

~ East Nantmeal Historical Commission Speaker Program ~

The Buried Warwick Cannon Legend

Presented by Historian Dan Graham

Tuesday, April 16, 7pm at East Nantmeal Township Building

"A cannon of the Revolutionary war has been discovered on the farm of Ephram Kauffman, near Warwick, Chester County...The cannon weighs 4,550 pounds and is of cast iron..." *Pittsburg Press, 1903*

One of the enduring legends about Chester County's Warwick Furnace is the Revolutionary War story about the buried cannon and the bell that was rung to call the neighbors to come and help bury them. During the 1777 British advance on Philadelphia, cannon cast at Warwick were buried in the fields next to French Creek to keep them from falling into British hands. At the last moment, the British turned east to invest Philadelphia and did not molest the furnace. The buried cannon were never dug up and laid there for almost 100 years -- unmentioned but not completely forgotten. Seven were dug up in 1875; five more were found in 1895, and one in 1903.

Dan Graham is an early Pennsylvania iron researcher and a Potts and Rutter family historian, who is currently writing a book on Warwick Furnace.

~ Refreshments ~



Kauffman Cannon, 1903



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ARCHAEOLOGY COMES TO EAST NANTMEAL

Wednesday, May 22, 7pm
East Nantmeal Township Building



As part of the PA Turnpike reconstruction and widening in our township, an archaeological survey was made, and an historically sensitive area was identified near the Hedge Road bridge over the turnpike. Excavations on and around the Charles Burnett property have uncovered 18th and 19th century artifacts, and the site has been recommended for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Richard White, MA, RPA, an experienced archaeological investigator who was involved with these excavations, will give a power-point slide show and display items recovered from the site.

Following this, Potts School Road resident, Steve Somers, a member of the Society of PA Archaeology and long-time artifact hunter, will share his collecting experiences and findings. Steve has been on several professional digs, including early Native American sites along the Delaware River. Attendees may bring locally found artifacts for informal identification and discussion, as time allows.

~ Refreshments ~