

# *Dill's Tavern Chronicle*

November 2003

Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society, 35 Greenbrier Lane, Dillsburg, PA 17019 Ph. 717- 502-1440

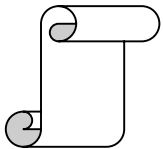
*Purpose: To promote and encourage the study, collection, and preservation of the historical heritage of the Northern York County area.*



## *November Calendar of Events:*

Nov. 4 - Tavern Committee Meeting 7:00 pm

### *Application Has Been Made*



The latest version of an application to the National Register of Historical Places has been submitted to the PA Historic and Museum Commission. The Tavern was declared eligible some time ago. Since then the committee has been working on the application for that formal recognition for several years.

When it is officially listed the committee is discussing the possibility of applying for an official PA Historic Site Marker. Such a marker would add prominence to both the Tavern and the town. It may also help attract the traveling public into our business community, especially if the center of town is circumvented by a proposed highway by-pass.



### *Archeological Sites Explored*

Several archeological trenches have been dug to determine what and when events may have taken place in and around the Tavern.

A deep hole (18"x3') south of the screened porch revealed a 4-6 inch layer of topsoil. A 6" plus second layer indicates a mixture of deteriorating limestone mixed with clay, seemingly dumped and leveled from an earlier excavation elsewhere.

The third layer was again topsoil in which pieces of pottery, porcelain, and pearl ware from the 19<sup>th</sup>. Century was found.

Assumption: With the "L" shaped addition having the only cellar under the Stone house, the excavation for that

cellar, circa 1835, was spread in this area, covering the early 1800's pottery pieces. Then that area was covered either intentionally or by time with the current topsoil layer.

Another approximately 4' diameter hole reveals a pier shape formation of stones suggesting a corner post type support for a small building.

An area east of the 1835 kitchen may be ripe for digging as probes made in May of this year revealed a number of artifacts.

It is suggested that the committee enlist a group of Indiana University college students to come dig for a week or two in the summer.

Also a protective framework has been built over names found written on the wall of the 1835 kitchen.



### *October Bucktail Encampment A Success*

When the group arrived on the scene, six tents were quickly put into place and the open cooking fires were started. They were gratified to get each tent floor covered with straw before the Friday night rains hit.

On Saturday the sentry's heels clicked as he paced off his guard post station. There had been rumors of the possibility of Confederate Spies in the area. The patrol remained especially alert as they deemed the protection of their beautifully garbed ladies a high priority.

The Bucktail women were in camp to hold high tea for the visiting public who came to view the battle group.

On Sunday the group held a special ceremony over the graves of Dillsburg's Civil War Soldiers buried in the Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

#### *Tavern Committee Members:*

**Bob Eichelberger, Chairman, Larry Klase, Joanne Klase, Connie Trostle, & Greg Wonders**

## An Autumnal Happening .....



L. to R. Sarah E., Morrett, & Howard Coover, Ellen M. (Coover) Logan, Mrs. Grossman, and Mrs. Fred (Lizzie) Coover, Mrs. Morrett (Victoria) Coover, Romaine Grossman

## Apple Butter Time

The Coovers are making Apple Butter the old fashioned way while they lived in the Tavern House. Notice three of the Coover women. Any occasion required that one be properly attired, bonnet and all.

We often imagine we would like to live back then, but it was hard work and fraught with danger.

In 1895, while making apple butter over an open fire, one of the Welty sister's hooped skirts caught on fire. Badly burned, her family maintained a bedside visual for *one month*, until she finally succumbed to the burns.

## “Preserve, Protect, and Defend” .... It's the American Way

In the 1700's we fought a Revolutionary War to *preserve* this country for ourselves. In the 1800's we fought a Civil War to *protect* the Union. In the 1900's we left our homes, farms, and factories, to fight in two World Wars, to *defend* America and her allies. Once again, in the 21<sup>st</sup>. Century, we have been “brought up by our boot straps,” by a shadowy figure lurking on our shores. He has and he can hurt us still, but Heaven help him, he does not know us.

We have faced adversity before. Visit Boston, Philadelphia, or Gettysburg. See and read our history. We have rushed in and sacrificed ourselves for our fellow man. Visit our national cemeteries here and abroad. We will turn and face “him” as we always have. And then, we will hunt him down until he is no more.

We are not, by definition, warriors. We are builders and dreamers, movers and shakers. Fortunately, we have a building in Dillsburg that existed, in one form or another, through all of the above. If you wish to help us “preserve, protect, and defend” Dill's Tavern, just fill out the form below and mail it in with your donation. It is well worth the effort and will be very much appreciated. Thank you.

The Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society was gifted the funds to purchase the Dill Tavern on N. Baltimore Street. Now we must raise \$500,000 for the restoration of the property. Your donation is TAX DEDUTABLE.

*I/We would like to help by becoming a:*

*Friend*            \$10 - \$ 99 \_\_\_\_\_  
*Backer*            \$100 - \$ 499 \_\_\_\_\_  
*Supporter*       \$500 - \$999 \_\_\_\_\_

*Donor*            \$1000 - \$4999 \_\_\_\_\_  
*Patron*            \$5000 - \$9999 \_\_\_\_\_  
*Sponsor*        \$10,000 - \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ St. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check out to: NYCHAPS, designate, Dills Tavern Fund, and mail to:

The Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society

35 Greengrier Lane  
Dillsburg, PA 17019