gather. On September 13, 1827 there was a division among the members of Radnor Monthly Meeting.

Approximately 70 members broke away from the main body which then consisted of about 450 members. This partition was a traumatic event for the Society. "The minutes are filled with disownments and removals, and show that the body was laboring under great spiritual stress. Right or wrong, they were upholding what they believe to be a sacred cause." (CSM)

This smaller band of Friends at first met out of doors and then at the home of Jacob Maule. The minutes of the meeting record that "It was believed right to accept for the present a house in Haverford offered by Samuel Garrigues." This was the tenant house on College Avenue near Spring Mill. It is still standing. However, by 1833 when Haverford College was founded "the addition to the attendance rather crowded the present accommodations, and the walk from Founder's Hall to the tenant house through the fields in all kinds of weather was pretty long." (CSM). A committee was appointed to locate a suitable site for a permanent meeting house. *Continued on page 4.*



Haydock Garrigues c 1820

Silhouette by Charles Wilson Peale stamped with the word "Museum" on the back. Silhouettes were a common form of portraiture in the 18th and 19th centuries before cameras. They were less expensive than painted portraits and for Quakers, somewhat less vain. (Used with permission from Don Austen of Thursday's Child, a national center for at risk children founded in 1982. The entire collection includes 20 Garrigues family members.)

Firebacks continued from page 1



Fireback in the kitchen hearth at Nitre Hall.
“No fire should ever be put out with water. This dirty trick of pouring water on the fire will also occasion the cast iron at the back to split.”* *The Housekeeping Book of Susanna Whatman 1776-1800*

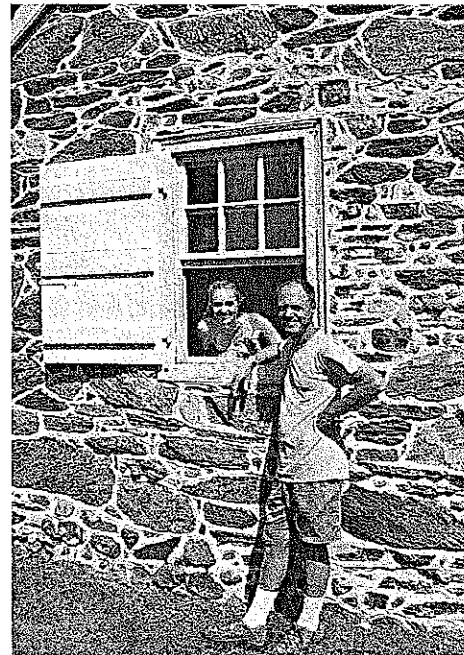


Joseph Webb stag fireback authentically reproduced by James DeLaCour Conner. See more firebacks by Mr. Conner at the October 16 General Meeting. To learn more about firebacks, visits. www.fireback.com www.benfranklin300.com/syng.html

Federal School Repairs

Jeff Wolfe and daughter Carolyn (*pictured right*) pause for a moment during their work on the 1797 historic Federal School in July. In addition to replacing the fascia and barge boards at the East and West rooflines, Jeff replaced many shutters, repaired frames, shutters and locks on all the windows and completed the stone and stucco work at the base of the Necessary. Much of the woodwork painting was skillfully done by daughters Sarah and Carolyn, who often help their dad in the summers. Jeff's fine carpentry and interior stucco work can also be seen at Nitre Hall. In addition, carpenters from the township Public Works Department rebuilt two of the shutters. 🍂

Jeff Wolfe and daughter Carolyn at the Federal School at right.



Garrigues Family continued

In 1834 Samuel and Sarah Garrigues sold two acres of their farm to the Haverford School Association for \$300. Family lore holds that this land may not have been considered very marketable and that may be why Samuel was willing to part with it. The school association then transferred the tract to the trustees of the Monthly Meeting.

One of the trustees charged with fundraising for the new meetinghouse, was Haydock Garrigues, Samuel's son. Through subscriptions from Friends and a contribution from the Haverford School Association, \$1,900 was raised and the meeting house on Buck Lane was first used for worship on November 23, 1834. At that time railroad tracks lay where Railroad Avenue is today. In 1835 a footbridge was built to enable the college students to walk safely from the school grounds to meeting. It still spans the avenue. Charles Reardon, who lives in a Garrigues-built home on Millbrook Lane, informed the assemblée that President Lincoln's funeral cortege passed under the footbridge while students from the school stood on the bridge to pay their respects. The Garrigues name can be found on a map of Haverford Township dating to 1852 and in the 1875 Everts and Stewart Atlas.

Vivien Garrigues and Charles Reardon contributed information to this article. 🌿

Additions to the HTHS Library

Past Masters News, published quarterly by Past Masters in Early American Domestic Arts is now available in the Nitre Hall Library beginning with the Winter 1998 issue. Past Masters is dedicated to the interpretation of domestic activities of the colonial period. Topics range from firewood and spectacles to maple syrup production. Local practitioners, Clarissa Dillon and Nancy Webster, demonstrate their arts at historic sites festivals.

Eighteenth-Century English Kitchen Gardens in Eastern Pennsylvania, The Uses of the Plants and Their Place in Women's Work. Clarissa F. Dillon, PhD., 2002.

The library is free and open by appointment to members. Call 610-446-7988 to schedule time. 🌿

Our Mission

The Haverford Township Historical Society is the only organization with the specific function of preserving property, documents and information of historic value pertaining to all of Haverford Township.

To promote and sustain interest in the history of the community, the Society saved, rebuilt and furnished the 1710 Lawrence Cabin on Karakung Drive in Powder Mill Valley Park and entered into a formal agreement with Haverford Township to restore, maintain and administer Nitre Hall (1810) and the Federal School (1797). In these historic sites, award-winning educational programs are designed and staffed by the Historical Society.

The Society is administered by an elected board of directors and offers its members valuable workshops, exhibits, entertaining guest speakers, and trips to historic area locations. Members also receive newsletters and a membership directory. Meetings are free and open to the public.

By joining the Haverford Township Historical Society, you will share in the pleasure and responsibility of preserving our rich and varied heritage. 🌿



Federal School Program

This spring 426 students in the Haverford School District's 4th grade classes participated in the one-room school house experience. Beginning at the end of March with Gail Economou's classes from Eddystone, through April and May, students from St. Pius X School, Country Day School of the Sacred Heart in Bryn Mawr, Chalutzun Academy, St. Aloysius and 15 homeschoolers also experienced school as it was in the "olden days."



Swedish Cabin Pea-Soup Supper



Historical Society members support the Friends of The Swedish Cabin at their tenth annual Artsoppa, a pea soup supper, which, with bread and cheese, is the traditional Thursday night fare in Sweden. The delicious meal was followed by entertainers John and Jan Haigis in their best "Riverboat" form. Enjoying the first course are Bob and Mary Courtney, Fred and Susan Facciolli, Joe Walker, Dick Walker and Cathy Siegl. Marie Walker is just out of sight behind her husband. Photo by Bill Siegl.

Nitre Hall Receives Heritage Commission Award



During National Historic Preservation Week in May the Haverford Township Historical Society was recognized by the Heritage Commission of Delaware County at the twenty-fifth annual Preservation Awards in Media. The Heritage Commission is charged by County Council to coordinate and promote the cultural heritage of Delaware County. The eleven-member commission chaired by A. Richard Paul, sponsors annual preservation awards in the spring and seminars on historic preservation or the County's heritage each winter. Accepting the award for the stucco and stair restoration work completed at Nitre Hall last year, is Mary Courtney of the Society, seen at left with Delaware County Council member Andrew Reilly, project architect Daniel T. Campbell, and Heritage Commission Chairman Richard Paul. Council Chairman John McFadden, Vice-Chairman Tim Murtaugh, and Council members Alice Brennan and Linda Cartisano stand behind them. ❁

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

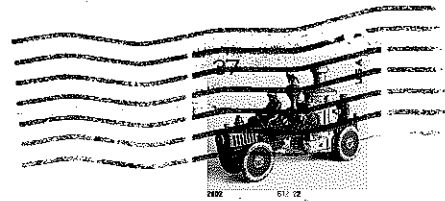
- Colonial Living Program
September 22 through November 7
- Haverford Township Day
Saturday, October 4 10AM -4PM
- Fall Open House at the Grange
Sunday, October 12 10AM -4PM
- HTHS General Membership Meeting
Thursday, October 16, 8PM
- Board Meeting at Nitre Hall
Thursday, November 16. 7:30PM
- Holiday Open House at Nitre Hall
Sunday, December 14
- General Membership Meeting:
Thursday, February 21, 2004 8PM
- Annual Meeting: Clarissa Dillon, PhD.
Thursday, April 18, 2004 8PM

Welcome New Members

- Jeanne and Sam Angell
- Christine Johnson
- Robin and Dave Naser
- Karen Penn
- Linda and Simon Russin
- Mary Ann and Wes Waters
- The Gretchen Whitney Family

Welcome Back:

- Greg and Tara Basile
- Michele, Mark and Joseph Hill



UPDC AS ADD

Upper Darby Historical Society
P.O. Box 2383 *2935*
Upper Darby, PA 19082

- A
- C
- S
- INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS
- ATTEMPTED NOT KNOWN
- NO SUCH NUMBER/ STREET
- NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED
- OTHER
- UNABLE TO FORWARD

