

<b>PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM</b> BUREAU FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION Box 1026 PA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION Harrisburg, PA 17120		7. Local survey organization Historic Carversville Society	
B. property owners name and address Fitting, Donald W. & Joan S. 6355 Route 263 New Hope, Pa. 18938		9. tax parcel number / other number 41-4-12	10. U.T.M. zone  easting  northing usgs sheet:
12. classification site ( ) structure ( ) object ( ) building ( ) in N.R. district yes ( ) no ( )		13. date(s) (how determined) c 1867 - Deeds/photo	11. status (other surveys, lists etc.) Carversville Village N.R. Hist. District
15. architect or engineer N/A		14. period 1861-1880	15. style, design or folk type Vernacular Federal
16. architect or engineer N/A		17. contractor or builder possibly Mark Hall	18. primary building mat./construction Frame/Vertical Plank/Stucco
19. original use Residence		20. present use Post Office/Residence	
21. condition Good		22. integrity Good	

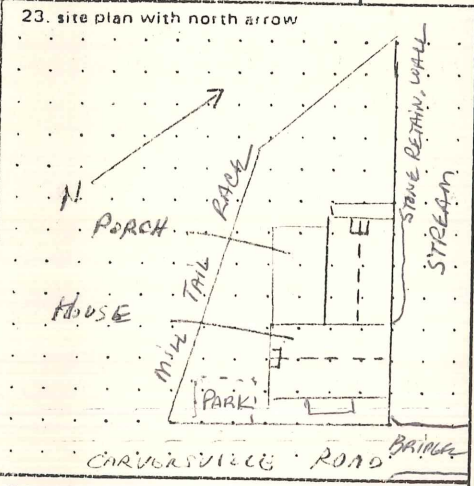


photo notation  
 E FRONT & SW GABLE  
 END FACADE  
 11/12/91 NBG # 91-11/1

25. file/location  
 GHL: 540 NEWTOWN RD. WARRIMONG

26. brief description (note unusual features, integrity, environment, threats and associated buildings)

The Carversville Post office building is located on Carversville Road, which used to be called the Doylestown and Lumberville Road. It sits on a 42 perch pie shaped wedge of land in the center of town along side of Paunacussing creek, just south west and next to a two arch stone bridge, which was built in 1854, and the tail stream from the mill on the other side. The building is "L" shaped and appears to be original construction. It is frame with vertical hemlock plank siding, currently covered with stucco. According to the current owner it is stone filled. It has a stone foundation. It is three bays wide, and two & one-quarter stories high with two front doors in the center bays, and one pile deep. The overall condition and integrity of the house is good.

The front section while having a evenly spaced four bay first floor front facade, has continued... (continue on back if necessary)

27. history, significance and/or background

The Carversville Post Office building is contributing architecturally to the Historic district of Carversville by representing a mid 19th century vernacular residence of size, scale, and placement near the road typical to the village. It is significant in that it is a vertical plank house. It is also important in that it has served multiple functions, in addition to a residence, representative of village life, namely as a post office, barber shop, ice cream parlor, oyster bar. (continue on back if necessary)

28. sources of information  
 see card #3

29. prepared by:  
 George H. Lomas

30. date: 12/91 revision(s): 11/95  
 K.A. Auerbach

1. County: **BUCKS**

2. Municipality: **SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP**

3. Street address or specific location: **CARVERSVILLE ROAD, CARVERSVILLE VILLAGE**

4. Survey code: **TP # 41-4-12**

5. Present name: **CARVERSVILLE POST OFFICE**

6. Other name (historic name if any): **JOHN P. SKELTON HOUSE**

ADDITIONAL DATA/PHOTOS  
number all continuatons from front

CARVERSVILLE POST OFFICE  
CARVERSVILLE ROAD

4. survey code

TP# 41-4-12

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: continued

only three evenly spaced windows on the second floor above. All windows on the front are 6/6 with modern storm windows on the outside. The windows have pediment lintel trim. The front entrance has a two bay wide porch entrance cover with tin roof supported by three square columns. On both sides are plain railings. The front entrance is gained by climbing four concrete steps. There is a cellar entrance wooden door to the left of the main porch entrance. The roof of the main or front section is asphalt shingle with open over hung cornice. The chimney on the front section is brick with a ceramic extension, and is located on the left side as face the building. The chimney is interior.

There is a vent on the S.W. gable end. Also a side window well for the basement. There is also on the S.W. side a one story screened porch sitting on a stone foundation with four wooden steps leading up to it from ground level. This porch fills in the open part of the "L".

The rear section of the building which is "L" shape is two stories high, one plus bay long, and less than one pile wide with a low asphalt shingle roof. The sides are stucco and the N.W. gable end is wide clapboard with a small rear wood shed attached. The S.W. upper floor has a single 6/6 sash. The rear section also has an internal chimney with a ceramic top. It is located on the N.W. end of the building.

The interior of the building is divided into two sections. The left section is separate and is currently used as the post office. It occupies one room which was originally the parlor and is now sectioned off with a small lobby as you walk in with the post office boxes lining one wall with a counter window. The back wall has an interior door that allows access to the rest of the area that now is used as the office and work area for the post office. There are 152 post boxes. (B. Byrne, postmaster, interview 11/91)

The remainder of the building is rented out as a residence. The following description is from conversations with Mr. L. Robert Kling, and substantiated by the current owner, Mrs Joan Fitting. The right door gives access to what was originally a dining room, but is now used as a living room. There is a closed off fireplace on the East wall. Going back and down two steps takes you to the kitchen. A walk in fireplace with wooden doors occupies the north wall with steps on the side leading to a dirt basement under the kitchen area and a cement basement under the two front rooms in which the heaters are located. On the north interior wall of the parlor are steps leading up to the second floor bedrooms and bath.

SIGNIFICANCE: continued

After the Civil War there was a second cutting of hemlock trees that were sent down the Delaware river as rafts to the various lumber yards along the route. They were then sawn into boards and used in construction such as this building. Through a conversation with a Mr. H. Byron Quinby, a local resident for many years, the builder was possibly Mark Hall. Mr. Quinby also remembers a store and Ice cream parlor in the basement.

Based on information from Mr. L. Robert Kling, the basement was also used as an oyster bar. Mr. Klings' uncle was Henry D. Wendte, who bought the property in 1939 and operated a barber shop and post office out of the first floor.

Deeds and an 1869 photograph suggest that the house was built during the ownership of John P. Skelton, who purchased the land from William R. Evans in 1867. Of particular interest in Carversville's tradition of female property ownership is that from 1897 until 1920 the building was owned by the Carversville Women's Christian Temperance Union.

ADDITIONAL DATA/PHOTOS  
number all continuations from front

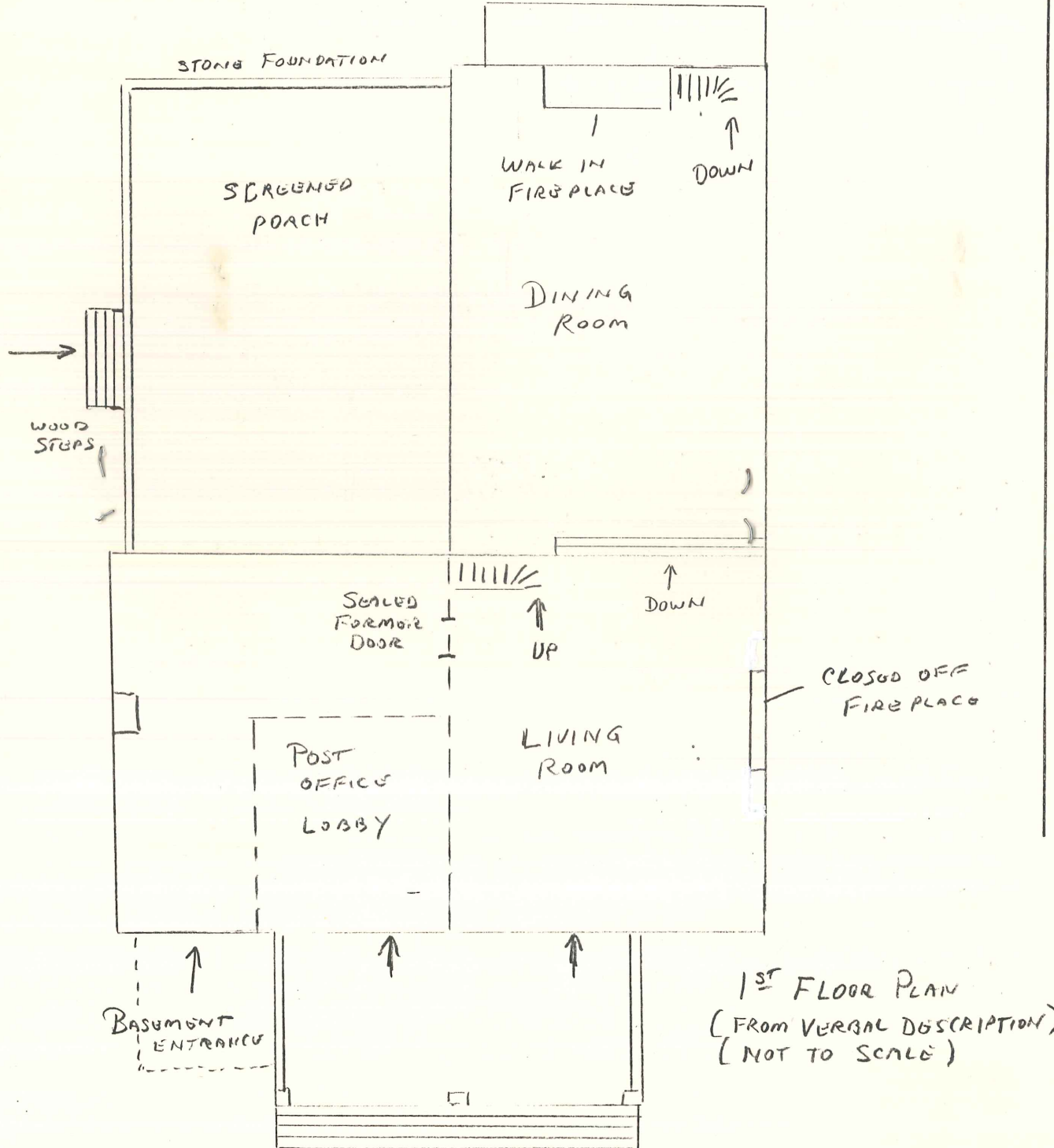
CARVERSVILLE POST OFFICE  
CARVERSVILLE ROAD

4. survey code

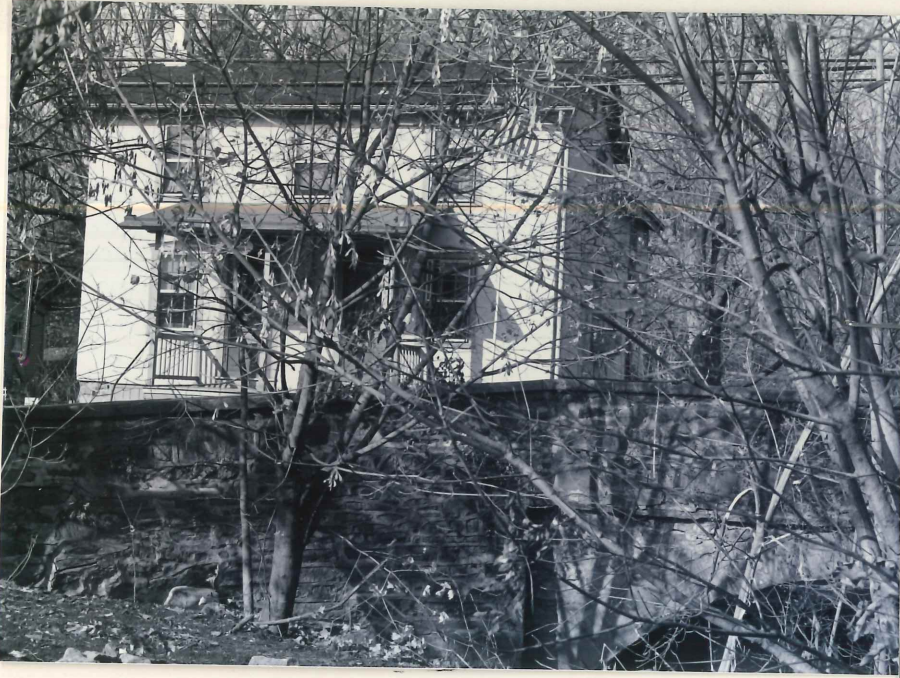
TP# 41-4-12

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

County of Bucks, Recorder of Deeds, Deed Books 173 to present.  
Personal interview L. Robert Kling by George Lomas on Nov 12, 1991  
Phone conversation H. Byron Quinby by George Lomas on 12/6/91  
Phone conversation Joan S. Fitting by George Lomas on 12/13/91 and 12/17/91  
Personal interview Bernard Byrne, postmaster by Geo. Lomas & K. A. Auerbach 11/12/91.



1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR PLAN  
(FROM VERBAL DESCRIPTION)  
(NOT TO SCALE)



South-front & 2 Arch stone bridge (GHL:91-11/2) Old Photo, NE- gable & SE- front from town center (KAA:91-11/ 16)  
Interior of Post Office lobby (GHL: 91-11/A00) SE-front facade, old photo (GHL: 91-11/7)



CARVERSVILLE POST OFFICE

TP# 41-4-12

CARVERSVILLE ROAD, Carversville Village, Solebury Township



N 12° 25' W  
4 <sup>57</sup>/<sub>100</sub> PERCHES

S 52 1/2° E  
9 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>10</sub> PERCHES

DEED BOOK 2271

PAGE 1094

1/6/1978

N 26° 55' W  
6 <sup>49</sup>/<sub>100</sub> PERCHES

S 39° 35' W  
5 <sup>34</sup>/<sub>100</sub> PERCHES

CARVERSVILLE ROAD (OLD DOYLESTOWN + LUMBURVILLE RD.)

1/4" = 1 PERCH



SW-gable end, porch, NW-rear (GHL: 91-11/4)



NW-rear, wood shed, porch (GHL: 91-11/3)



NE-gable end from bridge (GHL: 91-11/12)



NE-exterior detail of stone wall (GHL:91-11/13)

ADDITIONAL DATA/PHOTOS  
number all continuations from front

CARVERSVILLE POST OFFICE  
CARVERSVILLE ROAD

4. survey code

TP# 41-4-12

CARVERSVILLE POST OFFICE

TP# 41-4-12

CARVERSVILLE ROAD, Carversville Village, Solebury Township

TITLE RECORD

GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE	DB / P	PERCHES
Brian J. Papa Consideration: \$53,900 All that certain messuage or improvements thereon erected	Fitting, Donald W. and Joan S. h/w	1/6/1978	2271/1094	42
Charles Diamond, Frances Brennan, Thomas Gaynard, John Neill - Trading as the Forefathers associates Consideration: \$45,500.	Brian J. Papa, single man	10/3/1975	2178/1178	42
Roger W. Wendte Consideration \$29,000.	The Forefathers Associates	9/29/1972	2053/823	42
Roger w. Wendte & Sharen Wendte, wife	Roger W. Wendte	11/22/1971	2036/291	42
Henry D. Wendt & Cynthia Quinby Wendte, h/w Consideration \$1.00	Henry D. Wendt & Cynthia Wendt divorced vested ½ interest each.	11/10/1943	740/100	42
Mary Anderson, widow Consideration: \$900.00	Henry D. Wendtee	6/17/1939	678/440	42
Trustees of the Carversville Women's Christian Temperance Union Consideration: \$500	Mary Anderson	4/9/1920	441/140	42
Francis R. Roberson Consideration: \$550.	Trustees for the W.C.T.U. of Carversville	4/14/1897	281/124	42
Daniel Roberson & Mary ann h/w Consideration: \$900	Francis R. Roberson	3/13/1882	202/342	42
Watson F. Paxson & Ruth S h/w and Augustus Pickering and Hannah H. Consideration: \$780.00	Daniel Roberson	2/9/1880	194/122	42
John P. Skelton & Keri h/w Consideration: \$50. Note: this wedge of land is to the west of the post office and mill race and now belongs to the store building on the corner of Wismer Road.	Samual A. Firman, Watson R. Paxson, & Augustus H. Pickering	9/16/1870	173/653	6
John P. Skelton	Watson F. Paxson & Augustus Pickering	N/A	N/A	N/A
William R. Evans & Martha h/w Being a portion of the same premises which Wm. R. Evans & Martha his wife...	John P. Skelton	10/13/1867	173/653	N/A

# This Indenture Made the

6 day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-eight (1978).

Between Brian J. Papa, party of the first part,

A N D

Donald W. Fitting and Joan S. Fitting, his wife, parties

of the second part: **Witnesseth,** That the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$53,900.00)

lawful money of the United States of America, well and truly paid by the said parties of the second part to the said party of the first part, at and before the ensembling and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, has granted, bargained, sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released, conveyed and confirmed and by these presents does grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff, release, convey and confirm unto the said parties of the second part, their heirs and assigns, as tenants by entireties,

ALL THAT CERTAIN messuage or tenement and lot or piece of land with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate in the Township of Solebury, County of Bucks and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania bounded and described as follows, viz:

BEGINNING at a corner in the middle of the Doylestown and Lumberville Road; thence by land formerly Watson F. Paxon and H. A. Pickering, now Sylvanus Barron, North twenty six degrees, fifty five minutes West, Six and forty nine one-hundredths perches to a corner; thence by land of formerly William R. Evans, North twelve degrees, twenty five minutes West, Four and fifty seven one-hundredths perches to a corner in the line of lands of formerly Jonathan B. Walton; thence by the same South fifty two and one-half degrees East, Nine and seven tenths perches to a corner in the aforesaid Doylestown and Lumberville Road; thence along the middle of said Road South thirty nine degrees, thirty five minutes West, Five and thirty four one-hundred perches to the place of beginning.

BEING the same premises which Charles H. Diamond, Francis J. Brennan, Thomas P. Gaynard and John F. Neill, co-partners trading as The Forefathers Associates by Indenture bearing date the 3rd day of October A.D., 1975 and recorded at Doylestown in the office for the Recording of Deeds, in and for the County of Bucks on 27th day of October A.D., 1975 in Deed Book No. 2178 page 1178 etc., granted and conveyed unto Brian J. Papa, singleman, in fee.

0 2 4 4 3 2 6  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
REALTY TRANSFER TAX JAN-6-78  
539.00  
RD 11211



**ORIGINAL**

THE UNDERSIGNED, hereinafter called the Lessor, hereby leases to the United States Postal Service, hereinafter called the Postal Service, the premises hereinafter described, pursuant to the terms and Conditions described herein and contained in General Conditions to Short Form Lease, Form 7417-A, attached hereto.

**1. LOCATION.** The premises are located at:

(Address) Carversville Road (City) Carversville (County) Bucks (State and ZIP Code) PA 18913

upon which is or will be located a two story Frame building and which property contains or will contain areas and spaces, improvements and appurtenances as follows: Solebury Township

AREA	DIMENSIONS	NET SQ. FT.	AREA	DIMENSIONS	NET SQ. FT.
FIRST FLOOR	11'8" x 15'	175	DRIVEWAY		
PLATFORM			PARKING & MANEUVERING	21' x 27'	567
STORAGE OF VEHICLES (No. of Units)			OTHER (Describe)	4' x 5'	20
			Toilet		

**2. TERMS**—(in each case two (2) of the following paragraphs "A", "B" and "C" must be deleted)

**A** Month-to-Month. This is a month-to-month tenancy beginning \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, and may be terminated at any time by either party giving \_\_\_\_\_ written notice, any such notice given by Lessor to be directed to the Contracting Officer.

**B** Fixed Term. To have and to hold said premises with their appurtenances for a term of thirty-six (36) months beginning December 1, 1984, and ending November 30, 1987.  
 (1) The Postal Service may terminate this agreement by giving thirty days' written notice to the Lessor.  
 (2) This agreement may be renewed, at the option of the Postal Service, providing that 30 days' written notice is given before the end of the fixed term, for the following terms and at the following monthly rentals:

NO. MONTHS	AT (PER MONTH RENTAL)	NO. MONTHS	AT (PER MONTH RENTAL)	NO. MONTHS	AT (PER MONTH RENTAL)
(a) <u>DELETED</u>	\$	(b) <u>DELETED</u>	\$	(c) <u>DELETED</u>	\$

**C** Automatic Renewal. To have and to hold the said premises with their appurtenances for a term of one year beginning \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_. Thereafter this agreement shall renew itself from year to year unless thirty days before the end of any annual term the Lessor gives written notice of termination, delivered to the Contracting Officer. The Postal Service may terminate this agreement at any time by giving thirty days' written notice to the Lessor.

**3. RENTAL.** The Postal Service shall pay the Lessor monthly rental of \$ 175.00 payable at the end of each month. Rent for part of a month shall be prorated. Rent checks shall be made payable to: Donald W. Fitting and Joan S. Fitting

**4. Lessor, as part of the rental consideration, shall furnish the following utilities, services and equipment:**  
Heat and fuel, water and sewerage service and all Real Estate taxes.

**5. OTHER PROVISIONS.** The following additional provisions, modifications, riders, layouts and/or forms were agreed upon prior to execution and made a part hereof:  
Paragraphs 2A, 2B (1&2) and 2C were deleted.

**6.** The undersigned has completed and attached hereto Forms 7319-B, Representations and Certifications & 7319-C, Representations and Certifications (Business Data)

EXECUTED BY LESSOR  
 By: Donald W. Fitting Joan S. Fitting  
 (Signature)  
Donald W. Fitting Joan S. Fitting h/w  
 (Print Name & Title)  
 Identifying No.: 172-28-8227 ; 143-20-6476  
 Address: RD #1, Box 262  
New Hope, PA 18938 215/297-5885  
 (City, State and ZIP Code) 345-7770 (Telephone)

ACCEPTANCE BY POSTAL SERVICE  
 August 17, 1984  
 By: Milford C. Beers  
 Title: Manager, Real Estate Branch  
 Address: Field Real Estate & Buildings Office  
One Bala Plaza - Suite 314-C  
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

**D2577-1181**

6355 RT 263

Deed  
Hanson & Pomeroy  
H. Hanson  
Pomeroy  
TO  
Daniel Robertson

This Indenture made the Seventh day of September in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and eighty between Nathan Hanson and Ruth A. his wife and Augustus Pickering and Hannah C. his wife of the one part and Daniel Robertson of the other part all of the Township of Solisbury County of Bucks and State of Penna.

of the other part:-- Witnesseth, that the said Nathan Hanson and Augustus Pickering and Ruth A. his wife and Hannah C. his wife for and in consideration of the sum of Seven hundred and eighty dollars lawful money of the United States of America unto them well and truly paid by the said Daniel Robertson

at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released and confirmed; and by these presents do give, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff, release and confirm unto the said Daniel Robertson his Heirs and Assigns,

All the following described Messuage and Lot situated in the Township of Solisbury aforesaid bounded as follows, Beginning at a corner in the middle of the Solisbury and Sumberville Road thence by lands of Nathan Hanson and Augustus Pickering North twenty six degrees and fifty five minutes West thirteen perches and forty nine hundredths to a corner thence by land of R. Evans North level degrees and twenty five minutes West four perches and fifty seven hundredths to a corner in line of George Jones & Nathan thence by the same South fifty two degrees and nearly East nine perches and seven tenths to a corner in the opposite direction and Sumberville road thence along the middle of said road South thirty nine degrees and thirty five minutes West five perches and ninety four hundredths to the place of Beginning containing forty two perches of land more or less being a portion of the same premises which Nathan Hanson and Hannah his wife by their Indenture dated the thirtieth day of October A.D. 1867 and recorded in the Recorder's Office of Bucks Co., Pa. in Deed Book No 173 page 653 were granted and conveyed to John P. Skelton in fee.

FILED 1914

above. He is Heris Executors and administrators does by these presents convey and affect with the said William B Evans his Heirs and Assigns that he the said Henry W Moore his Heirs and Assigns the Heirsdiments and <sup>Particulars</sup> ~~Particulars~~ herein above described and mentioned and do to be with the Affirmance with the said William B Evans his Heirs and Assigns against the said Henry W Moore his Heirs and against all and every other Person or Persons whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof by force or under him them or any of them shall and lawfully warrant and forever defend. In Witness whereof the said Parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals. Dated the day and year first above written.

dealed and delivered in the presence of us. } Henry W Moore  
 A. P. Schurz. Alongo Walton

Received the day of the date of the within or aforesaid Indenture of the within named <sup>Henry W Moore</sup> and the consideration money named within in full.

Witness A. P. Schurz } Henry W Moore  
 On the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April Anno Domini 1873, before me a Notary Public residing in the County of Berks and State of Pennsylvania personally appeared the above named Henry W Moore in due form of law acknowledge the above Indenture to be her act and deed and that the same might be recorded as such. Witness my hand and Official Seal the day and year first above written.  
 Recorded April 6<sup>th</sup> 1875. A. P. Schurz Notary Public

76

Deed  
 W B Evans  
 To  
 S. A. Firman  
 Watson F Paxson  
 A. H. Pickering

This Indenture made the sixteenth day of September in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy Between William B Evans of the Township of Colebury in the County of Berks and State of Pennsylvania and Martha his wife of the one part and Samuel A. Firman - an - Watson F Paxson and Augustus H Pickering of the same place of the other part Witnesseth that the said William B Evans and Martha his wife for and in consideration of the sum of Three Hundred Dollars lawful money of the United States of America unto them well and truly paid by the said Samuel A. Firman, Watson F Paxson and Augustus H Pickering at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged have granted bargained sold aliened enfeoffed released and confirmed and by these presents do grant bargain sell alien enfeoff release and confirm unto the said Samuel A. Firman Watson Paxson and Augustus H Pickering their Heirs and Assigns All that certain Lot piece or parcel of land situated in the Village of Coopersville and Township of Colebury aforesaid Bounded and described as follows viz: Beginning at a corner in the Doylestown and S. Umberville Road thence along a public Road by other land of the said Samuel A. Firman, Watson F Paxson and Augustus H Pickering North forty nine degrees and forty minutes West eight perches and eight hundredths to a corner thence by other land of the said William B Evans North thirty degrees and twenty minutes East five perches and fifty three hundredths to a corner thence by the same South seventy nine degrees and ten minutes East three perches and forty eight hundredths to a corner thence by other land about to be conveyed to the said Samuel A. Firman, Watson F Paxson and Augustus H Pickering South twelve degrees and twenty five minutes East seven perches and fifty three hundredths to a corner in the Doylestown and S. Umberville Road aforesaid thence along said Road by land of Isaac Devoe South thirty nine degrees and thirty five minutes West two perches and six tenths to the place of Beginning containing Forty five perches of land more or less. Dated September 3<sup>rd</sup> 1870 courses adjusted to the remain

(THIS DEED IS FOR STORE ON CORNER OF WISMER RD)

# Post office closing draws community's ire

(Staff photos by E. Stace Leichter)

By Jodi Spiegel Arthur  
Staff Writer

C. Robert Parvin and Alexis Belevich sat on the tailboard of Belevich's black pickup truck engaging in what Carversville residents hope is not a dying tradition - shooting the breeze after picking up their mail at the local post office.

It is the way many residents of the historic village have formed friendships over the years.

Many Carversville residents believe the Carversville Road post office, which is scheduled to close Nov. 30, is essential to the survival of their businesses and their way of life. They have asked the U.S. Postal Service to move what has been a fixture in the community since 1830 to another location in town rather than shutting it down.

"It's the heart of this community. Taking it will kill the small town," said Judy Barton, who runs her business out of her Carversville home.

"As a small business person who really depends on that post office, I was stunned and shocked to hear that the post office was closing. It's a tremendous burden to change stationery and notify clients for those of us who have a business in this community," she said.

Residents of the tiny town of closely set historic houses, an inn and a general store marshaled their forces when they learned only recently that the U.S. Postal Service planned to close the less than 200-square-foot Carversville Post Office when the lease expires at the end of November. The new owners of the blue and tan twin house have said that the lease cannot be renewed and that the Postal Service must be out by Nov. 30.

Carversville residents collected nearly 300 signatures on a petition against the closing in less than a week and set up a meeting in town with postal officials, asking them to reconsider before the post office closes its doors

for the last time.

"Something that needs expansion is (being talked) about being closed," said David Mortimer, owner of a business he operates out of his Carversville home, during the meeting Friday. "It is part of the fabric of this town. Going to town to get our mail (has) become a social function."

Don Rickards of Carversville, one of the organizers of the meeting with postal officials, said there is a waiting list for post office boxes in Carversville.

Barney Byrne, who has been postmaster in Carversville for the past 16 years and is on a first-name basis with his customers, said there are 150 post office boxes, some made of brass, lining the tiny, partitioned room in which he works.

In addition, he said, he holds mail for 32 customers who do not have boxes and hands it to them over the counter. People who live within a quarter mile of the post office pick up their mail. Those who live farther away have Doylestown or New Hope addresses and have their mail delivered.

The meeting of post office officials, several village residents and two Solebury Township supervisors resulted in a promise from Eliseo Cruz, manager of post office operations for the Lancaster Customer Service District, which includes Bucks and Montgomery counties.

Cruz said the postal service would relocate to a temporary site in the village for up to 60 days after the current post office closes while it considers whether to open in a permanent location or deliver mail directly to residents of Carversville.

Noel Barrett, the owner of an antiques business where the meeting was held, offered a portion of his storefront location to the postal service as a temporary home.

"That's a definite commitment," said Cruz, in an interview at the conclusion of the meeting. "We're plan-

ning to do the right thing for the community."

"We'll have our real estate people down here to take another look," said Anthony DiRado, manager of administrative services for the Lancaster district.

Cruz said he would ask them to keep in mind the fact that Carversville is an historic village.

Sandy Mardigian, owner of the Carversville General Store at the intersection of Carversville, Aquetong and Fleecydale roads, has offered a portion of her store in the former Carversville Inn stables to the post office as a permanent home.

She has been offering it for the past 10 months, she said.

Postal officials said their real estate department did not find the location acceptable because it did not meet government regulations, including those in the Americans with Disabilities Act. The current post office does not meet those requirements either, but because it was not required to do so.

Carversville residents complained that the postal service did not let them know until one month before it planned to close the post office that the general store site was unacceptable and that it did not investigate any other possible sites. Another store in the center of town has been offered to the postal service as a potential site.

Linda Peffer, manager of customer service support for the Lancaster district, told the residents, "We're here today because we know the ball was dropped with you in terms of communication."

Carversville residents were encouraged by the concern for their cause shown by representatives from the Lancaster district office, but they remain skeptical.

"We feel it's the real estate department that got us into this trouble. Now, we feel like we're right back into the lap of the real estate people," Mortimer said.

TP# 41-4-12