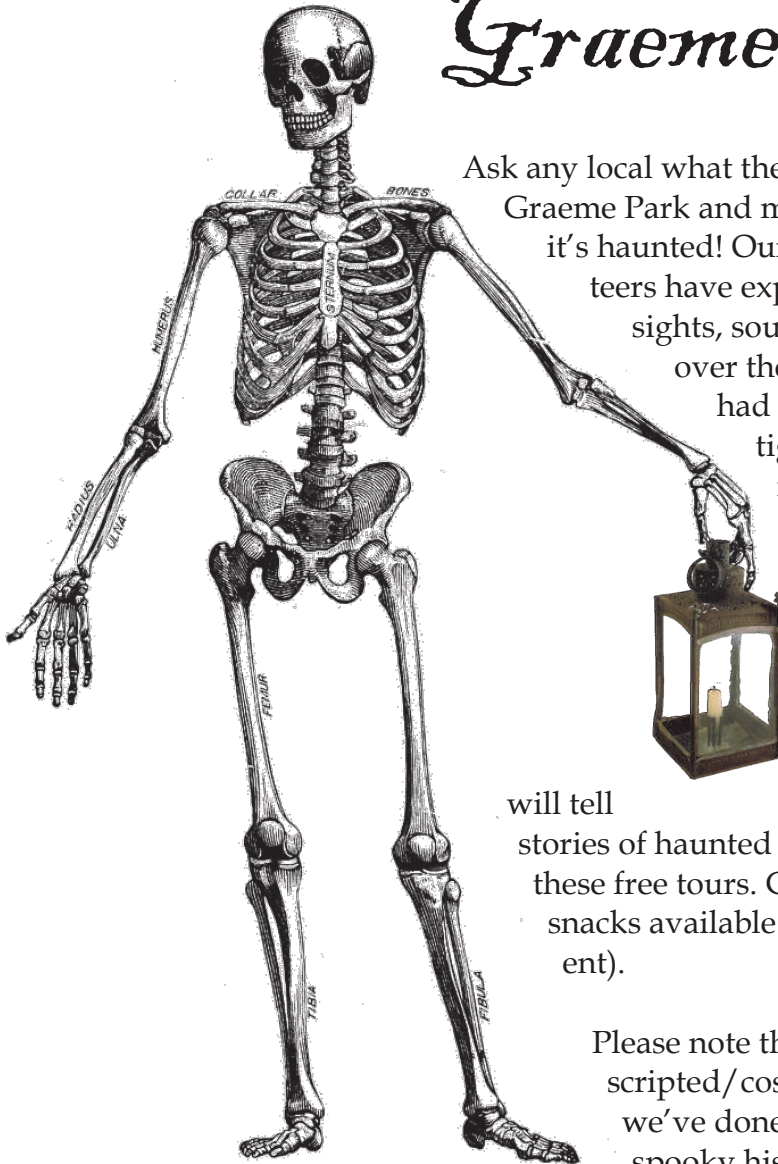


# The Graeme Park Gazette

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2016

## Lantern Tours at Graeme Park



Ask any local what they know about Graeme Park and most will tell you it's haunted! Our staff and volunteers have experienced many sights, sounds, and smells over the years and we've had paranormal investigators out to delve into the rumors that a ghostly Elizabeth may still reside at Graeme Park. Tour the house by lantern light with a guide who will tell

you some of the stories of haunted Graeme Park on these free tours. Campfire and snacks available (weather dependent).

Please note this is not the same scripted/costumed production we've done in the past. It is a spooky history tour with a single tour guide telling some of the paranormal experiences we've had in the house.

Bring a small flashlight if you'd like. Tour times are 6:30, 7, 7:30, 8, 8:30, and 9 pm. Tickets are first come, first served. Donations appreciated.

**October 29**

**6:30, 7, 7:30, 8,  
8:30, 9 p.m.**

*Donations Appreciated*



**Befriend the Past**  
The Friends of Graeme Park

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**OCTOBER 29**  
*Lantern Tours*

**NOVEMBER 26**  
*Continental Christmas*



## GRAEME PARK



Graeme Park is the site of the Keith House, an 18th-century historic house, the only remaining home of a governor of colonial Pennsylvania. It is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission in partnership with the Friends of Graeme Park, a 501c3 volunteer organization that raises funds, staffs, and promotes the site. The official registration and financial information of The Friends of Graeme Park may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Individuals who need special assistance or accommodation to visit Graeme Park should call (215) 343-0965 in advance to discuss their needs. Pennsylvania TDD relay service is available at (800)654-5984.

### TOUR HOURS

Friday - Saturday

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sunday Noon - 4 p.m.

Last tour starts at 3 p.m.

### THE STAFF AT GRAEME PARK

Carla A. Loughlin

Mike MacCausland

### THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION

Tom Corbett  
*Governor*

James M. Vaughan  
*Executive Director*

Nancy Moses  
*Chair*

## *From the President of the Friends*

After a very long, hot and dry summer, fall is finally here with its more moderate temperatures. With the cooler weather, we're able to conjure up the energy that escaped us in the heat and humidity of the previous months.

At Graeme Park, we had weddings even on some of the hottest days. But our brides were happy and didn't let the heat ruin their day.

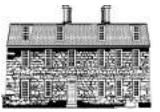
And due to the financial support the Friends have seen from the weddings, we are able to offer smaller, mission-related programs at little or no cost to the public. Two free programs which Graeme Park has on the calendar this fall are "Lantern Tours" of the Keith House on October 29 and "A Continental Christmas" on November 26. Read more about both programs in this issue.

Fall brings a new year of school tours and our Home School Day, which was held on September 21. It featured a colonial puppet show and a visit from Cindy Marselis, who brought along some of her own chicken and sheep to help the children see how Graeme Park looked with animals on its property over 200 years ago.

On October 5, we had our fall "Lunch & Learn" which featured our own Jack Washington speaking about local neighbors during the Revolution. Were they Loyalists or Patriots and how did one treat the other? It was attended by 40 people who enjoyed a continental breakfast, the presentation in the Keith House and a hot and cold buffet lunch. This program is becoming so popular that we saw attendance double from our spring session.

Enjoy your fall and do plan to visit Graeme Park for either your personal tour of the Keith House or to enjoy one of our upcoming programs. See you soon!

*- Beth MacCausland*



# Graeme Park: Putting the Park in Park Creek

By Jim Miller

A surging river of America it is not. A major shipping route it is not. A source of power for building a nation it never was. But little Park Creek, the slow-moving stream that flows so peacefully through Graeme Park (for which it was named), was central to life at the farm in its early days and is a peaceful respite for humans and an important habitat for wildlife today.

It has two feeder branches. The northern one originates about two miles upstream from Graeme Park near Hartman Road. The southern branch courses from a pond in the center of Old York Road Country Club, about one mile away. They converge to flow about two miles before joining the Little Neshaminy

in Warrington. The total length, therefore, of all branches adds up to a mere five miles.

In those five miles it drops only a little over one hundred feet, enough for a few gentle ripples but no powerful waterfalls. It did provide energy adequate to drive a grist mill, the Kenderdine Mill, where grain from neighboring farms, including Graeme Park, was taken to be ground into flour or corn meal. The mill was constructed in 1736 and the path to it from Graeme Park eventually became the route for Keith Valley Road. Ruins of a stone bridge that provided access to the path on the other side of the creek are still visible from the Park's nature trail.

Graeme Park's human inhabitants

took their drinking water from wells, but the livestock and wildlife certainly drank from the stream. A day of hunting along the banks would have yielded a harvest of ducks, geese, and deer for the kitchen. The stream is small and its fish, mostly sunnies, are small, but an occasional catfish might have provided dinner.

On a hot summer day earlier inhabitants of Graeme Park may have refreshed themselves wading in the creek. A stippling of colored leaves floating on its surface in autumn or the stark contrast of white ice and dark tree trunks in winter invite photographers. At any time of year it is pleasant to linger along the banks of Park Creek and reflect upon its history in nourishing the life of a vibrant farm community.

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Annual Meeting

Graeme Park will hold its Annual Membership Meeting on Friday, November 11 at 7 p.m. The Board has voted to change from a July 1-June 30 fiscal year to a calendar year, and to change Board terms from 2 years to 4 years. As a result, all Board Members are up for reelection. The slate includes: Beth MacCausland, President, Jack Washington, Vice President, Diane Horan, Treasurer, Melissa Kurik, Secretary, Tony Chechia, Member-at-Large, Deedie Gustavson, Member-at-Large, and Laura MacBride, Member-at-Large. There are also minor bylaw revisions to be voted on. Refreshments will be served.

### Horsham's Tri-Centennial Celebration

2017 marks the 300th year of the founding of Horsham Township and there will be events all year long celebrating our history and community. The festivities begin with Winterfest on January 7th at the Horsham Community Center, feature a family-friendly party with food and a band at Graeme Park on May 13, and conclude with closing ceremonies in Carpenter Park on December 1. In between there are lots of activities and events, which you can learn more about on the Township's [website](#) under the "Community"

tab. Planning is still in progress so check back often for more details and additional events.

### Barnyard Wall

This fall the state worked on repairing and repointing the stone wall surrounding the barnyard. According to the Historic Structures Report, this wall was last repointed c. 1969. Since that time severe weather, nearly 50 winters' worth of freeze-thaw cycles and the stress placed on the wall from the plow contractor pushing snow up against it, had taken its toll. Parts of the wall were carefully dismantled and reconstructed using the existing stones and other less damaged areas were repointed.

### Volunteer of the Year

The Friends of Graeme Park have elected Carol Brunner as the 2015 Volunteer of the Year. Carol is a longtime volunteer who has worn many hats over the years. She is currently very active in coordinating the school tours and in keeping the store stocked with all the goodies the kids like to buy while they're here with their class. She is also involved with the Gardeners of the Crooked Billet who maintain the herb garden for us.





## THE FRIENDS OF GRAEME PARK

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Friends of Graeme Park is to provide on-going support of preservation, maintenance, development, interpretation, education and promotion of Graeme Park.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Beth MacCausland
Vice President	Jack Washington
Secretary	Melissa Kurek
Treasurer	Diane Horan
Member at Large	Tony Checchia
Member at Large	Deedie Gustavson
Member at Large	Laura MacBride

### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Education	Carol Brunner John Brunner
Finance	Vacant
Fundraising	Vacant
Governance	Jack Washington
Grants	Beth MacCausland
Hospitality	Vacant
Insurance	Vacant
Legal	Vacant
Membership	Laura MacBride
Museum Shop	Carol Brunner Carla Loughlin
Newsletter/Publicity	Carla Loughlin
Programs/Events	Beth MacCausland
Volunteers	Beth MacCausland
Website	Tony Checchia Melissa Kurek

### THE GRAEME PARK GAZETTE

is published quarterly by The Friends of Graeme Park in cooperation with the PA Historical and Museum Commission

Editor: Carla A. Loughlin



**Befriend the Past**  
The Friends of Graeme Park



## *A Continental Christmas*

During Christmas week, 1777, Graeme Park was invaded by part of the American army. More than 2,000 men were encamped at Graeme Park, with numbers rapidly diminishing as enlistments ran out and the men went home in the new year. By the end of January, only 75 men remained, although the mess left behind and the damage done to the property was extensive. Valuable timber had been cut down to build log huts; the officers set up in Elizabeth's parlor and the enlisted men took over the grounds, destroying gardens, eating the stored foodstuffs and taking the livestock. As Elizabeth's husband remained loyal to the British and served in their army, she was alone on the property with her friend and companion Betsy Stedman. It must have been a terrifying time for them, and they were left with little food and no livestock when the army left.

Join us on **Saturday, November 26** for a living history program focusing on this time in Graeme Park's history. Tours of the house featuring costumed vignettes will start approximately every 30 minutes between 12 noon and 3 / 3:30. There will also be activities for kids, raffles, Christmas ornaments and food for sale.

This is a **free** program but donations are appreciated and help us to continue to put on educational programs for the public.





# Dr. Graeme and the Founding of Pennsylvania Hospital



*By Carla A. Loughlin*

Given all of the top notch hospitals and medical facilities the Philadelphia region currently enjoys, it is hard to imagine a time when there was no efficient, centralized way to treat the physically and mentally ill of the city and surrounding areas, but that is exactly the situation the citizens of Philadelphia faced prior to 1751 when doctors had to travel great distances, often on foot, in order to see the patients who could afford their services. Fortunately a group of civic minded citizens, led by Dr. Thomas Bond, wanted to offer a solution. Bond enlisted the persuasive powers of Benjamin Franklin to gain support for the project as he found that when he approached others with the idea they wanted to know what Franklin thought of it and whether or not he was a subscriber. Franklin "endeavored to prepare the minds of the people by writing on the subject in the news-

papers." It was argued that a hospital would provide a more cost effective way of treating the poor, who could not afford medical care, let alone the costs associated with traveling to the city to obtain it; and a way to keep the mentally ill from disturbing the neighbors without resorting to jail, the only option available at the time.

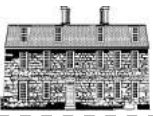
With the support of 33 prominent members of the community, Franklin drafted a petition which was presented to the House of Representatives in January, 1751 arguing that a public hospital such as Bond had seen in Europe would be a better and more effective way of serving patients. The opening paragraphs of the petition capitalized on the public fear of the increasing number of "Persons dis-temper'd in Mind ... [who] are a Terror to their Neighbours, who are daily apprehensive of the Violences they may commit; and oth-

ers ...continually wasting their Substance, to the great Injury of themselves and Families, ill disposed Persons wickedly taking Advantage of their unhappy Condition." They felt that establishing a hospital was a public service, an act of humanity, and a religious duty. Dr. Thomas Graeme was one of the signers of this petition.

The petition requested a donation from the Assembly of £2,000 to be paid as a match when they had solicited at least that much in private funding. Franklin included this matching fund clause to get past the Representatives who objected to the plan by allowing them to appear charitable in approving the petition, while thinking the founders would never be able to raise enough money through subscriptions to claim the Assembly's money. In fact, by August of 1751 they had enough subscribers, including a donation by Dr. Graeme, to request the matching funds, which were to be used to obtain land, build a building, and care for the sick. The founding physicians had agreed to provide their services gratis, and to supply medicines.

The subscribers who contributed £10 or more were charged with electing 12 members from amongst themselves to serve as managers of the hospital, and a treasurer. The elected managers would then make the rules for governing the hospital and for the next election of managers and officers. They were also responsible for choosing the original attending and consulting physicians and the site of the hospital. On October 23, 1751 they appointed six physicians to serve on a rotating basis, three at a time, so that each served for six months out





of the year. Doctors Lloyd Zachary, Thomas and Phineas Bond, Thomas Cadwallader, Samuel Preston Moore, and John Redman were selected and Dr. Graeme was appointed as a consulting physician to be called in on extraordinary cases.

The managers also got down to business in selecting a parcel of land on Mulberry (now Arch) Street between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets, which was owned by the Proprietors Thomas and Richard Penn. They asked the Penns to donate the land to their cause, but the Penns proposed another plot, on Sassafras (now Race) Street between 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. They also included a clause that if such a time should come in the future when the hospital could not raise the subscriptions needed to continue operations that the land would revert to them. Neither the proposed plot nor the clause were acceptable to the managers – the land was wet and adjoined the brick yards where there were ponds of standing water, and they felt that it would therefore be unhealthy. They also noted that the square to which the land belonged had already been designated as public space and that there would be public disapproval of the Penns granting this land as if they had the right to it. The managers next proposed that they be allowed to either rent or buy the original parcel of land, but this was declined as well. In the end they rented the home of the recently deceased Judge John Kinsey on Market Street, near the corner of 5<sup>th</sup>, in order that they might start treating patients right away while they looked for a suitable permanent site for the hospital.

Once established in Judge Kinsey's home, they hired a widow, Elizabeth Gardner, as matron to nurse

the sick and see to the cleaning and laundry. They also drew up a set of rules for the patients, and, in consultation with the medical professionals amongst their subscribers, set forth rules for choosing practitioners and the conduct that was expected of them. They began admitting patients on February 10, 1752. The doctors themselves sup-



plied the medicines that year, until the managers ordered a supply from London at a cost of over £112. To pay for the medicines they took up a collection from the "charitable Widows and other good Women of the City." They also supplied the managers with tin "collection boxes" to put in their homes to collect other small donations, in imitation of practices they'd seen in foreign countries. In the beginning of 1754 spinning wheels were provided for the women patients who were able to use them.

The hospital was deemed successful when a report of cases was compiled detailing the numbers of patients who had been admitted for various ailments, cured, made significantly better, discharged for various reasons, or died. From the hospital's opening in February of 1752 through the end of May, 1754 one hundred and seventeen patients had been admitted, of whom 60% were cured or made significantly better and 14% had died. They had

the least success with mental disorders and felt it was because the patients had gone too long untreated and developed ingrained patterns of behavior or were taken away by friends before they had the chance to be cured. Because of this they instituted a requirement for 12-month admittance for mental disorders unless the physicians themselves discharged the patients early. The managers used the success of the hospital and the dedication of their doctors to solicit a second round of donations and were successful in raising over £3,000, including an additional £20 from Dr. Graeme.

In 1755, the cornerstone was laid for the East Wing of what would become the hospital's permanent location at 8<sup>th</sup> and Pine Streets. It was designed by Samuel Rhodes, a member of the first Board of Managers for the hospital, and completed in three parts as funds became available, with the West Wing being completed in 1796 and the Center House in 1804. The three part building, now known as the Pine Building, is considered one of the finest examples of Federal period architecture. All of the patients were transferred from the temporary hospital to the completed part of the permanent hospital on December 17, 1756. The first admission of a new patient occurred on the following day. In addition to being America's first hospital, the first medical library was started in 1762 when the first book was donated by John Fothergill, whose acquaintance Elizabeth had made, and medical services engaged, while she was traveling in England. The top floor of Pennsylvania Hospital is the home of the nation's oldest surgical Amphitheatre, which served as the operating room from 1804 through 1868. Surgeries were performed on sunny days between 11:00



am and 2:00 pm since there was no electricity at the time. The Amphitheatre seats 180, with standing room for up to 300. The Board of Managers first proposed the Physic Garden in 1774 to provide physicians with ingredients for medicines. The idea was approved, but financial circumstances intervened and the project was delayed for two centuries. In 1976, the planting of the garden was the bicentennial project of the Philadelphia Committee of the Garden Club of America and the Friends of Pennsylvania Hospital. Located in front of the Pine Building's West Wing, the garden has plants that were used for medicines in the 18th century.

In 1803 the hospital established a "lying-in" (or maternity) department. This lasted until 1854 when obstetrics and gynecology took a 75-year break at the hospital. The specialties were reinstated in 1929 with the opening of the Woman's Building (now the Spruce Building) which sported 150 adult beds, 80 bassinets, two operating rooms, a series of labor and delivery rooms, and outpatient clinics. It was considered "one of the most modern hospital buildings in the country" especially at a time when women's medicine was not thought to be very important and most births were still done at home.

### Sources:

- ⇒ *The History of Pennsylvania Hospital, 1751-1895*, Thomas Morton
- ⇒ "Some Account of the Pennsylvania Hospital", Benjamin Franklin
- ⇒ "Historic Resource Study, Independence Mall", Anna Coxe Toogood
- ⇒ "Pennsylvania Hospital Teaching Unit", Ellen Just Braffman
- ⇒ Pennsylvania Hospital Wikipedia - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pennsylvania\\_Hospital](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pennsylvania_Hospital)
- ⇒ Pennsylvania Hospital website - <https://www.pennmedicine.org/for-patients-and-visitors/penn-medicine-locations/pennsylvania-hospital>



↑ On October 5, Jack Washington, The Friends of Graeme Park's Vice President, gave a lecture on Loyalists during the American Revolution to 40 attendees at our Lunch & Learn program. Attendees also enjoyed a continental breakfast and a hot and cold lunch buffet.

Thank you to Carol Brunner, Graeme Park's 2015 Volunteer of the Year, for keeping the barrel gardens outside the Visitors' Center updated with each season. They make a great first impression on our visitors. ↓







**Befriend the Past**  
The Friends of Graeme Park

859 County Line Rd.  
Horsham, PA 19044  
(215) 343-0965  
[www.graemepark.org](http://www.graemepark.org)

Address Service Requested

## Lantern Tours – October 29

## A Continental Christmas – November 26

### *Horsham's History*

With Horsham's 300 year anniversary approaching next year, it is worth taking a quick look back at the founding of the township. It was one of the original townships laid out, but not named, by William Penn on the Holme's Map, printed in 1687. The formal organization of the township took place in 1717, at which time the final boundaries were established and the name of Horsham was chosen. Horsham was the name of the town in Sussex England where Samuel Carpenter was born – Carpenter was once the owner of nearly half of Horsham Township. In addition to Carpenter (4,300 acres) there were three other original landowners in Horsham – George Palmer (500 acres), Joseph Fisher (5,062 acres), and Mary Blunston (600 acres). A member of the Palmer family settled on his tract, but Carpenter, Fisher and Blunston were investors who sold off parts of their tracts as opportunity presented itself. These secondary landowners, those who purchased from the original patentees, were, for the most part, the original settlers of the township. They are noted on the map to the left along with the year and acreage of their purchase. (From *The Settlement of Horsham Township*, by Charles Harper Smith)

