

# Dill's Tavern Chronicle



May 2004

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.

## “Stone House” reverts to “Tavern” Again



### *Tavern Committee rethinks its Rehabilitation Plan.*

The Committee has engaged in an extensive architectural investigation and is making changes in the rehabilitation plan.

The first plan returned the building to its appearance in 1876, (similar to the photo on the banner of this issue) but after careful consideration it was realized that by 1876 the building was a private home and no longer a tavern. Thus it was decided for historical purposes it should reflect the look of the 1820's era, a time frame in which the Eichelberger's made additions while still operating an inn and tavern on the site.

They are also considering what other out buildings will be included on the property to accommodate future activities. For instance, a reconstructed bake oven and a period style typical farm building that would house restrooms, etc. In the future they will want to reconstruct a stable or a barn...all things to depict farm/tavern life of the period. They want to accommodate crowds and events of all types.

Their main objective is to have a plan rather than just allow the site to grow up without any forethought.

### Demolition to Begin In May



**eciServices** will begin demolition sometime in May, 2004.

The 20<sup>th</sup>. century bake oven on the North side (toward the bank) will be demolished as will the (circa 1870-1900) addition which contains the 2<sup>nd</sup>. story porch. A circa 1820 porch will be recreated in its place.

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### Signs of the Times

Volunteers have taken up the task of securing a PA Historical Marker.

#### **A “Wayside” marker is being considered.**

Wayside markers are the waist high signboards found installed at tourist stops. They are placed at an angle suitable for viewing a point of interest and contain photos, drawings, and descriptive facts about that point of interest.

In addition, the Committee is looking to obtain a Tavern sign that has an appearance typical to the period.

The Tavern Committee: Bob Eichelberger ~ Chairman, Mervin Ice, Larry Klase, Joanne Klase, Connie Trostle, and Greg Wonders

## Did you know ....?

Through the new nation established its own currency, the US dollar, in 1783, transactions took place throughout the countryside using the English pound for many years thereafter. Dill's Tavern records of 1758 through 1800 have yet to be uncovered, but they certainly had transactions in pounds for much of its history. The records that do survive are from the Eichelberger Tavern era from 1800 through 1835. These accounts show that most early exchanges were in pounds, shillings, and pence. The transition to the dollar was sporadic. It obviously took some time to transpire, but it may have just been an issue of availability. The pounds were passed around as they still had value, while the dollar and its coins simply took time to reach the frontier areas. What is equally interesting, is the Eichelbergers were of German ancestry and had adapted to the pound after arriving in the New World and then had another currency to adopt to after reaching York County. They really had to adopt to "change!"

## Did you know .....

Frederick Eichelberger (son of Leonard who bought the Tavern from the Dills) raised a company of infantry volunteers during the War of 1812 at his tavern and was commissioned Captain. They marched to the defense of Ft. McHenry in Baltimore. Both Frederick and Col. Henry Logan were in the Battle of Northpoint.

Prior copies of the Chronicle may be acquired from the Tavern Committee upon your request.

### Join a Circle to Preserve Dill's Tavern and Its History

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 DEDUCTIBLE.

*I/We would like to help by joining the:*

<i>Friends</i>	\$10 - \$ 99 _____	<i>Welty Circle</i>	\$1000 - \$4999 _____
<i>Logan Circle</i>	\$100 - \$ 499 _____	<i>Eichelberger Circle</i>	\$5000 - \$9999 _____
<i>Coover Circle</i>	\$500 - \$999 _____	<i>Dill Circle</i>	\$10,000 - _____

Place this name on the certificate: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print clearly.)

Donor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Make out your check to NYCHAPS, designate, Dill's Tavern Fund, and mail to:  
The Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society, 35 Greenbrier Lane, Dillsburg, PA 17019