



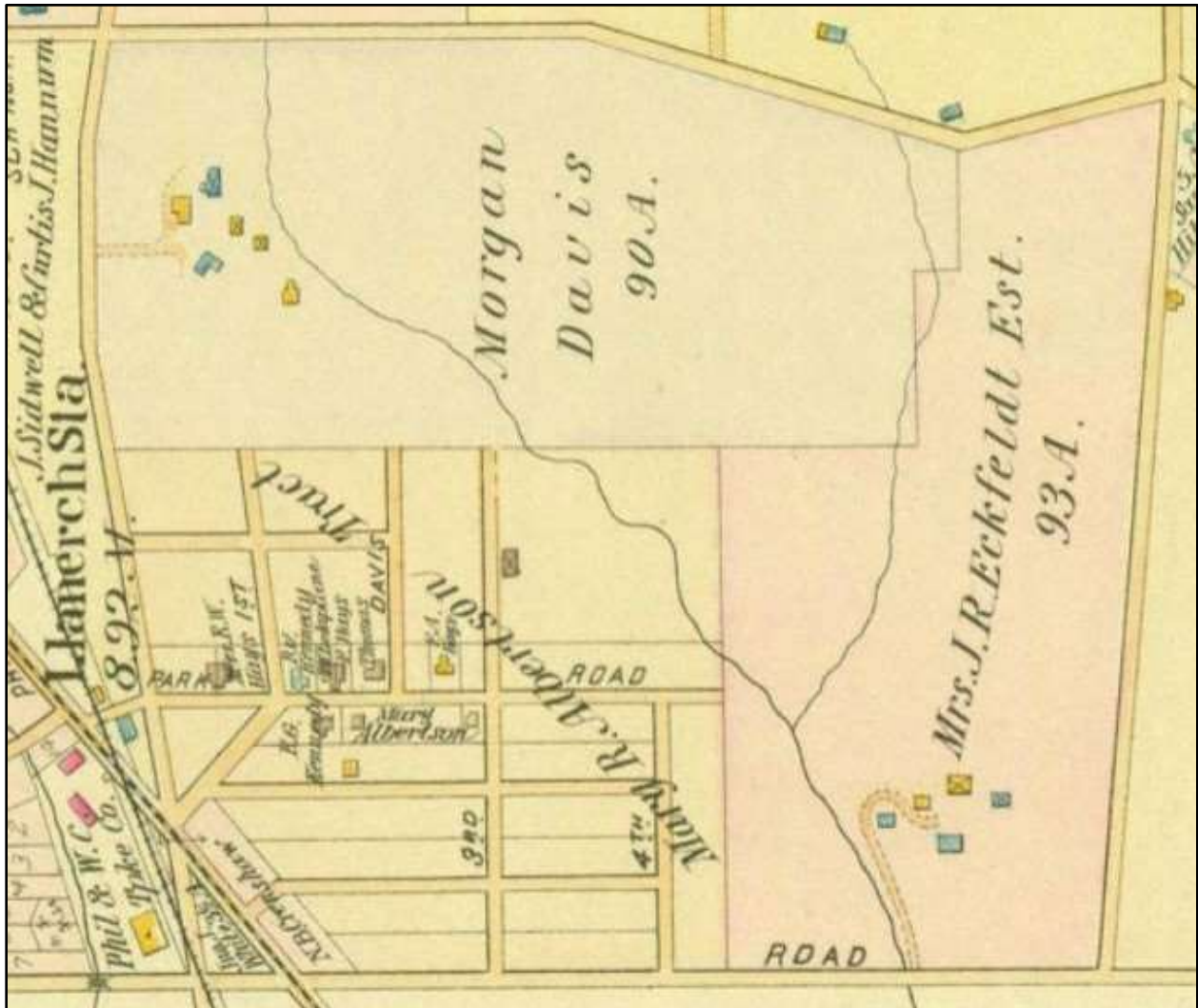
# Haverford Township Historical Society



## LLANERCH

By Richard D. Kerr

[The following text is excerpted from *Rural Pennsylvania in the Vicinity of Philadelphia* by Rev. S. F. (Samuel Fitch) Hotchkin, M. A., published in 1897 by George W. Jenkins & Co. in Philadelphia, with additional comments in square brackets.]



Early days of Llanerch. Township Line is at bottom, Darby Rd. at left, Earlington Rd. at right in this 1897 map detail.

LLANERCH – The word Llanerch is Welsh. It means an open space. The Silas Bewley homestead was thrown into the market by his death in A. D. 1885, and sold by the administrator to Henry Albertson. The farm consisted of eighty-one acres on the north side of the West Chester Turnpike. This was formerly a

portion of the Penn family grant to John and William Taylor. A tract of the Taylor section was purchased by George Davis, the elder. Silas Bewley obtained a portion of this Davis property. The old farm-house, erected during the ownership of the Davises, yet stands in the village, facing Park Road. The whole farm is now in the Llanerch tract. The title is in the estate of Henry Albertson, deceased, as to one-half, and in Edward Worth as to the other half. (Since this was written [1897] Mr. Worth has sold his share to Mrs. Albertson.) Twelve neat and tasteful dwellings of stone or brick have been built by the parties interested. They were designed and superintended in their construction by Robert G. Kennedy and Frank A. Hays, who both reside at Llanerch. The plans are creditable and well executed. J. Lord Rigby, Mrs. William Hays, D. S. W. Delaplaine, Robert G. Kay, Morgan R. Davis, and Rev. J. F. Hartman are residing in this new and pretty village. A Methodist service has been started under Rev. Mr. Hartman's care, and an unoccupied house is used for this purpose on Sunday afternoons. This clergyman also has charge of Bethesda Church, not far distant. On February 28th, A. D. 1897, the Church was organized by Rev. Dr. F. B. Lynch, Presiding Elder. A lot was given "by the promoter of the suburban town," and it was stated that a church building [St. Andrew's] would be erected during the year.

The station of the Philadelphia & Delaware County Railway [actually "Railroad"], running to Newtown Square, is at this village. This railroad belongs to the system of the Pennsylvania Railroad [and was later called the Newtown Square Branch of the "Pennsy"]. The West Chester trolley road intersects the steam road here. That [rail]road at this time also ends at Newtown Square, though it is desired to continue it to West Chester. Toll-gate No. 3 [in Upper Darby] has for some time been in charge of Mr. Hannum, son of the keeper of Gate No. 4 [in Llanerch].

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