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From the Editor

One of the most exciting and well-received programs in recent months was the presentation by Roger Thorne and Mike Bertram of photos taken by the Dallin Aerial Survey Company between the years 1924 to 1941. At the original slide show in October 2008, as well as at an encore engagement a few weeks later, the rich history of Tredyffrin and Easttown came alive again – rural, agricultural, and industrial, and at the same time modern. All that open land . . .

The Dallin photos certainly brought back memories for Dick Kurtz, a long time resident, Society member, and past *Quarterly* contributor. As he viewed the slides, the memories came flooding back. Two articles are the result; one the story of the Foote Mineral Company, the other of Utlely Wedge, a local inventor. Notice how the stories are colored by the times, with suspicions of secret government work and clandestine war efforts. Gone but not forgotten is the time when even local residents worried about spies and subterfuge. Experience these intriguing days again through Dick's stories.

Returning author Seth Hinshaw provides answers to the question, "How much did we borrow from our European ancestors in the way of church architecture?" Seth's photos are like a trip around England. Through his accompanying article, visit various churches and different denominations in the Old World. In fact, the second structure erected on North Valley Forge Road by the congregation of the Baptist Church in the Great Valley is almost identical to the house of worship constructed a couple of hundred years earlier in Wales by their ancestors. Read up on transepts, naves, and rood screens for the conclusion.

The Tredyffrin Historic Preservation Trust's annual fundraiser will be held on Saturday, June 20, at 7:00 p.m. This year's theme: "In the Mood—Bluegrass, Blue Jeans & Bar-B-Que." Tickets are \$60 apiece. All proceeds go to rebuilding the Jones Log Barn at DuPortail House as a "living history museum." All contributions are tax deductible as the law permits. For more information, visit www.tredyffrinhistory.org, or call 610-644-6759. Hope to see you there!



Front Cover: Old St. David's Episcopal Church. *Photo by Mike Bertram.*

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TREDYFFRIN EASTTOWN HISTORY QUARTERLY



Colonial Religious Architecture

Paoli's Prolific Inventor

Secret Government Research

Back Cover: Clockwise, from upper left: Presbyterian Meeting House, Wilmington, DE; Radnor Friends Meeting House, Radnor, PA; Langley Chapel, Shropshire, England; Old Drawyers Presbyterian Meeting House, Odessa, DE; London Tract Meeting House, Landenberg, PA; St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Cullompton, Devon, England. *All photographs courtesy of Seth Hinshaw.*

