



### 14 - NUMBER 142 PENN AVENUE

Milton Walker built this home in 1895 for Elizabeth Passmore, a widowed philanthropist & community leader. Mrs. Passmore was strongly opposed to drinking alcohol; she was a leader of Oxford's chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. She also was an ardent suffragist who fought for women's right to vote. The house is Colonial Revival

in style. It shows the balanced symmetry, hipped roof and rounded portico of this style.

*\* Proceed down Hodgson to Locust, cross Locust to stop #15.*



### 15 - NUMBER 47 WEST LOCUST STREET

Built in 1732-1740, this colonial stone house was originally the property of William Hill, then became part of the Dickey properties. The Dickeys were prominent citizens in early Oxford. Read the "Dickey Family, & the Growth of Oxford & Hopewell" by John Bradley for more information on this once prominent family. *\* View the house next door.*

### 16 - NUMBER 39 WEST LOCUST STREET

This is an example of a Sears Roebuck Home, ordered from the catalog & sent to the site as a complete package. Hattie & Douglas Brinton had this house erected in 1915. *\* Return up Locust St. to Ware Drive. Look across the Street at stop #17.*



### 17 - THE OXFORD RESEARCH CLUB

In 1894 a group of local women got together to share learning & travel experiences. The club assumed the name Research Club when it decided to study arts, music, literature, and current scientific & political events, conducting "research" into these subjects. The club building was built, with the help of J.H. Ware II. Money for furnishings & maintenance required many fund-raising events & building rentals, though the building was often donated free for charitable events. It is now home to the Oxford Senior Center.

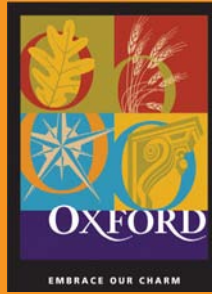
*\* This is your final stop. Proceed up Locust St. & turn left at Western Terrace. Follow Western Terrace until you see Oxford Memorial Park and the parking lot.*



### THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING.

For a more detailed description of each of these homes or to participate in other tours in Oxford & its surrounding area, log on to [www.oxfordpa.org](http://www.oxfordpa.org) for the Covered Bridge Tour, the Herrs Factory Tour & Children Stroll Through Historic Oxford, PA, a companion to this brochure.

After completing this tour, visit our downtown for shopping and refreshments.



*Set in the gentle hills of Chester County's southwestern corner, Oxford is a vibrant community that has served as the social and economic center of its region for more than two and one half centuries.*

*The nucleus of the village was created in 1754, when a Presbyterian Church was established to serve the many Scotch-Irish families living on neighboring farms. In that same year an enterprising businessman named John Hayes followed by his son-in-law Walter Hood opened a tavern near the church to serve folks who traveled the several roads that intersected at the location that eventually became Oxford.*

**The Historic Oxford Walking Tour would not be possible without the support of the following organizations.**



23 South Third St.  
PO Box 4, Oxford  
610-932-0740  
[www.oxfordpa.org](http://www.oxfordpa.org)



Oxford Historic Commission  
401 Market Street  
Oxford, PA



Oxford Area Historic Association  
PO Box 355  
610-932-2888  
[www.oaha.org](http://www.oaha.org)

# HISTORIC WALKING TOUR



# OXFORD

P E N N S Y L V A N I A



1

1. \*Enter Ware driveway from Locust St. Turn left on Wessex Lane & immediately right into Mansion Circle.

## 1 - THE WARE MANSION

Built by Milton Walker, a notable builder of Oxford in the 1880s and 90s, as a residence for the Rev. Bingham. John H. Ware Jr. purchased the mansion & all the land south of Mt. Vernon Street. Legend has it that Mr. Ware had a falling out with his neighbors and moved the house, via train tracks across W. Lancaster Ave. to this present location in 1932. The mansion & 26 acres of ground were conveyed to Presbyterian Homes, Inc. around 1958. \*Exit Mansion Circle, turn left on Wessex Lane & turn right onto Ware Drive. At Locust Street turn left and then left onto Western Terrace. Stop at #2.



2

## 2 - NUMBER 45 WESTERN TERRACE

Built in 1895 by Milton Walker, this house shows a unique mix of Colonial Revival & Queen Anne styles. Turrets, bays & every type of window imaginable favor the older Queen Anne. The box-like porch with columns & bas-relief festoons between the second & third floors & around the porch illustrate the emerging Colonial Revival style. \*Proceed down Western Terrace and around the sharp bend by the park. Make a left turn onto Second Street and another left onto West Lancaster Avenue (Rte. 472). Here you will find parking so that you can continue the tour on foot.



3

## 3 - NUMBER 85 PINE STREET

Built in the 1890s, this elaborate Victorian home is an outstanding example of the Queen Anne style, an American imitation of an English country house. The house has features such as an asymmetrical facade, steep pitched roofs, fanciful turrets, & elaborate woodwork inside & out. \*Walk down the east side of Pine Street back towards town to stop #4.

## 4 - NUMBER 61 PINE STREET

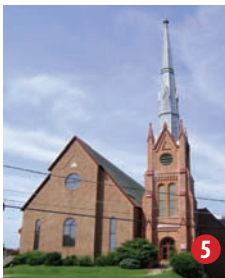
This early Victorian house illustrates the Carpenter Gothic style, popular from 1840 to 1880. Gothic homes have steep roofs with prominent central gable resembling a large upside down V. These houses were built for large families & often had rooms for servants. In the rear was a carriage shed with a stable area for a horse & an upper storage room for hay & feed. \*Walk south to the Green. Stop at the corner of Lancaster Avenue & Third Street. Stay here and read about stop #5.



4

## 5 - OXFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Originally worshipping on The Green in a log cabin, as the congregation grew this eventually led to the construction of the large Gothic Sanctuary across Pine Street (rebuilt in 1980's.) The Green was also the site of Oxford's first burial ground. In 1856, a new cemetery was established in a quieter spot on the edge of town, & the graves were disinterred & moved for reburial. \*Walk to Third Street, cross at intersection and go to stop #6



5

## 6- THE MASONIC BUILDING

After the death of Samuel Dickey, his wife Jennie Dickey, tore down what used to be the old farmer's market and replaced it in 1894 with a commercial building that housed retail stores, professional offices, and the meeting room of Oxford's Masonic Lodge. The Lodge built its own new brick structure on North Third St. in 1965.

\*Walk right to corner of Market & Third St.



6

## 7 - OXFORD HOTEL

"X" marks the spot where it all began. At this intersection of several old Indian trails that became roads, Haye's Tavern, built in 1754 was established for travelers who needed a place to rest and eat. It was renamed Hood's Tavern soon after. In 1853, the old log tavern was torn down & replaced with a new brick building. It is the core of the structure you see today, which has been enlarged & enhanced over the years. The building, renamed "Oxford Hotel," is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. \*Walk down Market Street past the firehouse to the railroad tracks.



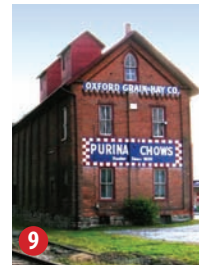
7



8

## 8 - OXFORD TRAIN STATION

Built in 1902 to replace an earlier station that stood across the tracks, this was originally the Oxford Station of the old Philadelphia & Baltimore Central Railroad. It is presently occupied by the Oxford Borough Hall. \* You should now walk down the left side of Railroad Street (by the parked cars) and proceed to the Oxford Feed & Lumber Company.



9

## 9 - OXFORD GRAIN & HAY

The main building is located along the tracks and built in 1880. Oxford Grain & Hay is the oldest business in Oxford. The granary 2½-stories, 10 bays deep, it has a gable roof 2 centered grain elevators, & storage compartments to hold grain until it is shipped to the gristmill. The building has a foundation of rough field stone & a decorative brick exterior that masks an interior crowded with shafts, pulleys, gears and other mechanisms used to move grain to the holding bins. It's a good example of the post-Civil War commercialization & mechanization of agriculture. \* You should now walk up the left side of Railroad Street (by the parked cars) & proceed up Market St. to Third St.



10

## 10 - OXFORD HALL

The large square building on the corner was originally named Oxford Hall. It was built in 1864 for \$18,000 by builders Thomas Sloan & Nathaniel Hudders for the Oxford Hall Association, a group of civic-minded business leaders led by Samuel Dickey. It was designed to provide community services for the

growing town of Oxford. \*Cross at the corner intersection. Turn left and walk down Third Street. to the building with the clock.



11

## 11 - DICKEY BUILDING

Built in 1868 by John M. C. Dickey, a lawyer & investor. The handsome building, enlarged by the bank, is further evidence of Oxford's growth out from its center. Notice the striking architectural similarity among the Dickey Building, Oxford Hall & the Oxford Hotel. Previously occupied by People's Bank, (1913-2004) it now houses National Penn Bank \* Walk down Third Street to the corner of Third and Hodgson Street.

## 12 - NANTICOKE TRAIL (THIRD STREET)

This route was used by Nanticoke Indians for north-south travel from the Poconos to the Chesapeake Bay. Another name for the route in the early 1800's was Limestone Road, as farmers brought crushed limestone from quarries north of here to spread on their fields. Chester County was a national leader in agricultural innovation in those years. \*Stay here and look across the street at stop #13.

## 13- THE OXFORD ELECTRIC LIGHT & POWER COMPANY

Mr. J.W. Bowman started a generating plant in his store & began selling electricity to neighboring shops. Soon a substantial plant was needed & built here in 1893. Notice the date plaque above. People were glad to escape the fire and explosion hazards of gas & kerosene lighting, for the perceived cleanliness & safety of electricity. For a while homes built in the 1800s & early 1900s had dual lighting facilities of gas & electricity. Remodeling older homes often reveals ancient gas pipes \* Continue down Hodgson St. to corner of Penn Ave.



13

