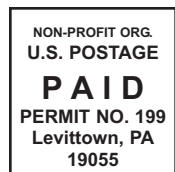




Bristol Cultural &
Historical Foundation, Inc.
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The Gazette



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VOL 32
No. 8

Sponsoring Historic Bristol Day - Third Saturday of Each October
BCHF is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, all volunteer organization.

OCTOBER 2013

HAVE YOU SAVED THE DATE?

Historic Bristol Day Number 37 is in the final days of preparation. Please don't miss the many activities during the day between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM. As elaborately described in the September issue of our publication, this year's Historic Bristol Day will also feature the Delaware Canal from the Jefferson Avenue Canal Lagoon to the former "terminus" of the Canal which is presently the Mill Street Parking Lot. Check out our web site for full details and the schedule for Bristol Day at

www.bristolhistory.com

The day also includes a "Second Annual Historic Bristol Day Car Show" at the Snyder-Girotti School on Beaver Street, a Sailing Regatta in the Delaware River, special displays, musical groups, open houses, historic talks, and much more. The Grundy Library will feature a display with pictures of the canal. At the conclusion of the day, the winning raffle ticket will be drawn and the winner will be notified about winning the beautiful watercolor by Bristol artist, Joseph Sagolla, showing the Canal's Lagoon. Raffle tickets for this may be purchased during the day at several locations. Craft and food vendors will be available along the street and at the waterfront park.

Those wishing to enter the four private homes and stop at the tea (11 AM to 3 PM) for refreshments will



Shown above is the "Bump Bridge" on Jefferson Avenue, the only one on the Delaware Canal. Barges would "bump" the bridge and the bridge would swing open.

be required to have a ticket to enter. A continuous Free Shuttle Service will go from the Bristol Wharf to the Canal Works building with a stop and pick-up at the tea for those needing a ride from that site. There are three houses on Radcliffe Street and one on Mulberry Street which will be open that day.

We Hope To See You on Historic Bristol Day - - October 19, 2013

2 Important November Calendar Dates To Remember

Wednesday, November 20th is the ANNUAL MEETING at BCHF which includes a program and voting for the members of the Board of Directors. The evening concludes with light refreshments. The program is free of charge and should be very interesting. Prof. Richard Veit will speak about the Archeological Excavations at Point Breeze in Bordentown, NJ. This was the estate of Joseph Bonaparte, brother of French Emperor, Napoleon Bonaparte. Joseph Bonaparte had been King of Spain and King of Naples when his brother was leader of France.

The only requirement for voting is to be a BCHF paid member for the year 2013.

The other November date is Nov/ 1, 2013. Letters of Self-Nomination are required for any one wishing to be considered as a member of the Board of Directors of B.C.H.F. These letters should be addressed to BCHF, P.O. Box 215, Bristol, PA 19007 and marked for the attention of the "Nomination Committee". The letters of self-nomination for the Board of Directors are due not later than Friday, Nov. 1, 2013. The BCHF Board of Directors has 15 members.

TAKE TIME FOR TEA

At the time of this writing, a theme for our 2014 Tea had not been decided. However, as always, the tea will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. on the second Sunday of February, which falls on February 9 next year. All the details will be included in the November GAZETTE, including the date on which reservations will be accepted.

BCHF Calendar of Events for 2013

OCTOBER - Saturday, 10/19, 10 AM - 4 PM. 37th Annual Historic Bristol Day, spotlighting the Delaware Canal. Fee for house tour and tea. For details, visit BCHF website - www.bristolhistory.org

NOVEMBER - Wed., 11/20, 7:30 p.m. BCHF'S annual business meeting, incl. election of Board members, followed by presentation by Prof. Richard Veit on Archeological Excavations at Point Breeze, Bordentown, NJ (home & former estate of Joseph Bonaparte). Refreshments BCHF headquarters. Free. Call 215 781-9895 for info.

DECEMBER - Fri., 12/6, Bus trip to Fairmount Park Holiday Houses + Belmont Mansion and sit-down lunch. \$90/BCHF member; \$93/non-member. **SOLD OUT!** Waiting list being taken at 215 788-9408.

JANUARY 2014 - Sun., 1/26, 2 PM, "Music and Times of Downton Abbey" program by Terri Evans, former Broadway and Opera performer. Light refreshment. BCHF headquarters. \$5 pp. Limited seating capacity; doors open at 1:45 p.m. Call 215 788-9408 for info.

FEBRUARY 2014 Sun., 2/9/2014, 3 - 5 PM. Annual Tea. BCHF headquarters. Details to be released at a later date. Advance reservations required. Call 215 788-9408 for info.

MAY 2014 Thurs., 5/15/2014. Bus trip to Historic Morristown, NJ. Guided tour of Speedwell where Samuel Morse invented the telegraph and Macculoch Hall Historical Museum, housing a collection of artwork by Thomas Nast, known as the "father of American political cartooning." Details to be released at a later date. Advance reservations required. Call 215 788-9408 for info.

SEPTEMBER 2014 - 9/14 through 18 2014 - 5 day/ 4 night bus trip to Cape Cod, visiting Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, Historic Sandwich and Hyannis. 4 breakfasts & 4 dinners, lodging, all taxes; meal, guide & driver tips. \$655 pp, double occupancy. \$200 pp deposit upon booking; balance due by July 24, 2014. Call 215 788-9408 for flyer/reservations.

- BCHF Headquarters are at 321 Cedar Street, Bristol
- For current information about activities and events, check out our web site at www.bristolhistory.org.

Bristol Riverside Theater - 2013 Season

"Pride & Prejudice" - Oct. 29 thru Nov. 24, 2013

Phone 215 785-0100 for tickets, dates and additional information.

THE GAZETTE is a publication of the Bristol Cultural and Historical Foundation, Inc. - Harold Mitchener, Editor
Post Office Box 215 • Bristol • Pennsylvania • 19007 • 215 781-9895 • www.bristolhistory.org
Articles for this issue of *THE GAZETTE* were contributed by: Helen Younglove, and Harold Mitchener.
Additional research by Carol Mitchener.
Photography: Grundy Library Historical Collection

President’s Corner

As we approach the highlight activities of the year, Bristol Day on October 19 and our Annual Membership and Business Meeting on November 20, you may notice some changes. After many years of faithful service we have decided to retire our chairs with newer, sturdier and aesthetically pleasing seating. We have also installed a new carpet in the building.

Less noticeable is the replacement of the sign in front of the building. The previous sign was destroyed

some months ago by a falling tree limb, and has been replaced with a virtually identical, albeit slightly taller, version. We have also had repairs done to our wind damaged roof.

Moving forward we will be making more changes to improve the site and enhance your comfort and enjoyment of our building.

*Gerry McCarry,
BCHF President*

BCHF IS TRIPPIN’ ALONG

The Ways & Means Committee has been meeting monthly to plan activities for 2014. As announced last month, they’ve already booked a 5-day/4-night bus trip to **Cape Cod**, Sept. 14 - 18, which will include visits to Nantucket Island, Martha’s Vineyard, Hyannis and Historic Sandwich. At the most recent meeting, a day trip to **Morristown, NJ**, on Thursday, May 15, was booked. The itinerary is as follows:

- Guided tour of historic Speedwell, where Samuel Morse invented the telegraph. A new, hands-on exhibit about the history of the telegraph has been added to the Factory Building there.

- A 3-course luncheon at George and Martha’s American Grill, with choice of entree.

- Guided tour of Macculloch Hall Historical

Museum. Macculloch Hall is a Federal-style mansion with period room settings, an extensive collection of decorative arts, and revolving exhibit galleries, including the works of Thomas Nast, known as the “father of American political cartooning.” The property is well known for its beautiful garden, which should be in full bloom in May.

Another trip possibility is to **Harrisburg** on Wednesday, December 10, or Tuesday, December 9, 2014 to visit the Governor’s Mansion, decorated for the holidays, as well as the PA Capitol Building and the PA State Museum, with lunch at the Rasberries Hilton Hotel. Stay tuned for confirmation of this excursion!

For more details on the Cape Cod and Morristown, NJ trips, contact Helen Younglove at 215 788-9408.

Music And Times Of Downton Abbey

The Ways & Means Committee is delighted to bring a program entitled “Music of Downton Abbey” to BCHF headquarters on Sunday, January 26 at 2 p.m.

The program was developed by multiple Grammy Awards winner, Marion Evans, and his multi-talented wife, Terri Evans. Lower Bucks County’s “MIDWEEK WIRE” featured an article about the couple in the July 24, 2013 issue.

Ms. Evans, former Miss Alabama and first runner-up in the Miss America pageant in the ‘60s, has sung all over the world and has performed in opera as well as on Broadway. Totally enchanted by the Masterpiece

PBS TV series called “Downton Abbey,” Ms. Evans has done extensive research on the show’s times, actors, creator, and especially the vibrant music of the Edwardian period, World War I, and into the Flapper era.

Admission fee will be \$5 per person. Light refreshments will be served at the program’s conclusion.

Mark the date on your calendar and plan to join us on January 26. Keep in mind that seating capacity at BCHF headquarters is limited and plan to arrive when the doors open at 1:45 p.m.

Apology Extended

As feared, in last month’s GAZETTE, we inadvertently omitted a few names from the “Thank You” list for our August 4th Peach Social. Sincere appreciation is extended to **Joyce Frake** and **Andi Harvie** for supplying a delectable dessert to the baked goods table.

If there’s anyone else we neglected to mention,

please bring it to our attention so the names can be included in the November GAZETTE. Sometimes, in the rush to get an activity up and running, a chance to note someone’s involvement is missed. Please know that we truly appreciate the support given by **all** BCHF volunteers!

Out Of The Past

The following items were excerpted from **October 1923** issues of THE BRISTOL COURIER.

10/1 - - HARRIMAN CHURCH TO HAVE A RADIO SERVICE. Yesterday, attendance at the Sunday School of the Harriman Community Church, undenominational, was 85. The total enrollment is now given as 111. On Sunday, October 14, a complete radio service will be given at 7:30 in the evening. This will inaugurate the holding of evening services.

WOMEN’S LEAGUE WILL HOLD FIRST MEETING. Tomorrow afternoon at 3:30, the first meeting of the season of the Bristol League of Women Voters will be held in the Wood Street School building.

“Messenger Service between Bristol and Philadelphia. H.E. BENNETT, 139 Otter Street. At home until 8:30 A.M. and after 1:30 P.M.”

“FOR SALE. Four and six room houses. New, all conveniences. Small cash payment, balance B.&L. Mortgage. Prices \$2,000 up. Carrying charge \$22 month up. Eastburn & Blanche, 118 Mill Street.”

10/2 - OVER 4,688 VOTERS REGISTERED NOW IN BRISTOL BOROUGH. A Total of 45,612 Men and Women Qualified to Cast Ballots in November. Bristol Twp. Has 1,373.

LEGION TO FORM NEW “40 and 8 SOCIETY” HERE. The Robert W. Bracken Post is taking the lead in Bucks County in organizing a voiture of the “40 and 8 Society,” the playground of the Legion. Only one voiture is allowed to a county.

:FORD Reduces Prices. Announcing the lowest prices in the history of the Ford Motor Company. Effective October 2, 1923. Touring Car, Plain - \$295. Coupe - \$525. 4-Door Sedan - \$685. Tractor - \$420. Runabout, Plain - \$265. These cars can be obtained through the Ford weekly purchase plan. THOMAS A. COLLIER, Otter Street.”

10/3 - - SCHOOLS GREATLY CONGESTED HERE; ENROLLMENT BIG. Board Confronted the Necessity of Providing More Room. Need More Teachers. Will Change Time of Sessions at the High School Building. The Board remained in session last evening until 10:30 o’clock and finally decided, after making the changes suggested, to let the situation remain as it is for the balance of the school year and, at the same time, to carefully study the problems which will present themselves next year.

“Keep Looking Your Best! Clothes that are custom tailored - carefully made - require fewer trips to the tailor shop than garments that are ready made. Our price for suit or overcoat - \$26.50. TRAYMORE TAILOR CO., 205 Wood Street, near Market.”

10/4 - - METHODISTS HERE WILL OBSERVE THE 135th ANNIVERSARY. Methodism First Started Here by Organization of a Class of Converts. Celebration Planned for One Week, Beginning October 21st, in the Church.

10/6 - - NEW POTTERY HERE TO START WORK IN ABOUT THREE MONTHS. In about three months, it is expected that the new pottery being established here will begin operations, according to J. Amisson, of the J. Amisson & Sons Pottery Company of Philadelphia, who is head of the new concern being established here. The pottery is to be located at 2421 Wilson Avenue. One of the large dormitory buildings, used in the shipyard days to house workers, has been purchased.

PLANS TO ERECT SEVERAL HOUSES ON LAND TRACT. Another Big Realty Development for Bristol. This latest development will take place at South Bristol and will be on the tract

opposite the Bristol Cemetery, on Newportville Road, just off the Bristol Pike. The houses currently standing on that tract will be knocked down and brought to Bristol and re-erected.

10/12 - - MOTHERS CLUB IS FORMED AT MEETING IN HIGH SCHOOL. About 50 mothers of students attending the high school met yesterday afternoon and formed a Mothers Club. The only permanent officer selected was Mrs. Asa Fabian, who was made permanent chairman.

“Candy Today, Tomorrow, October 13th. Bristol Confectionery, The Candy of Excellence. You are invited to inspect our line of home-made chocolates and cream caramels. Peanut Brittle, Special for the Week-End, 25¢ Lb. PAPPASIAN’S, 207 Mill Street.”

“Bristol Merchants’ Sales Week. October 8 to 13. Unqualified Bargains in Every Department, with the Compliments of the Advertisers to the 7,000 Readers of The Courier.”

10/13 - - MERCHANTS PLAN ELABORATE CARNIVAL FOR THREE NIGHTS; WILL AWARD MANY PRIZES. Residents of All Lower Bucks County Invited to Join Festivities. October 29, 30 and 31 are the dates on which the merchants of Mill Street are going to stage their first annual Hallowe’en en Frolic.

10/17 - - BUSINESS MEN HERE TO START LAUNDRY. Local business men have organized a company to operate a laundry here. The company, which will be known as the Bristol Damp Wash Laundry, has taken over the loft building at the foot of Pond Street, below Mill. The men interested in the company are A. Popkin, shoe dealer; I. Sirott, wholesale candy merchant; and Benjamin Kiver, formerly with the Frankford Laundry. 24-hour service is contemplated.

10/18 - - NEW EATING PLACE OPENS ON MILL STREET. Bristol’s metropolis, Mill Street, is to have another eating place. The Strutte Inn opens for business tomorrow in the new Girtton Building, 302 Mill Street. The venture is backed by Bristol People. Service will be on the a la carte plan, steaks, chops, and quick lunch orders prevailing.

“AMERICAN STORES CO., 217 Buckley, 110 Mill, 305 Washington, Pond & Lincoln Ave.: Rinso - 5¢ small pkg., 20¢ big pkg., Victor Bread - 5¢ big loaf, Asco Coffee - 29¢ lb. Meat Specials for Week End! Little Pig Roasting Hams - 22¢ lb. Milk-Fed Country Veal - Shoulders 15¢ lb., Rack 32¢ lb. Whole Cuts Chuck Roast - 15¢ lb.”

10/25 - - HOPKINS LODGE OBSERVES ITS 80th ANNIVERSARY HERE. Last night, Hopkins Lodge, No. 87, I.O.O.F., celebrated the 80th anniversary of the institution of that organization. There was a social and smoker.

“HELP WANTED - MALE. Ambitious boy. One over 16 years of age who does not need a manager and 3 assistants to keep him busy. Apply at McCrory’s 5 and 10 Cent Store.”

10/26 - - MISS JANE FERRY JUDGED QUEEN OF THE FROLIC HERE. Miss Ferry, of Bristol, representing American Hose, Hook & Ladder Company, No. 2, was chosen as Queen of The Frolic last night in a beauty contest conducted under the auspices of the Mill Street Business Men’s Association.

10/31 - - PARADE OF BOTH CHILDREN AND ADULTS IN COSTUME WILL BE HELD TONIGHT. Baby Parade Attracts Crowd to Mill Street Yesterday Afternoon.

TROLLEY SERVICE TO DOYLESTOWN STOPS AT MIDNIGHT HERE. Doylestown-Bristol Route Out of Existence Today. Buses Will Run. Motor Service to Start Tomorrow under Public Service Ruling.

A Former King Moves to Bordentown, NJ

In the year 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte, Emperor of France was defeated and overthrown. His brother, Joseph, whom he had made King of Naples in 1806 and King of Spain in 1808, had to flee his positions in those two countries. It was at this time that Joseph moved to America.

Joseph purchased land along the Delaware River in New Jersey at the confluence of the Crosswicks Creek and the Delaware River known as Point Breeze. In America Joseph adopted the name Count de Survilles. His estate eventually grew to 1,800 acres. He had a mile frontage along the Crosswick Creek. The former monarch was very interested in garden design. His property had many trees. He also purchased flowering plants from Pennsylvania and imported some from Europe.

On his estate he developed 12 miles of bridle trails where carriage drives were enjoyed by him and his guests. Artfully placed statuary and gazebos enhanced the beauty of his property. A man-made lake with swans and landscaped islands enhanced the carriage rides. He developed a deer sanctuary and an aviary.

The count had a large mansion house erected and imported lovely furnishing which included a library of 8,000 books. Within the house he also had many examples of European art. At the time, the library was considered one of the largest in America. There were ample outbuildings for servants, gardeners, stables and other workers. His mansion burned in 1820 but fortunately with the help of the nearby town's people, he was able to save most of the contents of the house.

Joseph's daughter, Princess Zenaide, and her husband, Prince Charles Lucien, resided in a three-story lake house on the estate. Joseph's son-in-law, Prince Charles Lucien, was an accomplished ornithologist and naturalist.

While the former king resided at Point Breeze, he enjoyed crossing the river and visiting some of the prominent residents in Bristol. On one visit, he was riding in a carriage on North Radcliffe Street at a site just above Green Lane. This area is presently called Landreth Manor. Joseph had an accident with his carriage and he was found sitting along the road. Coming down the road from treating a patient in Tullytown was Dr. John Phillips of Bristol. The doctor stopped and lifted the former king into the doctor's carriage and drive him to the King George II Inn. There he treated the former monarch. A few days later, after Joseph had returned to Point Breeze, Dr. Phillips received a note of thanks for his treatment and kindness and included one-hundred dollars for Dr. Phillips.

Joseph Bonaparte was known to visit the Cooper home adjacent to the present Grundy Library. One of those times Thomas Cooper (1776 - 1849), the well-

known actor who had emigrated from England, brought home a fawn for his children. The fawn leaped over fences and helped ruin neighboring gardens along Radcliffe Street. Mary Fairle Cooper (wife of the actor) said the fawn must leave. The Count de Survilles learned of this and took the fawn back to Point Breeze to be with the other deer he had on his property. Eventually the fawn grew into a mature deer and was one that was taken to Europe when Joseph Bonaparte returned there in 1839.

The former king lived in Italy until 1844 where he died. He was buried in state near his brother Napoleon Bonaparte in Les Invalides in Paris. He bequeathed Point Breeze to his grandson, also named Joseph. His grandson soon sold the estate and auctioned the furnishings.

The property is now owned by a Catholic missionary order and only one of the original buildings remains. That structure (known as the gate house or gardener's cottage) was the home built by Joseph for his trusted secretary, Louis Mailliard.

Bordentown is a town with a population of 3,924 (2010 census). The first known settler was Thomas Farnsworth, an English Quaker, who moved up the river from Burlington in 1682. He selected a bluff overlooking the bend in the Delaware River. His cabin was situated where the present corner of Park and Prince Streets is located. An 1883 dwelling now stands on that site. Farnsworth Landing "very soon became the center of the region's trade."

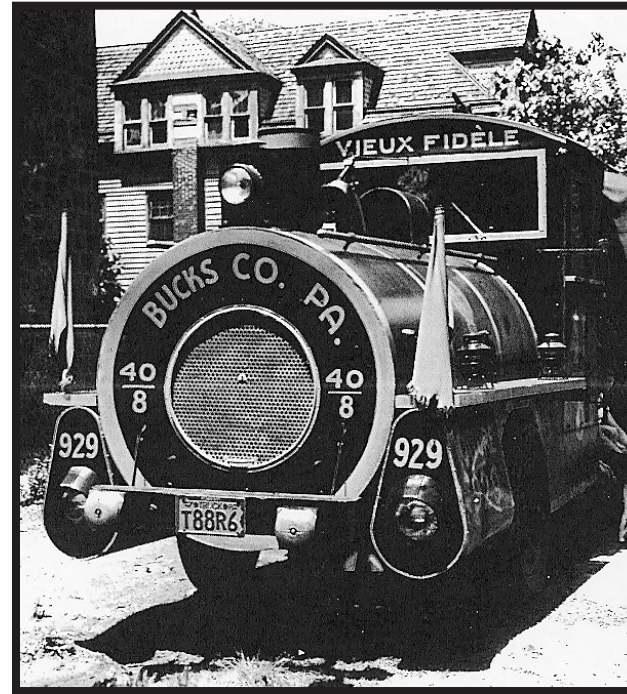
The town's name was adopted from Joseph Borden who arrived in 1717. He established a transportation system to carry people and freight between New York City and Philadelphia.

Four patriots of the Revolutionary War who resided in Bordentown were Francis Hopkinson, a signer of the U.S. Declaration of Independence, Colonel Kirkbride, Colonel Oakey Hoakland and writer Thomas Paine. The British were soon to retaliate by sending Hessians to occupy, pillage and destroy the town during May and June 1778.

Clara Barton, who in 1852 started the first free public school in New Jersey and later founded the American Red Cross, also claimed Bordentown as her home.

An interesting addition to U.S. railroad transportation occurred in 1831. Master mechanic Isaac Dripps of Bordentown assembled (without the use of instruction) the locomotive "John Bull" originally called the "Stevens", in just ten days. It had been built by Robert Stephenson and Company in England. They disassembled it and shipped the engine to America for the Camden and Amboy Railroad. A year later, limited

Continued on page 4



Photos on this page . . .

Left: see related clipping on Page 5 "Out Of The Past" under the date of October 2 "Legion To Form New "40 and 8 Society Here"

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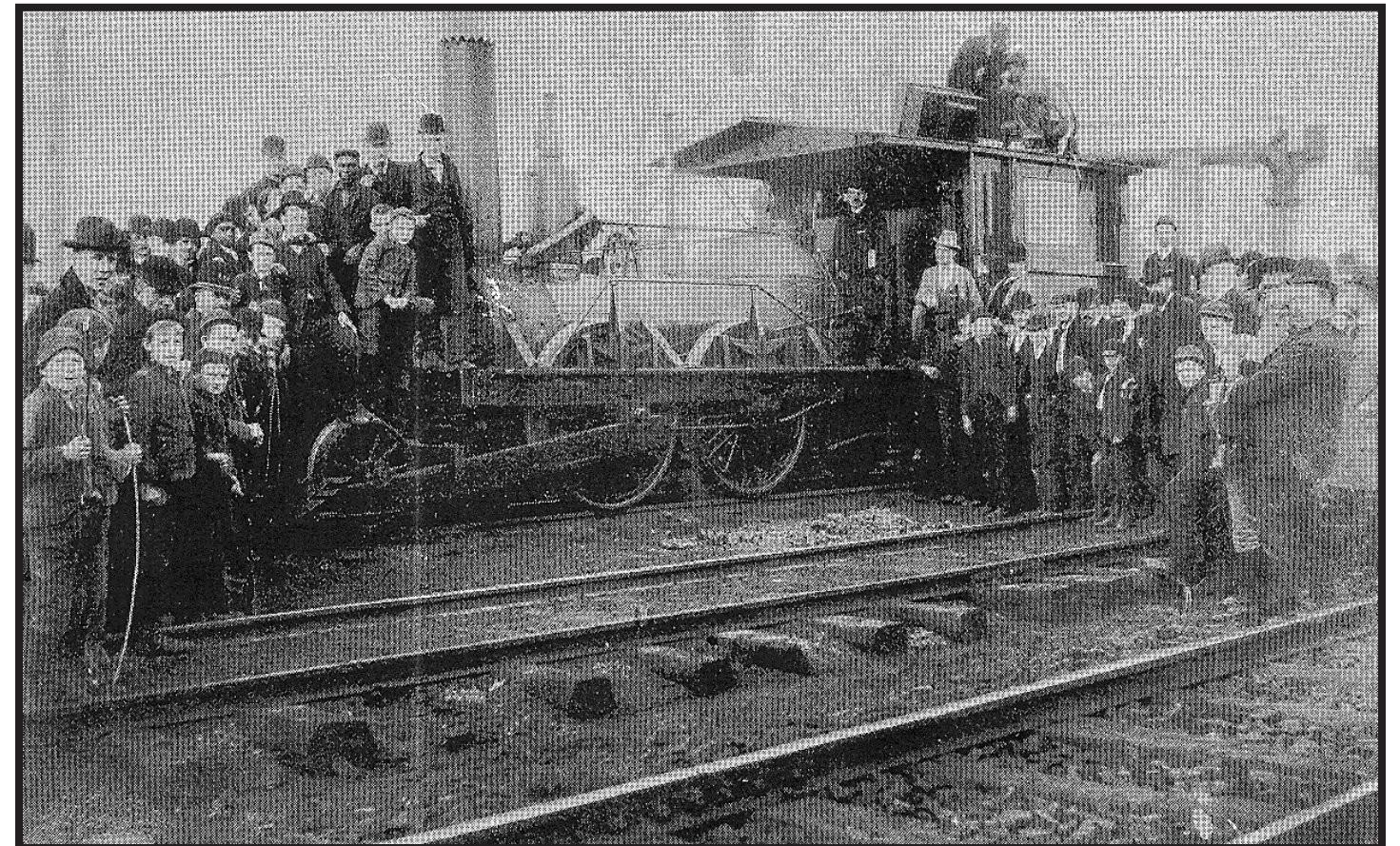
JOHN BULL NO. 1

The Oldest Locomotive in America

First put in service on the Camden & Amboy Railroad November 12 of 1831

Schenck's Railroad at Croydon, PA

(see story on Page 3 regarding Bordentown)



Former King (continued from Page 3)

service was started. It became one of the first successful locomotives in the U.S. That locomotive is on display in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C. (see photo above)

At the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition of 1876, Susan Waters, an accomplished artist (many of her works were animals in natural settings) and photographer also lived in Bordentown. Point Breeze is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.