"Wish You Were Here! Visiting Bucks County"

A Guide to the Artifacts



Thurlow Park Resort Broadside

Carversville, Bucks County 1890-91

Mercer Library Collection

Built as a school to train teachers, this site later housed a resort hotel and "pleasure park" between 1874 and 1894. The property was eventually sold and used as a sanitarium and orphanage.

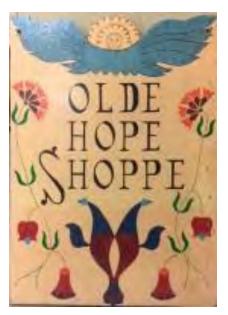


Automobile Club of Philadelphia Mileage Sign 1930s Gift of David B. Long, 2009



Crown & Eagle Antiques Shop Sign

Ray Halecy (sign painter) New Hope, Bucks County ca. 1960 *Gift of Lynn Trusdell, 2001*



Olde Hope Shoppe Antiques Sign New Hope, Bucks County ca. 1976 Gift of Patrick Bell, 2001

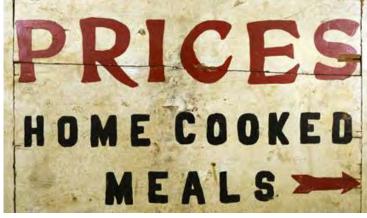


Edgewood Farm Antiques Shop Sign

Newtown, Bucks County 1960s

Gift of David B. Long, in honor of Betsy Smith BCHS Librarian 1993-2001

Since at least the 1920s, many visitors to Bucks County have come in search of antiques.



Restaurant Sign

Buckingham Township, Bucks County ca. 1940 Museum Purchase, 2001

"Mrs. Price's" was located on Route 202 in the Lahaska area. The eatery also

featured a roadside farm stand selling berries and fresh eggs.



Mule Barge Ride Sign

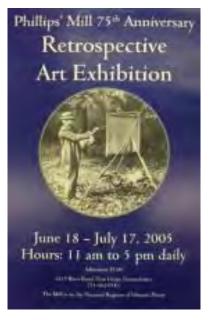
New Hope, Bucks County Late 20th century *Gift of David Long, 2008*

The Delaware Canal has long been one of Bucks County's signature scenic features. After the canal closed to commercial barge traffic in 1933, preservationists and operators sought to revive the waterway as a tourist attraction.



Restaurant Sign

Red Lion Inn Quakertown, Bucks County ca. 1930 Gift of David B. Long, 2013



Phillips' Mill 75th Anniversary Retrospective Art Exhibition Broadside Solebury Township, Bucks County 2005

Mercer Library Collection



Pennsylvania Turnpike Souvenir Pennant

Late 1950s Gift of David B. Long, 2009

The Pennsylvania Turnpike was completed to New Jersey in 1954, and the Delaware River Bridge finished in 1956.

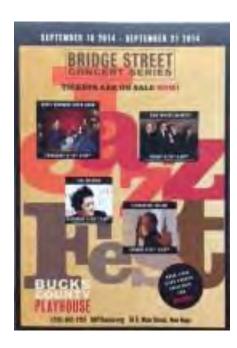


General Greene Inn Hotel Register

Buckingham, Bucks County 1923-1952 *Gift of David Long, 2019*

Called Bogart's Tavern during the American Revolution, the hostelry was later renamed the General Greene Inn. Gen. Nathaniel Greene had used

the Inn as his headquarters for a time during the war. The building still stands at the corner of Routes 263 (Old York Road) and 463 (Durham Road) in Buckingham.



Bucks County Playhouse Promotional Card

New Hope, Bucks County 2014 *Mercer Library Collection*



Visit Bucks County
Promotional
Postcard
ca. 2000
Mercer Library Collection, Gift
of Betty Davis, 2004



25th Anniversary Souvenir Booklet

National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa New Britain Township, Bucks County 1980 Mercer Library Collection, Gift of Stanley Gorski, 2006



Peddler's Village Postcard

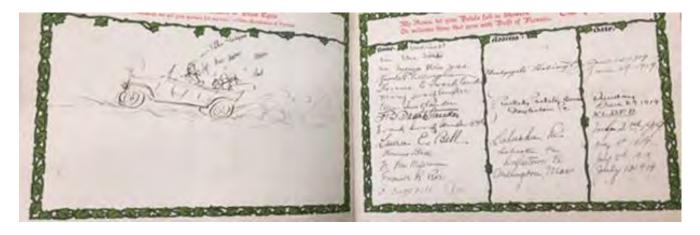
Mercer Library Collection



Neshaminy Falls Park Photo Album

Bensalem Township,
Bucks County
1915-17
Mercer Library
Collection

Opened in 1876, Neshaminy Falls Park was a popular railroadsponsored amusement park and campground. It closed in 1936.



Fell Guest House Register

Edward and Anna Fell, Proprietors Holicong, Bucks County 1919-1938 *Mercer Library Purchase, 2013*

The period covered by the register is one in which Bucks County was growing in reputation as a popular destination and retreat for artists, writers, actors, and other well-heeled tourists and exurban migrants. Among those who enjoyed the day and evening hospitality of the Fells – there were no overnight accommodations the artist George were W. Sotter. anthropologist Margaret Mead, and painter Casimir Sienkiewicz, perhaps better known for his role as a banker, economist and first chairman of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority.



Fell Guest House Drawing George Sotter (1879-1953) ca. 1930

From the "Fell Guest House" register.



New Hope & Ivyland Railroad Souvenir Ticket

New Hope, Bucks County Late 20th century *Anonymous Gift, 2010*



New Hope & Ivyland Railroad Souvenir Pen

New Hope, Bucks County Late 20th century *Gift of the Estate of George M. Hart, 2009*



"The Straw Ride" Forest Park Postcard

Chalfont, Bucks County 1908 Gift of David Long, 2013

Another popular Bucks County amusement park, reachable by train from Philadelphia, featured a

carousel, shooting gallery, bicycle track, bowling alley, boating – and apparently hay or straw rides.



Menlo Park Souvenir Pennant

Perkasie, Bucks County ca. 1920s

Gift of David B. Long, 2004

Opened in 1892, Menlo Park's owners added a variety of attractions in the succeeding decades. Trolleys and excursion trains brought thousands of visitors to the park from Philadelphia and elsewhere. In the 1950s, Perkasie Borough purchased the site for a community park. Although most of the original attractions are gone, the 1890s carousel continues in operation today.



Entrance to Menlo Park, Perkasie 1910s Mercer Library Collection

The tracks for the trolley that brought many visitors to the park are visible in the foreground.



Menlo Park Excursion Train Broadside

Quakertown & Eastern Railroad August 12, 1900 Mercer Library Collection



Sleepy Hollow Ranch Souvenir Pennant

Milford Township, Bucks County ca. 1950 Gift of David B. Long, in honor of Beth Lander

Located on Route 663 between Pennsburg and Quakertown, Sleepy Hollow Ranch was founded in 1940. The owners were Elmer Newman and his brother, "Pancake Pete" Newman, and their wives, Julie and Sophie Murray Newman (sisters). The four performed together on radio and were well-known country singers of the era.

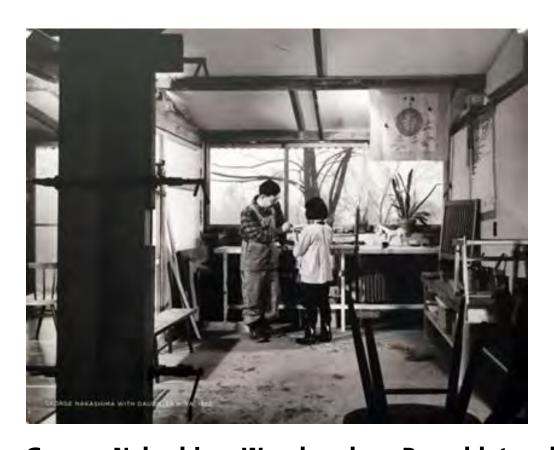
The Ranch featured a rodeo, farm animals, square dancing, food vendors, pony rides, and a country music venue. Among the major stars appearing at the Ranch were Gene Autry, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, the Carter Family, Wayne Newton, Roy Acuff, Carl Perkins, Bill Haley, and Frankie Avalon. A fire destroyed the site in 1963 and the Ranch was not rebuilt.



The Sleepy Hollow Ranch Gang

1940s Mercer Library Collection

The Newman brothers and their wives, sisters Julie and Sophie Murray Newman, performed on radio and in person as the "Sleepy Hollow Ranch Gang."



George Nakashima Woodworkers Pamphlet and Price Lists New Hope, Bucks County

1962 – 1990s

Mercer Library Collection

George Nakashima (1905-1990) came to Bucks County in 1943. Forced into an internment camp during the Second World War, his release was sponsored by American architect Antonin Raymond, who had a farm in Bucks County. Setting up a studio and workshop in New Hope, Nakashima began crafting furniture in a variety of nature-inspired forms, an endeavor continued after his death by his daughter, Mira.



Hammerstein
Milton Rutherford,
photographer
Doylestown, Bucks County
ca. 1948
Mercer Library Collection,
Gift of the Rutherford
Family

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar



Highland Farm (Oscar Hammerstein Residence)

Milton Rutherford, photographer Doylestown, Bucks County ca. 1950

Mercer Library Collection, Gift of the Rutherford Family

The Hammersteins purchased the farm in 1940. He died there on August 23, 1960.



Monogrammed Towel Set of Dorothy Parker

Greenald's Linens St. Louis, Missouri ca. 1955 Gift of Dorothy Gledhill, 2012

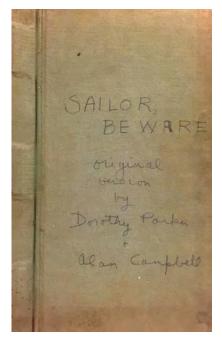
Writer, critic and humorist Dorothy Parker (1893-1967), along with her husband, Alan Campbell (1904-1963) purchased a farm near Pipersville, Bucks

County in the 1930s. They resided on the property for some 20 years, establishing a firm connection to Bucks County.





Dorothy Parker and Alan Campbell 1930s – 1940s Mercer Library Collection



Screen Play Script: "Sailor Beware"

Dorothy Parker and Alan Campbell

1934

Mercer Library Collection

This script was written in the same year that Parker and Campbell first purchased their Bucks County farm.



Tourist Cottages

Milton Rutherford, Photographer Doylestown, Bucks County 1941 Gift of the Rutherford Family

These cottages, owned by Frank and Anna Lewis, were once located at 300 South Main Street in Doylestown.