



# Warrington

Historical Society

## NEWSLETTER

### FALL 2009

#### The Mission of the Society:

- Locate, acquire, preserve and exhibit any and all articles, documents, photographs, papers, artifacts and other items of historic, cultural, educational value, which pertain to Warrington Township.
- Develop educational materials for use with schools/public and promote recognition of the history and development of Warrington Township.
- Restore and maintain 10 Folly Road/County Line Road School House for use as headquarters/museum/storage of Society.

The Warrington Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) qualified entity under the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions may be deducted for Federal Income Tax purposes.

P.O. BOX 706  
Warrington PA, 18976  
WarringtonHistoricalSociety@gmail.com

#### 2009 Officers:

Mary Doyle Roth, *President*  
Kenneth Samen, *Vice-President*  
Joseph Wright, *Treasurer*

### General Meeting Tuesday November 17, 2009

in the large conference room at the Township Building, 852 Easton Rd at 6:30 PM.

#### Agenda

- Financial statement
- Membership update
- Election of Officers
- Review of the last year
- Pictures and Artifacts recently acquired
- Members Suggestions and News

Regular monthly meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at the Township Building in the small conference room. Everyone is welcome. Historic Commission at 7:30. Historical Society immediately after (approx 8:15). Every other month there is another large meeting and the parking lot is full. You can park in the back police lot. Next meeting is December 7 and there should be plenty of parking.

#### Arcadia Book Sales

We received our first commission check for \$645.96 and earned another \$347.82 that they are holding for 3 months in case there are returns. Our commission is actually smaller than we expected since it is only 8% of the price they are bought from Arcadia not a percent of the 21.99 selling price. We have sold about 300 books ourselves for which we make a profit of about \$10 each. We have an inventory of about 200 books to sell. Books are always avail-

able at the Township building or by calling 215-343-9239. There will be an ad in the Winter Township newsletter to promote purchasing the book from use as a holiday gift.

### NEWS:

#### New Members

Charles Cadwallader Jr - Family  
James Howard Cadwallader - Senior  
Jennifer Gilbert - Individual

#### Dues

It's that time of year again. We are asking you to continue your support of the Warrington Historical Society by renewing your membership for 2010.

#### Donations

Warrington Women's Club sent us a donation of \$100.  
Prudential Insurance Company gave us a grant for \$1,000 in recognition of Ken Samen's time volunteering.

#### Property News:

- The Neshaminy Inn (aka Old Time Hotel) was sold last year. Plans for the property were just announced. The hotel will be demolished. Some of the stone will be used to build one of the new buildings that will be used as a restaurant. There will also be a beer distributor.
- The Penrose property located at 213 Easton Rd was sold. There is a proposal for a shopping center, offices, hotel and housing. The 1749 house is shown in the development plans but it's status has not been confirmed.



## Charles Cadwallader Remembers

*Article submitted by Mary Roth based on letter received from Charles Cadwallader.*

*Member Charles Cadwallader who lives in Tallahassee FL has many memories of his years in Warrington and has been kind enough to share some of them with us.*

Charles Cadwallader was born September 14, 1917 at his grandparent's farmhouse in Warrington. The house still stands at 2796 Bristol Road. His mother, Sadie Ruth Cadwallader, taught at the Warrington Schoolhouse, which still stands at 2524 Bristol Road and now is a Gift Shop. In 1915, she was the first recording secretary of the newly formed Warrington Woman's Club. His father and aunt were birth members of the Horsham Meeting and they were the only Friends in the township. The farm consisted of 69 acres at that time. Charles remembers when the

*Sadie Ruth Cadwallader is the teacher (left) of Warrington School 1913 class.*

original red barn and silo burned down in 1925-26 and neighbors pitched in and helped rebuild the barn. There was a combined Wagon house/Woodshed and a thriving orchard. The pond is still there that produced ice that was stored in the combined Icehouse/Springhouse. He also remembers the Sears catalogue in the outhouse! They had Holstein and Jersey cows on the farm as well as several thoroughbred horses his aunt rode.

He went to Warrington Schoolhouse and remembers teachers Miss Kline and Miss Bieber. Bristol Rd. was gravel and in the winter when snow drifts blocked the road the farmers would detour through their fields. His little world was the triangle of Holbert's general store and Post Office, to Tradesville, to Doylestown and return on Easton Road. He remembers his Aunt taking him to Willow Grove park to hear Sousa. He also remembers that in 1931 the

trolley stopped running and the Delaware canal ceased operation.

After Charles' father passed away in 1926, his mother taught at the Tradesville Schoolhouse which also still stands on Lower State Rd. and is a private residence in Doylestown township. In 1928 his mother married Walter Dubree and they all moved to Phoenix, Arizona. Walter Dubree had lived at the home which is now located at 2841 Bristol Rd.

Before and during World War II Charles returned to Warrington on several occasions. He remembers the Bonner house which he identified as the clubhouse at the Warrington Golf Club and the Hault house which was across a meadow from the Bonner house. There were high tension power lines that ran between the 2 houses. He was told that revolutionary soldiers camped in that meadow. We have identified the Gaunt home through pictures he sent as 2288 Oakfield Drive.



# Feature History

Written by Ken Samen

Information as to the formation of Warrington Township is scarce. *THE HISTORY OF BUCKS COUNTY*, by J. D. Battle. Philadelphia, PA, 1887, states that, "In 1734 Warrington was laid out without the usual novitiate experience." Per *THE HISTORY OF BUCKS COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA*, by William Watts Hart Davis, A. M. Doylestown, PA 1876 Second Edition, Revised, 1905 "Our knowledge of the organization of the township is very limited, and the little that we know not very satisfactory. The records of our courts are almost silent on the subject. It is interesting to know the preliminary steps taken by a new community toward municipal government, and the trials they encounter before

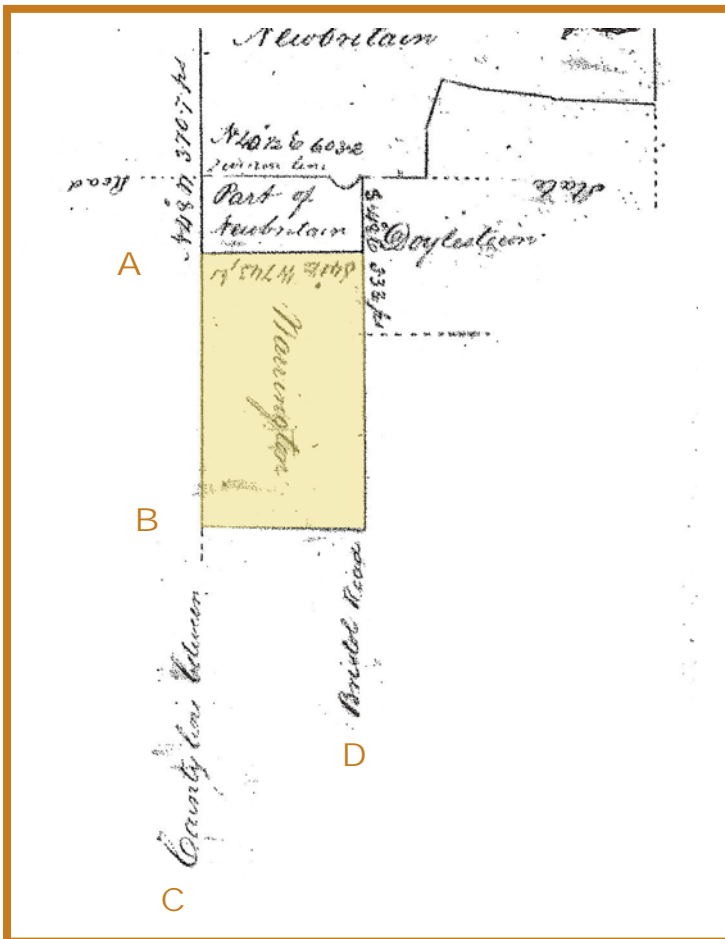
their wish is gratified. But in the case of Warrington we know nothing of the movement of her citizens to be clothed with township duties and responsibilities. At the October session, 1734, (Oct. 7th 1734) the following is entered of record: "Ordered that the land above and adjoining to Warminster township shall be a township, and shall be called Warrington." Some of the holders of Warrington Township land in 1734 were William Allen, John and Robert Nailor, Andrew Long, Joseph Paul, Mathias Lukens, John Jones, Robert Miller, Charles Tennant [Tennent], Daniel Pritchard, The London Company, and The Proprietaries. Amazingly some of the property that was held by Joseph Paul in 1734 (purchased in 1727) was owned by direct descendents until June 2009.

The original borders of the township contained the area between Lower State Rd, Bristol Rd, Valley Rd, and County Line Rd, and consisted of 5,397 acres or 8.43 square miles. Prior to 1850 the East corner of Tradesville and the center of Eureka was actually part of New Britain Township, as Warrington's border ended at Bristol and Lower State Rds.

On Feb. 8th 1850, the Northwest boundary was extended from just above Lower State Rd to Upper State Rd, adding 1500 acres or 2.34 square miles to the township.

On Sept. 11th 1850, the boundaries of the township were again expanded. As a result the township line left Bristol Rd and followed Turk Rd to the North, forming an elbow up into Doylestown ending at the Neshaminy Creek.

On Sept 20th 1852, some of this newly acquired land was re-evaluated for the township of Doylestown to govern. Currently the size of the township is 8,812.8 acres or 13.77 sq. mi.



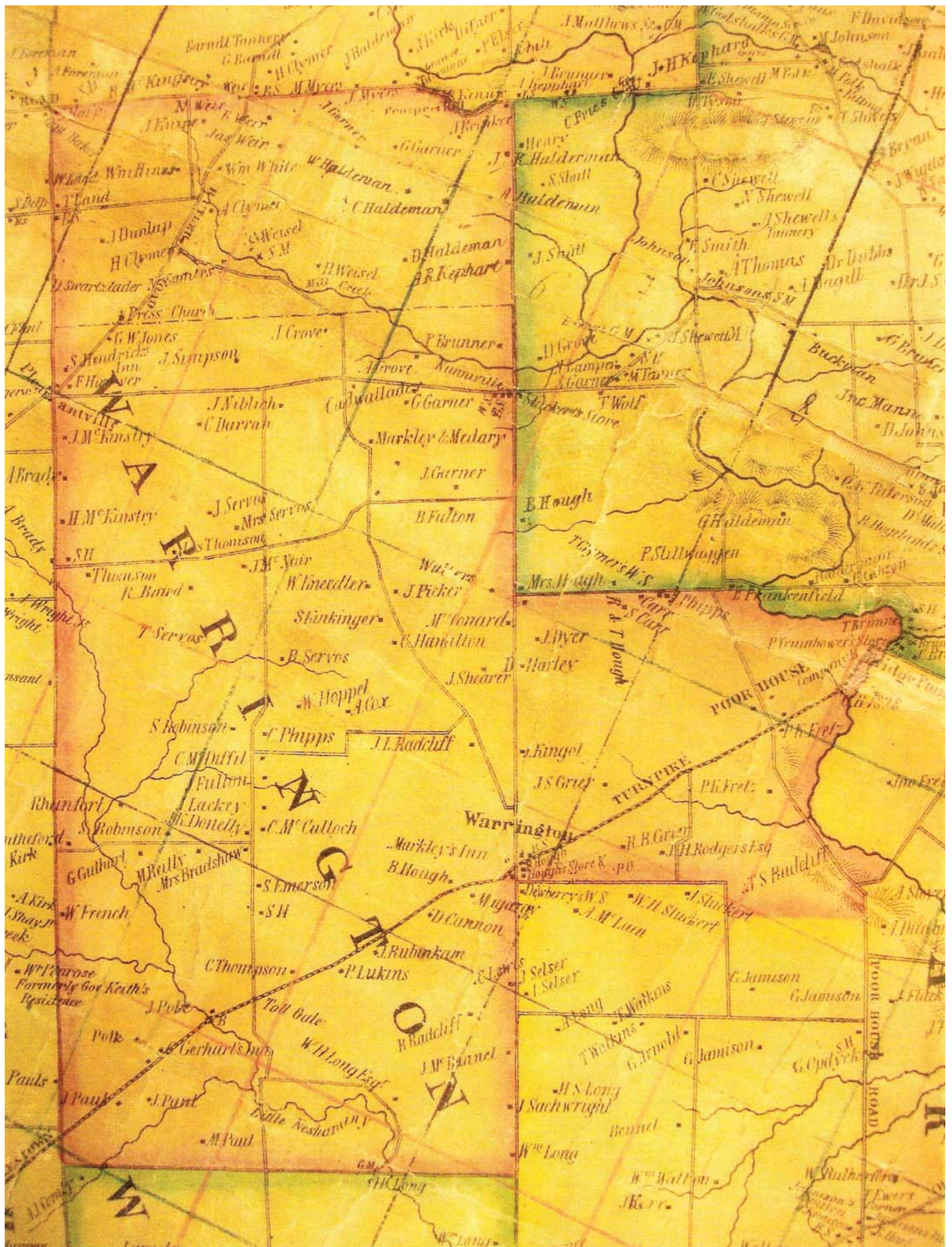
The original boundaries of Warrington (shaded area). A=Lower State Rd., B=Valley Rd., C=County Line Rd., D= Bristol Rd. 1850 boundary expansion to Upper State Road shown in area marked "Part of Arbitration."



**Happy 275th  
Anniversary  
Warrington  
Township**

**Established October 1734**





Map of Warrington from late 1850s. Pink shaded area shows Warrington at it's largest size.



# Penrose Auction Purchases!

We were able to purchase some Warrington historical items at the recent auction held at the Penrose Property. Several are shown here. We hope to eventually house these at the Folly Road Schoolhouse.



GRAIN CLEANER - All wood and assembled with wooden dowels. Similar samples found online date it from the 1870s to the 1900s. (This is big... 3 feet by 4 feet by 4 feet)



Four wooden folding chairs. The bottoms of the chairs are labeled "W. T. F CO. Penrose" (Warrington Township Fire Company)



Following items were also acquired but not shown here: A large wooden box with pulleys, chains and farm animal accessories.

25 8 x10 Black and White photographs of Easton Road and Street Road from 1963. They were taken right before the roads were expanded from 2 to 4 lanes. Included are pictures of the Easton Road and Street Road bridges and a picture of the demolition of the Worthington Neshaminy General Store.

Assorted Penrose papers, including family history and drawings of property line changes when Easton Road and 611 were expanded.

In addition, Ken Samen purchased, with the intention of donating to the Society, the following 19th century farming tools: a hay rake, a hay saw, a hay bail carrying handle and a scythe. These are all tools that were used by the Penroses to care for and tend to the farm.

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*Any member of the Warrington Historical Society can submit work to be published in the Newsletter. Personal stories, pictures, or history of the township should be submitted to our email address at: [warringtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:warringtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com), or mailed to the society at P.O. BOX 706, Warrington PA, 18976. It is the society's goal to produce this newsletter quarterly. But we can only do this with everyone's input.*

*This issue's publisher is Kathy Newcomb.*