

**MINUTES  
UPPER ALLEN TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING 1 – 6:30 P.M.  
August 3, 2022**

**COMMISSIONERS**

Kenneth M. Martin, President  
Richard A. Castranio, Jr., Vice President (absent)  
Virginia M. Anderson, Assistant Secretary  
James G. Cochran, Assistant Secretary  
Jeffrey M. Walter, Assistant Secretary

**TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS**

Scott Fraser, Township Manager  
Kelly Palmer, Assistant Manager  
Andy Parsons, Chief of Police  
Jennifer Boyer, Comm Dev Director  
Barry Cupp, Sewer Dept. Manager  
J. Stephen Feinour, Solicitor  
Jason Reichard, Engineer (Absent)  
Tom Shumberger, Fire Chief

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Martin called the Board of Commissioners regular meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. A moment of silence was held, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. Roll Call was taken by Mr. Fraser. Jason Reichard, Engineer was absent.

**PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Martin thanked the organizers and participants of National Night Out. He shared that we had a Move in the Park and there is another one scheduled for August 19<sup>th</sup>.

Phil Walsh of 443 McCormick Road spoke in regard to agenda item 6C, solicitation of bids. Mr. Walsh asked if solicitations of bids could be delayed or not initiated at this time while we continue to gather additional information with regards to the historic nature of that property. He pulled out his copy of the comprehensive plan from 1999. He referenced Chapter 2, policy plan that referenced the rehabilitation and preservation of significant historical residential structures as being something that is a priority. In Chapter 3 under environmental cultural resources, under objectives it references "to support the identification and designation of properties of national, state and local historic significance" and he thinks we would like additional time to continue the process of the identification of that particular local historic significance of that structure. He would like to know if that process of solicitation of bids could be delayed until we gather more information.

President Martin said he understands his position and it will be considered when we get to that item. It was confirmed that soliciting bids to buy the house could be for them to relocate the house or for someone to purchase it for architectural salvage.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

There was no discussion.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

### **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL FOR AMANDA KNAUB TO SEEK OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT**

Chief Parsons asked for approval for Officer Amanda Knaub to be approved for outside employment as a soccer coach with Keystone Football Club.

Commissioner Walter made a **MOTION** to approve Officer Amanda Knaub be allowed to work outside employment with Keystone Football Club, Commissioner Anderson **SECONDED**. Commissioner Cochran abstained as his son Sean Cochran is with Keystone Soccer. The motion passed.

Chief Shumberger thanked everyone involved in National Night Out. He noted there were local businesses that donated the event. This Saturday is the chicken BBQ at 10:30am. Chief Shumberger met with their truck salesman, and he is going out the early part of next week to start the blueprints. We are four months delayed so we are looking at an August 10, 2023, delivery date. Until we mount the tools and get everyone trained, we are probably going to be looking at November/December. If we purchased the same truck today, it would cost \$232,000 more and they are doing a 30-month lead time now. It was a good call to purchase it when we did. Commissioner Cochran asked if the extension was firm or if it could be the first of several. Chief Shumberger said it may be the first of several. The company told us that they did not think so, that they did one big reset and pushed everything four months. There are supply issues that they cannot control. Commissioner Cochran stated that he appreciates that we are getting it at a better price, but they are holding all our money. Chief Shumberger shared that the sale of our used one should be more valuable.

## **PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE**

There was no discussion.

We will have a planning commission meeting on August 29, 2022.

## **PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE**

There was no discussion.

President Martin said that when the driveway goes into 1340 E. Lisburn Road, we may consider putting a conduit or pipe under the roadway to make sure that we can get sewer up to Gutshall development and other places along East Lisburn Road without cutting a new road. Mr. Reichard will come back with a suggestion on that.

## **SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM**

There was no discussion.

## **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

## **CONSIDERATION OF VEOLIA AGREEMENT**

Representatives from both the Township and Veolia met on July 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss ongoing concerns regarding the Contribution Agreement and Signage Licensing Agreement. On November 17, 2021, the Board of Commissioners agreed to contribute towards a new water tank and associated facilities that are part of a new Upper Allen Township Pressure Zone within Veolia's water supply system, with the following conditions:

1. Match the school district's cash contribution, not to exceed \$500,000.
2. The Township must retain exclusive rights to put a logo and/or name of the Township on the new water tank.

On March 25, 2022, Veolia conveyed that it could not permit exclusive rights for signage on the water tank and that the Township must remove the words "exclusive rights" from the agreement. This change prompted several discussions between the Township and Veolia.

A summary of the July 27<sup>th</sup> discussion:

1. Veolia has agreed that final contribution amount is at the discretion of the Township. The original Contribution Agreement identifies contributions from four parties. Should one party choose to not participate, the Agreement is subject to renegotiation between all parties. A smaller contribution amount of \$250,000 was recommended, to which Veolia did not object. Once the Township agrees on a contribution amount and executes the final agreement, it will be filed with the Public Utility Commission (PUC), because it is an agreement between a municipality and a public utility (which is regulated by the PUC). Veolia did not foresee any issues with the PUC process.

The Township originally proposed paying the contribution amount at the end of the second quarter of 2023. On March 25, 2022 Veolia asked if the Township could make a partial payment (hopefully 50%) in 2022 and then final payment in the second quarter of 2023. The Township will need to decide if this is an acceptable payment schedule.

2. Signage. Veolia cannot authorize exclusivity to allow only the Township to place a sign on its water tank. Veolia has no interest in putting their name or logo on the tank, particularly due to the low visibility. They provided an overlay of the tank against the existing viewshed, confirming the sign would be somewhat visible from Route 15. Clarity of the sign may not be visible from Route 15, but it would be along portions of South Market Street (see images). Veolia has stated the school district still wants to put a sign on the water tank. The tank would not be used for advertising of other off-site private companies/organizations.

Veolia will amend the Signage Licensing Agreement to increase the term from 10 years to 25 years, with automatic renewals in five-year increments. The water tank must be repainted every 15-20 years, at which time the sign will need to be removed. The Township would

have the option to then repaint the sign on the tank. All costs incurred for signage on the tank and maintenance of the sign would be at the Township's expense.

Veolia will provide an amended agreement to the Township with the updated terms. They will also provide contact information for a sign company who specializes in painting signs on tanks. The sign company will be able to provide input on the appropriate size and location of the sign.

3. **Connection Fees.** Township representatives had asked if connection fees could be waived for any new service within the tank's district in conjunction with the Contribution Agreement. Per the PUC, Veolia cannot charge tapping fees, so there is no cost for a new service line. Veolia pays to put a line to the curb/edge of the property. Property owners are only responsible for the service line from the right-of-way to the home.

If the Board of Commissioners is satisfied with the information presented, staff recommends two motions. The first motion would determine what amount, if any, the Township would be willing to contribute towards the new water tank and pressure zone district. The second motion would be for consideration to enter into a signage licensing agreement to place a Township sign on the water tank.

### **SUGGESTED MOTIONS**

1. **Move to enter into a Contribution Agreement with Veolia to contribute towards certain facilities within the new Upper Allen Township Pressure Zone within the public water supply system. The total contribution amount shall be \$250,000, with the first 50% of the to be paid by the end of 2022 and the remaining 50% to be paid by the end of the second quarter of 2023.**
2. **Move to accept the amended terms of the Signage License Agreement to have the sign placed initially for 25 years with automatic renewal of a five-year term thereafter. The appropriate Township Officials may execute the Signage License Agreement with Veolia upon favorable approval of the sign design and placement costs.**

President Martin shared that he found out it is going to help water pressure in Lindenwood and Graham Apartments. He said that from a community standpoint, this is going to help existing residents.

Commissioner Cochran made a **MOTION** to enter into a Contribution Agreement with Veolia to contribute towards certain facilities within the new Upper Allen Township Pressure Zone within the public water supply system. The total contribution amount shall be \$250,000, with the first 50% to be paid by the end of 2022 and the remaining 50% to be paid by the end of the second quarter of 2023, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Anderson. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Cochran made a **MOTION** to accept the amended terms of the Signage License Agreement to have the sign placed initially for 25 years with automatic renewal of a five-year term thereafter. The appropriate Township Officials may execute the Signage License Agreement with



Veolia upon favorable approval of the sign design and placement costs, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Cochran. The motion carried unanimously.

### **DISCUSSION OF TRASH CONTRACT**

The current contract with Republic Services is coming to an end in December of this year. Republic Services has been the trash collection provider for the Township since 2010.

Mr. Fraser asked that Commissioners review the supporting documents and provide comments back to him by August 12, 2022. He shared that a request for permission to advertise would be brought to the August 17, 2022 meeting.

Commissioner Anderson asked that information regarding the pickup of large objects be put in the contract. She inquired about the possibility of putting Spring Clean Up Week in the bid to see what it would cost.

Mr. Fraser said that the request will include the need to call for all bulk items so there is no confusion and the inclusion of garbage and recycling containers.

Vice President Castranio suggested sending a copy of the bid document to Justin Miller at County Recycling to review to make sure that things that have been updated in the last 10 years are included.

### **PERMISSION TO ADVERTISE FOR SEALED BIDS FOR THE HOUSE AT 1215 MCCORMICK PARK ROAD**

Over the past two years, the Township has been involved in a Master Planning process for development of the 1340 E. Lisburn Road property. During this timeframe, the Township has heard requests from the public indicating an interest in the purchase and/or movement of the residential structure located at 1215 McCormick Road and the land across the street.

Staff has worked with the Township Solicitor to develop a recommended timeline and action steps for public purchase of this real estate on this property through a sealed bid process.

A few highlights of the proposed draft advertisement:

- (1) In order to ensure that only qualified and serious bidders are considered, we recommend a requirement that bidders must submit a written letter/intent to bid and a \$5,000 Good Faith Deposit/Note to be held in escrow.
  - a. This will be returned to the bidder after the sealed bidding process is complete.
- (2) A walk through of the property will be held only for pre-registered buyers.
- (3) This process is for sealed bids.
- (4) After BOC approval, we plan to post advertisements in the Sentinel, our website and our social media pages. This goes above and beyond our statutory requirement.

President Martin stated that we will give people the opportunity to comment but we are not prepared to take action tonight and that was a decision prior to us getting an email from Eric Fairchild. We talked with the solicitor and because of the legalities in some of the things we wanted to make sure that if we move forward in that direction, that we have something that is defensible because we are not interested in having someone bid to relocate that house and then it turns into a three-year project so we are going to have solid deadlines on that.

Commissioner Cochran shared that the current condition of the house is such that we would like to see action taken before winter because water is getting in. We do not want to heat it another winter. It is struggling to maintain its integrity at this point. There is mold. We think we need to take some action and do what we are going to do because he does not think another winter would be good for the house.

President Martin said that is not new information. We may not be in agreement about what the decision should be, but all along we were upfront in making that decision that relocation is a possibility or an option.

Eric Fairchild, of 1224 McCormick Road, said it is good to hear we are kind of on the same page about the process or the sequence of advertising. When Friends of the Farm sent the email today, they thought the master plan gave the Board and the staff an opportunity to explore what grants could be available. Friends of the Farm thought that box should be checked off before we proceeded much further down the road.

President Martin asked if Mr. Fairchild was suggesting grants for the relocation, removal or preservation. Mr. Fairchild confirmed grants for preservation. He had thought that restoring it to 1855 period with no plumbing and no electricity in it, might be a very nice feature and cost effective. He wanted to know if the Board had any comment on going in that direction or concern that there is some flaw in that thinking. Commissioner Cochran said that his concern is with the cost of the whole park to get where the Township wants it to be, this would be a significant increase in that cost and the Township is already probably over \$10 million. He is not in renovations, but his guess is we are talking several hundred thousand dollars to put that house in any kind of shape that would be maintainable. President Martin said Commissioner Cochran's estimate was much too low. Commissioner Cochran said that what he would rather see and he did not see Mr. Fairchild talk about this, is the barn is in better shape. Commissioner Cochran is thinking one of the things the Township could do there is possibly make that into some kind of educational center or historical center, put pictures up, talk about the way like might have been in the park back in the 1800's. It does have structural integrity and it is a much better shell. The house, in his opinion, is that it would be a lot of money to make that habitable and to make it sustainable. The prior owner did not do anything in the way of winterizing nor upkeep and it sat through several winters and as the architect that we had relayed, there has been water intrusion, older sections pulling away from the building and you, Mr. Fairchild said, "let's get rid of the older sections" that is cool but there were changes made to the main part to make those sections accessible and so if you just knock those off, suddenly you have holes that were never there before. It has lost a lot of its character. Perhaps someone who really wants it and wants to restore an old house, this would be the kind of project they would want. Mr. Cochran said that there are other things that he wants to do in the park with money rather than

restore the house to be honest. The house is lower on his priority list.

Commissioner Anderson said she has concerns because the Township had an expert check it on asbestos and lead paint. To her, that is a danger and a very serious issue.

President Martin said that no matter if the building is demolished, relocated or preserved, the hazards must be abated. He said where he is currently employed, they are renovating an historic brick structure and contract is at 2.2 million.

Mr. Fairchild said that he understands a lot of that and that we had Mr. Tilley's report from before, which he thought somebody could build on, as a basis. He said he had much faith in Mr. Fraser as being able to secure all these grants. Mr. Fairchild said it is part of just seeing what is out there. He hopes the Board understands that part of the email is to justify the historic significance of it and how it could work in the park. And then, in terms of the advertisement of bids, he did not know how that would work. You have to set up a firm timeline for when people have to do things. He said he had no idea, but asked if it gives an advantage to someone who wants to salvage vs move and restore. He wanted to know how the Township equalizes that economic incentive.

President Martin said that it would be clear to indicate if we are looking for bids to relocate or looking for bids to demolish. Our discussion to date was to look for bids to relocate. He said that Mr. Fairchild pointed out a good distinction, the Township should not have both of those approaches at the same time. President Martin agrees with that. Just in conversation today, President Martin said we have always talked about putting out the announcement of what we are going to do and certainly include all of the owners adjoining the property because he thinks there were several including Mr. Fairchild who expressed interest in buying the property and relocating it. And then have a time when the house would be open so that any interested party could come in and view it with an architect or contractor whomever they want, but the Township is not interested in just leaving the house open and people coming in and out. There would be prescribed inspection times and then there would be times when the bids are due. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. The Township is trying to be sensitive to have a very rational process.

Mr. Fairchild said the bid is the right way to do it and that it is exposed to everybody. He wanted to make one point, paralleling what Jeff said a few months ago. Mr. Fairchild said that the people that put the bizarre additions on the house built the annex. He asked if it would be feasible to move that annex to the other end of the property as the gatehouse - that is his wild and crazy idea. President Martin said that anything is possible with money, but he does not know if it would be cost effective, but it is worth looking at.

Matthew Taylor, of 900 McCormick Road, asked what was found to contain to contain asbestos. Ms. Palmer said she believed it was just the flue under the linoleum. Mr. Taylor asked if it was the mastic under the linoleum in the finished basement. Ms. Palmer said she believed it was in the upstairs portion. Mr. Fraser said that remediation was around \$5,000. Commissioner Cochran said the asbestos was minimal but there was more lead paint. Note: after this meeting, it was confirmed that it was in the basement, not the upstairs.

Christine Musser, who resides in Silver Spring Township, gave each Commissioner a copy of what

she wanted to speak about. The text is below.

My recommendation for the house located at 1215 McCormick Road: although the house or property at 1215 McCormick Road is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, it is significant to the history and heritage of Upper Allen Township. Like many historic properties throughout the Township, it tells the story of the early history and heritage of Upper Allen. Historic preservation and cultural resource management are about saving and telling the stories of these places. Therefore, saving the house from demolition is important to the Township's historical story and legacy.

My recommendation is to preserve the exterior of the house and repurpose it. The book, *Early Architecture in Upper Allen Township*, published in 1976 by the Upper Allen Heritage Committee, highlighted the house for its architecture. Therefore, it alone shows its importance to Upper Allen's heritage.

The interior of the house could be repurposed for the Parks Department for relocation of their office. It would give the community a specified "go-to" place for direct communication with the available park services. To focus on conserving Upper Allen Township's parks, the Parks Department would have room to grow, develop and plan events promoting the Township's landscape.

The interior could be designed to accommodate the residents to have private events and meetings. The Township could also utilize it for public events and meetings. For example, the Cumberland County Historical Society uses the historic Two Mile House on Walnut Bottom Road in this way, and they have succeeded in doing so. Alterations could be done to the interior while keeping the exterior architecturally and historically significant. This would eliminate change to the landscape. The house could also be used to share the rich history of the Township by sharing artifacts and stories of the people who settled there. Cumberland Valley Tourism could promote the property bringing visitors from afar and locally to the Upper Allen Area.

To benefit communities, grants from DCNR and private organizations are available to township parks and recreation departments.

If a property has been determined historic, it has a history that stretches over several decades and several owners. Demolishing a historic building destroys a piece of history.

Historic properties that are restored can be used as museums or local attractions, which appeal to tourists and locals alike. Demolition does not offer this incentive; once a property is destroyed, it's gone forever.

When a community destroys a historic building, there is no getting it back, and what is lost is its unique value to the community. Therefore, I support Friends of the Farm's request to the Township to delay the solicitation for sealed bids for the House at 1215 McCormick Road.

Because of my credentials, I do have connections to SHPO, the State Historic Preservation Office, that could help and Preservation PA with Mindy Crawford. Mindy has just put on the People's Property which she is in with in South Hampton Township as an at risk property. The other thing is, I can bring professionals and my question is have you had any historic preservationist or anybody in

the historic preservation field look at the house and evaluate it and give you any recommendations as to the cost or as to the removal of lead, asbestos or all of that. She knows the Bell Tavern had all of that as well.

President Martin said that the Township had a registered architect who has credentials with historic properties. The architect gave a report at a meeting and gave range a of materials and cost. President Martin said that it is fair to say, whatever the Township decides, it is not an uninformed or knee-jerk decision. The Township has been dealing with this for some time. He is not sure he agrees with the suggestion that the only way to preserve the history of that area, that farm land, the interaction with the Yellow Breeches and some of the occupants that went beforehand as Mr. Fairchild said in his dissertation, that you have to have the house to do that. There are many ways you can have a recorded history and storyboards and museums. You could have a space where people could relive and learn about the families and the structure, and how it was altered and built through time. President Martin said he is not suggesting it is a better or worse way, he is just taking exception in that he thinks this Board could be credited with being historically conscious whether not the house is there.

Ms. Musser said she was available to help do grant research at no cost to the Township and that she could also connect the Township with Kevin Hollowell to discuss restoration and repurposing.

Ms. Musser thanked the Commissioners for allowing her to share her thoughts and concerns regarding the house at 1215 McCormick Road.

Commissioner Cochran addressed Ms. Musser saying that she noted that she was working with a Shippensburg professor to apply for the Lincoln Cemetery to be added to the National Registry of History Places and wanted to know if the Township was aware of? Mr. Fraser said he was not. Ms. Musser said her understanding was that there was no ownership. Commissioner Cochran said that there is, if no one owns it, it regresses to the Township. Commissioner Cochran said it is a Township property that we are on the hook for. Ms. Musser said they were just in the beginning stages. President Martin said that the Township already has an arrangement, and it was just dedicated. Commissioner Cochran said that it is not on the National Registry. Ms. Musser said it was on the Cumberland County register and this will put it on the National register, under the department of interior. It will give it the same type of things as what the Gettysburg Battlefield would be. It will allow federal grants and upkeep, it is going to be a better thing for the cemetery.

Commissioner Cochran would like to suggest some conversation between Ms. Musser and the Township manager since it is Township property. Commissioner Cochran told Ms. Musser that she should let the Township know what she would like to do with it, because the Township has some thoughts about what we would like to do with it too. He said this is coming as a surprise to him and he was not aware that it was happening. President Martin said that conversation works both ways. Ms. Musser said absolutely, it is just in the beginning stages of that, the application has not been submitted to SHPO and Dr. Burg is doing this for several African American cemeteries.

Eric Fairchild, provided materials that were posted on the Friends of the Farm website. They will be attached to the minutes.

Mr. Fairchild, of 1224 McCormick Road, said that we are amongst some experts on surveying and engineering and we have had a real hard time narrowing down the original land warrant on the farm. He said that the Cumberland County published this (referring to document) in 2009, it is like a map of these original warrants (referring to document) but nothing seems to figure out according to the acres that was given. He said nothing seems to line up. He is just warning the Township that we did find another party who may have had a land warrant on the farm in 1730 so we are pursuing that now, so it just seems to be, you open one door, and it leads somewhere. President Martin thanked Mr. Fairchild and that the Township gives you credit because that information is going to be important to maintain and tell the story and be part of that land in the future whatever we do with the park, that should be part of the park in his view. He is commending Mr. Fairchild for all of the research.

Mike Goetz, of 1117 McCormick Road, asked if the Township received any bids on knocking off the wings that do not make any sense and getting it right down to the basic and buttoning it up for the winter? He wanted to know if that was an option and if the Township had any idea what that would cost? President Martin said that they have not done any investigation to take down the wings or just winterize it. Mr. Goetz ask if it was an option not being considered. President Martin said that it was not being considered at the moment.

Debbie Goetz, of 1117 McCormick Road, said she thinks there is historic value in keeping the house on McCormick Road and asked if when the Township puts it out for bid, can it be a stipulation that if it is kept in the McCormick farm area that it would be given preference to being moved to another place in PA or who knows where? Commissioner Cochran said we would have to refer that to a solicitor, as that sounds like a legal question. Ms. Goetz said it will have more historic value for Upper Allen if it is left in Upper Allen as part of the farm.

President Martin made a suggestion that one way of ensuring that it stays on McCormick Road is if Ms. Goetz were to lobby some of the landowners and property owners on McCormick Road that have already expressed interest and he thinks two of them are in this audience. He thinks Ms. Goetz' best or energy well spent would be to appeal to them, maybe even assist them with some of her own personal money or something. He thinks that might be a way of helping ensure it stays on McCormick because he does not know if the Township can stipulate that the next owner would have to be. There is already some interest in McCormick residents, so you might be well advised to confer with them.

President Martin thanked people for coming out and for a few new ideas.

The trash contract is up for renewal. Ms. Goetz said she loved the consistency of the bins. Mr. Fraser said that the contract stipulates bins.

## **PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

### **ACCEPTANCE OF 1340 E. LISBURN ROAD MASTER PLAN**

On July 20, 2022, Derck & Edson presented a master plan for the 1340 E. Lisburn Road park project. Staff is in the process of closing out a Cumberland County Land Partnerships Grant from

2020 which was related to partial funding for the master plan project. As part of this closeout, the Board needs to take action on accepting the master plan.

President Martin wanted to note that the motion was to accept the plan, not to approve it.

Commissioner Cochran made a **MOTION** to accept the 1340 E. Lisburn Road Master Plan, the Motion was **SECONDED** by Vice President Castranio. The motion passed unanimously.

### **AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR FISHER PARK**

The Township Parks Department follows a 15–20-year replacement plan for playground equipment. Fisher Parks playgrounds were installed in 1999 and are past due for replacement.

The 2022 approved Budget includes \$75,000 in line item 39-450-803 to purchase new equipment for Fisher Park. Budget numbers were based on previous year's playground equipment purchases. The Parks Department plans to budget for installation of this equipment in 2023.

Our Parks Director met with three playground representatives (Burke, Playworld, and Game Time) to get design and quotes for the playground areas.

Due to market conditions, the quotes came in higher than approved 2022 Budget estimates. For reference purposes, Friendship Park's playground equipment totaled \$140,000.

On July 27<sup>th</sup>, staff provided three options for each playground area to the Park and Rec Board. The choices selected by the Board total \$127,555. Ending Fund balance with the price increase variance in purchase is projected to be \$276, 736.

Staff recommends moving forward with purchasing equipment selected by the Park and Rec Board for replacement for all three areas in one shot rather than piecemealing by section. All three sections are showing age and have items in disrepair.

Recommended Action: Move to Authorize the Appropriate staff to order the recommended Fisher Park playground equipment at a cost not to exceed \$127, 555.

Vice President Castranio made a **MOTION** to authorize appropriate staff to order the recommended Fisher Park Playground Equipment at a cost not to exceed \$127,555, **Seconded** by Commissioner Cochran. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice President Castranio noted that there were children in attendance at the Park and Rec meeting that were selecting equipment.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **SOLICITOR UPDATE**

There was no report.

#### **TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE (TCC) UPDATE**

There was no report.

#### **CAPITAL REGION COG UPDATE**

There is no meeting in August. The picnic and golf tournament is in September.

#### **MUNICIPAL ADVISORY BOARD (MAB) UPDATE**

Meeting same night as planning meeting on August 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### **PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS (PSATC) UPDATE**

Commissioner Anderson said there is a Summit happening the end of September or the beginning of October.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

It was noted that the Parks and Rec meeting was canceled for August.

Erik Fairchild asked that since the master plan has been accepted, will it be published on the Township's website? Ms. Palmer said that once the minutes are approved, they will be posted.

President Martin said that the Commissioners were going into executive session to discuss two legal issues and a contract issue. They recessed into executive session at 7:26 p.m.



# Friends of the Farm

## History of the Farm/Park Property



Historic Depiction of Susquehannock Indians

The original owners of the farm at 1215 McCormick Rd. were the Indians; specifically, the Susquehannock Indians and then the Shawnee Indians. Alas, "original owners" is a misnomer because the Native Americans believed that man belonged to the land, not that the land belonged to man.



Mr. Robert Rowland wrote an informative article, "History of the Callapatschink / Yellow Breeches Creek", in 2001 and which is included as part of the 2020 second printing of Happy Yellow Breeches. Mr. Roland relates the Indian history of this area:

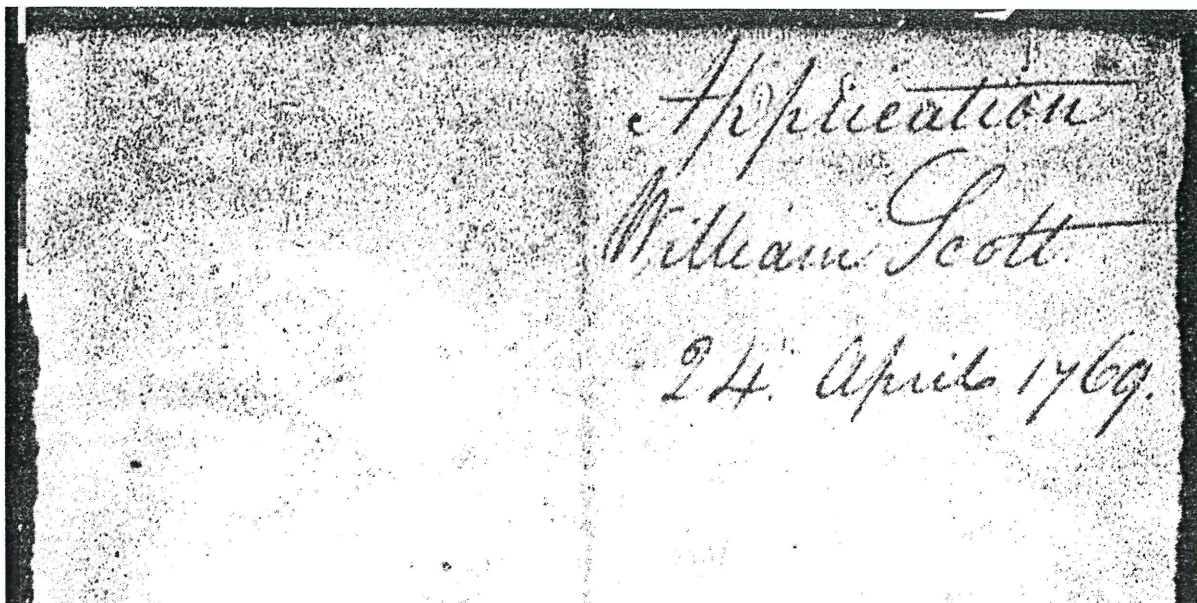
"The Indians had a burial ground approximately two miles upstream along the Yellow Breeches on Rich Hill at a loop in the Yellow Breeches. Rich Hill no longer exists due to a quarry operation. The property owner was of the opinion that there were also lodges there. There are also some undocumented reports of Indian villages further upstream and in the western portion of Cumberland County but no specific locations are known. Other than the obvious use of the Yellow Breeches for fishing and transportation, there is no known other use by the Indians. In 1728 the Shawnees departed the local area and headed out to western Pennsylvania and joined forces with the French to fight against the English."

"In 1732 the three Lancaster jurists wrote a letter to the Shawnee chief in an enticement to get the Indians to return, offering them a 7,500 acres manor along the Susquehanna River in what would later be known as Lowther Manor. Their description of the boundary included the "Shawna Creek" on the south side, the name by which the Shawnees knew the Yellow Breeches."

Early Architecture in Upper Allen Township (1976) provides a description of the 1215 McCormick Rd.. / Lambert farmhouse (see #35, page 44) including:

"Set into a cinder block wall of a modern addition is a carved oak lintel beam marked "W.S. 1789" which came from the log house formerly occupying the site built by William Scoot, who was taxed for a log house on this land in the 1798 Direct Tax"

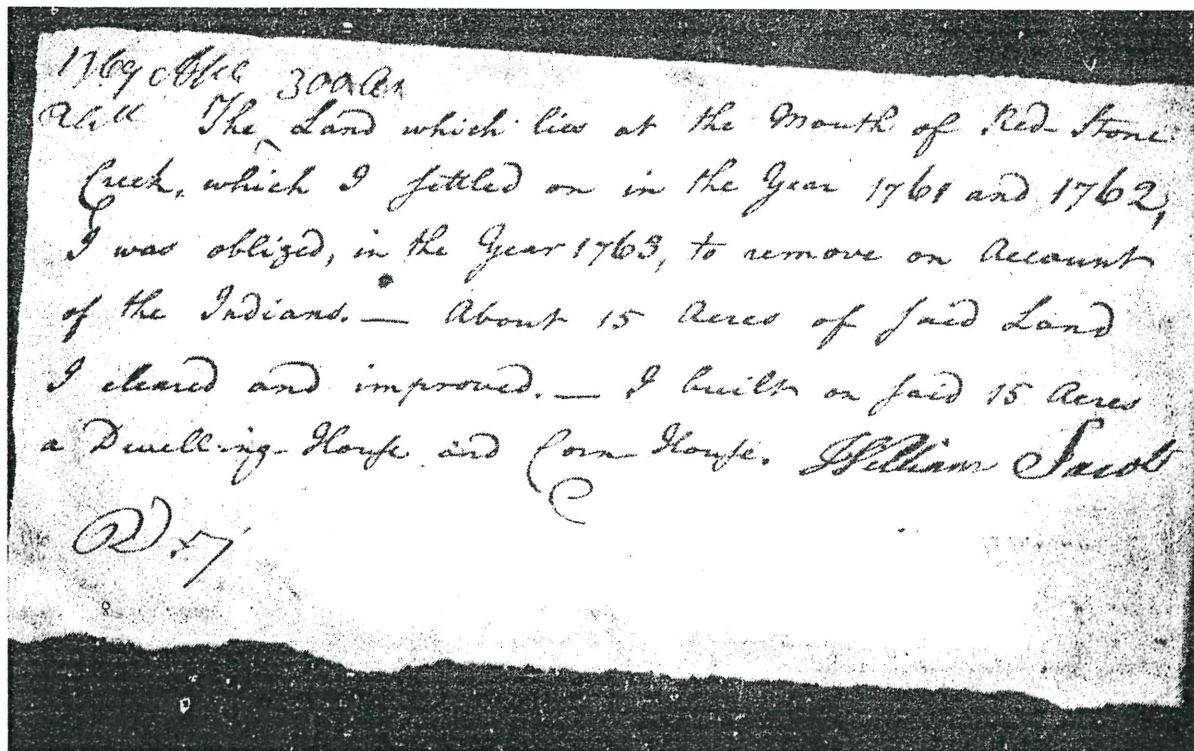
After much tedious research, we believe we have found the original Land Warrant issued to William Scoot, or William Scott if this is one in the same person. This William Scott received two (2) other land warrants in Cumberland and Dauphin Counties; however, he lived in Allen Township per the Census and Tax reports.



## Application for Land Warrant by William Scott

This Land Warrant, dated April 24, 1769, was for 300 acres and reads as follows:

"The land which lies at the mouth of Red Stone Creek, which I settled on in the year 1761 and 1762, I was obliged in the year 1763 to remove on account of the Indians – about 15 acres of said land I cleared and improved – I built on said 15 acres a dwelling house and barn house."



### April 24, 1769 Land Warrant to William Scott

We believe, but have not yet confirmed, that Red Stone Creek is the creek or stream on the West side of the farm between it and the current Goetz property. There were few landmarks or roads in 1769 to determine a property location, so it made sense to use creeks as the reference point. This descriptive method is found throughout the Blunston Licenses, 1733/34 for Lancaster (now Cumberland) County. The trail from Eastern, Pennsylvania to the then Western frontier ran along the Yellow Beeches or Yellow Britches as it was called back then. As some neighbors along McCormick Rd. can attest, Indian artifacts can be found in this area along the Yellow Breeches.

So, when a future park visitor utilizes the "wetland walk" park feature, they will be on the 15 acre site of known Indian activity and be looking out over an old Indian trail and possible settlement.

On the 1785 Tax and Exoneration Lists, it lists: William Scott being taxed on owning 200 acres of land, 2 horses, 3 cows, 1 still. There is a John Scott, Sr., possibly a son, owning 200 acres, 4 horses, and 2 cows.



On the 1798 Direct Tax Lists, it lists William Scoot with 4 dwelling houses: For house #1 , William Scott was both the owner and occupant and it was 24 by 20, made of wood, one story, with 4 windows and 24 lights (glass panes) on 2 acres of land, valued at \$250.



Historic Depiction of 1720's Captain and his Ship

### Love & Unity: The Scherich, Lambert and Crall Families

The Schirch, Scherich or Sherrick surname evolved from the Schurch family who began immigrating from Switzerland to America in the late 1600's. The Shurch's were mostly weavers and they hailed from a region of Switzerland known as Sumiswald. How many ways can one spell the Schurch name? Answer: 60 or more at last count. See [schurchfamilyassociation.net](http://schurchfamilyassociation.net)

One of the original Schurch immigrants, K(C)asper Schirch is a historically significant figure for having survived the 1732 voyage of the Love & Unity. Like the Indians as original owners, the voyage of the Love & Unity was anything but – 98 of the original 156 passengers perished during the voyage as a result of alleged brutality (starvation) and murder on the part of British Captain Jacob Lobb. Casper Schirch's first wife and child were among the dead. While we have yet to confirm it, we believe Casper Schirch was either the father or uncle of Christian Scherich who would later own the farm on McCormick Rd.



# KNOWN SURVIVORS OF THE LOVE & UNITY

ANDERRASS (ANDRES), Michael <sup>68, 126, 130</sup>	HERMAN, Johannes <sup>68</sup> (EVIN(R)IN ?, John) <sup>29</sup>	SCHWECHHEIMER <sup>11</sup> (SHWICHAMMER <sup>29</sup> , SUCKAMORE <sup>67</sup> ) John <sup>29</sup> George <sup>29</sup> Magdalena, <sup>29</sup> wife of George Samuel <sup>17, 29, 47, 89, 105, 114</sup> Catherine, <sup>114</sup> wife of Samuel Conrad, <sup>11</sup> son
BEHN, Johannes <sup>64</sup> (PAIN, John) <sup>29</sup>	JUNGSMANN (YOUNGMAN) Johann Ditrich, <sup>2, 29, 68</sup> father Johannes, <sup>87</sup> son Johann Georg, <sup>1</sup> son Daughter <sup>2</sup>	SODREIDEN, (SANDRITTER <sup>7</sup> ), Christiana <sup>29</sup>
BOGELS (BOCKLE, BOGER?), John <sup>17</sup>	KUNTZ (COUNS, COMES), Jacob <sup>17, 47, 89, 105</sup> Jacob Jr., <sup>23, 87</sup> son	VEIZEN (WEISSIN), Anna Margaret <sup>29</sup>
BRUCH, Peter <sup>29</sup>	LIEBENSTEIN, Johann Georg <sup>68</sup>	VOEST (YOST, VOSS), Valantine <sup>29</sup>
DEULENIN, Anna Maria <sup>29</sup>	MANNCHER, Johann Jacob <sup>68</sup> (MINICHER, Johan Herb)	WALTRON (WALTHERIN?), Gertrude <sup>29</sup>
DIFFEBACH (DAVENPORK), Jacob <sup>17, 47, 89, 105</sup>	PRAMTON (BRANDTIN ?), Elizabeth <sup>29</sup>	WE(I)BER, Mathias <sup>29, 68</sup>
DOINER (DONNER, DANER), Jonas <sup>17, 29, 89, 105</sup> Juliana, wife <sup>10</sup>	SCHIRCH, K(C)asper <sup>12, 68</sup> (SHORK, Hisber) <sup>29</sup>	WEBER, Johan Philip <sup>30, 68</sup>
EISINGER, Peter <sup>61</sup>	SCHMUERDO, Michael <sup>29, 68</sup> (SIGMUND, Johann Michael) <sup>6, 125</sup>	VESTHOFFER <sup>29</sup> (WESTHEBER <sup>2, 125</sup> ), Valantine
FRINE (FREIN), Katharine <sup>29</sup>	SCHMUNELD, Lewis <sup>29</sup> (SIGMUND, Johann Ludwig) <sup>6, 125</sup>	WISMILLERN, Margaret <sup>29</sup>
GASSNER, Martin <sup>9, 29, 68</sup>	SHMUNDO, Christiana <sup>29</sup> (SIGMUND, Anna Catharina) <sup>6, 125</sup>	
GISSENIN, Peter <sup>29</sup> (GASSNER?)		
GILLINER, Christian <sup>29, 68</sup> (KININGER, RENINGER)		
GOHR (GEAR), Johannes <sup>17, 47, 89, 105</sup>		

The above 43 names were taken from a diary, various court documents and the passenger list of the *Norris*. For documentation, use the superscript number(s) following the name, to refer to the same number in "Notes" for the reference.

iii

iv

Known Survivors of the Love & Unity courtesy of Westhafer family history  
The voyage of the Love & Unity led to later reforms in shipping law in which a Captain could no longer arbitrarily determine a ships half-way point and thus be entitled to full fare for any passengers who died during the journey.

Ben Franklin's Pennsylvania Gazette published the Palatine's "appeal" on February 15, 1732. To wit, during this (one) six week period:

"in one night seven persons miserably are starved to Death and thrown into the sea; one must throw the poor People naked into the Sea... one could not have a little Sand to sink the Body to the ground... or dare not ask anything from the Sailors... we were kicked, beat and used... as Slaves and maleficent Persons .. they were kept onboard for six days while in the harbor, allowing no communication between us and the people on shore – telling them we were Turks and not Christians...to prolong the journey, the ship sailed only during the day, the rudder being tied at night"

For a more complete account of the travails of the Love & Unity, we include, with the authors permission, Chapter 1 of the Westhafer family history at [friendsofthefarm.org](http://friendsofthefarm.org)

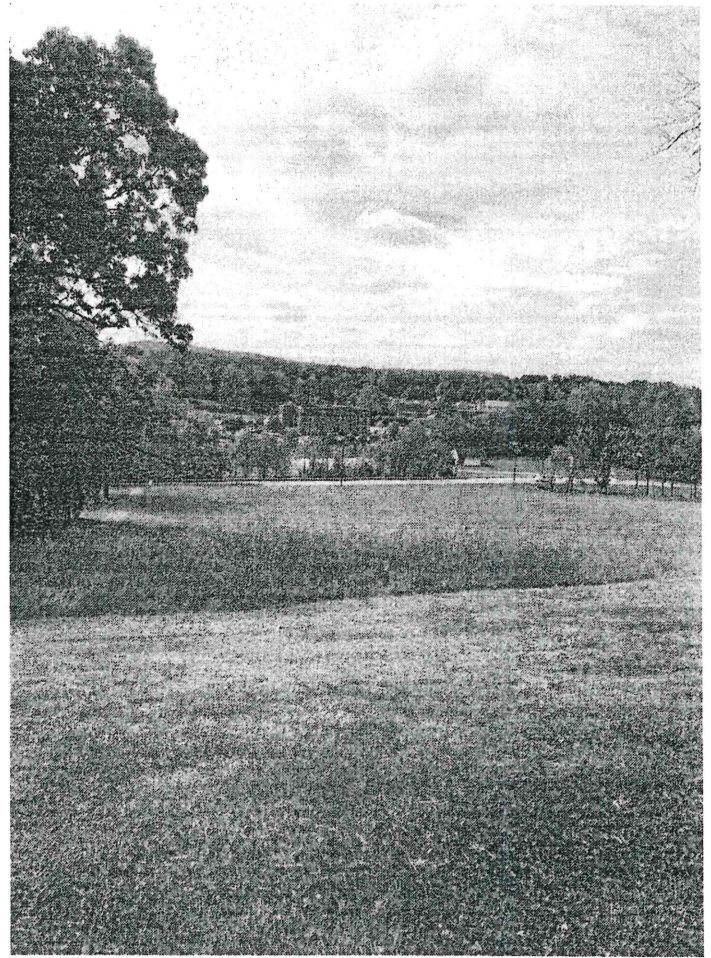
The chain of title between the 1769 William Scott Land Warrant and Christian Scherich ownership of the farm beginning in 1803 is not yet known. We have secured; however, a Writ of Partition, entered May 12, 1807 by George Stroop, then High Sheriff of Cumberland County, directing the "Tract of land situate in the (Allen) Township and (Cumberland) County aforesaid, adjoining the lands of Benjamin Anderson, Andrew Mateer and others containing (290) two hundred and ninety acres more or less with the appurtenances" and "Whereupon it is considered and adjudged by the Court that said Christian Sherrick (2nd), eldest son of the said Christian Sherrick (1st), deceased, hold and possess the said Tract of land and with the appurtenances to him, his heirs and assigns forever".

So, Christian Scherich (the 2nd or Jr.) assumed title to the farm in 1807. He then married Ann(a) Regina Spitzer of Fairview Township, York County on April 2, 1811 in Harrisburg. Ms. Spitzer came from well to do parents who likely supplied quite a dowry and later inheritance for the couple. Per Conrad Spitzer's Will dated August 29, 1810, Ann was to receive "all the residue of my aforesaid plantation adjoining lands of Martin Coppenheffer, Michael Hart Esq. and William Chandler... I also give and bequeath to my said daughter Ann the sum of one thousand six hundred pounds lawful money of Pennsylvania paid to her in the following manner - -"

Anna's mother, Barbara Horst, was wealthy in her own right and the Horst family cemetery can be found near present day Evergreen and Gaumer Rd.'s in Fairview Township. Fairview Township historians may be able to shine more light here.

Christian and Anna Scherich had five Children; John (1812-1886), Barbara (1814-1889), Anna (1815-1857), Frances "Fanny" (1816-1820) and Mary (1818-1861). Sadly, Christian Scherich died at the young age of 36 on May 10, 1822.





Christian Scherich is buried in Grantham Memorial Park overlooking present day Messiah University. Some ancestry.com information shows Christian Scherich as owning the land Messiah now occupies but this has not been confirmed.

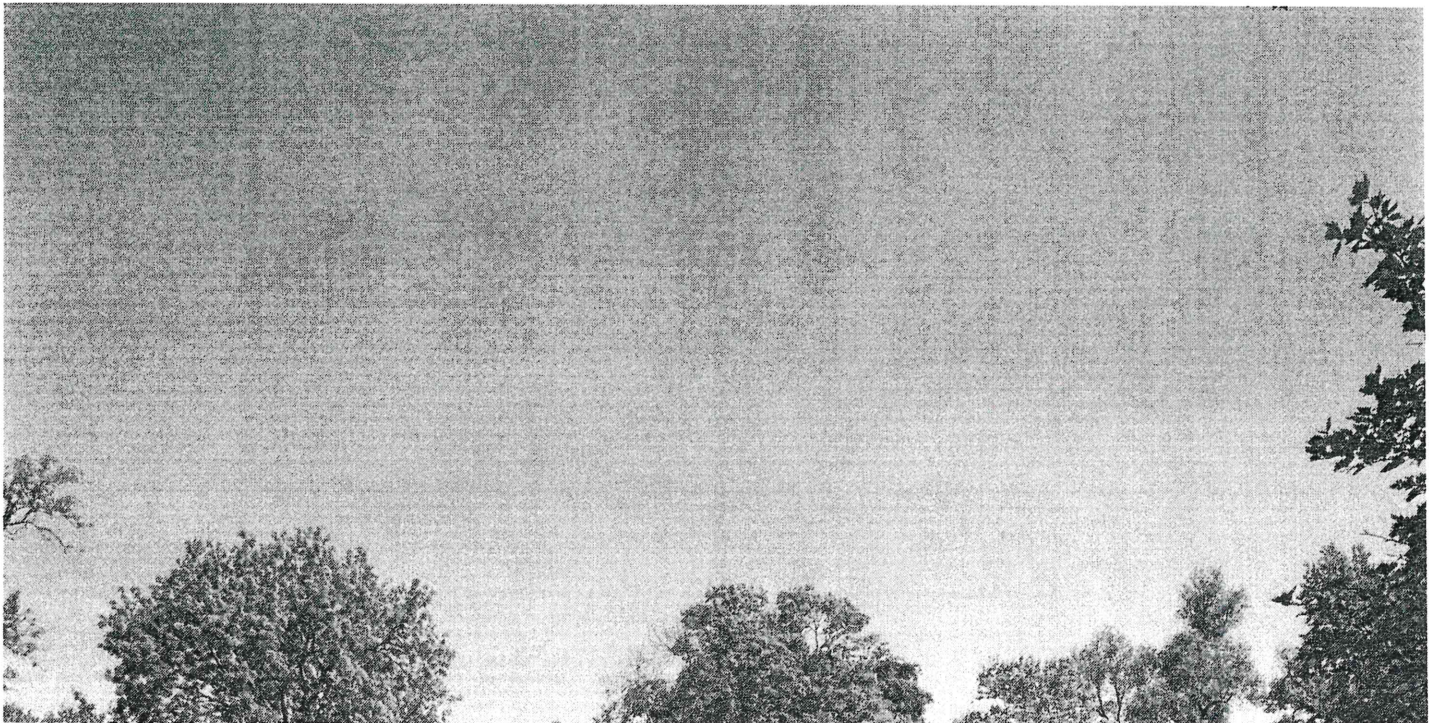
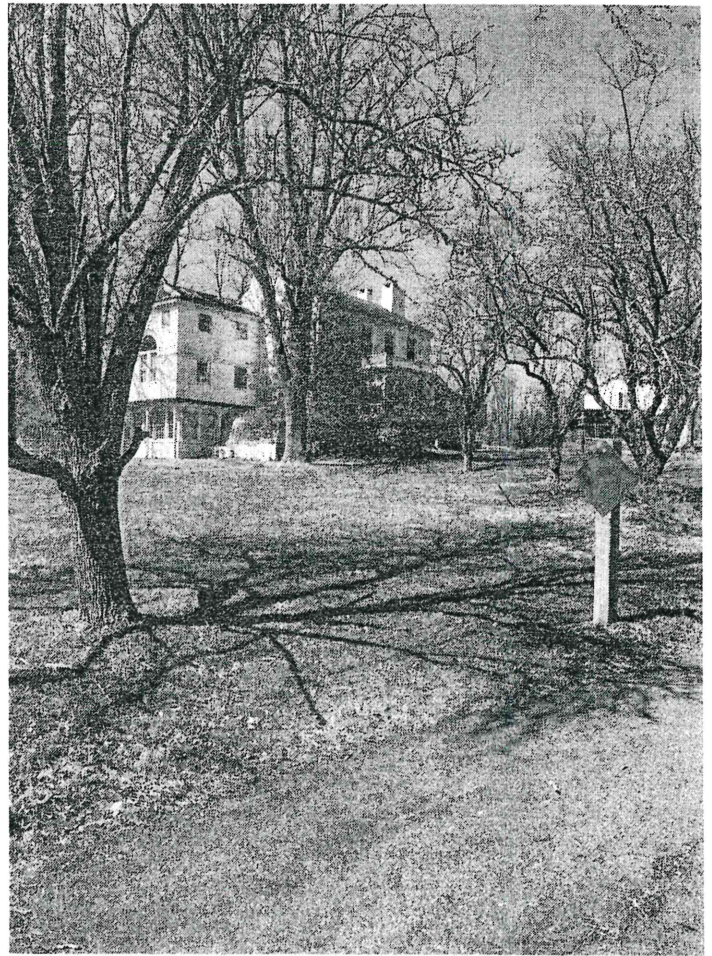
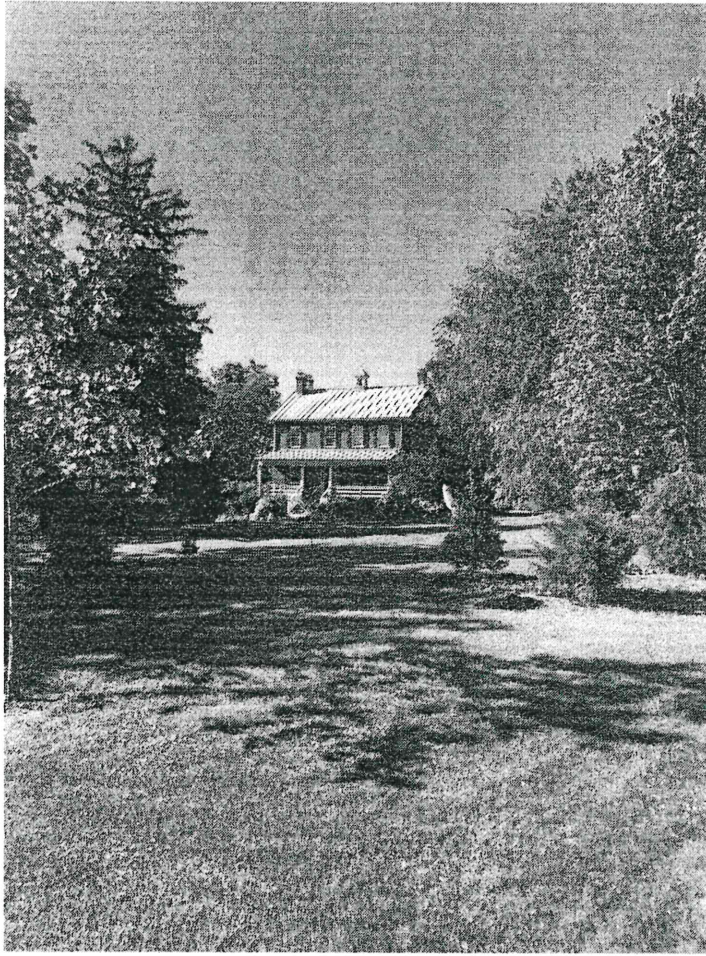
Anna Scherich married Christian Crall as her 2nd husband on March 27, 1828. Christian Crall was the oldest son of Mathias Crall (1744-1812) who took over the Glen Allen Mill from Hugh Laird and later sold it to George Lantz in 1810. Christian was 17 years older than Anna and they had no children. Christian Crall died on April 4, 1843 at age 67 and is also buried in Grantham Memorial Park. Christian's son, Joseph, would later marry Anna's daughter, Barbara, born 1814.

Anna Scherich Crall must have been a strong woman. When her 2nd husband Christian Crall died in 1843, his Estate "was not sufficient to pay all his just debts." So, Anna pulled together \$5,953.12 and bought 237 acres from the Estate of Christian Crall on April 1, 1846.

Anna Scherich Crall sold 106 acres in 1846 to John and Rachel (Millard) Scherich. John was Anna's son born 1812. Anna later sold 104 acres (the farm at 1215 McCormick Rd.) to Michael and Mary Lambert on April 20, 1855 for \$3,500. Mary Lambert was Anna's Daughter born 1818 and married to Michael Lambert. About this time, Anna also sold X acres to William and Anna Lambert. Anna being her daughter born 1815 and married to William Lambert. We suspect the land sold to William and Anna was part of the 237 acre (1846) or 290 acre (1807) tract.



The result of all this buying and selling was that Anna Scherich Crall's four (4) surviving children (John, Barbara, Anna, and Mary) and their spouses all built new or "encased" German Georgian farmhouses along Lisburn and McCormick Rd. in the 1850's. We have three (3) of these now historic farmhouses remaining:







\*John and Rachel Scherich home at 1450 Main St., Lisburn, Lower Allen Township. Shown on 1858 map. Registered with Cumberland County Historic Society.

\*William and Anna Lambert home at 13xx Main St. Lisburn (demolished sometime after 1975). Shown on 1858 map. Listed as #36 Early Architecture in Upper Allen Township.

\*Michael and Mary Lambert home at 1215 McCormick Rd. (future undetermined). Shown on 1858 map. Listed in #35 Early Architecture in Upper Allen Township

\*Joseph and Barbara Krall home at 443 McCormick Rd. Shown on 1858 map. Referred to tenant house, Nauman farm, circa 1815 (page 6-Figure 5), Early Architecture in Upper Allen Township. This home is a brick cased log home. Also listed in Brick Cased Log Homes of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania (Nancy Van Dolson 1988).



We also have the area identified as Scherich's Fording shown on the 1858 map where present day Lisburn Rd. crosses into York County. And we know the brick for the farmhouses came from the J. Hickernel Brick Yd. adjacent to the J. Scherich farm.

Anna Scherich Crall is listed in the 1850 Census as living with Michael and Mary Lambert and it is likely that she died while still living with them on March 13, 1859.

Anna was 67 when she died and is buried at the Lantz Cemetery. Her April 21, 1858 Will named son in law Michael Lambert as Executor and her Estate was equally divided among her four children and/or their surviving spouse.

The Lambert family in the Lisburn area started with the immigration of Michael Lambert (the 1st or Sr.) from Germany to America about 1790 when he was 2 years old. Michael married Catherine Schneider Thome about 1809 and they had five (5) children; William (born 1812), Joseph (born 1813), Michael (born 1817), Mary (born 1819) and George (born 1826). Son William Lambert married Anna Scherich born 1815 and son Michael Lambert married Mary Scherich born 1818.

Michael (Sr.) was reported as blind in the 1850 Census and living next to William and Anna. Michael died in 1852 and is buried at Lantz Cemetery. Catherine died in 1854 but is not shown in the Lantz cemetery record.

Our research started with Michael and Mary Lambert whose name is on the capstone of the farmhouse at 1215 McCormick Rd. The capstone is above the South facing gable window and reads "Built by Michael & Mary Lambert 1855". For the longest time, we could not determine what happened to Michael Lambert, why he sold the home on the eve of the Civil War, or where he was buried. Michael and Mary had seven (7) children and we wondered what happened to them as well; Anna Mary (born 1845), Joseph (born 1847), Margret "Maggie" (born 1850), Jacob (born 1852), George (born 1854), Sarah Alice (born 1855) and Ira (born 1860).




## The Herald.

CARLISLE, PA.  
Friday, August 17, 1860.

"As long as God allows the wild current to flow through my veins, I will never, never, by word or thought, by deed or will, aid in admitting one rod of FREE TERRITORY to the possession of our HUMAN BOND."  
—HARRIS.

FOR PRESIDENT.



**ABRAHAM LINCOLN,**  
OF ILLINOIS.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT  
**HANNIBAL HAMLIN,**  
OF MAINE.

ELECTORS.  
Hon. JAMES FOLLOWS,  
Hon. THOMAS M. HOWE.

<p>1 Edward C. Knight. 2 Robert F. King. 3 Henry Bannan. 4 Robert M. Foster. 5 Nathan Miller. 6 John M. Brownell. 7 James W. Fulton. 8 Levi H. Smith. 9 Francis W. Christ. 10 David Stannan, Jr. 11 David Taggart. 12 Thomas A. Bell. 13 Francis Pennington.</p>	<p>15 Ulysses Merouet. 16 George Driscoll. 17 A. B. Sharpe. 18 Daniel O. Gehr. 19 Samuel Calvin. 20 Edgar Geyser. 21 Wm. McKernan. 22 J. M. Kirkpatrick. 23 James Kerr. 24 Rich'd P. Roberts. 25 Henry Southern. 26 John Grier.</p>
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FOR GOVERNOR,  
**ANDREW G. CURTIN,**  
OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Delegates Election—County Convention.

Presented to public notice the Standing Committee of the people's party of Cumberland County met at the "Fairview" of the Lincoln Club in Carlisle, on Saturday, the 11th inst. Col. Thomas Yeaton was

Delegates Election—County Convention.

The County Convention.

The machinery of a convention of delegates to form a county ticket, is a matter of consequence, to avoid the "pecuniary" of the "ultra" people assembling in mass meetings, for that purpose. The delegates bear the same relation to the party, that the members of the Legislature do to the people, and are supposed fairly to represent the wishes of a majority of their constituents. It will be seen therefore that they occupy a responsible position, and it is fair to presume that they will act knowledgeably about the powers delegated them. It will be conceded, that the subject of the party is to place a ticket in the field, composed of men, pledged to sustain the principles they advocate, qualified to discharge the duties of the several offices for which they may be nominated, and with sufficient personal popularity to obtain, at least the full party vote. The duty of the Convention, therefore, is a plain one. We hold that no man has a claim on the party for services rendered, and in three cases out of four, where a nomination is given in acknowledgment of such claims, the party is disappointed. The inquiry should be to the fitness and availability of the candidates; and the men who can best satisfy the Convention on all these points, should be the nominees, regardless of previous announcements, personal preferences, or claims for party service.

The duty of selecting candidates from among so many worthy men, who have been, and may yet be named for the various offices in the county, will be a delicate one; but we trust the Convention will discharge it as men determined to do right, and that, when the ticket is formed the members of the party will smother their private griefs and sustain the action of the Convention, in a united effort to carry their candidates into office. Let the motto of our friends be, "everything for the cause—nothing for me," and a glorious victory awaits us.

The Democratic Convention.

The Democratic County Convention met at Carlisle on Monday last, to form a county

## VALUABLE FARM AT PRIVATE SALE.

The subscriber offers at Private Sale the farm on which he now resides, situated in Upper Allen township Cumberland County, on the road leading from Lutz's Mill to Lisburn, from which it is distant about one mile. The Yellow Breeches Creek, bounds the South side of the tract. The Farm is in a high state of cultivation, and contains ONE HUNDRED AND FOUR ACRES, of gravel land, mixed with the RED land, and all cleared, except about two acres. The improvements are

**A THREE-STORY BRICK HOUSE,**  
including a basement, nearly new, and finished in the best manner.

**A BRICK BANK BARN,**  
large and commodious, Wagon-shed, Carriage House, Corn-Cruba, and other necessary out buildings. A thriving orchard of choice fruit, a well of water at the door and running water in every field.

Purchasers desirous of viewing the farm, or ascertaining the terms of sale, will call on the subscriber on the premises, or by letter addressed


MICHAEL LAMBERT,  
Lisburn, Cumb. Co. Pa.

Aug. 17, '60.—St.\*

## VALUABLE TOWN PROPERTY

AT PRIVATE SALE,

Situate on East Main Street, in the borough of Carlisle. The lot contains 33 feet in front and about 230 feet in depth. The improvements are a commodious



**TWO-STORY BRICK HOUSE**  
and Bank Building with other convenient out buildings, all in excellent order. The owner being particularly desirous of selling a great bargain may be obtained by applying to

A. L. SPONSLER,  
Real Estate Agent and Surveyor.

Carlisle, August 17, 1860.—Cv.

## COLORED CAMP MEETING.

A Union Camp Meeting of the colored people of Carlisle will be held about 4 miles from Carlisle, in a grove near Papertown, owned by Mr. Moore, commencing

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 1860,**  
to be under the direction of the Rev. Isaac Garraway. There will be no soliciting within 3 miles of the camp ground, and no preaching by the conductor. All persons

Page 1 of the August 17, 1860 Carlisle Herald with (enlarged) ad placed by Michael Lambert for the sale of his farm

Death after death occurred in the Lambert family soon after the four beautiful homes were built along Lisburn and McCormick Rd. and the many children were born. Anna (wife of William) died November 16, 1857 at age 42. Anna Scherich Crall died on March 13, 1859 at age 67. Mary (wife of Michael) died January 15, 1861 at age 42. We suspect that Mary Lambert might have been in poor health which is why Michael began advertising his "Valuable Farm at Private Sale" in August 17, 1860.

So, what happened to Michael Lambert? As noted on the Deed transfer of the McCormick Rd. farm to Abraham Witmer on March 29, 1861, Michael had moved across the Yellow Breeches to Monaghan Township. He is shown as living in Monaghan in 1862 and paying tax on a horse and buggy valued at \$75. In about 1864, Michael married Elizabeth Reneker as his 2nd wife. They had two children; Mellie (born 1865) and Frank (born 1867).



Michael died on December 12, 1867 at age 50 and is buried at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Dillsburg, PA. When his Estate was probated in 1868, Michael had assumed Guardianship of six (6) Krall children in addition to his own children. Michael's 2nd wife, Elizabeth, lived to be 99 years of age and died in 1932. Elizabeth was known as "Mother Lambert" and is buried next to Michael.

There is a Biographical Sketch (see 432) of John "JNO" Scherich in the History of Cumberland County (1886) as "a representative of one of the old families of Cumberland County."

"JNO Scherich was "the eldest of four children, worked on his father's farm near Lisburn until he was sixteen, when he was apprenticed to the carpenter's, cabinet-maker's and painter's trades, at New Cumberland and Shepherdstown, and at twenty years of age had learned his trade; having aptness and energy soon became one of the first mechanics of his day. He then located near Lisburn, where he carried on his trade. He superintended one section of the first railroad bridge across the river at Harrisburg. He quit his trade about 1850, bought a tract of land west of Lisburn, erected commodious brick buildings, and soon became one of the first farmers of the county. In connection with farming he extensively carried on the brick-making business for many years. In 1875 he came to Mechanicsburg and continued in the insurance business, in which he had been engaged for more than forty years. He was married, November 30, 1832, to Miss Rachael Millard, born near Lewisburg, York County, March 14, 1814, daughter of Jonathan and Phoebe (Thornburg) Millard, old settlers of York County. Mr. and Mrs. Scherich have been members of the United Brethren Church for the past forty years. While at Lisburn their home was the home for all Christian workers, always active in the cause of morals and religion. They have seven children living: Christian, a carpenter, but engaged in the agency business at Lisburn, married to Miss Eliza A. Floyd; Ann Jane, wife of Elias Rhiver, a puddler at West Fairview; Jno. Andrew, a farmer near Lisburn married to Miss Margret J. Hickernell; Phoebe Samantha, wife of Geo. Forry, a farmer near Mechanicsburg; Jonathan H. Clay..."

A professional abstractor has traced the Deed records of 1215 McCormick Rd. to 1846 and, by reference, 1839. This is as far back as deeds go in the Cumberland County Recorder of Deeds office. Obtaining the names of all prior owners is recommended by a local historian as part of preparing a Historic Resource Survey Form on the property.

There have been more owners of the property than expected as shown by the 17 deeds listed below. The main takeaways are that the Lambert Farm had the same 1830's ownership as the Glen Allen Mill (George Lantz) but was not part of the original mill tract or the later McCormick holdings.

The deeds prior to 1939 are all handwritten and most are difficult to decipher. The farm went through several Estate and Sheriff sales in its history which make for lengthy deed references. The latest deed from Thomas, Barbara and Helen Martin to Upper Allen Township, reads "Deed In Lieu Of Condemnation". Township Commissioners have said this was done to save on transfer taxes and that the consideration was \$1,100,000.00.

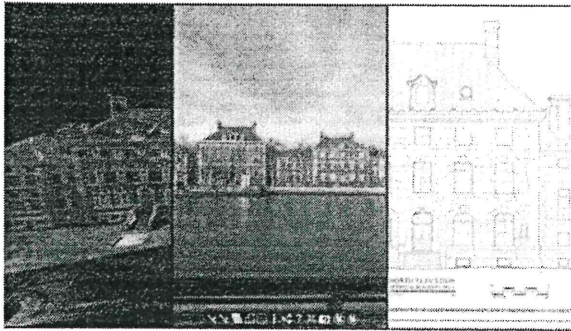


# Historic Preservation

NPS.gov / Home

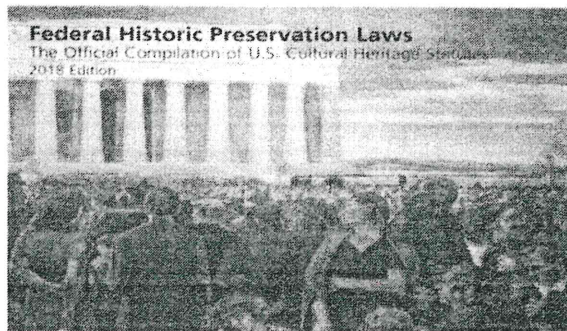
## The National Park Service & Historic Preservation

The National Park Service invites you to explore and interact with the programs and resources highlighted below. Historic preservation is a conversation with our past about our future. It provides us with opportunities to ask, "What is important in our history?" and "What parts of our past can we preserve for the future?" Through historic preservation, we look at history in different ways, ask different questions of the past, and learn new things about our history and ourselves. Historic preservation is an important way for us to transmit our understanding of the past to future generations. [Learn more...](#)



### Heritage Documentation Programs ›

Explore historic sites across the country via panoramic tours, interactive 3-D models, animations, and more with HABS/HAER/HALS.



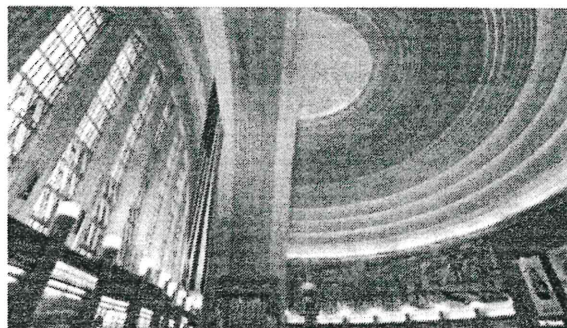
### Federal Preservation Laws Text Available ›

The most recent reference text of active Federal Historic Preservation Laws is available online and in physical form!



### Research and Technical Assistance ›

Learn about the research and technical assistance undertaken by the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training



### A Preservation Partnership ›

Digitizing the National Register and National Historic Landmark Records. More than 88,000 records now available!

## What is Historic Preservation?

From the National Park Service website:

"Historic preservation is a conversation with our past about our future. It provides us with opportunities to ask, "What is important in our history?" and "What parts of our past can we preserve for the future?" Through historic preservation, we look at history in different ways,

ask different questions of the past, and learn new things about our history and ourselves. Historic preservation is an important way for us to transmit our understanding of the past to future generations.

Our nation's history has many facets, and historic preservation helps tell these stories. Sometimes historic preservation involves celebrating events, people, places, and ideas that we are proud of; other times it involves recognizing moments in our history that can be painful or uncomfortable to remember.

Within the National Park Service, many people work in historic preservation: archeologists, architects, curators, historians, landscape architects, and other cultural resource professionals. The National Park Service carries out historic preservation both within and outside the National Park System."

### Why Preserve Historic Buildings & Neighborhoods?

"Across the nation, citizens appreciate historic and architectural character as being essential to the identity and unique character of their communities. They promote historic preservation because to do so is essential to cultural, social, economic and environmental sustainability. Historic resources are key ingredients in neighborhood livability and quality of life, minimizing negative impacts on the environment and yielding economic vitality and reward"

### What will be the name of the park?

There has been no discussion of the name for the park and the Township recently changed the park address to 1340 East Lisburn Rd.

We offer three suggestions to start this discussion:

- Scherich Park
- Lambert Farm
- Love & Unity Park





Table 1

Grantor	Grantee	Date	Acreage	Consideration	Notes
Christian Scherich Estate	George Lantz	1830's	N.A.	N.A.	by reference in 1846 deed
George Lantz	Christian Crall	03/15/1839	237	N.A.	by reference in 1846 deed
Christian Crall Estate	Anna Crall	04/01/1846	237	\$5,953.12	Scherich farmhouse built in 1852
Anna Crall	Michael & Mary Lambert	04/20/1855	104	\$3,500.00	Lambert farmhouse built in 1855
Michael & Mary Lambert	Abraham Witmer	03/29/1861	104	\$8,320.00	American Civil War started 04/12/1861
Abraham Witmer	Jacob G. Meyers	03/29/1866	104	\$8,138.26	
Jacob G. Meyers	Jacob Barber	04/02/1878	104	\$7,857.67	
Jacob Barber Estate	Magdalene Hoff	02/28/1898	104	\$5,026.00	
Magdalene Hoff	Maurice Hoff	03/05/1907	104	\$5.00	
Maurice Hoff	George W. Shettel	03/29/1911	38	\$5,000.00	
George W. Shettel	John L. & Blanche R. Erford	04/02/1928	38	\$1.00	
John L. & Blanche R. Erford	Edward N. & Penelope R. Jones	01/18/1939	38	\$1.00	
Edward N. Jones (Widower)	James N. & Martha T. Trout	08/25/1958	27	\$26,500.00	
Edward N. Jones (Widower)	James N. & Martha T. Trout	10/21/1958	31	\$7,750.00	
James N. & Martha T. Trout	David W. & Suzanne B. Stephanie	01/29/1988	58	\$364,000.00	
David W. & Suzanne B. Stephanie	Thomas E. & Helen E. Martin (Brother & Sister)	11/12/2003	68	\$1,700,000.00	
Thomas E. & Helen E. Martin (Brother & Sister)	Upper Allen Township	04/30/2020	61	\$1,100,000.00	Deed in Lieu of Condemnation recorded @ \$1.00

August 3, 2022

Dear Upper Allen Township Board of Commissioners,

**Professional Credentials:**

My name is Christine Musser. I hold a master's in Applied History with a concentration in Historic Preservation and Cultural Resource Management.

- Current Projects:
  - working with Shippensburg University Professor Steven Burg to apply for the Lincoln Cemetery in Upper Allen Township for eligibility on the National Register of History Places.
  - working with Kevin Hollowell, a historic restoration artisan, to apply for the historic home in North Middlesex Township of William Thompson for eligibility on the National Register of Historic Places.
  - consulting with Allenberry Resort owners for the preservation and repurposing of the historic buildings on the property and doing historical research to tell the story of Allenberry and local history.

**Recommendation for the house located at 1215 McCormick Road:**

Although the house or property at 1215 McCormick Road is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, it is significant to the history and heritage of Upper Allen Township. Like many historic properties throughout the Township, it tells the story of the early history and heritage of Upper Allen. Historic preservation and cultural resource management are about saving and telling the stories of these places. Therefore saving the house from demolition is important to the Township's historical story and legacy.

My recommendation is to preserve the exterior of the house and repurpose it. The book, *Early Architecture in Upper Allen Township*, published in 1976 by the Upper Allen Heritage Committee, highlighted the house for its architecture. Therefore it alone shows its importance to Upper Allen's heritage.

The interior of the house could be repurposed for the Parks Department for relocation of their office. It would give the community a specified "go-to" place for direct communication with the available park services. To focus on conserving Upper Allen Township's parks, the Parks Department would have room to grow, develop, and plan events promoting the Township's landscape.

The interior could be designed to accommodate the residents to have private events and meetings. The Township could also utilize it for public events and meetings. For example, the Cumberland County Historical Society uses the historic Two Mile House on Walnut Bottom Road in this way, and they have succeeded in doing so. Alterations could be done to the interior while keeping the exterior architecturally and historically significant. This would eliminate change to the landscape. The house could also be



used to share the rich history of the Township by sharing artifacts and stories of the people who settled there. Cumberland Valley Tourism could promote the property, bringing visitors from afar and locally to the Upper Allen area.  
<https://www.visitcumberlandvalley.com/>

### **Grants:**

To benefit communities, grants from DCNR and private organizations are available to township parks and recreation departments.

### **Thoughts:**

If a property has been determined historic, it has a history that stretches over several decades and several owners. Demolishing a historic building destroys a piece of history.

Historic properties that are restored can be used as museums or local attractions, which appeal to tourists and locals alike. Demolition does not offer this incentive; once a property is destroyed, it's gone forever.

<https://www.hometowndemolitioncontractors.com/blog/demolish-or-not-demolish-historic-properties>

### **Bottom Line:**

When a community destroys a historic building, there is no getting it back, and what is lost is its unique value to the community.

Therefore, I support Friends of the Farm's request to you to **Delay the Solicitation for Sealed Bids for the House at 1215 McCormick Rd.**

### **To Note:**

I am available to help do grant research at no cost to the Township. I can also connect you with Kevin Hollowell to discuss restoration and repurposing.

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts and concerns regarding the house at 1215 McCormick Road.



November 10, 2015

# Six Practical Reasons to Save Old Buildings

More:

Preservation Tips and Tools

By:

Julia Rocchi

What is historic, and worth saving, varies with the beholder, but some definition is urgent. Simply put, "historic" means "old and worth the trouble." It applies to a building that's part of a community's tangible past. And though it may surprise cynics, old buildings can offer opportunities for a community's future.

This article examines both the cultural and practical values of old buildings and looks at why preserving them is beneficial not only for a community's culture, but also for its local economy.

## **1. Old buildings have intrinsic value.**

Buildings of a certain era, namely pre-World War II, tend to be built with higher-quality materials such as rare hardwoods (especially heart pine) and wood from old-growth forests that no longer exist.

Prewar buildings were also built by different standards. A century-old

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building might be a better long-term bet than its brand-new counterparts.

Take, for example, the antebellum Kennedy-Baker-Walker-Sherrill House in West Knoxville, Tennessee. Until the City Council approved a zoning deal, the house was threatened by developers' interests. However, following its classification as a historic site, the house—and its five-brick-thick walls—will be reborn as an office building that could withstand the fiercest of tornadoes.

## **2. When you tear down an old building, you never know what's being destroyed.**

A decade ago, the Daylight Building in Knoxville was a vacant eyesore. A developer purchased the property with plans to demolish the building to make way for new construction.

However, following multiple failed deals to demolish the building, the Daylight went back on the market. Dewhirst Properties bought it and began renovations only to discover the building's hidden gems: drop-ceilings made with heart-pine wood, a large clerestory, a front awning adorned with unusual tinted "opalescent" glass, and a facade lined with bright copper.

Beyond surviving demolition and revealing a treasure trove of details, the Daylight reminds us that even eyesores can be valuable for a community's future.

Wikimedia Commons



Jane Jacobs' book "The Death and Life of Great American Cities" changed the way people saw older buildings.

### **3. New businesses prefer old buildings.**

In 1961, urban activist Jane Jacobs startled city planners with *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* [Link: <https://amzn.to/3pVsWul>], in which Jacobs discussed economic advantages that certain types of businesses have when located in older buildings.

Jacobs asserted that new buildings make sense for major chain stores, but other businesses—such as bookstores, ethnic restaurants, antique stores, neighborhood pubs, and especially small start-ups—thrive in old buildings.

“As for really new ideas of any kind—no matter how ultimately profitable or otherwise successful some of them might prove to be—there is no leeway for such chancy trial, error, and experimentation in the high-overhead economy of new construction,” she wrote. “Old ideas can sometimes use new buildings. New ideas must use old buildings.”

### **4. Old buildings attract people.**

Is it the warmth of the materials, the heart pine, marble, or old brick—or the resonance of other people, other activities? Maybe older buildings are just more interesting.

The different levels, the vestiges of other uses, the awkward corners, the mixtures of styles, they’re at least something to talk about. America’s downtown revivals suggest that people like old buildings. Whether the feeling is patriotic, homey, warm, or reassuring, older architecture tends to fit the bill.

Regardless of how they actually spend their lives, Americans prefer to picture themselves living around old buildings. Some eyes glaze over when preservationists talk about “historic building stock,” but what they really mean is a community’s inventory of old buildings ready to fulfill new uses.

### **5. Old buildings are reminders of a city’s culture and complexity.**

By seeing historic buildings—whether related to something famous or recognizably dramatic—tourists and longtime residents are able to witness the aesthetic and cultural history of an area. Just as banks prefer to build stately, old-fashioned facades, even when located in commercial malls, a city needs old buildings to maintain a sense of permanency and heritage.



## 6. Regret goes only one way.

The preservation of historic buildings is a one-way street. There is no chance to renovate or to save a historic site once it's gone. And we can never be certain what will be valued in the future. This reality brings to light the importance of locating and saving buildings of historic significance—because once a piece of history is destroyed, it is lost forever.

*This toolkit originally appeared on March 3, 2014, and was adapted from Jack Neely's article, "Nine Practical Reasons to Save Old Buildings," at Metro Pulse.*

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