WEST NANTMEAL TOWNSHIP HISTORIC COMMISSION P.O. Box 234 Elverson, Pennsylvania 19520 www.westnantmealhc.org



Welcome to a Walk Through Time......

Lewis Grist and Sawmill, West Nantmeal, PA-Part 2

"Cheer up, Good Times Are Coming,

The leaves are turning to gold: the price of wheat is advancing. By getting your mill in shape **now** for steady work, you will be able to shake hands with success and refuse the flattery of failure.

You can't afford to keep those old dust collectors any longer. They waste such a lot of material, hinder good purification, and keep the mill all in a muss. Of course, we want you to try the Wilson Tubular Dust Collector....."







Yes, the Grist Milling business can be dangerous, too! There have been many serious incidents dating back to the 1900's where some flour mills exploded due to the inherent danger posed by combustible fine dust particles—such as ordinary flour!

Fortunately, the owner of the Lewis Grist Mill ordered and installed a state of the art "Wilson Tubular Collector", with no signs of major explosions in 2023! The rest is all history, and we are blessed to be able to continue renovating the cir-

ca 1762 Grist Mill building in West Nantmeal Township. Fortunately, the remnants of the old Wilson Tubular Dust Collector, still hangs from the attic ceiling. Although worn down through the passing of centuries, it's still proof that this critical safety measure was not overlooked by the Miller.

To be continued.....

Mark your calendar!

Doors! May 18, 2023, 4 PM, St. Mary of Providence Community Room

We use doors every day. Doors make our home functional by providing security and privacy. Do we take them for granted? Come learn about the history of doors of the various styles over the years from our speaker Seth Hinshaw, author of the book *A Field Guide to American Residential Doors*. Seth is an architectural historian with Richard Grubb and Associates and teaches historic preservation classes at Rowan University.



Tidbit (answer on second page)

Isabella Furnace located here in the township was known for producing pig iron, but also took orders for Ten Plate stoves. Why was it called a Ten Plate stove?

Full Circle

The Isabella Stove has come full circle and is back where it was made around

1850. It was purchased some years ago by Ted and Debby Flint while they were the owners of Isabella Furnace. It had traveled many miles from its beginnings in our Township and ended up in Missouri where it was purchased by a Chester County antique dealer. It has had a remarkable journey through time, states, homes, and owners, and has survived the adventure for approximately 175 years. The 10 plate stoves were cast, one piece at a time, and shipped to a stove dealer who assembled and sold the completed stove.



Stop by the township building during business hours and see this wonderful stove that was graciously donated by Mrs. Theodore Flint to the Historical Commission. More research is being done so stay tuned!

Unique West Nantmeal gifts!

Looking for affordable local gifts? West Nantmeal Historical Commission has some unique items. Available during office hours or call 610-286-9722 ext. 18 for other options.

West Nantmeal mugs, green & cream with a local scene\$2.008 pack notecards with local scenes\$4.00Black and white historical calendar photos\$2.00Hidden Township ruins 16 x 20 poster\$20.00

Interested in learning more about West Nantmeal Township?

Please visit our website, westnantmealhc.org, or come to one of our monthly meetings which are held at the Township Building on the second Wednesday of each month at 3:00 PM. (Subject to change; please check our website)

Fall Tour—October 7
🐥 We are planning another joint tour with Wallace Township Historical Commission for the fall. Come 🥳
😤 and meet local folks who will be portraying Revolutionary War, Civil War, Patriots, and women from 🔮
$rac{2}{2}$ our area. We will be hearing their stories while visiting six local cemeteries. More information to $-rac{2}{2}$
★ follow ×
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Tidbit answer That was number of castings needed for the stove's completion.