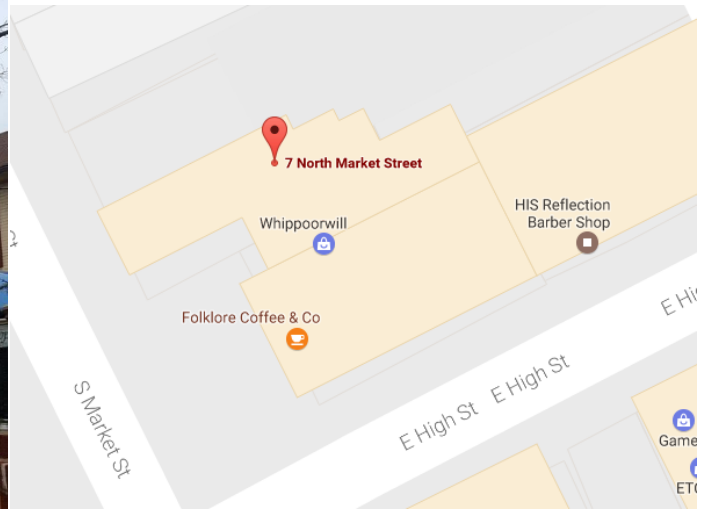


Coble Residence: 7 North Market Street; Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania



Abstract:

The building is a Georgian and Colonial style composed of white brick face with blue accents. Its most prominent feature is a seemingly Queen Anne style French turret on the South side of the building. Abraham Redsecker originally had possession of a larger plot of land that included this property and divided the land between his heirs and other family members. After transferring the property to his son-in-law Abraham Breneman, this property passed along to the Laird Family in 1850 who operated a hotel and tavern called the Railroad House. The first Coble owner, David Coble, was a Roman Catholic who worked at the as a shoemaker, farmer, and later at the Union Bank. Since then, multiple generations of Coble's owned the Coble Residence, who have been painters, run taverns, been insurance managers, and even the Chief of Police.

Property Details:

The Coble Residence, currently known as Elizabethtown Heating & Cooling, Inc. lies at 2 Center Square Elizabethtown. The property is officially located at 7 North Market Street, Elizabethtown PA, 17022 Lancaster County. The Lancaster County Property Tax Inquiry reports the lot having the dimensions 99.8 ft. x 60 ft. x 157 ft. x 81.9 ft.; total area of approximately 6,098ft.¹

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.² As early as 1615 Étienne Brûlé (1592-1633) explored the Susquehanna River and its tributaries in Lancaster County.³ Pennsylvania was claimed by Sweden in 1638 and then by the Dutch in 1655. The British claimed the former Dutch holdings in 1674.⁴ British King Charles, II (1630-1685) granted William Penn (1644-1718) the Province of Pennsylvania

¹ Lancaster County Recorder of Deeds, Search Public Records, Property ID: 250-30053-0-0000, accessed April 25, 2017, <http://lancasterpa.devnetwedge.com/parcel/view/2503005300000/2017>.

² Robert Jean Knecht, *Francis I* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1935), 333-343.

³ Consul Willshire Butterfield, *History of Brulé's Discoveries and Explorations, 1610-1626 Being a Narrative of the Discovery by Stephen Brulé of Lakes Huron, Ontario and Superior, and of his Explorations of Pennsylvania and western New York: Also of the Province of Ontario* (Cleveland, OH: Herman-Taylor, 1898), 49-51.

⁴ Randall M. Miller, ed., *Pennsylvania: A History of the Commonwealth* (University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University Press and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 2002), 50-60.

in 1681.⁵ The French and British disputed control of Pennsylvania between 1688-1763.⁶ During this time in 1707 French fur trader Peter Bezaillon (1662-1742) established a settlement between the Conoy and Conwego Creeks along the Susquehanna River.⁷ In 1719 Peter Bezaillon invited the Piscataway Indians to move from Maryland and settle with him along the Cony Creek and Susquehanna River.⁸ Captain Thomas Harris (1695-1801) settled in Pennsylvania in 1726. In 1730 he builds a log cabin along the Conoy Creek. In 1741 he legally owns the land, and he builds a stone house in 1745.⁹ Then, in 1745, he builds the Sign of the Bear Tavern, which is the first permanent structure in Elizabethtown.¹⁰

Online deed searches have confirmed that on 30 December 1840, Thomas Harris sold multiple lots in Elizabethtown to Abraham Redsecker. Redsecker subsequently divided up the plots and distributed them to his heirs. One of these plots was given to Abraham Breneman and Mary Redsecker Breneman, son-in-law and daughter of Abraham Redsecker.¹¹ Abraham Breneman had possession of the property until he transferred the deed in 1850. Breneman passed the property on, the subsequent list of which is Hugh and Mary Laird (1850 - 1854),¹² David Coble (1854 - 1855),¹³ Catherine Coble (1855 - 1866),¹⁴ Abraham Greenawalt (1866 - ?),¹⁵ Henry G. Gebhart (? - 2 October 1899),¹⁶ Edwin E. Coble (? - 16 December 1905),¹⁷ Mary A. Fisher-Coble (16 December 1905 - 6 April 1943),¹⁸ William S. Morgan (6 April 1943 - 12 April 1951),¹⁹ William F. and Maxine W. Morgan (12 April 1951 - 28 May 1953),²⁰ Verna M. and Erel M. Rosemann (28 May 1953 - 15 May 1964),²¹ James E. and Joy R. Leber (15 May 1964 - 20 February 1968),²² Rhoda K. and Richard R. Cramer and Imogene S. and Michael T. Morris (20 February 1968 - 1 July 1977),²³ J. Philip and Jacob N. Olweiler (1977 - 1985), P. Allen Sollenberger (1985 - 2004),²⁴ Diann R. and Barry J. Cover (2004 - Present).²⁵

Architectural Style Report:

The current Georgian and Colonial style building is composed of painted white brick. The building's most unique feature and focal point is the Queen Anne style French Turret.²⁶ The turret is quite stout and sports Oeil-de-boeuf windows at the top of the turret with a small amount of Renaissance detail below in a ribbon that wraps around the turret with a circular pattern on it.²⁷²⁸ In general, Georgian houses are usually made of stone, one of the favored materials of the time. However in North America the Georgian Style was more popularly built using brick, like the Coble Residence.²⁹ Off to the right of the building a spectator can see a double

⁵ Jean R. Soderlund, William Penn and the Founding of Pennsylvania, 1680-1684: A Documentary History (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1983), 39-50.

⁶ Henry Meclchior Muhlenberg Richards, The Pennsylvania-Germans in the French and Indian War: A Historical Sketch Prepared at the Request of the Pennsylvania-German Society (Lancaster: The Pennsylvania German Society, 1905), 16-22.

⁷ David L. Martin, A Clash of Cultures: Native Americans and Colonialism in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania (Morgantown, PA: Masthof Press, 2010), 21-23.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Richard K. MacMaster, Elizabethtown: The First Three Centuries (Elizabethtown, PA: Elizabethtown Historical Socieity, 1999), 5.

¹⁰ Ibid., 8.

¹¹ Lancaster County Recorder of Deeds, Search Public Records, Online E-Film Reader, Document, Book: T6 , Page Number: 42-43, accessed April 25, 2017, <http://www.lancasterdeeds.com/onlineefilmreader/>.

¹² Book Number: D36, Page Number: 82.

¹³ Book Number: D36, Page Number: 82.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Book Number: Y34, Page Number: 202.

¹⁸ Book Number: W42, Page Number: 594.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Book Number: P53, Page Number: 255-256.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Book Number: O57, Page Number: 1128.

²³ Book Number: K71 , Page Number: 00205.

²⁴ Book Number: O91, Page Number: 00130

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Will Jones, How to Read Houses: A crash course in domestic architecture (Brighton, U.K.: The Ivy Press Limited, 2008), 61.

²⁷ <https://www.britannica.com/topic/oeil-de-boeuf-window>

²⁸ Jones, 69.

²⁹ Ibid., 129.

chimney at the top, however only one of these ever functioned, because symmetry was a valued detail and thus a fake one was created to balance the aesthetic.³⁰ The entire residence has Georgian multiple-pane windows that have Victorian style double panes.³¹ The North side of the building shows what was possibly a porch that was later enclosed. While the rest of the building sports a white exterior brick face with blue accents, the entire North side's exterior brick is the original brick painted beige. The smaller covered porch is covered by siding and possesses the same beige color as the North side.

Historical Context and Purpose:

In 1837, Abraham Breneman was Elizabethtown's original elder of the Church of God.³² Joseph Breneman, one of Abraham's brothers became a preacher in the Church of God at the same time as his brother.³³ Breneman was brother to Mayor Michael Breneman and also the new owner of the general store at the time with his wife Mary Redsecker Breneman.³⁴ In 1900, Abram Breneman was a member of the Elizabethtown Crescent Club.³⁵ James Laird, a relative of Hugh and Mary Laird operated the Railroad House, a hotel and tavern on Bainbridge Street.³⁶ In 1753, David Coble, the first owner with its namesake moved into the borough of Elizabethtown.³⁷ He was a Roman Catholic who first worked in Elizabethtown as a shoemaker and later worked as both a farmer and a banker with the Union Bank in 1812.³⁸ His son Michael Coble started a tavern and stable in 1793, and was later the postmaster.³⁹ From 1807-1810 stockholders in the Elizabethtown and Middletown Turnpike Company met in Coble's tavern. In 1808 Coble's tavern was also the US presidential polling location.⁴⁰ In 1815 Michael Coble had the largest of the fifty or so houses in Elizabethtown, which housed his log inn and post office on West High Street. In 1928 another tavern he owned became the Moose Lodge.⁴¹ Another descendant of the Coble family, Jacob Coble who was a professional painter, purchased a tavern on North Market Street and operated it until 1822, at which point he sold it to Major Michael Breneman who married Elizabeth Coble and used the property as a public house.⁴² In 1887 Dr. J.W. Coble, MD became the medical director of Elizabethtown's first insurance company.⁴³ Clyde (Mutt) Coble was employed as the Elizabethtown Chief of Police in the 1930s and 1940s.⁴⁴ Abraham Greenawalt operated a hotel called the Greenawalt House on the spot of the future Moose Lodge.⁴⁵ In May of 1840 Greenawalt, among others, was a delegate to a National Harrison and Tyler Convention in Baltimore.⁴⁶ As brigade inspector, Colonel Abraham Greenawalt advertised for militia musters in a Elizabethtown Until recently, the building was used as a residence for its owners. Currently the building is used as a commercial space as Elizabethtown Heating and Cooling.

³⁰ Jones, 120.

³¹ Ibid., 125.

³² MacMaster, 102-103.

³³ Ibid., 102.

³⁴ Ibid., 93.

³⁵ MacMaster, 147.

³⁶ Ibid., 109.

³⁷ Historic Elizabethtown Pennsylvania: A Walking Tour, 48-49.

³⁸ Macmaster, 18.

³⁹ Ibid., 62.

⁴⁰ Benowitz, 49.

⁴¹ MacMaster, 62.

⁴² Ibid.

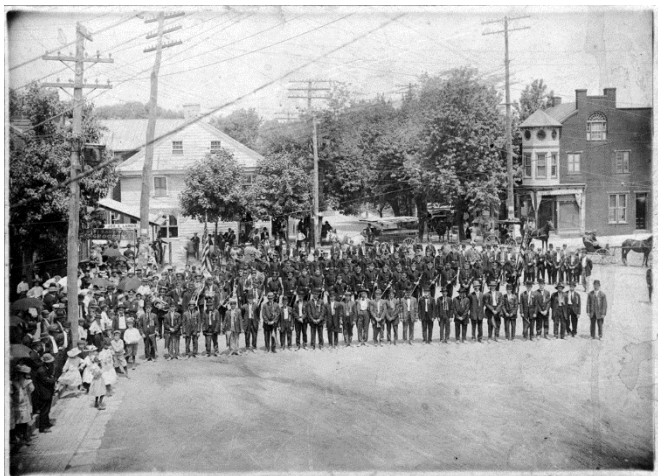
⁴³ Ibid., 140.

⁴⁴ Ibid., 218.

⁴⁵ Ibid., 95.

⁴⁶ Ibid., 99.

Appendix Historical Photos:



Appendix Current Photos:

