

Franklin Township's Historical Survey

Franklin Township's history and culture and how the community lived can be traced through the architecture that survives.

In October of 2004, the Township completed *The Historic Resources Survey, Franklin Township, Chester County*. The purpose of the project was to create an intensive-level survey including resource documentation, master inventory, database, methodology report, and mapping of all properties in Franklin Township containing historic resources fifty years old and older.

The survey found 177 properties, containing 409 resources. Of the 409 resources, the survey identifies 339 of them as historically significant. The 2004 survey found that since a similar survey of Chester County properties over 100 years old was completed in 1982, 11 of the original survey's 100 historic resources in Franklin Township were demolished. Since the 2004 survey was completed, three additional resources were demolished.

On this page are examples of just a few of Franklin Township's 177 historic architectural treasures. Descriptions of the resources are on page 3.

The complete historical survey is available for reading at the Township Office during business hours.



Descriptions of Franklin Township's historic resources

Left column, top to bottom:

The **Joseph Stackhouse Barn** on Auburn Road was built in 1850. It is an example of a Pennsylvania Bank Barn, which utilizes the side of a hill so that there are ramps to entrances on all levels of the barn.

The **Plough and Harrow Inn** was the first operating inn for weary travelers in Franklin Township. It is located at the intersection of Routes 896 and 841. The original inn (stone) was built in 1758. The brick addition was completed in the early 1800s. Other historic resources on this

property include the barn, stone shed, and an outbuilding.

This **1915 Greek Cross Plan** on Strickersville Road is an example of early 20th architectural style. Other historic resources on the property include a springhouse and a chicken house.

Right column, top to bottom:

The **McMillan Farmhouse**, on Route 841 (Chesterville Road), south of Route 896 is an example of a Victorian farmhouse. It was built in 1894. Other historic resources on the property include a barn, springhouse, wagon house, and

long shed.

Franklin School, on Route 896, was one of four one-room schoolhouses operating in Franklin Township until 1956, when Kemblesville Elementary School opened and the one-room schoolhouses in the area were closed. It was built in 1875.

The **Theodore Bye House**, on Strickersville Road, was built in 1800 and is an example of a Federal-style farmhouse. At one time, Bye raised champion Guernsey cows on this property.