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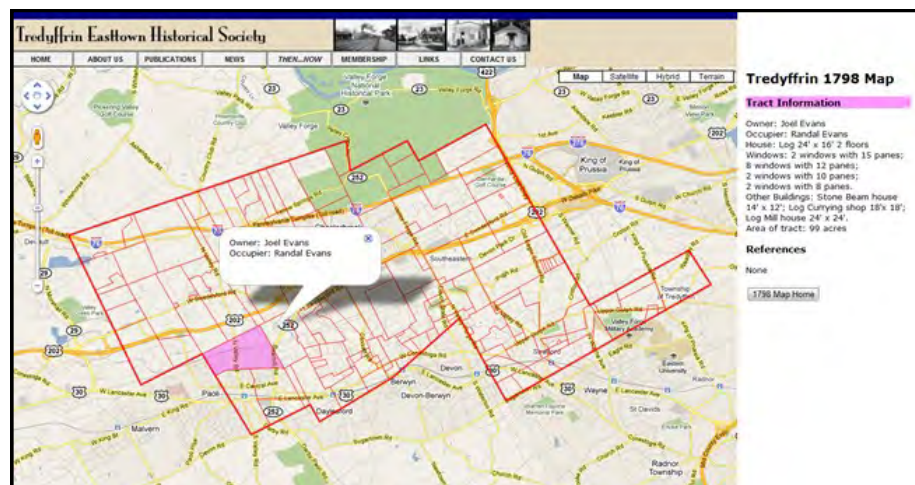
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## From the Editor

At the confluence of Valley Creek and the Schuylkill River, little remains of the once-thriving mill community of Valley Forge. In contrast, a few miles north at the confluence of French Creek and the Schuylkill sits the borough of Phoenixville. What's missing is the former industrial complex of the Phoenix Iron Works—with a few exceptions. Barbara Cohen's story of the restoration of the Foundry Building made for a great presentation at the Society's meeting in March of this year. What may not be evident in the re-telling of this story is the amazing personal commitment that Barbara made to the restoration effort over a period of many years. It is that kind of dedication that allows for our local history to be so much more than the images and words that are conveyed through the *Quarterly*. People like Barbara enable future generations to know the history of the Phoenix Iron Works, its successor corporations, its thousands of employees, and its many bridges and other structures, to ensure those memories live on long after the mills have fallen silent.

Clarissa Dillon returns to the *Quarterly* to provide insight to the dilemma faced by Pennsylvania residents as the call for revolution grew stronger in the 1770s. As she points out, it's easy to see which side to choose this long after the fact, but with the outcome far from certain at the time, choices of loyalty were not easily made.

While Mike Bertram may have moved from the Valley Forge vicinity, he continues to provide content for us to enjoy, with a history of the old bottling plant along the Mt. Misery trail, as well as a new addition to the Society's website. In conjunction with John Senior, our Vice-President and webmaster, Mike has used old tax records and maps to create an interactive guide to Tredyffrin properties in 1798. Be sure to visit the website to see for yourself.



Cover Descriptions

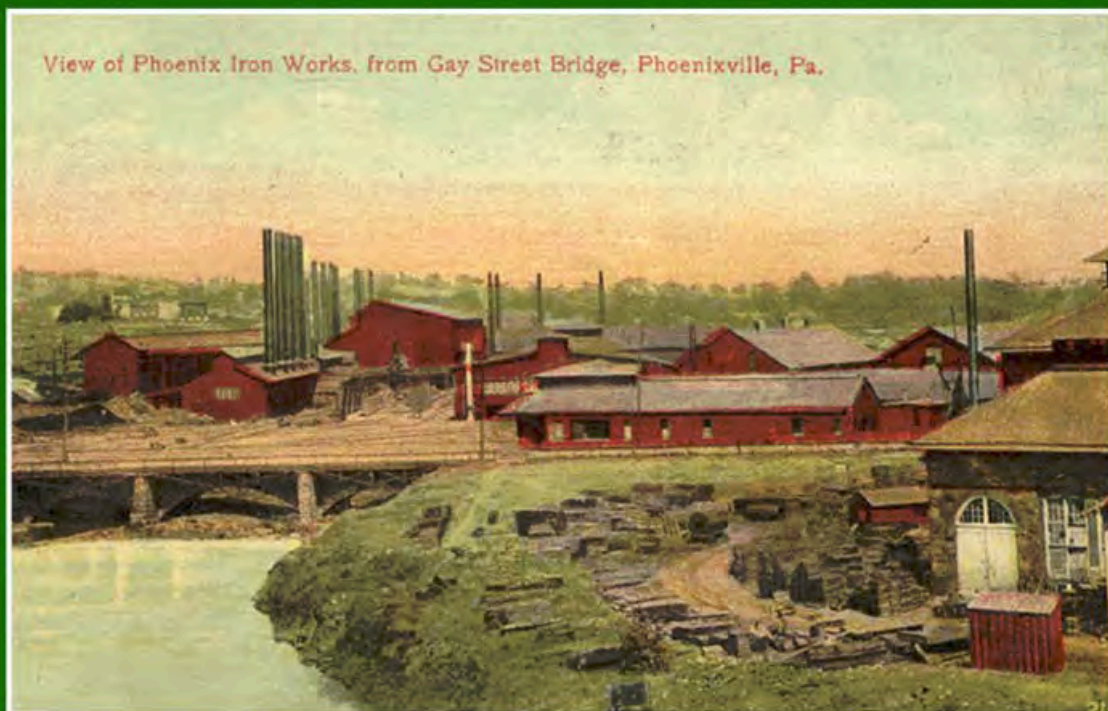
Front Cover: A postcard of the Phoenix Iron Works, Phoenixville, PA. *Images on both covers courtesy of the Schuylkill River Heritage Center.*

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# **TREDYFFRIN EASTTOWN HISTORY QUARTERLY**



**The Rebirth of the Phoenix Steel Foundry**

**Loyalty in Revolutionary Pennsylvania**

**The Bottling Plant at Colonial Springs**



Back Cover: Top: The Foundry Building stands neglected on the site of the Phoenix Steel Corporation in the mid-1990s.

Bottom: The restored Foundry Building, home of the Schuylkill River Heritage Center.

