

'Fall into Berks History' house tour slated

Published: Friday, September 09, 2011; Last Updated: Fri. Sep 9, 2011, 6:00am

<http://pottsmmerc.com/articles/2011/09/09/life/srv0000013715582.txt?viewmode=fullstory>

DOUGLASSVILLE — The Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County will open all seven of its 18th century properties to the public on Sept. 24.

"Fall into Berks History," formerly known as the Mouns Jones Country Fair, will be held between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Guests can purchase tickets for \$10 per person for admission to the Mouns Jones House, dating from about 1716; the Michael Fulp House, formerly known as the Bridge Keeper's House, circa 1783, and the George Douglass Mansion, 1763.

And, White Horse Inn, circa 1762; the Hottenstein House, 1783; the Johan DeTurk House, 1767, and the Jacob Keim Farmstead, circa 1753.

Children 12 and under will be admitted at no charge.

The event will mark the first time all of the Trust properties will be open for tours on a single day.

The self-guided tour will lead visitors through Maxatawny, Amity, Pike and Oley townships.

Representatives of the Trust and the Oley Valley Heritage Association will be on hand at each property to answer questions and provide historical and architectural information for each building.

The event will provide to the public a rare glimpse of these local treasures and showcase the Trust's recent work to preserve and restore them.

The Johan DeTurk House recently won a statewide award for "Restoration of a Special Historic Property." Stabilization of the Michael Fulp (Bridge Keeper's) House was completed in April of this year. An archaeological dig is being conducted near the Mouns Jones House.

The George Douglass Mansion and the Jacob Keim House are currently undergoing reconstruction. The doctor's office located at the Hottenstein Mansion underwent restoration in 2010.

Tickets can be purchased at any of the seven properties on the day of the tour. Only cash will be accepted. The ticket will be in the form of a map which must be presented at each building.

For directions or more information visit www.historicpreservationtrust.org, call 610-385-4762, or e-mail info@historicpreservationtrust.org. No rain date is scheduled for this event.