



33 PALACE THEATRE | 1922

117 West Broad Street

Generations of families were entertained by movies and shows at the Palace Theatre, located west of the railroad tracks on West Broad Street. In 1971, the theater closed and the building became the retail store for Dimmig Electric until 2013.

Today it is The Proper Brewing Company.



34 BOROUGH HALL | 1974

15 North 2nd Street

The original Borough Hall was located at 330 W. Broad St. from 1884 to 1974. In 1938, that building was razed and replaced with a new Borough Hall, which still stands today. This building, the current Borough Hall, was built in 1974.

The second floor contains a mural of a local pre-Civil War farm scene, created by Bertram Grossman, a Federal WPA artist.



35 FIRST REFORMED CHURCH | 1893

415 West Broad Street

A well-preserved example of the late 19th century architect M. B. Bean's work, which includes a magnificent Durner organ. Dedication services were conducted by Rev. F. J. Mohr on March 11, 1894 following 20 years of worship in the same building with the St. John's Lutheran Church.

QUAKERTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Founded June 1965

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Historic QUAKERTOWN WALKING TOUR

TAKE A SELF-GUIDED WALK
BACK IN TIME AND DISCOVER
HISTORIC QUAKERTOWN



Upper
Bucks
Chamber of
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Take a walk back in time

The Quakertown area was originally known as the Great Swamp, a Native American occupied wilderness settled by Welsh and German immigrants, and then by the Dutch and the Swedes, starting in the late 1600's. William Penn established the 16,000 acre Manor of Richland in 1703 and in 1803 the community centered on Main Street was called "The Quaker's Town" by Postmaster William Green. The Great Swamp has changed a lot in the last 400 years but "Quaker's Town" remains the hub of the Upper Bucks County region.



#29 Quakertown Train Station

Uptown Quakertown



1 BURGESS FOULKE HOUSE | 1812

26 North Main Street

Built in 1812 by Edward Foulke, Sr. whose son became Quakertown's first Burgess (mayor). This prominent example of Quaker architecture was moved in 1974 from its original site on Route 309 to make room for a shopping center. Call 267-227-3864 for the monthly tour schedule.



2 LANCASTER LOG HOUSE | 1747

1313 West Broad Street (former site)

Built by an early Quaker settler, this original hand-hewn structure stood here from 1747-1891. In the 1790s it was the law office of Squire Griffith and was the home of Joseph Lancaster, Quakertown's postmaster and second Burgess, from 1846-1891. It was also the place where tax assessors were held hostage during the Fries Rebellion in 1799.



3 QUAKERTOWN SAVINGS BANK | 1809

1301 West Broad Street

The home of Justice of the Peace John Griffith, this building served as the area's first bank (and the predecessor to QNB) from 1871-1877. It was the passenger terminal of the Liberty Bell Trolley from 1928-1954.



4 RED LION INN | 1748

4 South Main Street

Quakertown's first hotel and tavern, it was the site of Fries Rebellion in 1799. Built by grist miller Walter McCoolle and later owned by Revolutionary War Colonel Jacob Savitz, it was a vital stagecoach stop between the capital of Philadelphia and the Lehigh and Wyoming valleys during the Revolutionary and French and Indian Wars. Continental officers stayed here September 23, 1777 while escorting the Liberty Bell to Allentown. Currently operating as McCoolle's at the Historic Red Lion Inn.



5 MCCOOLE'S LIVERY STABLE | 1780

10 South Main Street

Originally a stable, this building transformed into the "Colonial Theatre" and "The Hall," staging burlesque and vaudeville shows, and suffragette lectures in its heyday. It became a clothing and fabric factory before resuming hosting special events and theater productions as McCoolle's Arts and Events Place.



6 RICHLAND LIBRARY CO. | 1850

44 South Main Street

Founded 1788 as a lending library, it was chartered as the Commonwealth's first non-profit corporation in 1795. The third oldest library in Bucks County and the seventh oldest in Pennsylvania, the building was moved to this location in 1911. It is now a research facility for preserving items of local history and culture, maintaining them to promote and facilitate genealogical and historical research.



7 FIRST DRUG STORE | 1819

114 South Main Street

Built circa 1815 by father and son physician-apothecaries, Dr. James Green and Dr. James B. Green, who provided the community with herbs, patent medicines, lotions, and medicines.



8 MAUS CLOCKMAKER HAUS | 1812

120 South Main Street

Home of clockmaster William "Billy" Maus. The Maus Grandfather Clock in the lobby of St. Luke's Hospital Quakertown is a rare example of his surviving craftsmanship. The house later became home to Quakers John Lester, William Penrose, and prominent physician, Charles F. Meredith.



9 FIRST POST OFFICE | 1800

132 South Main Street

Quakertown's first store and post office, it was owned by William Green until 1804. Later owners included Dr. Samuel Carey and Mrs. Irene Meredith.



10 HOME OF HEACOCK THE WEATHER PIONEER | 1769

140 South Main Street

Quakertown's oldest stone house, this home was built in 1769 by John Foulke. Home of Joel and Abigail Heacock whose son, scientist J. Levi Heacock, Esq., was an early weather pioneer, recording local conditions and filing regular weather reports to the government in Washington, DC. in the 1880's. As Burgess and council member, he led the fight for electric lights.



#28 Bush House Hotel



11 QUAKER MEETINGHOUSE | 1862

Main and Mill Streets

Built in 1862 by Richland Friends Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), it replaced a 1795 structure. The region's first church was first located one mile south on Station Rd., its meetinghouse and cemetery moved here in 1730. The region's first school house was built here in 1773, serving the Quaker and German communities.



12 UNDERGROUND RAILROAD STATION | 1834

401 South Main Street

Built in 1834 by Quaker potter Richard Moore. The clay famous for creating household redware dishes was dug from Moore's 70-acre Quakertown farm and fired in his circa 1790 kiln. His trips north to deliver his goods also transported slaves to freedom via the Underground Railroad. Museum-quality artifacts recovered from this property are on display in the Burgess Foulke House. In March 2018, the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission awarded the Quakertown Historical Society a city marker that was placed in front of his house in September 2019 to honor Moore's role in saving more than 600 fugitives.



13 LOG HOUSE | 1761

137 South Main Street

One of Quakertown's earliest homes, this example of early log architecture was built by an early Quaker settler. The brick addition was added at a later date.



14 EVAN PENROSE HOUSE | 1830

133 South Main Street

This stone home is listed on the Bucks County and Pennsylvania registers of historic homes. The Penroses were related to US Senator Boise Penrose (1860-1921).



The tour is a 2.5 mile walk when taken in numerical order (1-35).



15 HENRY FRANKLIN HOUSE | 1813

131 South Main Street

Home to African-American Henry Franklin, Quakertown's first freed slave citizen. Franklin drove pottery wagons for Richard Moore, frequently transporting other escaped slaves. Franklin's parents moved to Quakertown and ran a broom making business.



16 CIVIL WAR ORPHANS SCHOOL | 1805

107 South Main Street (former site)

Built before 1810 by Samuel Nixon, Richard Moore and Thomas Foulke had a boarding school here in 1818. In 1858, Rev. A. R. Horne opened the Bucks Co. Normal and Classical School on the site. The Civil War Soldiers Orphans School followed from 1864-1867. Eventually the building was torn down and became part of the Quaker City Harness property (#17).



17 QUAKER CITY HARNESS CO. | 1886

Main and Juniper Streets

Built circa 1886 by J. S. Harley on the site of the former Continental Hotel and Bucks County Hotel, this was Quakertown's largest factory employing over 140 skilled hands. It contained steam-powered equipment and the area's first elevator. Finished leather horse harnesses and nets, gig saddles, driving reins and web halters were sold throughout the country.



18 WILLIAM GREEN STORE AND HOUSE | 1805

1239 West Broad Street

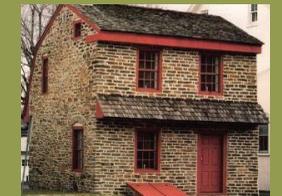
Quakertown's first brick home and store was built in 1805 by William Green, whose son Richard R. Green continued the family's grocery business until 1892. Starting in 1816, a room "above the kitchen" served as the original home of the Richland Library Company which remained there for over 40 years.



19 UPPER BUCKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND VISITOR CENTER | 1850

21 North Main Street

This restored farmer's barn is now home to the Upper Bucks Chamber of Commerce offices and Upper Bucks County Visitors Center. Visitors are greeted by a Quakertown Historical Society museum display in the entry area.



20 LIBERTY HALL | 1772

1237 West Broad Street

The Liberty Bell "slept here" behind this stone building, overnight on September 23, 1777, en route to its wartime hiding place in Allentown. Then crackless and named the State House Bell, it was brought through Quakertown on a farm wagon carrying brass church bells being evacuated from Philadelphia to avoid being taken and melted down for cannons by the British troops.





21 ENOCH ROBERTS HOUSE | 1814

1226 West Broad Street

This house stands out as a very well-preserved vernacular federal “mansion house” of the 1810-1820 period, retaining over 90% of its original woodwork and floor plan.



22 LUCKY'S | 1880

1222 West Broad Street

This Victorian eatery was originally the Twin Gables before being reopened as Patrick's in the 1980's. Its last incarnation was as a restaurant restored and renamed for its 1930's owner, racing driver Lucky Loux.



23 MOHR HOUSE | 1865

1210 West Broad Street

Rev. Franklin Mohr and his family moved into the house in 1872 where he conducted many weddings and other church related functions until “The First Reformed Church” was formed. The house remained in his family for 81 years.



24 ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | 1865

19 South 10th Street

Home to Quakertown's first German and Lutheran congregations, this is the oldest standing church building in the Upper Bucks region. It is known for its beautiful stained glass windows.



25 FREE PRESS BUILDING | 1869

312 West Broad Street

Built by the Sons of Herman, a secret, mutual-aid society for German immigrants. Excessive death claims forced sale of the building to Quakertown Savings Bank in 1872. It later became a post office and was bought by the Free Press in 1922. The building is listed on National Historic Register.



26 KARLTON THEATER | 1915

308 West Broad Street

The Karlton Theater merged with its sister theater, The Palace (#33) sometime after 1931. Located on West Broad Street next to the Free Press building, the Karlton Theater closed its doors in 1967 after providing entertainment for many. Today the site is known as The Karlton Building and is occupied by The Karlton Café and retail shops.

Downtown Quakertown



27 SINE'S 5 & 10 STORE | 1912

236 West Broad Street

Opened in 1912 and still operated by the founding family, this is an emporium of the practical, the hard-to-find and many sweet treats. Features an old-fashioned lunch counter, a huge collection of model airplanes and a display of vintage postcards and local memorabilia.



28 BUSH HOUSE HOTEL | 1856

200 West Broad Street

Built in 1856 by Thomas A. Snyder, and purchased in 1863 by William Bush, the Bush House Hotel contained the town's only ballroom. The property once had a cattle yard containing over 25 cows, 100 hogs and 50 horses.



29 QUAKERTOWN TRAIN STATION | 1902

15 Front Street

Built in 1902 to replace a smaller station dating from the 1852 arrival of the North Penn Railroad, this is the largest train station in Bucks County and is listed on the National Historic Register. Serving a succession of lines before passenger service was suspended in 1981, it is now under lease and restoration by the Quakertown Train Station Historical Society.



30 TROLLEY BARN | 1896

108 East Broad Street

Built in 1896 as the terminal and trolley car barn of the Quakertown-Richlandtown Traction Company, the region's first electric trolleys ran from Main and Broad Streets to the heart of Richlandtown. Named the “Tripper” service, it continued until 1927 and in 1929 was converted to a movie house called The Broad, complete with a piano player during silent films. The town's largest hall for many years, it was also used for graduations. Home to a bowling alley in the 1950's and the Trolley Barn Antique Emporium in the late 1980's, it will soon become the Trolley Barn Public Market.



31 THE EAGLE HOTEL | 1795

201 East Broad Street

Records indicate the existence of a tavern on this corner as early as 1795 in Richland Centre, which was the name for downtown until it was annexed into the borough of Quakertown in 1874. The first known proprietor of The Eagle Hotel was Edwin Scheetz in 1856.



32 GLOBE HOTEL | 1827

101 East Broad Street

Formerly named the Pennsylvania Hotel, in 1849 it served as the location of a pottery operated by Moore and Kinsey.