



PO Box 564  
Flourtown, PA 19031  
215-233-4600  
[www.springfieldhistory.org](http://www.springfieldhistory.org)

# The Challenge

**PRESERVATION • RESEARCH • EDUCATION**

## The Origin of the name *Enfield* and its Contribution to the Decorative Arts

*Presented by Ed Zwicker III*

**SEPTEMBER 2016**

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- Hidden Behind a Painting
- 4th Annual History in Motion
- From the Archives
- Springfield Township Historical Society Scholarship Award
- Archives Volunteers

### OFFICERS

T. Scott Kreilick  
*President*

Anna Coxe Toogood  
*Vice President*

W. Scott Armington  
*Treasurer*

Katie Worrall  
*Secretary*

### DIRECTORS

Robert Brock

Barbara Coleman

Albert M. Comly, Jr.

Dorothy J. Cutler

Katharine Haight

Cynthia Hamilton

Amanda M. Helwig

Bud Henkels

Dolores Jordan Cannon

Brian Quinn

Robert Wilmot

Jack Yeakel

### ADVISORY BOARD

Shirley E. Hanson

### EDITORS

Cindy Hamilton

Christine Fisher Smith

Katie Worrall

**Thursday, Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 – 7:30 p.m.**

**First Presbyterian Church**

*Bethlehem Pike & East Mill Road in Flourtown, PA*

Have you ever heard of Five Points Elementary School or Five Points Evangelical Presbyterian Church? If not for Joseph Heatly Dulles Allen and his Enfield Pottery and Tile Works, that's what they might be called today.

Allen was living on his father's farm when he became invalided after a fall from his polo pony. While recovering, he began experimenting with clays he found on the property at Church and Paper Mill Rds., and decided to start a pottery business.

The pottery included a two-foot high blue garden urn that is believed to have been owned by Allen's uncle, Heatly Dulles, who lived in Villanova. The urn is among the works by Allen now in the historical society collection.

Allen expanded his business from making pottery to making decorative tiles for local architects and for businesses such as Philadelphia's William Watts & Co. The tiles were then sold to contractors who used them on floors and walls. In bathrooms and kitchens tiles were installed halfway up the wall and finished with a border tile.

Because of the volume of his shipments, the U.S. government moved the post office from Laverock to Enfield in 1908. The post office was moved to Oreland in 1934.

Joseph Allen's most notable commissions include the Pan American Building in Washington, D.C. and the Bok Tower in Lake Wales, Florida. Today the name Enfield has become part of Springfield Township. The name Enfield comes from the town in



(top left) Joseph Heatly Dulles Allen, from a family photo in journal belonging to Allen's relative, Elizabeth Heatly Bartow.

(left) Blue garden urn is an example of pottery made by Joseph Heatly Dulles Allen.

(above) Allen made the floor tiles in the Pan American Building in Washington, D.C. The tiles, which feature an Aztec motif, were examples of rounded tiles.

England where Allen's ancestors came from, and from the name of the town in Connecticut where Allen's father grew up.

In addition to learning all about the Allen family and the origins of the "Enfield Stock Farm and Kennels," the presentation will also explore the work of the noted Philadelphia artist blacksmith, Samuel Yellin and his contribution to our township's architecture.

During his research, Zwicker, a volunteer in the historical society archives, has uncovered some interesting facts that he hopes will be new to the residents of Springfield Township.

The program is free and open to the public. No reservations are necessary.

Call 215-233-4600 or visit [www.springfieldhistory.org](http://www.springfieldhistory.org) for more information.

### PLEASE NOTE:

*Attendees to the September program are encouraged to bring a canned food item to donate to the First Presbyterian Church's neighborhood food pantry. Please help us to support this important cause.*

## HIDDEN BEHIND A PAINTING...

It was once common to conceal important documents by placing them inside a family Bible or inside the backing of a painting – recently, for example, a first printing of the Declaration of Independence, now valued at \$1 million, was discovered inside the backing of a painting purchased for \$4 at a Pennsylvania flea market in 1989.

Wyndmoor now has its own example of this kind of hidden history.

Roelle Perry Wallace was unpacking pictures to hang in her new Seattle home, in August 2015, when something caught her eye – a framed chalk/pastel rendering of an iris showed some evidence of rot along the backing. The iris had been painted by Roelle's mother, Elise Vaught Tyson, circa 1930, while she was living with her parents in Wyndmoor. Elise's father was J.S.Y. Tyson, the Chief Engineer for the Stotesburys' Whitemarsh Hall estate.

As Roelle pried away the damaged backing, a number of pieces of yellowed paper came tumbling out. Seeing the words "Whitemarsh Hall" on one piece, and knowing a bit of her grandfather's history, she contacted me for help with this puzzle.

We reassembled the pieces into what may be the only surviving seating chart for a formal dinner at Whitemarsh Hall. The markings are in pencil on a printed form, designed for the mansion's formal dining room, and the pencil marks may be in Eva Stotesbury's own handwriting.

This dinner was one of the first such events at Whitemarsh Hall after its formal opening on October 8, 1921. It occurred on Monday, December 5, 1921, and was mentioned in the Philadelphia Inquirer on the following day. The guests of honor were the Rt. Rev. Philip M. Rhinelander, Episcopal Bishop of Philadelphia, and his wife Helen Maria Rhinelander. Apparently, Eva Stotesbury was indisposed, and her daughter, Louise Cromwell Brooks, was called upon to act as hostess – she is seated at the Garden End of the table, opposite "The Bishop", while Mr. Stotesbury is seated at the head of the table with Mrs. Rhinelander to his right.

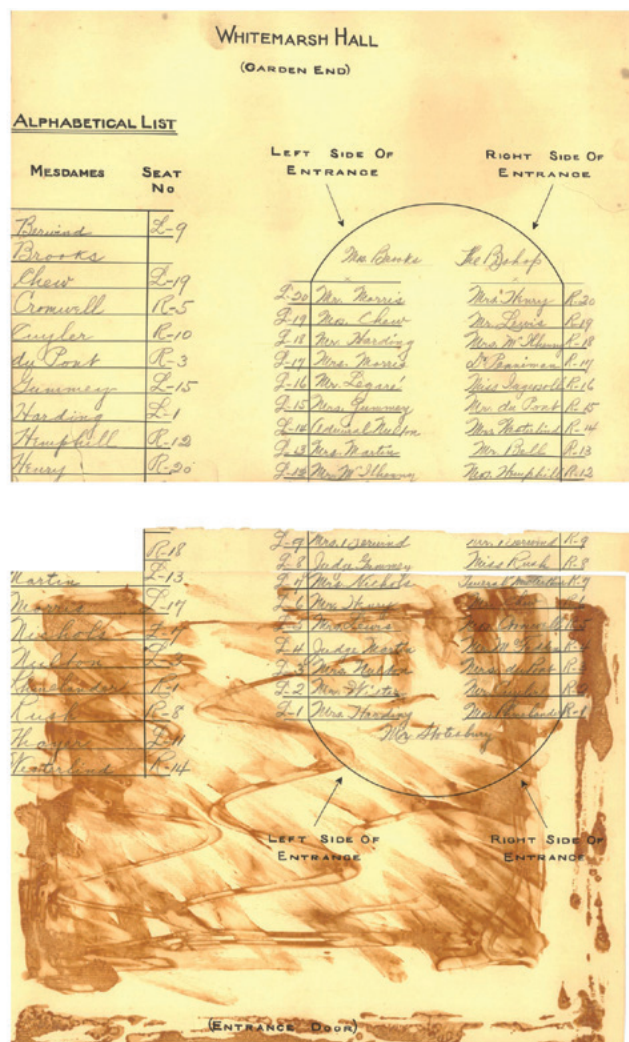
The reassembled chart pieces are missing two rows in the table seating, but we have been able to reconstruct them from the separate alphabetical listing of the women on the left. The missing rows were apparently:

L-11 Mrs. Thayer	General Thayer R-11
L-10 Mr. Cromwell	Mrs. Cuyler R-10

Space limitations do not permit us to identify all of the attendees in detail here, but a few deserve special mention. Brigadier General Douglas MacArthur, seated at R-7, was at the time of this dinner secretly engaged to Louise Cromwell Brooks; they would marry at the Stotesburys' Palm Beach estate on February 14, 1922. Mr. Cromwell (L-10) and Mrs. Cromwell (R-5) are almost certainly James H.R. Cromwell, Eva's younger son, and his new bride, Delphine Ione Dodge Cromwell, who were living on the estate at that time.

The Stotesburys used seating charts not only for event planning but also for their guests' reference – framed copies were placed in the Men's and Women's Wardrobe rooms that the attendees would visit upon their arrival at Whitemarsh Hall for these events.

The author would like to thank Roelle Perry Wallace for granting permission to reproduce the seating chart image in this newsletter.



Reassembled Seating Chart fragments; brown markings are century-old glue residue.

Copyright © 2016 by Richard R. Billig and Roelle Perry Wallace. All Rights Reserved.

### Author contact information:

Richard R. Billig – Email: [rrbillig@gmail.com](mailto:rrbillig@gmail.com)  
Administrator, "Fans of Whitemarsh Hall" group on Facebook

# BECOME A FRIEND OF STHS

AND HELP SUPPORT OUR MISSION OF RESEARCH, PRESERVATION AND EDUCATION

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT

[WWW.SPRINGFIELDHISTORY.ORG](http://WWW.SPRINGFIELDHISTORY.ORG)



## WILD WILD WEST THEME FOR THE



## Fourth Annual Springfield Township Historical Society

# History in Motion

The Springfield Township Historical Society invites everyone to join us for our Fourth Annual “History in Motion” on Friday, November 11, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. at Sandy Run Country Club, 200 East Valley Green Road, Oreland.

This year, we will travel back in time to the Wild, Wild West. We will be featuring complimentary wine tasting provided by Chaddsford Winery. Chaddsford Winery is among a handful of wineries in the Eastern United States who have achieved a national reputation for producing premium wines of world-class stature.

The venue for the evening will include dinner, as well as a live auction of art, collectibles, and jewelry. Also back – by popular demand – will be *Without a Cue Productions*, who will entertain us with their western theme show, “The Good, the Bad and the Deadly.”

Tickets are available at [www.HIM4.eventbrite.com](http://www.HIM4.eventbrite.com). Tickets are being offered on an Early Bird Special at \$50 per person, a \$25 reduction in booking price if purchased before October 2nd. If purchased after October 2nd, the cost will be \$75 per person. Cut-off date for ticket purchase is November 7th.

The Springfield Township Historical Society continues to welcome sponsorship for this event. For more information on sponsorship, please contact Amanda Helwig at 215-233-5000.

*For more information about the Springfield Township Historical Society and History in Motion, please contact the Historical Society at 215-233-4600.*

## FROM THE *Archives*



Photo of Wyndmoor School kindergarten class 1947-1948

## Scholarship Winner

The Springfield Township Historical Society Scholarship Award was presented to Springfield Township High School senior Miquin (Molly) Wu at the school's Senior Awards Assembly on June 14. The award is given to a graduating senior who plans to major in history, social studies or economics and was presented by social studies department head Peggy Zehner. Molly plans to major in economics at New York University. She was also presented with a certificate of merit from Science Department's Society of Women Engineers, Philadelphia Section, for highest achievement in science.



Molly Wu



## The Archives are **OPEN** to the Public

TUESDAYS 7pm – 9pm  
WEDNESDAYS 1pm – 5pm  
SATURDAYS 9am – 12noon

For more information,  
call **215-233-4600**

# CALL FOR *Archives* VOLUNTEERS

Our dedicated group of volunteers, including Barbara Coleman, Tracey Danforth, Dulie Gray, Ray Smith, and Katie Worrall are continuing to catalogue our collection.

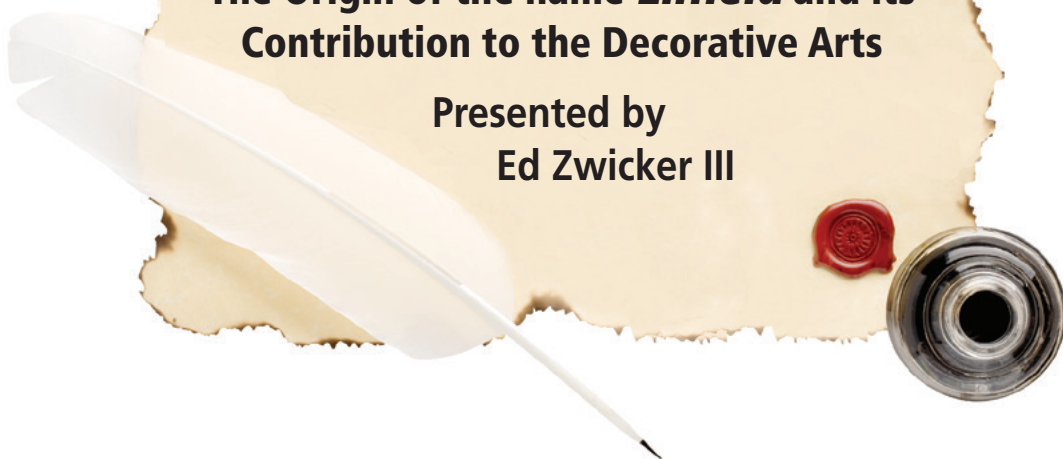
Our volunteers provide a valuable service to the historical society and are vital to carrying out our mission. If you like history, working with a computer, and have an hour or two to spare each week, please contact the archives at [archives@springfieldhistory.org](mailto:archives@springfieldhistory.org) or 215-233-4600.

## Reserve the Date

**Thurs., Sept. 22, 2016 – 7:30 p.m.**

**The Origin of the name *Enfield* and its  
Contribution to the Decorative Arts**

**Presented by  
Ed Zwicker III**



Address Service Requested

*The Challenge*  
PRESERVATION • RESEARCH • EDUCATION  
Springfield Township Historical Society  
PO Box 564 • Flourtown, PA 19031

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Fort Washington, PA  
Permit No. 518