

Archive Report Solebury Township Historical Society March 2015

We now have a system for accessioning and cataloging the archives which is simple and sensible and can begin to tackle the larger archives, in particular the Rivinus and Waring ones. We have practiced on the Solebury Farmers' Club and found it easy to use. As we (possibly) get more volunteers interested in this work, it can be taught to others with a minimum of fuss. Robert McEwan has suggested that we find a volunteer, possibly a student, who is familiar with Excel and would be willing and able to enter our data with the end result that the archival information goes on the STHS website.

By the time we unearth all of the various school records tucked in the back of file drawers and stuck in anonymous looking folders, we will have quite a substantial archive detailing the history of schools in Solebury Township. This is especially true of student records which we now have a smattering of going back to 1905. We even have several record books from the Solebury High School dating from the time of World War I. The location of this school has been a bit of a mystery since there is very little written evidence of its existence, but we believe it occupied the house several doors down from this school house. We would be happy to hear from anyone who can say for sure where it was and how long it was in existence.

We have two requests via email which are still pending. A woman now living in California is trying to find proof that her great aunt, Virginia Neely, taught in this school house in 1919. Although we have a few school records from that time, none of them are for Solebury/Center Hill, so we may not be successful. The second request involves the Thompson Neely house and whether the grandmother of the person making the request had lived there as a small child if that was the farm her parents rented in Solebury Township c. 1900.

Priscilla Waring stopped by Feb. 25th and brought memorabilia of her grandmothers to be added to the Waring archive.

Robert McEwan is boxing up the Solebury Farmers' Club archive now that the information it contains has been listed. It still needs its provenance and introduction to be complete, but there is a letter in the archive giving us all the necessary information.

I found another folder (not school) with the history of Limeport, early kilns and later the rise and fall of the Tuscarora oil storage tanks.

As noted in the Action Items, Joan Fitting will continue with the scrap books until she moves and Gwen Davis has graciously offered to continue them.

Business has been brisk and I am lucky to have an outstanding group of volunteers.