Historic Preservation: Working For You or
You can’t plan where you are going
Until you know where you’ve been!

Karen Marshall,
Heritage Preservation Coordinator
Chester County Planning Commission
Welcome to Chester County- a special place!
Chester County has an enduring history
Historic Resources Plan for Chester County

An element of Chester County is fortunate to have many historic resources that form a varied landscape...
From House Museums to Neighborhoods to Rural Landscapes...
...which tell many stories.

Chester County Cultural Heritage Interpretive Regions
(shown over present-day boroughs and townships)

Key
- Iron & Steel Heritage Region
- Quaker Heritage Region
- Agricultural Heritage Region
- Iron & Steel / Agricultural Heritage Region
- Quaker / Agricultural Heritage Region
- Iron & Steel / Quaker Heritage Region

Influential Geographic / Geologic Features
- Great Valley
- Schuylkill River Valley
- Brandywine Valley
- Central Serpentine District

Influential Corridors and Sites
- Immigration and Transportation Routes
- Welsh Barony
- 1777 Philadelphia Campaign
- British Troop Movements
- 1777 Philadelphia Campaign
- Continental Troop Movements
- 1777 Philadelphia Campaign
- Battle Site
- County Seat
- Chester County Parks and Trails Properties
- National or State Historic Park

Johann Heinrich von Thumen (1783-1859) formulated a model for generating four concentric rings of agricultural activity around major urban areas based upon the cost of transportation and land rent. Shown in the second ring around Philadelphia containing production of heavy goods such as timber, firewood, and other materials used for fuel and construction.

Hoopestrill Furnace National Historic Site
- Philadelphia National Historic District (County Park)
- Brinton's Manor Farm National Historic District (County Park)
- Valley Forge National Historic Park
- Brandywine Battlefield State Historic Site
Goal for Historic Resources:

Protect and maintain Chester County’s fabric of historic and archaeological resources and cultural landscapes for the benefit of current and future generations while promoting sustainable development.
A brief history....
“It is forbidden to disfigure external decorations on private buildings through modern additions, and to spoil historic buildings in an important town out of avarice and the desire to make money.”
“Those desirous of seeing the interior of the house are requested to ring at the door of the entrance and express their desire. It is wished the practice of stopping on the paved walk to look in the windows should be discontinued.”

1839, Duke of Wellington
Mount Vernon: America’s First White Elephant
Yellowstone: The World’s First Public Park
The 1891 Trustees of Reservations in Massachusetts was the world's first land trust created to "acquire, hold, protect and administer, for the benefit of the public, beautiful and historical places."
In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, the National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty was formed 4 years later.
1906 Antiquities Act
Devil’s Tower declared a National Monument by
Theodore Roosevelt
1920: Preservation of Society of Charleston founded by Susan Pringle Frost

1931: Charleston passed the first historic preservation ordinance in the US to protect its historic landscape
Directed the Secretary of the Interior to secure data; make surveys; and to research, acquire properties, enter into contracts, restore buildings, erect markers, and develop educational programs.
National Highway Act of 1956
National Historic Preservation Act signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1966
The spirit and direction of the Nation are founded upon and reflected in its historic heritage;

the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation should be preserved as a living part of our community life and development in order to give a sense of orientation to the American people;

the preservation of this irreplaceable heritage is in the public interest so that its vital legacy of cultural, educational, aesthetic, inspirational, economic, and energy benefits will be maintained and enriched for future generations of Americans;
The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania’s public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.
Two Critical Court Cases that Support the Constitutionality of Preservation Regulations

- Penn Central Transportation Co. v. New York City, 438 U.S. 104 (1978)
50 years or older with architectural, engineering, archaeological, or cultural remains present in districts, sites, buildings, landscapes or structures that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is representative and contributing to an understanding of the broad patterns of local, state or national history. Each site should be associated with one or more of the following historical or cultural themes:

- Those that are associated with the events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history
- Those that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past
- Those that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values; or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction
- Those that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history.
A Historic Resource is determined based upon three standards:

Age
- 50 years or older?
- When was it important?
- Does it still represent that time period?

Significance
- Provides an important example,
- Played an important role, or
- Can yield important information

Integrity
- Location
- Design
- Setting
- Materials
- Workmanship
- Feeling
- Association
Chester County Strategies
The mission of the CCHPN is to connect local governments, organizations, and individuals in their efforts to protect, preserve, and promote the historic resources and cultural landscapes of Chester County through communication and education.

The vision of the CCHPN is to enhance the quality of life and community character of Chester County through historic preservation.
Supporting the work of local preservation efforts:

- Effective Municipal Planning
- Historic Resource Documentation & Preservation
- Education & Interpretation of Municipal history
- Heritage Events & Tourism
The Chester County Historic Resource Atlas Project
Windshield Survey techniques:

(1) complete Architectural Inventory Forms (AIF);

(2) take & log architectural photography;

(3) identify the property’s historical significance.
Final Products

- Printed and bound Historic Resource Atlas
- Historic Resource Wall Map
- Disc of Materials for Reprinting
- Historic Resource documentation files
Strategic Plan
For The Iron and Steel Heritage Region

An Industry That Forged a Nation
The Philadelphia Campaign of 1777 in Chester County
Why Does It Matter?
Chester County's Municipal Historic Resource Atlas
Project Status
August 2016

Historic Resource Atlas Status
- Completed
- Partially Completed
- Initiated
- Not Started

Part of 2010
- Battle of Brandywine Atlas

Part of 2011
- Battle of Pacioli Atlas

Part of 2013
- Battle of the Clouds Atlas

Historic Resource-related Information
- No Local Historical Society/Commission/Committee/Architectural Review Board
- No Local Historic Resource Protection Standards
We have learned over time that a physical place or structure, speaks to us in ways words that even pictures cannot. It allows us to learn directly from the past whether it is by observing a home, institution, industrial or agricultural site, or walking through a park or battlefield.

Planning for the protection of our historic resources is a defined process, it is legally & historically sanctioned.

It allows our local communities and our nation to decide what defines our character as a special, safe and healthy place and to enhance, interpret and protect that heritage.

Preservation Planning provides guidelines to identify historic resources and to decide which ones we wish to maintain and where we will embrace change. It provides a way to document and preserve each structure’s own unique place in history no matter what the decision is.
Congress Cuts Public Out of Early Input on Public Lands

On March 7, the Senate voted 51-48 to nullify the BLM Planning 2.0 rule, which updated the decades-old planning process for our public lands, gave the public greater input, and improved the outlook for countless cultural resources and archaeological sites on public lands. The House of Representatives passed the measure (H.J. Res. 44) in February by a vote of 234-186. President Trump is expected to sign the measure overturning the rule in its entirety and prohibiting a similar rule in the future. This action by Congress is a disappointing step backward for efforts to preserve and celebrate the rich heritage of our public lands.
Thank you!

Karen Marshall
Heritage Preservation Coordinator
Chester County Planning Commission
601 Westtown Road, Suite 270
Westtown, PA 19380
610-344-6923
kmarshall@chesco.org

Preservation Services Website:
http://www.landscapes2.org/psd/hisres.cfm