

Summary Information

Title: Chester County Architecture Collection

Collection Number: Photo/DN136

Creator: Dr. Richard J. Webster, PhD.

Collection Dates: 1978-2004

Extent: 1177 color slides

Language: The collection is in English

Repository:

Chester County Historical Society

225 N. High St.

West Chester, PA 19380

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2018

Author:

Pamela Powell, photo archivist

Inventory by Mary Painter, CCHS volunteer

Administrative/Biographical History

Background Note: The color slides were taken by Dr. Richard Webster PhD., Professor of History and American Studies at West Chester University of Pennsylvania from 1967-2004. He was the Director of the American Studies Program and served as department chairman for four terms. Webster took the slides of local Chester County architecture for use in the classroom and for public lectures at the Chester County Historical Society and elsewhere. During summer breaks he worked as a consultant architectural historian for architectural projects in southeastern Pennsylvania. Webster also served on the Board of the Chester County Historical Society for 8 years during the 1980s and from 2000-2005.

Scope and content

The collection is organized in two parts, West Chester and Chester County architecture.

The slides of West Chester feature the earliest and most distinctive buildings in the Borough as well as examples of modern additions, such as diners and fast food restaurants. Some of the architects featured include: Thomas U. Walter, T. Roney Williamson, Addison Hutton, R. Brognard Okie, Duhring & Okie, Baker & Dallet, Thomas Bateman, Ralph Minnick, Charles P. Walker, York & Sawyer and Young & Schultze. It includes homes on Church, Franklin, Barnard, Biddle, Brandywine, Darlington, Dean, Everhart, Hannum, Marshall, Matlack, Miner, Penn, Price, Rosedale, Washington, Walnut and Union Streets. Includes businesses, fire departments, courthouse and churches on High, Gay and Market Streets.

The slides of Chester County architecture include notable residences constructed between 1700 and the 1890s. Some buildings include: Downingtown Log House, Brinton 1704 House, Barns-Brinton House, Caleb Pusey House, William Miller House in Avondale, Gilpin House, John Chadds House, Daniel Hoopes House, Humphry Marshall House, Primitive Hall, Samul Nutt House, Waynesborough and many others. Some of these structures are now in Delaware County,

Selected Search Terms

Corporate terms

Chester County Courthouse (West Chester, Pa.)
Chestnut Street Friends School (West Chester, Pa.)
Christian Science Church (West Chester, Pa.)
Church Farm School (W. Whiteland, Pa.)
Church of the Holy Trinity (West Chester, Pa.)
First Baptist Church (West Chester, Pa.)
First Methodist Church (West Chester, Pa.)
First Presbyterian Church (West Chester, Pa.)
First West Chester Fire Company No. 1 (West Chester, Pa.)
French Creek Boarding School (E. Pikeland Twp., PA)
Fuggett Middle School (West Chester, Pa.)
Goshen Baptist Church (W. Goshen Twp., Pa.)
High Street Friends Meeting (West Chester, Pa.)
High Street Public School (West Chester, Pa.)
Hopewell Academy (Hopewell, Pa.)
West Chester Public Library (West Chester, Pa.)

Topics

Apartments – West Chester (Pa.)
Architecture – Chester County (Pa.)
Banks -- West Chester (Pa.)
Churches -- West Chester (Pa.)
Diners -- West Chester (Pa.)
Dwellings – Chester County (Pa.)
Dwellings – Delaware County (Pa.)
Dwellings – West Chester (Pa.)
Fire Departments -- West Chester (Pa.)
Furnaces – Chester County (Pa.)
Hotels & taverns – Chester County (Pa.)
Libraries -- West Chester (Pa.)
Motion picture Theatres -- West Chester (Pa.)
Parking garages -- West Chester (Pa.)
Post offices -- West Chester (Pa.)
Schools -- West Chester (Pa.)
Streets -- West Chester (Pa.)
Synagogues -- West Chester (Pa.)

Geographic terms

Chester County, Pennsylvania
West Chester, Pennsylvania

Personal contributors

Webster, Richard J., photographer

Arrangement

The slides are in the original order created by the photographer. The West Chester slides are organized by Street name and subdivided by property name. The Chester County slides are organized by architectural type and subdivided by property name.

Access and Use

Slides can be viewed on a light table with staff assistance until they are digitized.

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated by Richard Webster on April 28, 2017 and October 24, 2018.

Preferred Citation

The Richard J. Webster Chester County Architecture Collection, Chester County Historical Society, West Chester, PA, DN136.

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Related Material**See Chapter 9 for Richard Webster's essay on architecture**

Miller, Randall and William Pencak, editors. Pennsylvania : A History of the Commonwealth. University Park, PA : Penn State University Press and Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg, PA, 2002.

See Oral History Collection for Dick Webster's lecture in Leonard Sideman's Collection
AC8.3 Architecture of West Chester, 24 September 1985.1

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- 1 slide, Thomas Bell House, ca. 1829, 101 S. Church St., 1981.
- 3 slides, Willauer-Huey House, 106 S. Church St., 1985.
- 2 slides, Scattergood-Barber House, ca. 1877, 109 S. Church St., 1986.
- 2 slides, Dr. Jacob Price House, 112 S. Church St., 1985.

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- 1 slide, 308 S. Walnut St., 1876 Holding House, Robert M. Taylor, builder, 1982
- 2 slides, 309-311 S. Walnut St., 1893 Darlington-Pennypacker House, Robert M. Taylor, builder, 1984
- 1 slide, 311 S. Walnut St. south side, circa 1893 Hanna M. Pennypacker House, Robert M. Taylor, Builder, 1984
- 3 slides, 317-19 S. Walnut St., circa 1880 Brown-Roecker House, photos 1980 & 1984
- 1 slide, 419 S. Walnut St., 1875 Jasper Darlington House, 1984
- 2 slides, 433-35 S. Walnut St., 1874-75 Simon Cranston House and rustic iron fence, Simon Cranston, builder, 1984
- 2 slides, 500-502 W. Walnut St., 1901, detail porch and elliptical window, photos 1985 & 1999

- 1 slide, 502 S. Walnut St .1901 upper stories, 1999
- 2 slides, [flyer houses for sale], E. E. Pierce, photos 1985 & 1986
- 1 slide, 600 block S, Walnut Houses, 1999

Bin 29: Walnut Street

- 1 slide, 501-503 S. Walnut Houses, 1984
- 2 slides, 527 S. Walnut St., 1981
- 4 slides 612-614 W. Walnut St., photos 1981 & 1999
- 9 slides, 636 S. Walnut St., 1902 Matson-[Frances Harvey] Green House, photos 1982, 1983 & 1984
- 1 slide, Walnut St. below Washington, c 1850 Haines Planing Mill, aka The Hatchery, 1985
- 1 slide, 403-405 N. Walnut St., c 1871/1873-4 Thatcher-Brinton/Speakman Houses, 1985
- 1 slide, 411-413/419-21 N. Walnut St., 1871 Parry-Howard/Travilla-Temple Houses, 1985
- 1 slide, 541 N. Walnut, 1987

Bin 30: Virginia Ave.

- 4 slides, NE corner Virginia Ave. and Church St., Stephen Paxon Darlington House 1881,
T. Roney Williamson architect, 1984.
- 3 slides, 100 Virginia Ave., 1882 Helen Thomas House, Frank Furness, architect, 1985.
- 1 slide, 121 W. Virginia Ave., 1871 Chestnut Knoll, Samuel J. Parker House, Addison Hutton
Architect, 1981
- 1 slide, 200-202 W. Virginia Ave., 1884 Mary Biddle House II, Rotch & Tilden architects, 1981.
- 2 slides, 205 W. Virginia Ave., 1873 Captain Cornwell House, Addison Hutton, architect, 1981
- 2 slides, 221 W. Virginia Ave., 1871 Waddell-Pinkerton House, Addison Hutton, architect, 1981

BOX #2 – Chester County Architecture

See diagram in lid of box for the order of the bins, they run left to right, *from back to front.*

Bin 1 – 17th century

1 slide, 1 sketch of slide, Prospect Park, Pa., circa 1650/c.1698/18th century Morton Homestead, 1984

6 slides, Upland, Pa. c 1682/c 1700, before 1730 Caleb Pusey House, photos 1984 & 1985

19 slides, Broomall, Pa., Marple Twp., Delaware County, 1696, 1731, 1860 Thomas Massey House, photos 1978, 1986 & 1994

Bin 2 – Mendenhall House

15 slides, Concordville, circa 1730 Mendenhall House 1986

Bin 3 – Richard Woodward/William Brinton Houses

21 slides, Dilworthtown, Birmingham Twp., Delaware County, William Brinton 1704 House photos, 1980, 1986, 1990, 1993

4 slides, Thornbury Twp., circa 1700/mid-18th century Richard Woodward House, 1986

Bin 4 – early 1700s

1 slide, Chester County, Kennett Twp., Abraham Taylor House, 2003

3 slides, Plumsock Rd., Willistown Twp., 1703-8/c 1780 Yarnall-Hibberd House, 1985

1 slide, 615 Bollinger Road, West Nantmeal Twp., 1765/1927 Stoltzfus House 1985

4 slides, Brinton Bridge Road, Pennsbury Twp., circa 1715 William Harvey House, 1985

Bin 5 – Abiah Taylor House

14 slides, East Bradford Twp., 1724 Abiah Taylor House. 1985, 1998, 1999

Bin 6 – Barnes-Brinton House

22 slides, Chadds Ford, Pennsbury Twp., Chester County, c 1720 Barnes-Brinton House, photos 1965, 1985, 1986 & 1992

Bin 7 – John Chadds House

22 slides, Chadds Ford., Birmingham Twp., Delaware County, circa 1725 John Chadds House photos 1985, 1986 & 1997

Bin 8 – Collins Mansion/Hoopes House

10 slides, West Goshen Twp., Chester County, 1727/1760 Collins Mansion, 1985

8 slides, Westtown Twp. Chester County, 1723 Daniel Hoopes House, Tanguy, 1986

Bin 9 – Gilpin House

18 slides, Birmingham Twp., Delaware County, circa 1700/1745 Gilpin House, photos 1979, 1985, 1986 & 1993

Bin 10 – Wm. Miller House

9 slides, Avondale, 1730/1771 William Miller House, 1985

Bin 11 – Primitive Hall

19 slides, Chatham, Chester County, Pa, Primitive Hall, 1738 Joseph Pennock House, photos 1984 & 1986

Bin 12 – Pusey House/Pyle House

5 slides, London Grove Twp., Chester County, 1728/c.1740/c.1850 Pusey House, William Pusey builder, 1985

2 slides, E. Marlborough Twp., Chester County, 1734 Pyle House, 1985

Bin 13 - Waynesborough

26 slides, Paoli, Easttown Twp., 1735/1792 Waynesborough, 1984/5

Bin 14 – Taylor-Parke/New Halfway House Tavern/4 bay house

3 slides, East Bradford Twp., Strasburg Rd. (Rt.162), E. Bradford Twp. Chester County, Taylor-Parke House, 1985/89

4 slides, Chatham. London Grove Twp., Chester County, circa 1763 New Half-Way House Tavern, 1985

1 slide, Wollaston Road, East Marlborough Twp., Chester County, 1985

1 slide, Willowdale, Pa., East Marlborough Twp., Chester County, 1985

5 slides, 1796 house, W. Whiteland Twp., 1984

Bin 15 – Baldwin-Sharpless/Downing/Mendenhall-Valentine/Humphry Marshall Houses

5 slides, East Caln Twp., Chester County, early 18th century/circa 1755/circa 1810 Baldwin-Sharpless House, 1985

4 slides, Bell Tavern Road, East Caln Twp., circa 1740 Downing House, 1985

4 slides, Caln Twp., Chester County, Mendenhall-Valentine House, circa 1768 bays by Robert Valentine and son, circa 1790, west wing 1721 built by Aaron Mendenhall, 1985

6 slides, Marshallton, W. Bradford Twp., Chester County, 1773 Humphry Marshall House, 1985

Bin 16 – Mt. Pleasant/Vodges House

8 slides, Bulltown - Mt. Pleasant, E. Nantmeal Twp., Chester County, circa 1785 Thomas Bull House, 1985

4 slides, Willistown Twp., Chester County, circa 1795/early 19th century Jacob Vodges House, 1985

Bin 17 – Rogers Hoopes House

7 slides, 1021 Fernhill Rd., West Goshen Twp., c.1807/c1815 Rogers-Hoopes House, 1985

1 slide, 937 Pottstown Pike, West Goshen Twp., 1820/1859 Lowndes Taylor Barn, 1993

Bin 18 – George Brinton House

8 slides, Birmingham Twp., Chester County, 1831 George Brinton House, 1990

8 slides, Thornbury Twp., Chester County, Woodward Farmhouse, 1997

Bin 19 - Downingtown

- 2 slides, Downingtown Log House, 1992
- 1 slide, Downingtown, circa 1710 Thomas Downing Cabin, 1985
- 2 slides, 11 Park Lane, before 1798 Downing House, 1992
- 2 slides, Downingtown, 1729/later Thomas Moore House, 1992
- 3 slides, 330 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, Pa., 1800 William A. Todd House, 1992
- 4 slides, 429 E. Lancaster Av., Downingtown, circa 1815 George Fair lamb House, 1992
- 4 slides, 425 E. Lancaster Ave, Downingtown, circa 1830 John Webster House, 1992
- 4 slides, 427 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, circa 1830 Richard Webster House, 1992
- 1 slide, 217-19 Brandywine Ave., Downingtown, serpentine double house, 1978
- 1 slide, farmhouse near Downingtown, 1985

Bin 20 – Frame houses

- 2 slides, Coventryville, South Coventry Twp., circa 1717/c.1750/c.1800 Samuel Nutt House, 1985
- 3 slides, Downingtown, early 18th century Parke House, 1985
- 5 slides, West Marlborough Twp., Chester County, Early 18th century Plank House, 1985

Bin 21 – One-third Georgian

- 1 slide, Street & Lambortown Roads, West Marlborough Twp., Chester County, Pa., 1796 house, 1985
- 2 slides, 28 Marlborough Rd., Willistown Twp., Chester County 1835 house, 1985
- 1 slide, 909 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, 1992
- 1 slide, Unionville, Chester County, Pa., 1989
- 1 slide, Corrine Rd., 0.4 mi., off Northbrook Rd., Chester County, Akehurst House, 1985
- 1 slide, W. Hetherington House near West Chester, Pa., 1967
- 1 slide, Avondale, Chester County, early 19th century William Miller Tenant House, 1985
- 3 slides, Lambortown Rd., West Marlborough Twp., Chester County, 1730/later house, 1985
- 3 slides, 339 Lambortown Rd., London Grove Twp., West Grove, Pa., Lofting House, 1840/later 1999
- 2 slides, West Grove, Pa, Buttonwood Farm, c 1800/c1890 Farm House, Robert Moorhead, owner, quoins at addition joint, 19

Bin 22 – two-thirds Georgian

- 1 slide, Kimberton Rd., Royal Spring Bridge, Kimberton, 1986
- 3 slides, SE c. Kimberton & Hare's Hill Rds., E. Pikeland Twp., Chester County, Pa., [date stone 1796] Chrisman Mill, 1986
- 1 slide, Hare's Hill Road, Chester County, Hare's Hill Road, house before 1802, photo 1986
- 2 slides, Hare's Hill Road, Kimberton, E. Pikeland Twp. Chester, County, 1838 Vanderslice House, 1986
- 2 slides, Prizer Road, Kimberton, circa 1881 Anna M. Moore House, 1986
- 1 slide, Kimberton Rd., Kimberton, circa 1878 Peter Stiteler House, 1986
- 1 slide, NW c. Kimberton & Hare's Hill East Pikeland Twp., c 1768 Black Bear Tavern, Kimberton, 1986
- 1 slide, E. Pikeland Twp., Kimberton, Chester County, circa 1787/circa 1812/1818 French Creek Boarding School for Girls, Kimberton, 1986

- 1 slide, Kimberton Rd., Late 18th century Kimberton Blacksmith Shop, 1986
- 1 slide, Kimberton, 1888 Patriotic Order of Sons of America, now Grange Hall P.O.H. #1304
1986
- 1 slide, Prizer Road, c 1875/c 1907 Francis Feed Store, Kimberton, converted to dwelling, 1986
- 1 slide, Kimberton Rd., Kimberton, 1875 Mauger Shop/House, Samuel Mauger, Shoemaker,
1986
- 1 slide, Pickering Valley Railroad, Kimberton, circa 1919 Milk Receiving Station in 1910, photo
1986
- 1 slide, Kimberton [house], 1985

Bin 23 – single pile houses

- 1 slide, Rt. 113, E. Pikeland Twp., Chester County, Single-Pile House, 1986
- 1 slide, 915 E. Lancaster Ave., East Caln Twp., Chester County, 1985
- 1 slide, Rt. 401, 0.2 mi. s. of Rt. 841. Chatham, Single-Pile House, 1985
- 2 slides, Nantmeal Rd., South Coventry Twp., Coventryville, Single-Pile House, 1986
- 1 slide, Reading Furnace Rd., Warwick Twp., Chester County, Pa., 1993
- 1 slide, NW corner. Rtes. 52 & 926, E. Marlborough Twp., Chester County, Pa., 1985
- 2 slides, Easttown Twp., Chester County, Pa. Wayne Tenant House, 1991

Bin 24 – Early 19th century houses

- 1 slide, Davis House, Greenwood Farm circa 1800, Tredyffrin Twp., 1987
- 4 slides, Pa. Rt 926, Thornbury Twp., Chester County, circa 1800 Thomas Darlington House,
1995
- 1 slide, US Rt. 30, Exton, Pa. 1796 house now Jefferson Bank, 1992
- 3 slides, N. Coventry Twp., Chester County, Pa., circa 1840/1852 wing 1852 Hofecker House,
1994
- 1 slide, Thornbury Twp., Chester County, Rt. 926, circa 1800 Thomas Darlington House, 1995
- 2 slides, Embreeville, Newlin Twp., Chester County, 1841 J. C. Hayes House, 1985
- 1 slide, stone house, Embreeville, 1985.
- 1 slide, East Marlborough Twp., Chester County, House, 1985
- 1 slide, unidentified, house, 1985
- 4 slides, London Grove Twp., circa 1700/1843 Morriseianna, 1985
- 4 slides, Pennsbury Twp., Chester County, Pa. US Route 1, 1985
- 1 slide, Northbrook, Pocopson Twp., Chester County Rt 842 & Northbrook Rd. unidentified
house, 1985
- 1 slide, East Bradford Twp., Wawaset, Chester County, Rt 8421/15 South Bridge Rd.,
unidentified house, 1985
- 1 slide, 1055 Brinton's Bridge Rd., Pennsbury Twp., Chester County, unidentified house,
1985
- 2 slides, Thornbury Twp., Delaware Co., PA. Unidentified house, 2004

Bin 25 – Pennsylvania Farm Houses

- 1 slide, Nottingham Rd. Little Britain, Pa., Farm House, 1984
- 2 slides, Glenroy, Pa., Rt. 272, Farm House, 1984
- 2 slides, Hickory Hill Rd., Pennsbury Twp., Chester County, 1985
- 1 slide, Westtown Twp., Chester County, Crebilly Farm, 1977

Bin 26 - Mills

4 slides Hunt-Pollock Mill, circa 1752, Race St., Downingtown, 1985

6 slides, Thomas Mill 1774/circa1800, Willistown, 1985

1 slide, Pusey Mill 18th century/brick infill added in 1975, Woodview Rd., London Grove Twp., 1985

Bin 27 – Inns & Taverns

4 slides, Cross Keys Tavern circa 1720/before 1745, NW corner Routes 272 & 42, Chrome, E. Nottingham Twp., 1989

1 slide, Square Tavern 1743, Newtown Street and Goshen Rd., Newtown Twp., Delaware County, PA, 1987

2 slides, William Penn Inn, West Chester Pike, Edgemont, 1972.

1 slide, Darlington Tavern 1823, Darlington corners, Westtown Twp., 1987

12 slides, Dilworthtown Inn, Dilworthtown, Birmingham Twp., 1975

3 slides, King in Arms Inn 1761, 463 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, 1992

1 slide, Inn at Yellow Springs, E. Pikeland Twp., 1995.

Bin 28 - Schools

4 slides, Octagonal School 1819, Birmingham Twp., photos 1979, 1992 & 1997

1 slide, French Creek Boarding School for Girls circa 1787/1812/1818 Kimberton, E. Pikeland Twp., 1986

11 slides, Hopewell Academy circa 1815-20, Hopewell, E. Nottingham Twp., 1989

1 slide, Church Farm School 1904, Glen Loch, W. Whiteland Twp., 1985.

Bin 29 – Churches & Meetinghouses

1 slide, Goshen Baptist Church (original building), West Chester Pike & Strasburg Rd., W. Goshen Twp., 1969.

1 slide, 3073-3083 Baltimore Pike, Hamorton, Kennett Twp., 1980s?

1 slide, 322-30 E. Linden St., Kennett Square, brick row, 1994

3 slides, Jenny Lind Springhouse circa 1840/1994, Historic Yellow Springs, E. Pikeland Twp., photos 1994 & 1995.

Bin 30

3 slides, Washington's Headquarters, Chadds Ford, Brandywine Battlefield, 1985

1 slide, Crebilly Farm, Westtown Twp., 1977

2 slides, Farm near Wawaset, E. Bradford Twp., 1985

1 slide, Barn, Fairmeadows Farm, Birmingham Twp., 1997.

1 slide, stone house, Newlin Twp., 1985.

10 slides, series of unidentified stone houses & barns, 1988