



# Walking Tour of Historic East Petersburg





## Welcome to East Petersburg, Pennsylvania!

East Petersburg Borough is located three miles northwest of Lancaster, Pennsylvania on the western boundary of Manheim Township and the eastern boundary of East Hempfield Township, within the Hempfield School District. The town takes pride in its extensive park system, which connects one park area to another via bike paths. The community park features basketball & tennis courts, playground, ball fields and even a summer children's program. A pavilion and community center building (with kitchen) is available for use, as well as a community swimming pool. It is easily accessible and a desirable location within Lancaster County to live and work.

One of the most significant aspects of East Petersburg, though, are the unique and historic properties which are to be found among its 1,700 households. In many ways the heart of town has changed little in almost 200 years. The streets of historic Petersburg, some of which you will stroll along today during your tour, date back at least to 1799 (and probably even further) as quiet country roads connecting Lancaster to outlying areas. Please enjoy this walk through East Petersburg's history, and perhaps you will also meet and greet a few of our wonderful residents along the way.

Sincerely,  
The East Petersburg Walking Tour Committee  
Summer 2006



### Tour time:

Allow for approximately forty-five minutes to complete the tour at a reasonable pace. There are 48 points of interest in this guidebook, which are also noted on the map at left.

### Parking

Available along North Pine near the tour begin point. Also, a lot is available next to the firehouse on North Pine at the tour end point, which is only one block from the start.

### Safety:

For safety purposes during your walk please cross all streets when possible at controlled corner intersections. Please do not cross in mid-block areas. Observe and respect private property and stay in public walking areas.



(((PLAN OF)))

# PETERSBURG

Scale 200 feet to 1 inch  
Compiled by C. L. Fulton C. E.



## First, A little history...

As with many small American towns, East Petersburg developed through a combination of entrepreneurial skill and the demands of the times. Three main periods of time can be identified in the town's history: prior to 1812, from 1812 to 1929, and from 1929 to the present day. Let's take a quick look at the people and events who shaped first Petersburg, then East Petersburg.

Homes were present as early as just prior to the American Revolution in 1774. A local man, Benjamin Hershey, was a large land owner who provided space for a log school to be built. From about 1794 until 1812, the schoolmaster was a former Hessian (Germans who fought with the British) soldier named Christian Streng, who had been captured in Trenton NJ on December 26th, 1776 in George Washington's famous raid. He settled here to raise a family. He is known for the art style called "Fraktur" with which he created pieces for locals. The school site was later moved and enlarged to function both as a church and a school, again through the backing of Mr. Hershey, who was a Mennonite but encouraged different forms of Christian worship in his church building. Other landowners in the vicinity were Andrew Hershey, Philip Albert and Peter Gotshall, from whom the name Petersburg is believed to have been derived.

Beginning on April 1, 1791 John Wolf began buying up parcels of land. In 1806 he and his wife sold them to his nephew, Daniel Wolf. By 1812 Daniel had acquired approximately 30 acres in the immediate area on and near what is now State Street. Also, in 1805 Samuel Miller had bought 10 acres along State Street from Samuel Swarr. By 1809 Mr. Miller had begun selling off parcels from his acreage, but the event that is remembered as the official birth date of Petersburg is December 12th, 1812. Six months into the War of 1812 (with the British again), James Madison was President and the nation was still in the early phase of growth and expansion. In October, Pennsylvania had just moved its capital from Lancaster (where it had been since 1799) to Harrisburg. At this time Mr. Wolf turned 14 of his acres into 79 parcels to be sold by lottery. His filing in Lancaster of the deed is noted as "A Plan of Petersburg as Laid Off by Daniel Wolf". For \$150 each, these lots were sold off beginning that December day.

The town plan was bounded on the west by Lemon Street, on the east by Cherry Street (what is now Pine Street), on the north by an alley known as Tank Road and on the south by Ann Street, which is the alley that runs from Lemon to the present Firehouse at Pine Street. Wolf's plan indicated that the Main Square was the intersection of what is now Broad & Main Streets (see map on page 2). On the plan the streets radiating outwards from this square were North, South, East & West Streets, respectively. With no major thruway as there is today, the newly-minted town was likely a relatively quiet one to live in.

From 1812 through the end of the century, Petersburg continued to develop as more residents moved in and set up shop as businesses, churches and other ventures primarily geared around supporting the many farms in the area. In comparing the 1853 and 1875 Atlas maps of the town to the original plan of Daniel Wolf, though, not much had changed. Daniel and his wife, however, had left town in 1814.

Not surprisingly given the early "frontier" status of the area, two of the main products of the early town were tobacco and whiskey. Petersburg was known for its handling of tobacco and the cigars produced here were said to be in great demand. Several local stores also sold these cigars, and two of the tobacco warehouses used are still standing today. The tobacco trade brought many employees into the area to work in the warehouses and other stages in the production process. Four of the better-known tobacco men were Tobias Hershey, A.C. Dietrich, D.W. Graybill and Henry H. Landis. Distilled products were also in great demand and Henry Imhoff was the key business owner in that regard. He operated at least two distilleries in town, one right alongside the main square using the water from the "common" spring located just southwest (you'll visit the site on your tour). This one was notable as it used a dog-powered treadmill to move the water from the well to the distillery. It was a custom of townfolks to take a kettle every Thursday and get yeast at the distillery for their weekly baking. Once a week a trip was made to York to deliver the product, and it took a day to go and one to return.



During the Civil War, locals enlisted in the Union army and a scare was thrown into the local populace when Robert E. Lee's Confederate army pushed to the Susquehanna River in 1863. After the war, the Reading Railroad put in a spur which ran along the line at the west of town, and by 1882 a station was located there at Columbia Avenue (now State) and the town began to grow westward from Lemon.

The streets were still dirt and, at least to one local resident, at times treacherous. On one occasion Mrs. Sarah Burg was walking down State Street to Carpenter Street, which was opened in 1878. She became stuck in the mud. In fact, she was so trapped that she had to wait until someone came along to help her get out. From that time on, she took no chances and carried a lantern when she went out walking!

East Petersburg as a name came into being in 1882 under postmaster Levi H. Gochnauer after years of wrangling with the statewide postal system over confusion arising from other towns in the state with the same name of Petersburg. Since Daniel Wolf's town was most eastward, the addition of "East" was the eventual and official solution.

In 1888 David Gochnauer built the house at 1977 State Street (originally known as Columbia Avenue) which was the first in town to have electric lights and indoor plumbing. It is still there today in excellent condition. Next door at the corner, a store in continuous operation since 1852 by J. Stauffer and Levi Gochnauer would be bought by Haydn Zug and become a restaurant of the same name.

A plank road was laid along Main street for one year, and was promptly worn out by the increasing traffic. It was replaced by a turnpike. On the outskirts of the eastern end of town was a half mile race-course, where every Saturday afternoon races were held which brought hundreds of people to town. Hotels such as the "Captain Lawrence" in Daniel Wolf's old store and Henry Hottenstien's at Main & State were popular for many years. The old Mennonite church and Trinity Reformed Church on Main as well as the Brethren Church and Zion Evangelical on Lemon grew and expanded, while Grace Evangelical was founded in 1878. The main square of the town transitioned to State & Main during this period. The trolley arrived about 1900 and traveled through town via Hershey, Main, Broad and north Lemon. The bus route from Lancaster to Manheim eventually supplanted it by 1930.

In 1910, a dangerous fire caused the local citizens to create East Petersburg Fire Company No. 1, and the firehouse was built just north of the square on Main Street. Well-known local wheelwright S.F. Andes built the first fire engines (horse-drawn) at his shop just south of the square where the Turkey Hill store now stands. In 1929 Main Street was resurfaced and expanded to make State Rte. 72 a direct link to Manheim. The Quarry just north of town also had its start in this year.

By now, East Petersburg was becoming a bedroom community for Lancaster City in addition to its long-held role as a place of retirement for local farmers. In the mid 1940's, an epidemic of typhoid fever in town instigated the testing of the local water sources, which were found to be contaminated. A committee looked into the problem and decided on establishing a new water source for the town. As part of the process to establish a community water system to replace the tainted sources, the town incorporated as a borough on December 20, 1946. The new water system was installed by 1951 and in 2006 the water was honored as the finest drinking water in Pennsylvania. In 1958, the town school was moved to its present location and the old school (dating from 1881) on Ann & Pine Streets was torn down to make way for a new firehouse.

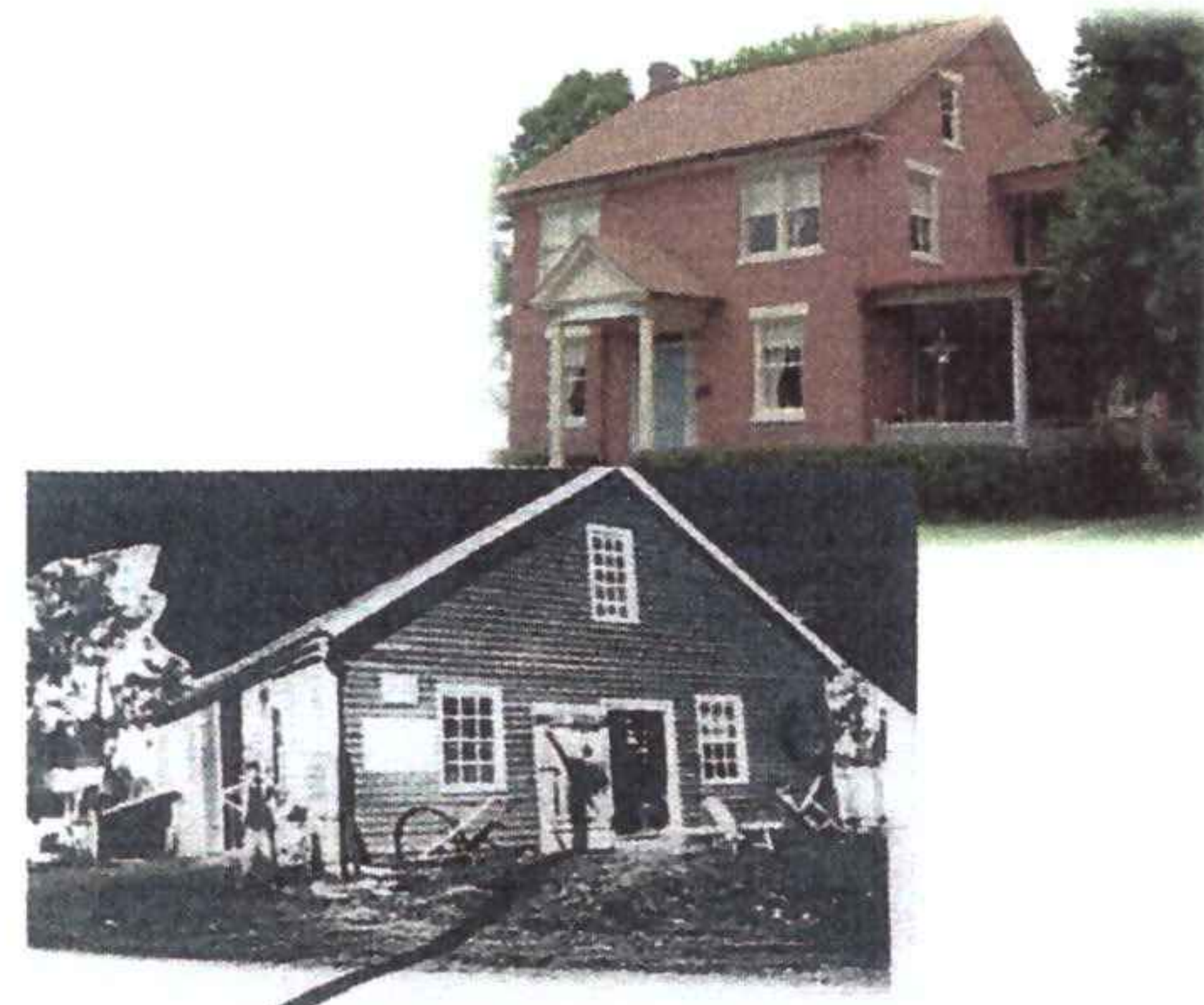
The population of East Petersburg has grown from a few families in 1812 to almost 4,500 today, but the small-town charm has remained and the sense of history that graces its streets & homes help to make East Petersburg a worthy addition to the great legacy of Lancaster County. Many homes and businesses are restored or in the process of restoration and improvement, and the future of the town's historic district looks promising. 2006 marks 60 years as a borough, and in 2012 East Petersburg will celebrate the bicentennial of Daniel Wolf's creation in the fields north of Lancaster.



**Begin at the Corner of State and Pine Streets, just south of the community center and fire station. Walk west along the south side of State Street, which was originally known as Columbia Avenue.**

**1. 2085 State Street — The Blacksmith Shops**

There were two blacksmith shops operated on this site, dating back to nearly the town's inception in 1812. The blacksmiths of note in Petersburg in 1883 were Mr. Samuel Fetter and William Gerfin. Gerfin's son Paris tore down the old shop in the inset photo in 1923 and built a house and new shop, both of which still stand. The beams in the shop ceiling still contain the names of many of the men who patronized the shop. The shop is visible from Pine Street just north of State Street.



**2. 5997 Pine Street— eastern corner of Pine & State Streets**

This early Victorian house has a datestone visible above the front door which reads "Built by John and Elizabeth Kepperling, 1858". This was the home to a working farm on the eastern edge of town into the 20th century.



**3. 2080 State Street**

This house was constructed of logs sometime before 1875, probably in the 1850's. Note the "fish scale" shingle siding (under the side gables). Public records show a renovation date of 1940 for the present structure, where a full second story was likely added along with the wraparound porch. The 1875 Lancaster County Atlas shows a residence on this site.



**Log Homes — There are around a dozen homes still standing in the town which were originally built from logs. You will see many on this tour. 2065 & 2090 State are both log homes, as is the rear portion of Gargano's Restaurant at the corner of State & Main.**

**4. 2060 State Street**

This large home does not appear in the 1875 Lancaster County atlas, and was probably built between 1877 and 1891 when it was first owned by Lavinia Keener and Christopher Sweitzer. The current owner renovated the exterior in 2004.



**Corner of State & Main Streets — This corner was actually the third "main square" of East Petersburg. The first was at State & Lemon Streets, and the second was up the hill at Main & Broad Streets. Most of the street names have changed over the years. There are historic views from this intersection on pages 16 & 18.**



### 5. 2011 State Street

Levi Gochnauer bought this house, built in 1890, after selling his store across the street to Haydn Zug. The beautiful woodwork of cherry and chestnut enhanced the interior. The building was recently renovated and restored. Note the double chimneys at each end as well as the dentil molding around the porch.



### 6. 1987 State Street — The Stauffer Store

This building, built in 1852, was originally known as the J. Stauffer Esq. Dry Goods Store, and then later the Levi Gochnauer Store. Competitor Haydn Zug bought the building in the 20th century and ran a bar and hardware store until his death in 1969. Under new ownership, Haydn Zugs Restaurant is a popular regional destination.



### 7. The Fulton Bank Corner

The 1853 Map of Petersburg shows “Singer & Co. Plank Road House” on this corner (front cover photo). The 1875 Map shows the Hotenstein Hotel. The 1899 Map lists the Petersburg Hotel, which was owned by Samuel Biemesderfer. This establishment was listed as one of the two prominent places as seen from the trolley that passed through town in 1883. Afterwards, the building was remodeled as the East Petersburg State Bank, and then as the Fulton Bank pictured on the right. Fulton Bank demolished this building in the 1960’s shortly after constructing the present bank building (visible in the right rear of this photo). In comparing windows and shape of the corner building in this photo with that of the front cover, one can conclude that this was the original building from 1853 which had held pubs, inns, stores & banks throughout a century of service to the town.



### East Petersburg Town Clock — Corner of State & Main

The East Petersburg Day committee and the Rotary Club donated this attractive piece to the borough. It was dedicated on September 16, 2006.

### 8. 1977 State Street — The David Gochnauer House

This home was built by David Gochnauer in 1888. It was the first home in town to have “inside” plumbing and heating. In 1913 it was also the first to have it’s own power plant to generate electricity. This is the most detailed porchwork remaining in the borough. Note the elaborate “brackets” under the roofline. This home has retained much of its architectural features and has some of the most impressive detailing in town.





### 9. 1969 State Street

The Townley Seamstress Shop was located in this house in the late 19th century. The three Townley sisters were so well known that many people traveled from downtown Lancaster to have their clothes made here.



### 10. 1961 State Street

This log building was constructed between 1875 and 1899. At one time it was a candy store and George Martzell operated a restaurant in the building. Later, the town tax collector Dietrich ran his office here. In the 20th century Clarence Long, manager of the original Fulton Bank branch, owned the house. The house was purchased in 2005 and is being renovated.

### 11. 1950 State Street — The Miller House

The earliest deed reference to this property is from 1836, when Tobias Miller bought it from John Kaufmann. The date of 1830 was found when the “cold cellar” was uncovered during sewer installation. The smaller addition to the right was erected between 1850 and 1860, but the original section may date to circa 1800. The Millers kept the home throughout the 19th century and it is shown on the 1875 Atlas. The ground floor of the addition served as the Post Office from 1897 through 1927 with Amanda Bell as the Postmistress.



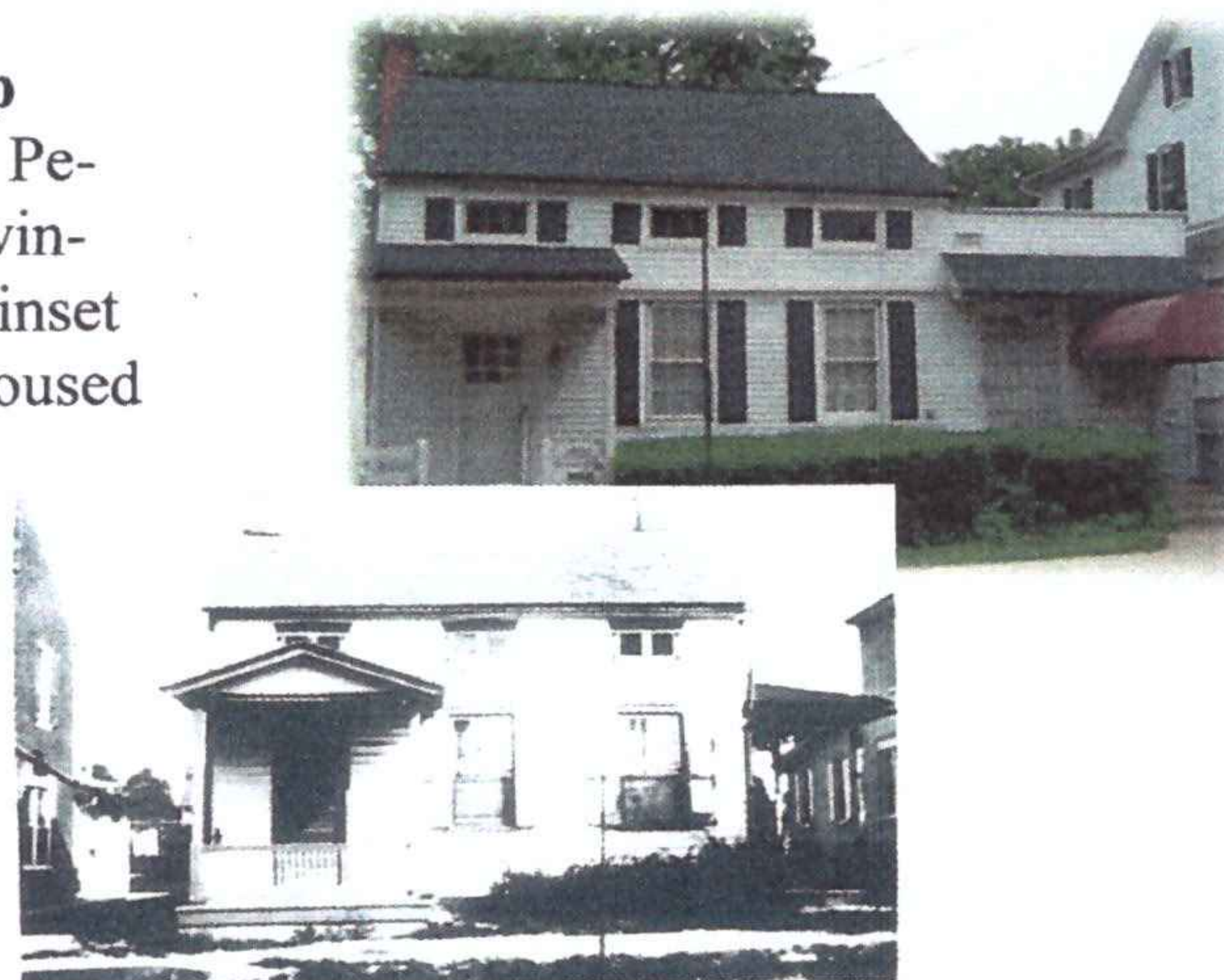
### 12. 1945 State Street — DW Graybill Store

Built in 1900. At one time David Witmer Graybill Sr. had a general store on the ground floor while cigars were made on the second floor ( See inset photo). Haydn Zug later owned the building and continued the store. Ice cream was made and sold on summer evenings. Later David Erb bought the building and ran the store until moving the operation to the corner of State and Lemon Streets.



### 13. 1921 State Street — Myers Home & Barber Shop

This log house is reported to be the oldest home in East Petersburg, with an 1809 date. Note the true “1/2 story” windows of a small log home, clearly visible in both in the inset photo and the current home. For a time this building housed one of the town’s barber shops. Another view of this home is found on page 17, along with the neighboring structures, circa 1925.





#### **14. 1905 State Street — East Petersburg Historical Society Building**

Built in 1810. In the early 1800's Daniel Wolfe kept a country dry goods and grocery store in the building. His venture in selling building lots in and around town did not prove very profitable and in 1814 he left Petersburg heavily in debt. In the mid-1800's through 1899 this building was known as the Captain Lawrence Hotel (see inset). Later Elam Hollinger bought the property and ran a butchering business out back.

Considered the first masonry home in the town, this is the current location of the East Petersburg Historical Society and is open to visitors the first Saturday of every month and by appointment.



The corner of State & Lemon was the original intersection of the town prior to Daniel Wolf's lottery of building lots on December 12th, 1812. Wolf's town layout called for a new main "square" at what is now Broad and Main Streets. The 1853 Atlas confirmed the move. However, shops, inns, businesses and a church dotted the corners of this important intersection into the 20th century.

#### **15. 5995 Lemon Street — The Lynch House**

This gracious home was built in 1860 as the Civil War loomed, and remained in the Lynch family until sold in 1971. It had 11 rooms and 2.5 baths, large for that era. A small smoke-house stands to the rear of the main building, a reminder of the days when the house was part of a large farm which extended south and west from the home. The room to the left of the center hall was at one time a food store known as HK Miller Store.



#### **16. 1849 State Street**

This house, built circa 1900, served as the town Post Office for a time, as did several other locations.



**Note that only a few blocks south, at 5849 Lemon Street, S. Clyde Weaver got his start making cooked hams in a shed behind his 1925 Sears "Alhambra" model home.**

**Now walk north along the east side of Lemon Street.**



### 17. 6020 Lemon Street — The Dunker Church

The first meetinghouse on this site dates back to pre-Revolutionary War days. In 1860 the East Petersburg Church of the Brethren took sole ownership of the old union meetinghouse and in 1873 erected a brick building on the site. The present building was erected in the early twentieth century, with later additions being added. The original schoolhouse was located immediately to the right of this building in 1875, and the Snively cigar factory was to the left on State Street.



### 18. 6079 Lemon Street

The log building was constructed before 1875, possibly in the first quarter of the 19th century. Note the half-story windows, similar to the ones at stop #13.



### 19. 6090 Lemon Street

This home was built in 1880, the year James Garfield defeated Winfield Scott Hancock in the 20th presidential election and the first electric streetlight in America was installed (in Wabash, IN).



### 20. 6155 Lemon Street — Samuel Biemesderfer House

When Samuel Biemesderfer bought this property in 1906, the deed described it as having a 1 1/2 story dwelling, so the present house was probably built or altered sometime thereafter. A home is shown on this lot in 1875.



### Samuel Biemesderfer Carriage House—beside home

This is representative of the small-town carriage houses and stables of the late 19th century. Although it is on the same property at 6155 Lemon Street, it may well pre-date the house at the same address. The 1899 Atlas shows a small structure on this site with the same angled orientation to Lemon Street as the carriage house.





### **21. 6210 Lemon Street**

The 1852 datestone on this home identifies it as one of the older surviving buildings in the borough. Similar in design to 1905 and 1945 State, the wraparound porch is probably a later addition.



### **22. 6260 Lemon Street**

This Late Victorian house was probably built around 1885 on one of the lots laid out on Lemon Street by George Beamsderfer Jr. This particular property was purchased by a "Samuel Beamsderfer" (most likely Samuel Biemesderfer) in 1885 and sold to Barbara Martzall in 1891. The Lancaster County Atlas of 1899 indicates a house on the site. Note the ornamental iron cresting atop the roof.



### **23. Levi Gross House — 6270 Lemon Street**

Built by Levi Gross in 1903. This home represents a near-perfect example of a Queen Anne style called "Free Classic". The walls are entirely double-brick (no studs) and 80,000 bricks were used. Note the many gables and chimneys, the bay windows, and the classic columns on the porch. This is also most likely the largest historical home in the borough at 4,569 square feet.



6287 and 6290 Lemon Street were both built in 1880. A long block north at Lemon & Graystone was once known as "Sharps Corner" where the Lutz Hotel was built. Along this stretch, early in the town's history, no homes were built and a large strip of woodland existed which in its time was supposed to be inhabited by Indians. Children were taught to pass the woods in great haste fearing the "war whoop"!

Turn around here and walk south towards the corner of Lemon and Broad. The trolley system which ran through East Petersburg around the turn of the 20th century ran north up Main Street, turned left on Broad Street, and then turned right on North Lemon Street right past where you are now walking. Your tour will now follow that track backwards...



Several homes on this tour route have two front doors. These houses are classified as the “Pennsylvania German Farm House type” because it was predominately built by German settlers. One door opened into the primary living area while the other door opened into the parlor — a rarely used room except for formal occasions.



**24. 6277 Lemon Street**

This nicely-restored Pennsylvania German Farmhouse home was built in 1895. Note the large chimney and double front doors. An original hand pump is still in the home’s kitchen.

**25. 6253 Lemon Street**

Another well-restored home, this one built in 1877. Note detailing around porch and decorative brackets under the roof eaves.



**Turn left onto Broad Street, and walk along the south side. This was originally known as West Street.**

**26. 1925 Broad Street**

The earliest church in Petersburg of which there is a record was one started by a Mr. Hershey in connection with the first school in the cider house at his home, around 1775. Later he built a larger log schoolhouse.church which seated several hundred—at that time a very large building. With the growth of the town in the first decades of the 19th century, the Lutheran and German Reformed churches felt this last building was no longer adequate for its needs, and purchased the lot at the corner of Broad & Lemon and built a new church in 1847. After the Reformed group sold its interests to the Lutheran Congregation, a renovation project was undertaken and by 1928 the structure was completely altered. Further work was done in 1963 and 1982. It is now Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church.



**27. 1928 Broad Street**

An original deed exists from 1846 for this log home, which was built sometime before that date. There are still exposed logs inside the house.



**28. 1945 Broad Street**

Built in 1875, this house was recently purchased by the neighboring Zion evangelical church for use.





### **29. 1960 Broad Street**

1880 example of a post-railroad “National Folk” home with wraparound porch. This architectural movement arose as the availability of cheap lumber from rail transport made it easier for builders construct larger, 2-story dwellings with multiple gables. This home is a front-and-side gable arrangement.



### **30. 1961 Broad Street**

Built in 1840, this home is a good example of the Pennsylvania German Farmhouse type, identified by the four bays of upper windows and two front doors. The decorative porch trim is typical of the Victorian era (1860-1900) and was probably a later addition. Although transom windows (over the doors) were commonly used in 18th and 19th century architecture, they were generally of clear glass. During the Victorian era, colored glass (blue or rose) was often used instead.



### **31. 1970 Broad Street**

The most recent structure on this site dates back to 1896, and was one of three tobacco warehouses owned and operated in town by David W. Graybill Sr. During the Second World War, German POW's were brought in by vehicle to work at this facility.



The 1812 lottery established, and the 1853 Atlas of Hempfield confirms this was the main square of town, with streets labeled as North, South, East and West Streets radiating outwards. Each corner was occupied by flourishing business such as one of Henry Imhoff's town distilleries, a dry goods store also selling handmade cigars by George Mullin, and a carriage factory owned by Isaac Hollinger. Much later, when the trolley line ran through town, this corner was known as “Sourball Station”. 1995 Broad (on the NW corner) was built in 1880 but most likely replaced a much older structure.

**Turn right onto Main street for the last leg of your tour. Walk along the west side of the street.**

### **32. 6197 Main Street**

The original plot plan of East Petersburg shows this as “plot #48”. The 1812 lottery sold the lot and the winner received the barn that had been erected on it in 1812. The house is circa 1850 or earlier.





### 33. 6175 Main Street

The 1875 Atlas shows a house on this site. Most likely it was built between 1860 and 1898. A truck crashed into the house early in 1992, damaging the front facade, and it was subsequently remodeled to its current state.



### 34. 6174 Main Street

Jacob M. Imhoff, son of Henry Imhoff who operated the distillery next door, erected this building in 1850. The original "summer kitchen" building is still located out back and visible from the commons. This house was likely built on two sections, with the right-side finished first.



### 35. The Commons

This wellhead was one of the most important sites in the area circa 1810. On November 30, 1813 Daniel Wolfe and his wife Polly sold the well on this site to the original town of Petersburg for \$10. Each of the original 79 lots from 1812 had deeded right of access to this spring. Much later, Henry Imhoff used the water from the well for a dog-powered treadmill, which forced water into his nearby distillery. The site is open to the public and there are plaques commemorating the significance to the borough's history.



### 36. 6165 Main Street

Note the 1840 datestone on this home. On March 21, 1860 Henry & Catharine Imhoff sold this home to Representative David W. Graybill Sr.'s father. Sometime around 1900 it was sold to Harry H. Landis who built a tobacco warehouse on Broad Street. The building still stands but is threatened with demolition.

### 37. 6155 Main Street

A typical tobacco warehouse, probably built by David W Graybill Sr. in the 1890's. A brick warehouse is shown on the 1899 map, but the 1875 atlas shows a residence. Graybill bought the property in 1890.

### 38. 6150 Main Street

Built in 1820, this is one of the oldest standing homes recorded in the borough. Note the unusual orientation to the street.





### **39. 6140 Main Street**

Built in 1820. It was once the home of Jacob S. Foltz, widely known as a horse dealer and considered one of the best judges of horses in this locale.

### **40. 6139 Main Street**

This building was erected by Trinity Reformed Church and dedicated in September 1898. The first church bulletin was the size of a post-card with a notation on the bottom which read "All welcome, pews free". David W. Graybill Sr. was a generous contributor to the church. On March 3, 1968 a Baptist church purchased the property, and it has since passed to a Pentecostal congregation.



### **41. 6128 Main Street**

This Pennsylvania German farmhouse style home was built in 1837.



### **42. 6127 Main Street**

The original East Petersburg School used this building for its kindergarten classes as an overflow for several years. Also, the neighboring church owned the property for a time and used it for Sunday School classes.



### **43. 6110 Main Street**

This house was built about 1900 by David W Graybill Sr., one of the leading citizens of East Petersburg during his lifetime (see more on page 9). Graybill was born in 1853 and spent all but two years of his life in this town. He was active as a public servant at the local, county and state level and served multiple terms. He was very pro-business and operated three tobacco warehouses in East Petersburg and one in Rohrerstown, employing up to 140 people in those locations alone. Local residents alive today still remember him living in this house up until his death in 1938.



### **44. 6079 Main Street**

This home originally dates back to the early 1800's. Andrew Holtzworth (who served as Postmaster from 1843 through 1847) lived in the house and used it as the Post Office. It was also used as halfway house. Mrs. Sarah Burg, who was married to the Civil War veteran Dr. Washington Burg (surgeon for the 122nd and 207th PA Volunteer Regiments) lived here from 1865 until her death at 99 years of age in 1933. It was then occupied by her granddaughter Mrs. E.H. Reinhold, who completely remodeled the house in 1945, removing the fireplaces and walls to make the living room one large space.



#### **45. 6070 Main Street — George Zahm House**

Mr. Zahm, a retired farmer, purchased the lot from Joseph R. Royer in 1859 and probably built the house the same year. It had 18-inch deep brick walls, slate roof and a two-seated out-house next to the two story barn. The second owner, John Long, built an addition to the house in the late 1800's which doubled the size of the house. The wraparound porch he added was subsequently removed with the exception of the section visible to the left.



#### **46. 6060 Main Street**

Another log house which dates to circa 1824.



#### **47. 6050 Main Street — The Old Firehouse**

This building was erected in 1910 after a fire in town prompted several of the leading citizens to organize Fire company No.1. It was originally a three story building (see back cover photo complete with early fire "engines"), with the top floor used as a meeting room for groups such as the Knights of the Golden Eagle. The third story eventually was removed due to structural problems. After 1975 the borough acquired the property and converted it into offices and a garage for official vehicles.



#### **48. 6040 Main Street**

William Cake built this building in 1925 and operated a printing shop here. After his death his wife and her sister operated a confectionary shop. William H. Ernst Plumbing and Heating subsequently purchased the building. In 1975 the borough acquired the site and remodeled it for use as the borough offices. The photo at left shows this portion of Main Street at mid-20th century with 6040 visible to the left of the old firehouse.



**Across from the old Firehouse, turn left into the alley beside Chancey's restaurant. Please be careful crossing the street here. This alley is Ann Street and dates all the way back to Daniel Wolf's 1812 plan. Follow this alley back to the new firehouse on Pine Street and the end of your walking tour of East Petersburg's history.**



## About the East Petersburg Historical Society (EPHS)

The EPHS was established in 1976. The purpose of the society is to preserve memorabilia from East Petersburg's past and to make it available for the educational use. Community members are asked to help by donating journals, letters, relics, or any other materials which enable the society to preserve the history of East Petersburg. Monthly meetings are held the first Monday of the month (excluding June, July and September) and the public is invited to attend. In August EPHS hosts a picnic at the community park in the pavilion, and In December a Christmas party is held at the Gathering Place in Mount Joy. Details about the picnic or Christmas party can be obtained by calling (717) 898-2918 or 569-1066. In 1994, the society purchased the Daniel Wolf house, located at the corner of State and Lemon Streets. Rehabilitation of the property is funded by donations from individuals and by fundraisers. Current fundraisers include a St. Patrick's Day Card Party held in March. The "gift shop" located in the Daniel Wolf House is open the first Saturday of each month from 9AM to 12 noon and sells wooden replicas of East Petersburg buildings, Dorothy Hollinger prints, maps, crocks, stationery, afghans and other gift ideas. In 1998 the society established the Anna Lucile Brackbill fund, which annually grants scholarships to a Hempfield High School graduating senior.

Photo taken from the center of Lemon & State Streets, looking East towards Main Street. Note the buildings which remain much the same today, all included on the walking tour. Some say the lottery by which Petersburg was founded in 1812 took place in Daniel Wolf's old home at 1905 State, in the foreground. The EPHS is located in this home today. Also note the 1920's vintage automobile at right.



## About the East Petersburg Walking Tour Committee

The committee was formed in 2006 to focus efforts to acquaint residents and visitors with the rich history to be found in East Petersburg. In addition to the route covered in this tour book, other walking tours are planned for the future. If you would like more information or to assist in the effort please contact us via the borough office. The committee appreciates the preservation work done over the years by the devoted members of the Historical Society, without which this guidebook would have been difficult to produce.



Postcard photo taken from the center of what is now Main & State Streets, looking west towards Lemon Street along "Columbia Avenue". Note the dirt streets and hitching posts, which indicates a time very near 1900. In the foreground is the Levi Gochnauer General Store and the trolley track that once ran up Main Street.



## The Walking Tour of East Petersburg

Compiled and edited in 2006 by the East Petersburg Historical Walking Tour committee:

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Special Thanks to Jim Williams, East Petersburg Borough Manager, Carole E. Wilson of the Lancaster County Planning Commission and Bonnie Gable of EPHS for their help and guidance.

2006 Photos by Jeff R. Geoghan.



This photo was taken from very near to the one above, but looking east along State Street from in front of the old bank building (in foreground on right). This picture dates to the 1950's, but note the "carriage stone" on the corner nearest the photographer. These were used in the days of horses to assist people up into carriages. The stone no longer exists.





East Petersburg Firehouse Circa 1912



\$7.00  
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