Excerpted from Vol. 56 No. 2 of the *Tredyffrin Easttown History Quarterly*

Volume 56 Number 2 Spring 2022 $10

# Tredyffrin Easttown History Quarterly

— Est. 1936 —



## Military Encampments in Devon

## Small Beer — A Common Colonial Drink

Copyright © 2026 Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society. All Rights Reserved. Authors retain copyright for their contributions.
Contact the Society for permission to use any content in this publication.The Society does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information herein.

The *History Quarterly* is published by the

**Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society**
720 First Avenue
Berwyn, PA 19312

A 501(c)(3) organization

**Board of Directors**

*Officers*
John O. Senior, *President*
Bart Van Valkenburgh, *VP*
Marianne Hooper, *Secretary*
Tim Lander, *Treasurer*

Larry DeYoung, *Chair*
Stacey Ballard
Tim Caban
Judy DiFilippo
Bertha Jackmon
Stanley Lieberman
Pearl Nudy

**Editor**
John O. Senior
**Associate Editors**
Heidi Sproat
Larry DeYoung
Nancy Kimmons

**Distribution**
Bart Van Valkenburgh
Rick Hassold
Bill Keltz

**Subscriptions**
A subscription to the *History Quarterly* is included with each membership in the Society. One copy per membership is mailed to the member household address.

**Annual Membership Dues**
Patron: $150
General: $50

Please visit our website for membership applications, details on upcoming programs, and other valuable information.

**www.tehistory.org**

ISSN: 1938-5676

# From the Editor

As the Society continues to navigate troubled waters in the wake of the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and despite some unavoidable production delays, the *History Quarterly* remains an important resource for our members and others interested in what we do. We are glad to have a new issue to share, and are hopeful that we will be able to resume our public meetings and events in the near future.

In this issue, we are pleased to present a substantial new article concerning the military encampments held in the Devon area in the 1800s. This piece was developed by dedicated Society researcher Meg Wiederseim in close collaboration with Society and First City Troop member Fran Jacobs, II. The story involves the historic First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry and a colorful cast of notable characters, as well as making interesting connections with the Devon Inn, a subject recently covered in *Tredyffrin Easttown History Quarterly* Vol. 55 No. 4 (Winter 2021).

The second article is an adaptation of Clarissa Dillon's presentation at the April 2019 Society meeting on brewing beer in the Colonial era, and includes the very informative question and answer session that followed her prepared remarks. Special thanks to Associate Editor Nancy Kimmons for carefully transcribing that section of the audio recording from the meeting.

In the *In Memoriam* prepared by former Society president Roger Thorne, we remember the late Bo and Ragnhild Bergqvist, loyal and generous supporters of the Society.

Finally, we take a brief look back at the former site of the long-gone Green Tree Station and the surrounding area near Malvern in Willistown Township.




Some of the essential ingredients used in brewing beer on display at Clarissa Dillon's April 2019 presentation "Small Beer — A Common Colonial Drink." *Courtesy of © John O. Senior.*

**Trash or Treasure?**

It is not uncommon for us to hear from or about people who are in possession of some items that they may be uncertain how to value, but for which they would like to find a new home.

If you (or people you know) have photographs, drawings, maps, letters, documents, books, or other items of possible (or definite) historic interest that might be donated to the Society, please visit the Archives page of our website (**http://www.tehistory.org/archives.html**) and review our Collecting Policy, or contact us directly for more information. Email: **archive@tehistory.org**

Copyright © 2026 Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society. All Rights Reserved. Authors retain copyright for their contributions.
This publication or any portion thereof may not be reproduced or used in any manner whatsoever without the express written permission of the publisher.
Contact the Society for permission to use any content in this publication. The Society does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information herein.

Excerpted from Vol. 56 No. 2 of the *Tredyffrin Easttown History Quarterly*

# Tredyffrin Easttown History Quarterly

Volume 56, Number 2

Spring 2022

## CONTENTS

### FEATURES

4 **Pennsylvania National Guard Summer Camps at Devon and the First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry**
*Francis B. Jacobs, II and Meg Wiederseim*

28 **Small Beer — A Common Colonial Drink**
*Clarissa F. Dillon, Ph.D.*

### DEPARTMENTS

34 **In Memoriam: Bo Göran Lennart Bergqvist**
*Roger D. Thorne*

35 **Support Recognition**

39 **Then and Now: Green Tree in Willistown Township**
*Roger Thorne and Bart Van Valkenburgh*

Cover Descriptions

Front Cover: The original 1892 painting by Franklin D. Briscoe depicting a First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalryman may be found on a wall of the Armory at 22 South 23rd Street, Philadelphia, Pa. *Courtesy of First City Troop Archives*.

Back Cover: (UPPER) Section of 1887 map (Plate 26 of *Properties Along the Pennsylvania R.R. Overbrook to Malvern Sta.*, compiled by G. Wm. Baist, published by J.L. Smith, Philadelphia, 1887) showing the Devon area, with the general locations of the military encampments marked with blue stars. *Map image courtesy of Radnor Historical Society*.

(LOWER) Brewing supplies displayed during Clarissa Dillon's April 2019 TEHS presentation on Small Beer at the Easttown Library. *Courtesy of © 2019 John O. Senior*

Assets from the Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society (TEHS) Archives are attributed to *TEHS Archives.*

Copyright © 2022 Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society. All Rights Reserved. Authors retain copyright for their contributions. This publication or any portion thereof may not be reproduced or used in any manner whatsoever without the express written permission of the publisher. Please contact the Society for permission to use any content in this publication.The Society does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information in these articles. The Society retains the right to republish submitted material.



Copyright © 2026 Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society. All Rights Reserved. Authors retain copyright for their contributions. This publication or any portion thereof may not be reproduced or used in any manner whatsoever without the express written permission of the publisher. Contact the Society for permission to use any content in this publication. The Society does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information herein.




**1887 Map of the Devon Area — ✪ Approximate locations of military encampments**

## Ingredients for making Small Beer




Copyright © 2026 Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society. All Rights Reserved. Authors retain copyright for their contributions.
Contact the Society for permission to use any content in this publication.The Society does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information herein.