

The Dill's Tavern Chronicle

July 2005

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

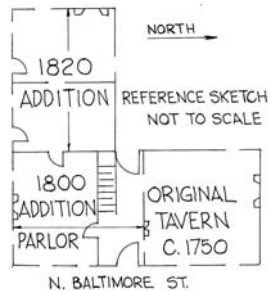


Purpose: To promote and encourage the study, collection, and preservation of the historical heritage of the Northern York County area.

Reconstruction Continues at Tavern

Construction Update

Use the reference sketch to locate areas of discussion.



With the completion of the re-pointing of the exterior masonry and installation of windows, work on the tavern shifted to interior projects earlier this Spring. The parlor of the 1800 section has seen most of the work. Electrical wiring was installed there to supply receptacles in the baseboard, a concession to modern day requirements. We cannot totally rely on candles for our lighting needs. We have also planned for some electric heat to protect the building from freezing temperatures and allow for activities to be held during the winter. (The exact amount of use of fireplaces for real wood fires has yet to be finalized due to safety and insurance issues.)



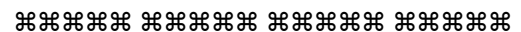
All the parlor trim has been hand replicated and installed where it was missing or previously replaced. This includes window jambs, chair rail, baseboard, and window and door trims. The only large item remaining in the parlor is reconstruction of the fireplace and its mantle.

Plastering is ongoing as this report is being written. Installation of period-correct doors and hardware will finish off that space and it will soon be ready for our use. Shadows in the old paint were followed to understand the original configuration of hardware and salvage items were found which very closely resemble the originals.

A significant effort was made by Sam McKinney to "shore up" the 1800 flooring. Piers were installed

underneath the original floor system to provide greater support by tunneling from the adjacent basement. This support was extended to the second floor by installing steel plates within the wall to carry the summer beam and the weight of the upstairs floor and its load. This has stiffened the floor system considerably and allowed us to keep the original beams and floor boards in place, as well as most of the original plaster.

Exterior doors are also being installed and they are of 2 types, reflecting the 2 distinct periods of construction. Recent results from dendrodating (laboratory analysis of wood samples taken from the tavern) indicate that the earliest part of today's structure was built in 1794. Though the Dills operated a tavern here by 1758 according to county records, they apparently operated out of an earlier, probably log structure and moved into this one in 1794. The 1800 addition by the Eichelbergers was so close in time that these types of construction are virtually indistinguishable from each other. The latest surviving addition (circa 1820) does exhibit different architectural features and is being reflected in its woodwork.



In the Tavern Room Itself

The tavern room has seen the completion of the archaeological digging and a crawl space as been excavated beneath. One pleasant surprise was the depth of the foundation which we had previously estimated to be shallower than we



found it. A termite treatment of the soil will be done and concrete will be poured on the ground to provide a barrier to the persistent groundhogs. Then the wooden floor can be installed above it at the original height and matching the original section that was preserved. It will then be ready for Sam and Kevin Ricker to begin reconstructing that space.

Calendar of Events:

June 24-25 - 4pm Fri. - 4pm Sat.

“ Relay for Life “

A community effort in the Fight against Cancer

Team NYCHAPS headquarters will be decorated to resemble Dill’s Tavern. Come join us as we participate in this endeavor to save lives.



July 10 - 6pm: Sunday Concert

John Eaken and Friends

Change of Venue: St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
201 S. Baltimore Street

Homemade Ice cream will be served after the Concert at
Dill’s Tavern



The Tavern Committee: Bob Eichelberger-Chairman, Mervin Ice, Larry Klase, Joanne Klase, Connie Trostle, 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 _____

Welty 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

