

The Dill's Tavern Chronicle

May 2005

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.

Spring Season begins at the Tavern



Publick
Tyme
at
Dill's

Sunday, May 8 ~ 6pm
Concert on the Tavern Green

The Concert will be performed by the **Northern Youth Jazz Band** under the direction of Clair Zeiders. It's now a tradition for this group to open our Tavern Concert series. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy an evening of beautiful music.

Saturday, May 21 from 9am to 4pm.

Publick Tyme at Dill's is a living history event taking place at Historic Dill's Tavern during **Picklefest**.

It will involve encampments, exhibits, demonstrations and talks spanning the periods from the French and Indian to the Civil War. Authors including Roger Swartz, Craig Caba and Mike Weaver will be available to sign their books on various aspects of Pennsylvania History. Deborah "Turtle" Swartz will speak about the customs and culture of 18th century Native Americans. Roger Swartz will make a presentation on Colonial America. Myra Reichart will spend the day presenting first person accounts of civilian experiences during the Battle of Gettysburg from a female perspective. Ron Barlup will exhibit artifacts from the Gettysburg Battlefield, and Kane's Rifles (PA Bucktails) will be encamped for the weekend. You are welcomed to join the troops and their ladies around the campfire.

Clair Zeiders will be using antique tools to work on wood and other materials. See him craft an item for the Tavern.

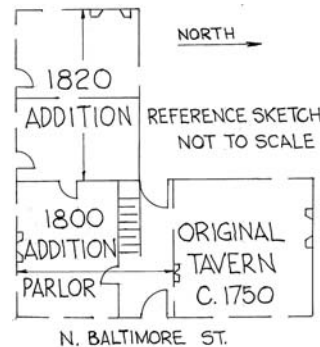
Guides will share the progress of the restoration. Artifacts discovered at the digs on site will be displayed.

Come and enjoy the many activities of the day.

Architecture

Architectural Items of Interest

← This sketch will help orient you with the 3 eras addressed in reconstruction. The Original Tavern, the first addition in 1800 and finally the 1820 addition.



Investigation indicates that the 1800 addition had a 2 story porch on the back or West side. This explains 2 doors found on the 2nd. story. The porch was removed for the 1820 addition and the doors provided access to that space.

Sam McKinney has also determined that the corner stair in the tavern room was left in tact during the 1800 addition and removed in 1820 when the latest addition was built. It was assumed earlier that this winding stair had been removed in 1800 since the center hall has a large staircase. But the demands of the large Eichelberger family of 10 children required that a separate stairway remain for the tavern guests. The large family of 12 people lived in the two-room 1800 addition, while the tavern trade continued across the hall.



Remnants of Stairway



We have no surviving circa 1750 doors, but we have all of the 1800 doors! These are a treasure as they show the location of original strap hinges and Moravian locks. We're looking for similar hardware to reinstall. The 1820 doors are slightly different and will be investigated next. The exterior doors have been ordered in the style of the period interior doors that are still in place.

Architecture continued:



The Parlor Fireplace

The 1800 Parlor fireplace is a great example of early craftsmanship, but it has been modified. It was built of stone with a

fireback cast most likely in Carlisle. Our reasoning stems from the facts that Leonard Eichelberger, along with operating the Tavern, was a wagoner and there are notations among his papers that he did contract hauling for the Ege family who owned the Carlisle Furnace (works) located in what is now Boiling Springs. Also it is very similar in design to one in the state museum, it just lacks the embossed "Carlisle" feature on it. It is not a stretch to assume that he could have easily acquired the fireback from Carlisle Furnace. We are confident this is where it originated, but of course, that is clearly not possible to determine irrefutably.

It remains in place, held by its original ell shaped brackets. It has a large crack in the center, typical of firebacks subjected to hot and cold cycles. The lintel is made of iron with a unique suspension arrangement. Above it were bricks in a splayed pattern that were later removed, so Sam is reinstalling by lining them up with the original marks.

In front of this is a handsome Federal mantle that was cut down in later years to appeal to the Victorian eye. The marks indicate its original configuration and Sam is meticulously replicating the original appearance.



The Assembly Room

The Assembly Room on the 2nd. story of the 1820 addition was probably used for community meetings during the years when Frederick Eichelberger was a state representative and later a state senator. Many times such rooms in taverns were also used as ballrooms, but we have no indication that any balls were held at Eichelberger's Tavern.



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

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.

If/We would like to help by joining the:

Dill Circle \$10,000 - _____

Eichelberger Circle \$5000 - \$ 9999 _____

Wetty Circle \$1000 - \$4999 _____

Coover Circle \$500 - \$999 _____

Logan Circle \$100 - \$499 _____

Friends \$10 - \$ 99 _____

Place this name on my certificate for \$100 or more: _____

(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

