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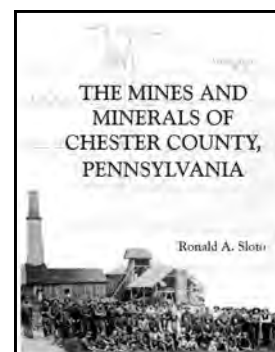
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From the Editor

The monolithic structure on the cover is a vestige of days gone by. It's a reminder of a time when people lived off the land, and before businesses were big. According to Ron Sloto, this giant lime kiln stands higher than most in the area. The height was intended to control the temperature and hence the rate of burn. Up to three men would shovel charges of alternating layers of lime and wood or coal into the mouth. A fire, which burned upwards of 900-1000°C, converted the limestone into lime. Burning lime was a process that might involve one day to load the kiln, three days to burn the lime, and two days to cool. The kilns were built adjacent to quarries. Some were used to supply only a few local farms. Other operations, generally with multiple kilns, were commercial ventures, such as the ones described in Ron's article.

We are fortunate to be surrounded every day by the ingenuity and craftsmanship of our talented forebears. Notice the care with which this kiln was built; the stone is nicely fitted together. As the only intact one of its kind in our area, why aren't we looking after it, getting the vines down, pointing the stone? Is this the way to treat an industrial "dinosaur?"

Ron's article on the quarries, mines, and related operations conducted in our vicinity over the past centuries is a testament to how innovative our ancestors were. Ron spent 30 years exhaustively researching Chester County mining. His book is chock full of photos, illustrations, maps, archival documents, and other images that bring this story to life. He has researched over 400 mines and mineral localities, many of which are in our own Tredyffrin and Easttown backyards. Ron's fascinating book is available for purchase at his website: www.rasloto.com/book.



Mike Bertram and Tim Lander have co-authored a photo essay featuring the work/art of Lucy Sampson, the well-known local photographer. Around the turn of the last century, Lucy could be seen going hither and yon, seeking out subjects for her photos. Her distinctive handwriting often appeared around the edges of the photographs, which she processed in a darkroom at her Berwyn home. The sampling of photos here is a fraction of her work to be found in the Society archives. Inexplicably, we have no known photo of Lucy herself, or of her family members. This article arose from the one of the last Society presentations to be made by Mike Bertram, who now resides in the Gettysburg area.

With sadness, we acknowledge the passing of Society member George Harlow, who was actively involved in the distribution aspects of the *Quarterly*. He will be missed.

In other member news, Dr. Clarissa Dillon is spending some time in Massachusetts this summer with fellow botanical historians at Plimouth Plantation. They're cultivating colonial-era herbs and vegetables the old-fashioned way. To learn more about her activities with burnet, smallage, skirrets, gooseberry, and purslane, see the *New York Times* Home section of July 8, 2011. The article is titled "Ye Old Kitchen Garden," by Michael Tortorello.

As described in Notes & Comments, the Society's June meeting at Historic Waynesborough commemorated the 75th anniversary of our founding. Cheers!

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Cover Descriptions

Front Cover: This lime kiln is the only intact example of its kind in the eastern Great Valley. Located in Valley Forge National Historical Park, north of the Pennsylvania Turnpike and east of Wilson Road, it was used to burn limestone from the nearby Brown quarry (see p. 44). *Ronald A. Sloto.*

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TREDYFFRIN EASTTOWN HISTORY QUARTERLY

~ 75th Anniversary ~



Limestone Quarries and Iron Mines
Lucy Sampson, Berwyn Photographer

Back Cover: Two photographs taken by Lucy Sampson, from the archives of the Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society.

Top: The caption written on this photograph says “Old log cabin formerly on Dingee and Biddle land north of the corner of Howellville Road and Central Avenue, Paoli, and on the west side of Howellville Road.” Atlases at that time labeled today’s Bear Hill Road as Howellville Rd. After conferring with Society member Dick Kurtz, Mike Bertram believes the photo is looking to the northeast, with the road passing behind the cabin, and Friendship Hill in the background. The cabin is shown in the 1908 atlas, but it is gone in the 1912 and later atlases.

Bottom: The Knox Covered Bridge, with the boathouse of the Philander Knox estate just upstream. The mill pond created by the dam on Valley Creek (see p. 57) extended up to the Knox estate, and it is said that Knox or a member of his house-hold staff would take the boat downstream to Valley Forge to collect the mail.

