Horst Hall: 2 South Market Street; Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania

Abstract:

Horst’s Hall, opened December 29, 1877 to an audience of 250 people, was constructed sometime around 1837. This home, based upon the Second Empire architectural style, can be clearly identified by its tall mansard roof. This style of roof was considered both a fashionable and functional element since it created a fully usable attic space. Another identifying feature of this property includes its beautiful symmetrical design. After being sold by Anthony Harchenrader, who emigrated from Bohemia, John C.S. Horst established his famous “all-you-can-eat” style restaurant here which was famous for its oysters. Additionally Horst’s Hall was located in this building and was home to some of Elizabethtown’s fraternal organizations and clubs. This property was also the first building in Elizabethtown to have electricity.

Introduction:

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (N.H.P.A.), signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on 15 October 1966, mandates federal agencies undergo a review process for all federally funded and permitted projects which could cause potential harm or damage to historic properties. Historic properties include any district, site, building, structure, or object included or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register, serves as the United States federal government’s official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects deemed worthy of preservation. To be selected to the National Register, properties face an evaluation based on their age and structural integrity, as well as their historical significance. If the nomination is processed by the state and sent to Washington D.C. for final review, there it may be placed on the National Register listing. The Section 106 process seeks to accommodate historic preservation concerns with the needs of federal undertaking through consultation among agency officials and

3 Ibid.
other parties with an interest in the effects of the undertaking on historic properties. As part of the section 106 process, transportation projects in Pennsylvania – under the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) – are developed in accordance with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).\(^5\) Both agencies work with consulting parties, including local government and other individuals and organizations who display demonstrated interest in the project. In addition, with the information acquired through research, architectural observations, biographical information, and other important discoveries from the Section 106 review will be integrated in an online, interactive Geographical Information Systems (GIS) tour. The goal of the process is to, with the proper research on relevant structures, find ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects on properties considered historically significant,\(^6\) while encouraging others to study the past, live in the present, and protect the future of Elizabethtown.

For the bridge removal and repair on North Market Street in the Borough of Elizabethtown, PennDOT sought the aid of faculty and students at Elizabethtown College to assess the historical significance of the Conoy Creek and settlements which grew from its creekside. The Conoy Creek is the heart of Elizabethtown. Originally called the ‘Conejoholo’ by the Piscataway Nation, the Conoy along with the Susquehanna River, facilitated French trade with Indian tribes, connecting the Ohio, Mississippi, and Missouri Rivers to supply the colonial possessions of New France. Earliest settlers were French Hugenot refugees, followed by Jewish merchants, Swiss Mennonites, and Scottish Irish Presbyterians. Several acres of woods along the Conoy Creek were cleared to establish gristmills, sawmills, and distilleries. In addition, a ferry was introduced for westward transportation across Susquehanna River. When settlers built farmhouses by the creekside, due to the traffic coming through, many applied for liquor licenses. Quickly, the properties turned into public houses. Proprietors were willing to subdivide their farmland into lots, for lease or sale. One of said public houses became the Sign of the Bear Tavern, perhaps Elizabethtown’s most significant historical landmark. The very birth of Elizabethtown begins with the Conoy Creek settlements and the economic and transportation growth accompanying the establishment of the Sign of the Bear Tavern.\(^7\) The old trading post and public house, as well as the individuals who owned it, could well be termed the cradle of Elizabethtown. As stated in a 2 March 1961 issue of the Elizabethtown Chronicle, “It has seen in procession, the entire sequence of the history of Elizabethtown and the unnamed village or settlement that preceded it.”\(^8\)

Property Details:

This property, better known as Horst Hall, is located at 2 South Market Street, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania 17022. The property is located before the corner of South Market and West High Streets near Center Square. The dimensions of the lot are 198 feet by 30 feet (see Appendix).\(^9\)

Deed Search:

The current community of Elizabethtown is situated between the Conoy Creek and the Conwego Creek along the Susquehanna River. In 1534 French King Francis, I (1494-1547) colonized North America establishing New France with Jacques Cartier (1491-1557) as Viceroy in Quebec.\(^10\) As early as 1615 Étienne Brûlé (1592-1633) explored the Susquehanna River and its tributaries in Lancaster County.\(^11\)

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\(^5\) “What is Section 106?” ProjectPATH.
\(^6\) Ibid.
claimed by Sweden in 1638 and then by the Dutch in 1655. The British claimed the former Dutch holdings in 1674. British King Charles, II (1630-1685) granted William Penn (1644-1718) the Province of Pennsylvania in 1681. The French and British disputed control of Pennsylvania between 1688-1763. During this time in 1707 French fur trader Peter Bezaillion (1662-1742) established a settlement between the Conoy and Conwego Creeks along the Susquehanna River. In 1719 Peter Bezaillion invited the Piscataway Indians to move from Maryland and settle with him along the Cony Creek and Susquehanna River. Captain Thomas Harris (1695-1801) settled in Pennsylvania in 1726. In 1730, he builds a log cabin along the Conoy Creek and in 1741 he legally receives the warrant to the land. Then, in 1745 he builds the Sign of the Bear Tavern, which is the first permanent structure in Elizabethtown.

The deed search for this property begins with Thomas Harris, the original owner of this property. Lazarus Lowrey received the property from Thomas Harris on July 15, 1751. Barnabas Hughes received the property from Lazarus Lowrey on June 13, 1753. Sometime during this time, this property became known as Lot 43 after the town was divided into lots. Samuel Hughes received the property from Daniel John, son of Barnabas Hughes, on June 10, 1786. Alexander Boggs received the property from Samuel Hughes on October 28, 1790. Adams Campbell received the property via a release from Alexander Boggs on February 4, 1837. Sebastian Keller received the property from Christian Haldeman and Adams Campbell on March 27, 1837. Anthony Harchenrader received the property from Sebastian Keller’s wife on March 12, 1859. John C.S. Horst received the property from Anthony Harchenrader’s wife on December 30, 1878. John C.S. Horst’s wife received the property from her husband on January 31, 1897, who sold the property to Henry T. Horst and L. Louise Horst on March 26, 1901. Blanche A. Walker received the property from L. Louise Horst on March 13, 1930, who sold it back to L. Louise Horst on the same day. Troy Thompson received the property on April 30, 1940, from L. Louise Horst. Elsie Thompson received the property on June 11, 1971 from her deceased husband Troy Thompson. Kenneth and Gladys Matz received the property from Elsie S. Thompson on July 31, 1985. Robert L. Gruber, Louis J. Ulrich III, Robert S. English, and Leslie E. Brosius received the property on November 1, 1995 from Kenneth L. and Gladys E. Matz. 101 Properties LLC, the current owner, bought the property on August 26, 2008, from Robert L. Gruber, Louis J. Ulrich III, Robert S. English, and Leslie E. Brosius.

16 Ibid., 21-23.
18 Ibid., 8.
20 Ibid.
21 Ibid.
22 Ibid.
23 Ibid.
24 Book: T, Volume 12, Page Number: 139.
27 Ibid.
29 Book: Q, Volume 34, Page Number: 520.
30 Ibid.
32 Book: 4790, Page Number: 319.
Architectural Report:

The style of this property is Second Empire/Mansard style. This architectural style was popular throughout the United States in the 1860s and 1870s and was used extensively in the northeastern and midwestern parts of the country. This style gets its beginnings from France where it was chosen during the rule of Napoleon III (1852-70). The roof of this property, called a mansard roof, is a key identifying feature of this style and was named after French architect Francois Mansart. Though it does not fall under the traditional era of this architectural style, records indicate the Mansard roof was added in 1907. This style of roof was considered both “a fashionable and functional element since it created a fully usable attic space.” The best-known example of this style is the Philadelphia City Hall which is distinguishable by its crested mansard roof. Another common feature of this style is a bracketed cornice beneath the mansard roof, which can be identified on this property. It is unknown who built the property, but two “retail-store” additions were added, as well as a storage area and 900-square foot detached barn. Additionally, at some point in this building’s history, the first floor of the building was lowered to sidewalk level. “When Horst (John Horst) operated his business, customers had to climb several steps from the sidewalk to the store room floor level.” These changes to property occurred in 1900 and 1920, respectfully. The architect of this building unknown, as well as the builder. The current building was constructed as early as 1837 and is still standing today.

Historical Context and Purpose:

This property stands on the square of Elizabethtown. The square has, and continues to be, the center of the community. Horst Hall was established here and opened on December 29, 1877 where an audience of 250 people were entertained by a magician called Professor Boisco. The Crescent Club met in Horst Hall, which was created for playing pinochle and harmonizing with piano accompaniment. Most members of the Crescent Club were also cyclists in the Elizabethtown Wheelmen, a bicycle club for men which sponsored bicycle excursions around Lancaster County. Additionally, Horst Hall was the home of several fraternal organizations such as: The Elizabethtown Patriotic Sons of America (1847) Washington Camp No. 306 and their ladies auxiliary The Patriotic Order of Americans; The Old Knights of the Golden Eagles (1872) Elizabethtown Unity Castle No. 420 and their auxiliary Ladies of the Golden Eagle; Elizabethtown Loyal Order of the Moose (1888) No. 596 and Women of the Moose. John Horst’s restaurant, which was known for its oysters and all-you-can-eat smorgasbords, called this property its home as well and attracted many people to Elizabethtown. The restaurant also featured its own home-made ice cream. More notably, this was the first property in Elizabethtown to have electricity. Electricity was purchased from the Elizabethtown Electric Company which was established in 1894 by John Redsecker. Prior to its use as a women’s wear shop, the store room of this building was occupied by Greiner Brothers Food Store in 1952. In 1976, the building was also occupied by the Gladell Shop on the first floor and housed apartments in what used to be Horst’s Hall. The current use of the building is a commercial office space for “Fear Knot Martial Arts.” This building has served as a private

38 Benowitz, 16.
39 Bower, 50.
40 Benowitz, 16.
41 Bower, 50.
42 Ibid, 2.
A Scotch-Irishman from Raphoe, County Donegal with an interest in the Indian trade, Thomas Harris settled on the Conoy Creek after sailing to America in 1726. He was married soon after his arrival in Lancaster to Mary McKinney whose family was on the same ship to America. Thomas and Mary then settled on a 230-acre tract at the site of Elizabethtown where they would construct a log house close to the Creek as early as 1730 or 1732. Thomas also acquired a license to sell cider and beer in August 1736 and was authorized to keep a public house two years later. After a road was constructed, known as “The Great Road,” to John Harris’ ferry (which traders used to travel over the Susquehanna) and Lancaster, Harris’ home on the bank of the Conoy Creek essentially looked over a major highway at a point equally distant from John Harris’ ferry and Lancaster. Travelers, wagoners, and drovers could stop here overnight and stay at his tavern. Because of the influx in business, Harris was able to build a large stone house in 1745 for the Sign of the Bear Tavern and his own family’s residence. This structure is still standing today and is standing at the former office for Farmers’ Mutual Insurance Company (now LKC Services, Inc). Besides watching over his inn, Harris was a storekeeper and had large investments in the Indian trade. This trading post was so important that Captain Thomas Harris applied for a public road to be built from Pine Ford to the Conoy Creek, at his tavern. The road was built and later extended to Lancaster in 1736. This new road ran from the Swatara (at what is now Middletown) to the Conestoga, following the paths formerly used by the Indians and settlers and their pack horses. In 1746 Harris went to Philadelphia to get a servant to help him with the work at his inn and on his farm. He paid James Templeton twenty-two pounds for a servant from Ireland named Andrew Christy who signed an indenture obliging Christy to work five years for Harris. In 1751, Harris and his family left the Bear Tavern and sold the tavern and the 252-acre tract of land on which it stood to Lazarus Lowrey. He and his son, Dr. Robert Harris, had other interests. They obtained a share in 200,000 acres in Nova Scotia in 1765 as members of a syndicate called the Philadelphia Company. Dr. John Harris went to Pictou, Nova Scotia, with the first group of settlers in 1767 and in 1769 Matthew Harris and his family joined them. Thomas Harris was seventy-five years old when his wife, Mary, died in Churchville, Maryland in 1770. In 1774, he bought 296-acres of land at Doyle’s Mill in Juniata County, Pennsylvania and developed a grist mill, sawmill, and distillery there. He lived to be 106 years old and died in 1801 at the home of his grandson, John Steuart, at Doyle’s Mill. He is buried at the Lower Tuscarora Presbyterian Church, located in Academia, Pennsylvania.

Lazarus Lowrey and his sons came from Ireland in 1729, and the next year the County Court recommended him to the Governor as a licensed Indian trader. He also acquired a considerable amount of acreage in the Maytown area. Lowrey and his sons traded with Indians are far away as Ohio. Additionally, the Lowreys had close business associations with Joseph Simon of Lancaster and, through him, with important Philadelphia firms. In 1751, Lowrey purchased Thomas Harris’s Sign of the Bear Tavern and the land it stood on from Thomas Harris. It is unlikely Lowrey ever lived here. He and his sons continued to travel as far as the Shawnee villages on the Scioto and Miami Rivers in Ohio with packhorses laden with trade goods. His son James worked to counteract French influence among the Ohio tribes, earning a reward for his scalp in 1750.

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43 Ibid.
44 MacMaster, 5.
46 Ibid, 8.
47 Bower, 85.
48 MacMaster, 14.
49 Ibid, 17.
50 Ibid, 18.
51 Ibid, 5.
from the French commanding officer in Detroit. Lowrey owned the Sign of the Bear Tavern for two years before selling it in July 1753 to Barnabas Hughes, who was already living there. Lazarus Lowrey was in poor health during this time and retired to Philadelphia, where he died in 1755.

Barnabas Hughes and his wife, Elizabeth Waters Hughes, emigrated from County Donegal in Ireland in 1748. Besides becoming the new owner of the Sign of the Bear Tavern in 1753, he was also involved in the trade with the Indians. The Hughes family lived in Lancaster in 1749, when Barnabas Hughes took title to a house and lot on West Lime Street. He had business associations with Isaac Whitelock there who was a Quaker merchant and brewer. Hughes and Whitelock jointly purchased another Lancaster building and lot in 1750, likely for a store, and sold half of it in 1752. Samuel Wharton, whom Hughes is said to have represented in the Indian trade, witnessed the signatures of Hughes and his wife on the deed. Wharton was a senior partner in the Philadelphia firm of Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan, which had extensive Indian trade interests. They were considered the most important business firm in the trade and were closely allied with George Croghan, who negotiated with the Indians for Pennsylvania and traded on his own account for his base at Aughwick in present Huntington County. Hughes traveled to Ohio to trade with the Indians there and made the Sign of the Bear both the starting point for packhorse trains and the collection point for trade goods brought from Philadelphia. In July 1754, the Pennsylvania frontier was in danger. The French had constructed a line of forts in 1753 and began constructed Fort Duquesne in Pittsburgh the following summer. The British dispatched two regiments to America to dislodge the French, which landed in Virginia in March 1755. Men of Lancaster County rallied to defend their homes, forming volunteer companies (although the lacked military training and many lacked weapons). These volunteers were the first military units to march past the Sign of the Bear in Donegal, in what was soon to be Elizabethtown, but were not the last. Some of them paused for refreshments at Hughes’ tavern and charges their meals to the Lancaster magistrates. Hughes assembled what the soldiers needed at his tavern, just as he had done for the Indian traders. He also supplied Fort Swatara in Lebanon County with provisions, which was a small fort built to protect the gap where the Swatara Creek passes through the Blue Mountain. Governor Robert Hunter Morris and regimental officers, including Chaplain Charles Beatty stopped at the tavern for dinner on their way to access the Pennsylvania regiment. On October 2, 1763, Barnabas Hughes and his wife, Elizabeth, gave deeds to buyers of lots in the new town he had laid out and named for her. Hughes laid out the new town of Elizabethtown around a central square, or “diamond,” a pattern common to many of the newly founded Pennsylvania towns. Stakes in the ground identified the boundaries of the lots and of the streets and alleys in Elizabethtown. Hughes gave them the names they still have today, Market Street, High Street, Rose Alley, Cherry Alley, and Peach Alley. Each lot measured sixty feet wide and 165 feet deep. The original lot owners, or at least the names known, were substantial farmers in Donegal or Mount Joy townships and likely purchased lots in Elizabethtown as an investment. Hughes left Lancaster County for Baltimore, Maryland, around 1761. He became a prominent merchant there and was considered part of the social elite. He died on January 2, 1765, leaving four sons. His estate consisted of lands in Pennsylvania, including Elizabethtown, a two-thirds interest in an iron furnace, and lands in Washington County, Maryland, and some houses and lots in Baltimore.
Samuel Hughes, Barnabas Hughes’ second son, started a successful business at an early age. When he was about twenty, he acquired half of his father’s iron furnace in Washington County, Maryland, and went to London to try and raise capital for manufacturing iron. Under his management, the iron works made a small profit. In 1775, he returned to London “with proposals for extending the works.” Hughes was also a delegate to the Maryland Convention in 1776, a member of the House of Delegates in 1777-1779, and a state senator in 1781-1790. Hughes put his iron works at the service of Congress for casting cannon. He initially lost money, but finally succeeded, with financial aid from Congress, and fulfilled his government contracts. Profits from his cannon factory enabled Hughes to pay off his British investors with interest and buy out his older brothers’ share of their father’s Pennsylvania real estate. The 252-acre tract of land he purchased from his brothers included the Bear Tavern and Elizabethtown, as well as an adjacent 145 acres. On March 29, 1787, Samuel Hughes signed four deeds for Elizabethtown lots. These deeds represented four of the only people who owned houses and lots in Elizabethtown who actually lived there. In 1790 Hughes decided to sell Elizabethtown lots as freeholds, giving the purchaser a clear title to the property. After selling his last tract of land to Leonard Negley, he had thereby disposed of all his land in Donegal and Mount Joy Townships surrounding Elizabethtown on the west, northeast, and east. Hughes signed many deeds that were never recorded in the Lancaster County Court House since Pennsylvania law made this optional.

Alexander Boggs purchased the Sign of the Bear Tavern and all of the land bordering Elizabethtown on the northwest as far as High Street from Samuel Hughes. On October 28, 1790 Hughes and his wife sold 230 acres to Boggs for $1360. Boggs was brother of Captain Andrew Boggs who commanded one of the Donegal militia companies. He had also marched with the Flying Camp in 1776 and fought at Long Island and Kingsbridge. Alexander Boggs lived in a two-story building near the tavern he owned and also owned the adjacent farmland. After being permitted to hold elections in Elizabethtown in 1800, voters began to assemble at Boggs’s home. Alexander Boggs advertised the historic Bear Tavern for sale in 1801, but did not find a satisfactory buyer for several years.

In 1829, Adams Campbell purchased the northeast corner of Center Square in Elizabethtown as well as a “two story weather-boarded house, warehouse, stable and other improvements” at a sheriff’s sale. Campbell did well enough with his store to demolish the old building and replace it with a new brick store and residence for his family in the 1830s. This building, known as “The General Store,” was continuously used as a general store until the 1990s. Campbell drove a carriage drawn by a pair of matched horses. The contents of his house reflected a comfortable lifestyle. “The Campbells had hearth rugs and carpet on the stairs, a sofa, a clock and case, green venetian blinds on the windows, five gilt picture frames, looking glasses, rocking chairs, mantle ornaments, a dining table, china, glass, and queensware, silver and britannia spoons, linen tablecloths, a crib and a cradle, five wash stands, with bowls and pitchers, a toilet table, three clothes presses, beds, bedding, and bedsteads.” As a storekeeper, much of his business was conducted on credit. At any one time, his book debts comprised many small accounts. In January 1840, 109 customers from Elizabethtown and vicinity owed him

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61 Ibid, 47.
63 Ibid, 49.
64 Ibid, 50.
65 Bower, 86.
66 MacMaster, 49.
67 Ibid, 54.
68 Ibid, 55.
69 Ibid, 59.
70 MacMaster, 93, 98.
71 Ibid, 93.
$1,332. Without a bank closer than Lancaster or Middletown, storekeepers loaned money at interest. Campbell held fifty-two promissory notes from individuals who borrowed as much as $500 from him. In 1831, the Pennsylvania legislature proposed dividing Lancaster County (as well as Dauphin and Lebanon Counties) and creating a new county named Monroe County. Elizabethtown residents strongly opposed this drive for a new county likely because they wanted Elizabethtown to be designated the county seat for Lancaster. At a meeting to discuss the creation of this new county, Adams Campbell served as secretary to the committee. Earlier 1826, Pennsylvania legislators had appropriated money for the “Pennsylvania Main Line of Improvements,” a combination of railroads and canals with something for nearly every member’s district. Throughout the nation, new railroads and canals were being created and were changing the face of America. In the flurry of all these new public works, many places were left behind. Elizabethtown was one of them. In a meeting between delegates from Middletown, Mount Joy, and Elizabethtown to discuss the project of extending the railroad to Harrisburg, Adams Campbell (and his brother William) was one of six men to represent the people of Elizabethtown. Additionally, Campbell kept the minutes for a meeting held at Colonel Abraham Greenawelt’s tavern which discussed the organization of a volunteer fire department. As a result of this meeting, the Union Fire Company was created and Campbell was designated as a director for the Company. Adams Campbell also became a local leader of the emerging Whig Party. Campbell was preparing to move with his family to a house they had purchased just outside Carlisle, when he died in 1840. His obituary was featured in the only surviving copy of the Elizabethtown published paper, The Hero of Tippecanoe, which was printed February 1, 1840. He was forty years old and left a wife and four young children. Campbell’s funeral was conducted from Christ Lutheran Church in Elizabethtown, but he and his family were active members of the Donegal Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Sebastian Keller came to Elizabethtown in 1837, taking active roles in many aspects of Elizabethtown life for more than thirty years. Dr. Keller was listed as a non-graduate physician in Elizabethtown. This is likely due to Keller following the steps of his father who was a well-known “powwow doctor.” The Elizabethtown Lodge, No. 128, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was formally instituted on September 29, 1845, and Dr. Sebastian Keller was named Treasurer of the organization. Dr. Keller also led and organized the Elizabethtown brass band. Under his direction, the band, fully uniformed and equipped with a full range of brass instruments, played in parades and concerts until 1856. On July 19, 1867, the Elizabethtown Cornet Band was organized and Dr. Keller was chosen as president. His son, Sebastian Keller, Jr., led the band. Dr. Keller also sold both drugs and liquor on South Market Street.

Anthony Harchenrader came from Bohemia sometime after 1850, and was a member of St. Peter’s
Rpmam Catholic Church. As president of the school board, Harchenrader sold Lot 60 with the Peach Alley Schoolhouse and the engine house facing Poplar Street, to George H. Boll on March 10, 1874. The number of pupils in Elizabethtown public schools stretched the capacity of the Mechanic Street and Peach Alley schoolhouses. In response, in July 1873, the school board announced they were preparing stone for the building of a new school house. Construction of the two-story brick building was completed in 1874. Harchenrader was also a dealer in livestock. In December 1878, Harchenrader sold a “two-story mansard roof dwelling and store room on part of Lot 43” to John C.S. Horst.

Anthony Harchenrader sold a two-story mansard roof dwelling and store room on part of Lot 43 to John C.S. Horst, a menonite, in December of 1878. Horst was the son of Christ and Sarah Horst. They were native of Mount Joy, and were life-long farmers. Both she and her husband were buried in Mount Tunnel cemetery. To them were born two children, John C. S., and Katie, who married Daniel Enterline. On 31 December, 1863, John C. S. Horst married Louisa Stewart, and had six children, Sarah E., Louisa F., Christ S., John H., who went to South Omaha, Neb., where he became a foreman for the Swift & Co. Packing House, Henry T, and Miss Mary M. Mrs. Louisa (Stewart) Horst was born in Mt. Joy Township, and is a member of an old and distinguished family, her mother's people having been in this county since 1710. She is a member of the Lutheran Church. Horst was listed in the 1890 Directory as the proprietor of a restaurant on Center Square. The first floor contained his “eating saloon,” which soon became a popular stopping place. The third floor was known as Horst’s Hall. it was in use within a few months of Horst’s purchasing the property, since “a special meeting was held there on June 22, 1881, to discuss the establishment of a public library.” The Crescent Club was one of the local organizations that met at Horst’s to play pinochle and sing to the accompaniment of a piano player. In 1894, J.C.S. Horst was the first person in Elizabethtown to install electric lights, attracting the curious to his restaurant. His experiment with just two light bulbs proved so successful that Horst had the entire building, including Horst’s Hall, wired for electricity. His son, Henry, managed the restaurant and hall in 1897, when he also advertised a separate ice cream parlor. He retired in 1895, but his life was cut short in 1897 by paralysis at the age of sixty-five. He is buried in the Mount Tunnel cemetery. In politics he was a Democrat, and he led a thoroughly honorable and useful life, manifesting much character and displaying a kind and generous heart.

Henry T. Horst, son of John C.S. Horst, attended Franklin and Marshall College and married Louisa Weigand. In 1915, he was a charter member and the first secretary of Elizabethtown Treichler Masonic Lodge No. 682.

On January 7, 1970, Thompson Gymnasium was dedicated at Elizabethtown College, named for Dr. Troy and Elsie Thompson. The Thompsons had donated 110 acres of land in 1965 to the college. Dr. Thompson was also the physician for the athletics program. Additionally, Dr. Thompson came forward with an offer to donate a twenty-five-acre site on East High Street for the proposed Junior-Senior High School in Elizabethtown.
It is clear many of these individuals have significance in Elizabethtown. Adams Campbell was a major lender of money to the citizens of the town. He also represented the people of Elizabethtown, and was clearly heavily involved in local politics. Dr. Sebastian Keller was an active member of the community and a powwow doctor. Anthony Harchenrader played a major role in the early foundation of Elizabethtown’s public school system. John Horst was the first member of the Elizabethtown community to install electric lights in his building. He also operated a very popular restaurant that attracted many people to the town. Dr. Troy Thompson owned a great deal of properties in Elizabethtown and even donated land to Elizabethtown College to build Thompson Gymnasium.

This home was likely constructed sometime in the early 1800s. In the year 1800, the capital of the United States was moved from Philadelphia to Washington D.C. Interestingly enough, the nearby town of Columbia, Pennsylvania was originally slated to become the new capital of America but the idea was scrapped in favor of Washington D.C. due to the travel restrictions the Susquehanna River imposed. In 1801, the population of the country reached 5.3 million people, with one-million of African descent. In 1803, Thomas Jefferson asked Congress for funds for the Louisiana Purchase which opened up the West for American settlers. The United States also became involved in a war known as the War of 1812 with Great Britain, and sequentially saw the nation’s capital burned in 1814 as a result.99

Appendix Historical Photos: Photo Courtesy of the Elizabethtown Historical Society.
Appendix Current Photos: