

THE CARD - Vol. 18, No. 3 Issue 207 March 2007

Monthly Publication of the Lancaster County Postcard Club, Lancaster, PA.

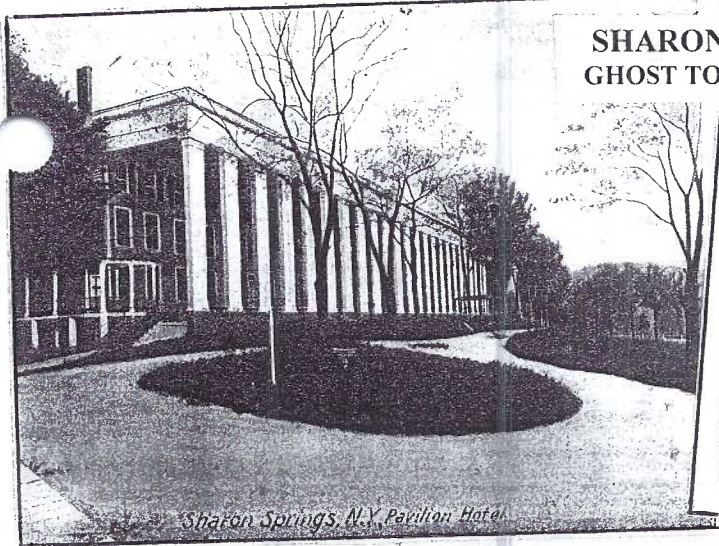
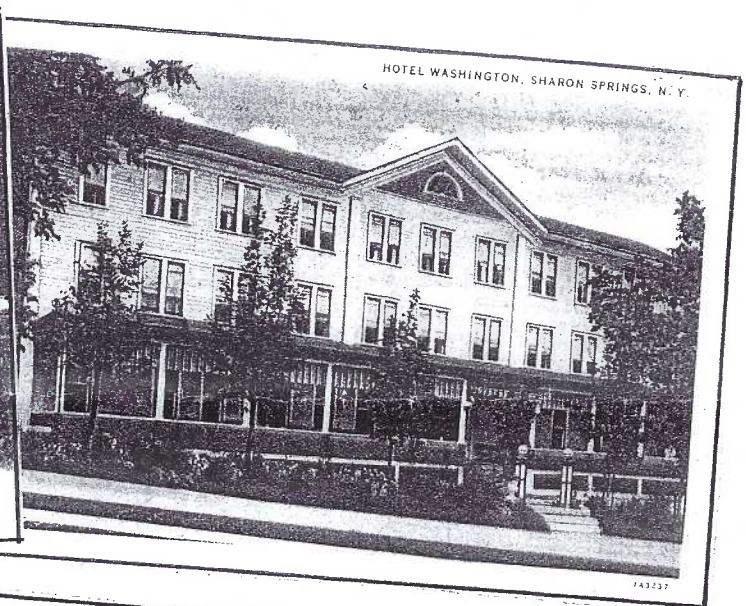
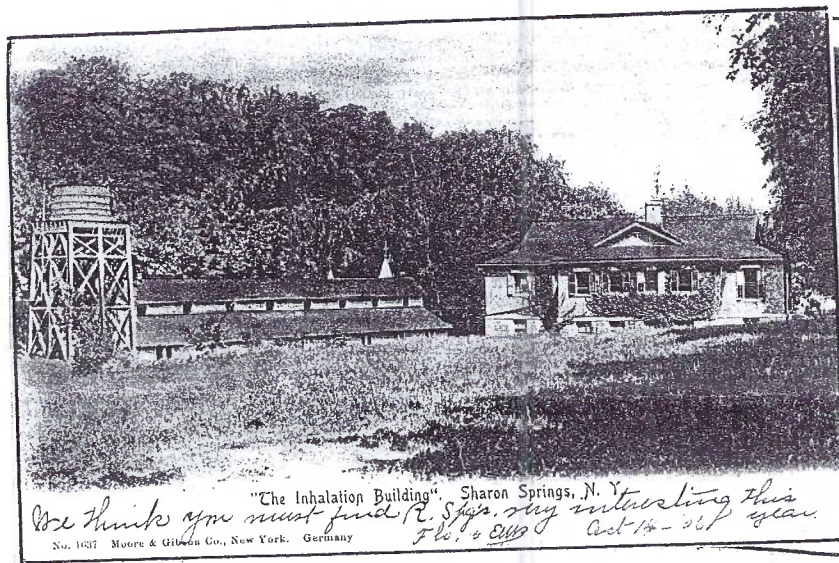
Next Meeting: Mon., March 19, 2007. Farm & Home Center. Buy, Sell, Trade 5:30 pm, Meeting 7:00 pm

Yearly membership is \$10 (\$5 for each additional member at the same address.)

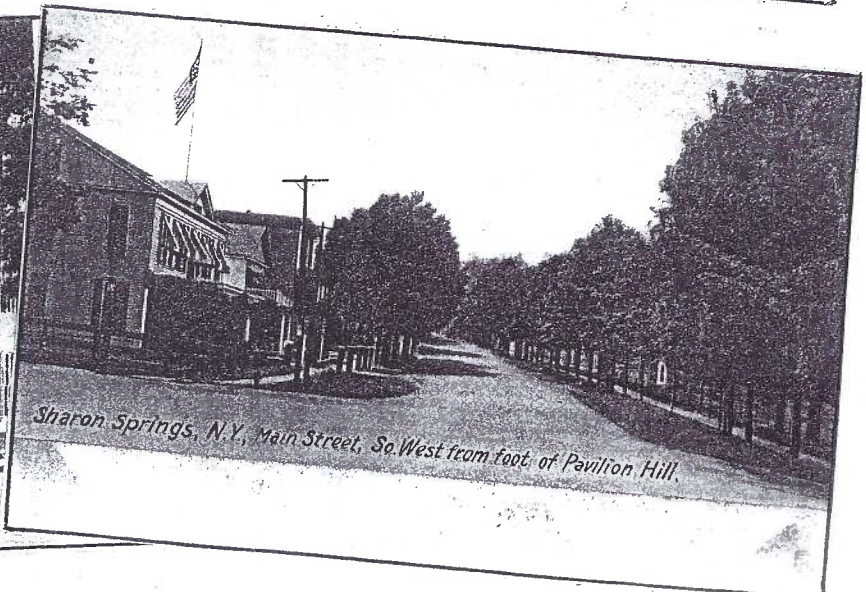
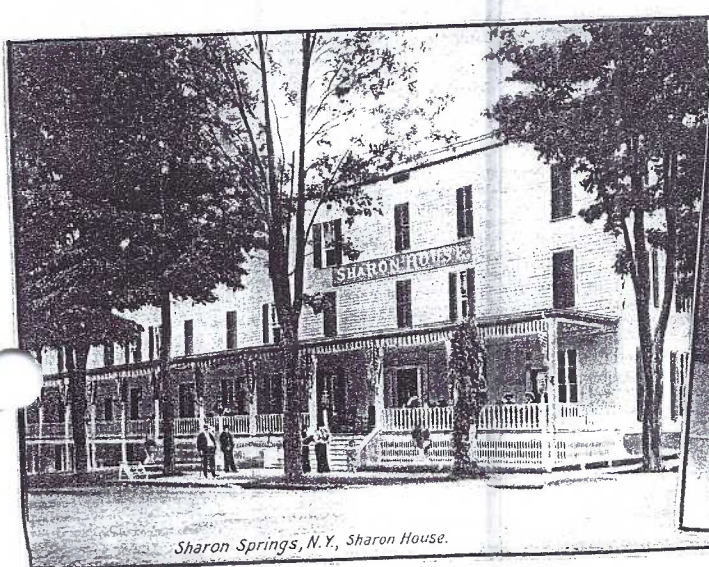
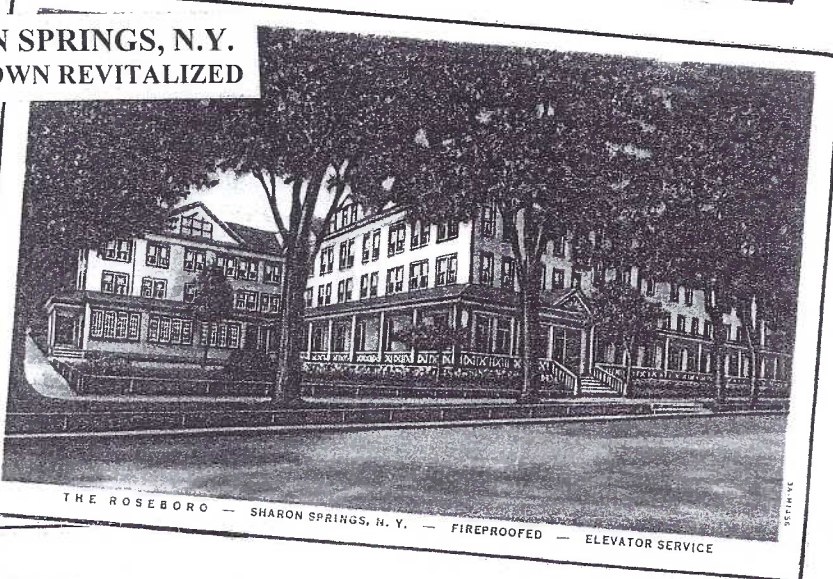
Membership chair: Betty Beck 11 Cinder Hill Rd. Lititz, PA 17543

Club/editors address: LCPC c/o Bryan Benner 127 E. Clay St. Lancaster, PA 17602

Club website: www.playle.com/clubs/lanaster or Google search: Lancaster County Postcard Club



**SHARON SPRINGS, N.Y.
GHOST TOWN REVITALIZED**



Sharon Springs, NY

By Bryan S. Benner

Sharon Springs, NY, located in eastern New York south of Albany, is an interesting little town that has a history which sets it apart from most of its neighbors. In the golden age postcard era (early 1900's), it was well represented in postcards, though was already a town in decline from its glory days. Like the larger, better-known Saratoga Springs (that isn't too far away) Sharon Springs was mostly a spa town. Its springs are high in sulphur, magnesium, and chalybeate minerals and it grew into a highly fashionable spa in the early 19th Century. At its height, it was patronized by members of the Vanderbilt family, Oscar Wilde (who gave a lecture at the now demolished Pavilion Hotel in 1882) and many other socialites, foreign diplomats and other dignitaries.

The most famous of the springs in town is the Gardener Spring. The water has so many minerals in it that it is white like milk and the stones in the creek it feeds are covered with a thick deposit of minerals.

As you can see from the cards illustrating this article, there were sixty hotels in town to accommodate the 10,000 visitors that came yearly for the waters. The largest and most famous of the hotels was the Hotel Pavilion built in 1836 and later expanded. It was the most elaborate of the hotels and was torn down in the 1930's. The story goes that when law passed that required sprinkler systems in hotels, the eccentric woman who owned it, tore it down rather than comply. She supposedly said, 'That communist FDR isn't going to tell me what to do with my building!'

By 1900 the fashionable Social Register set had moved on to Saratoga Springs with its racing attractions. Wealthy Jewish families of German origin who were unwelcome at Saratoga due to prejudice began patronizing Sharon

Spring and became its largest clientele. Though by the 1920's and 1930's the number of guests had significantly decreased, and many hotels were closed and suspicious fires which burnt the empty buildings were common.

The remaining hotels had a second wind of sorts after WWII from the West German government, which paid medical care reparation to Holocaust survivors. In the European tradition therapeutic spa vacations were a legitimate part of the medical package. In July and August from then until even today Jewish families, many Hasidic, visit to take the waters. The numbers are dwindling but one hotel and the one bath still cater to Holocaust victims and their families.

When I first visited Sharon Spring it was the summer of 1992. It was what you would call a ghost town. Empty store fronts, hotels, houses and churches were everywhere. You could walk into many of the abandoned buildings and I particularly remember going into the lobby of the Roseboro Hotel (pictured on the cover.) It was still furnished with its 1930's furniture and looked as if the owners had just walked out. It was an interesting experience.

In the 15 years that have passed since that day many changes have come to Sharon Springs. Two of its hotels have been remodeled and reopened. Store fronts have shops and artists in some of them. There are a few restaurants and houses and other building have been remodeled into some interesting homes. The Imperial Bath and the Hotel Adler that never closed are rumored to have been bought by Korean investors who plan on remodeling and expanding to create a modern resort.

It appears Sharon Springs is at the beginning of a new chapter in its interesting history.

About the cover cards:

Left side top to bottom:

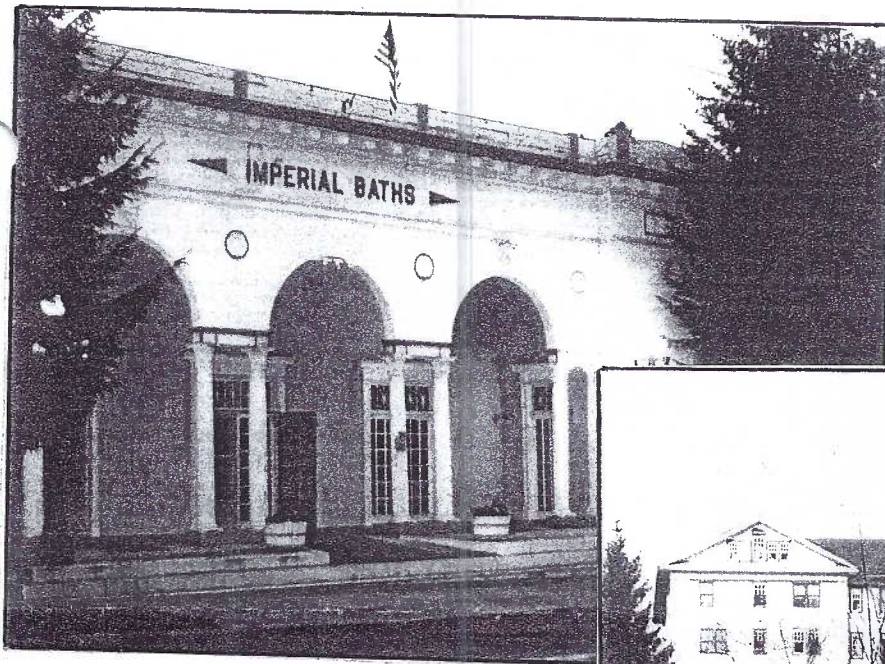
- 'Inhalation Building, Sharon Springs, NY.' Moore & Gibson Co. New York. Germany. Undivided back, dated Oct. 1906
- 'Sharon Springs, NY., Pavilion Hotel', Pub. By Chas. E. Houghtaling, Albany, NY. Undivided back, postmarked May 1907.
- 'Sharon Springs, NY., Sharon House' Pub. By Chas. E. Houghtaling, Albany, NY. Undivided back, never used.

Right side top to bottom:

- 'Hotel Washington, Sharon Springs, NY.' The Ruben Pub. Co., Newburgh, NY. Divided back, dated 1937
- 'The Roseboro, Sharon Springs, NY. Fireproofed, Elevator Service' Pub. By Curteich, Chicago. Divided back, never used.
- 'Sharon Springs, NY., Main Street, So. West from foot of Pavilion Hill.' Pub. By Chas. E. Houghtaling, Albany, NY. Undivided back.

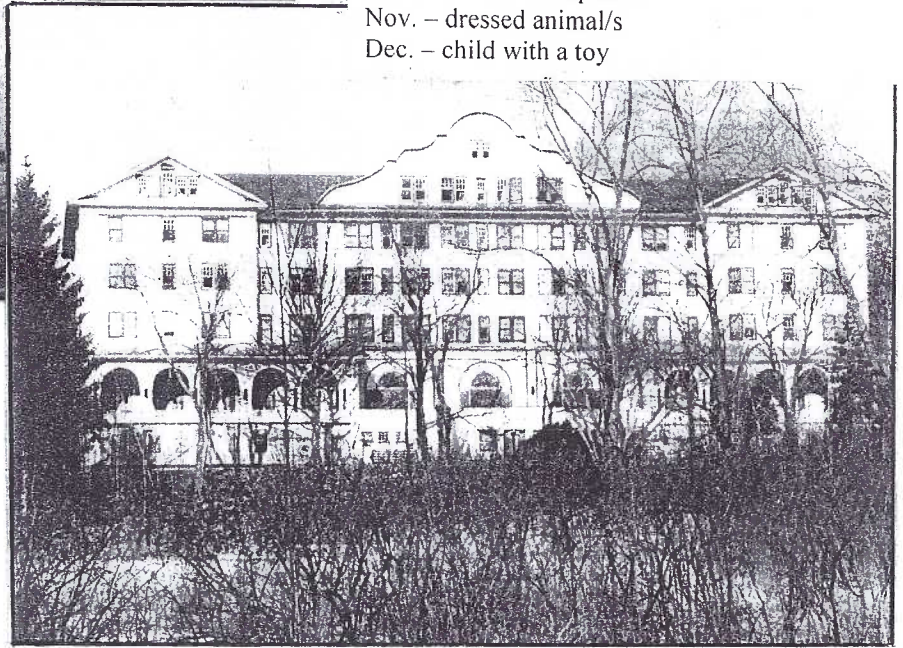


Top: 'The Magnesia Springs, Sharon Springs, NY.' Pub by The Rotograph Co. NY city postmarked 1906.



Monthly Single Card Competition
2007

- Mar. - appealing doll
- Apr. - beautiful decorated egg
- May -prettiest flowers
- Jun. -interesting insect (bug, beetle, butterfly)
- Jul. - bizarre vacation site (not necessarily yours)
- Aug. -interesting message related to card image
- Sep. -fair, carnival or expo
- Oct. - unusual occupation
- Nov. - dressed animal/s
- Dec. - child with a toy



About the cards on this page:

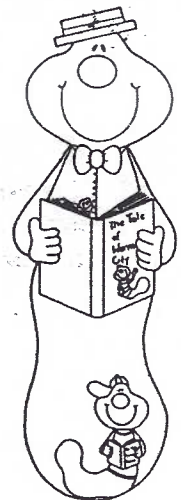
- 'Imperial Baths, Built ca. 1927, Sharon Springs, New York' Continental card marked 1998, Photo by Eulalio Padilla. This Bath is still in operation today.
- Hotel Adler, Built ca. 1927, Sharon Springs, New York' Continental card marked 1998, Photo by Eulalio Padilla. Last hotel continuously open, July & August every year. In 1946 Edward Koch, future Mayor of NY city, was a busboy for the summer at this hotel.

MORLATTON POST CARD CLUB INC.

32nd Spring Postcard Show

**Farm and Home Center
1383 Arcadia Road
Lancaster, PA 17603
(off Manheim Pike Rte. 72)**

**Friday, March 30, 2007 - 10 A.M. to 6 P.M.
Saturday, March 31, 2007 - 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.**



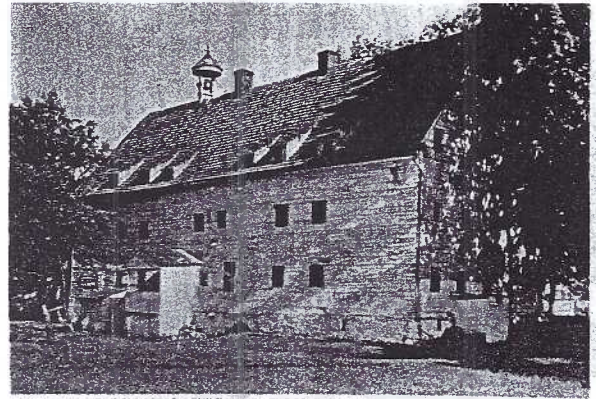
No Pre-Show Buying

**Admission \$2.00
(50 cents off with ad)**

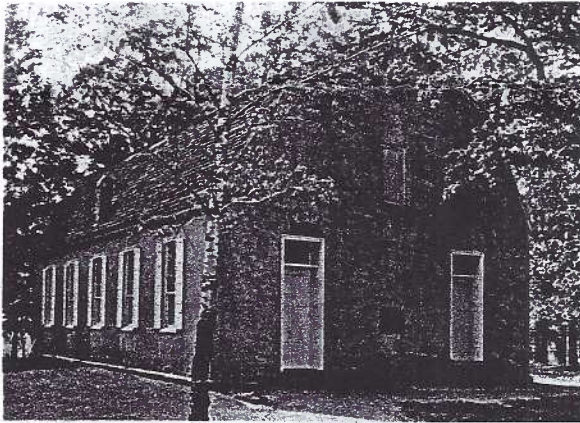
**For more information call
Kay Feight, (717) 263-1638
Leon Rowe, (610) 444-0641**



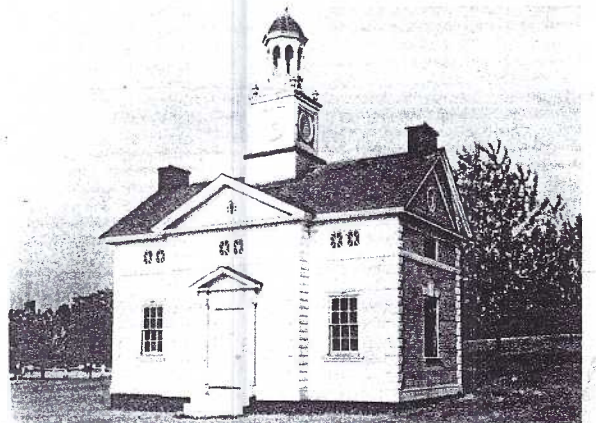
AN EARLY VIEW OF PENN SQUARE, LANCASTER, PA.



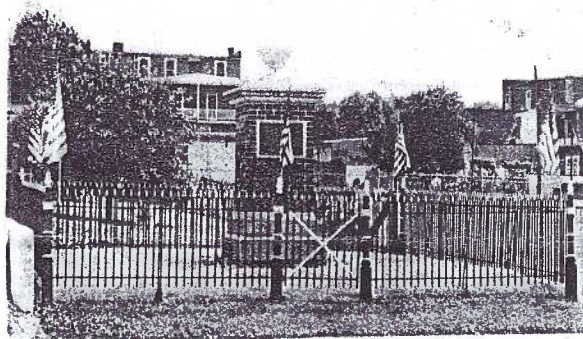
THE CLOISTERS. BUILT 1733 BY THE SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS. EPHRATA, PA.



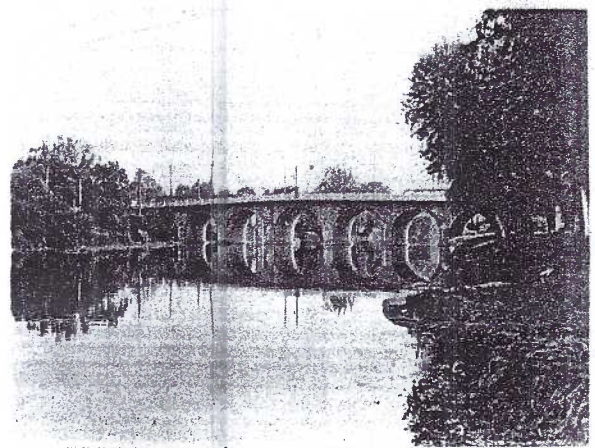
DONEGAL CHURCH. LANCASTER CO., PA. BUILT 1740 BY THE PRESBYTERIANS.



THE OLD COURT HOUSE IN WHICH CONTINENTAL CONGRESS MET. LANCASTER, PA.



SITE OF HOME OF GEO. ROSS, SIGNER OF DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, LANCASTER, PA.



WITMER BRIDGE. ON LINCOLN HIGHWAY. LANCASTER, PA. EFFERTS STARTED 1771.



BIRTHPLACE OF ROBERT FULTON, INVENTOR OF THE STEAMBOAT. LANCASTER CO., PA.



CHRISTIAN HERR HOUSE. OLDEST BUILDING IN LANCASTER CO., PA. BUILT 1719.

Miniature Lancaster Photo Card Set

By Bryan S. Benner

This photo set was a souvenir of Lancaster's 200th anniversary in 1929. the photos themselves are unmarked on the back. The mailer that they came in had a window on one side to see the front photo and a stamp box requiring 1 1/2 cents to mail it on the other side. This side is also marked with what I would have thought to have been an outdated statement even in 1929, 'Private Mailing Card' as well as a 'From' and a 'Greetings To' areas. For the purist, it isn't exactly a postcard set, but close.

The mailer also states who the photographer was that took the images. It says 'Ten Genuine Photographs by John A. Fritz, Lancaster, Pa.' It also lets us know that 'Large (8X 10 inch) Prints of enclosed views may be ordered from the photographer.' The last print on the mailer lets us know it was created as a souvenir. It states 'Photographic Souvenir 200th Anniversary, Lancaster, Pa.' The one view of Penn Square also is dated 1929.

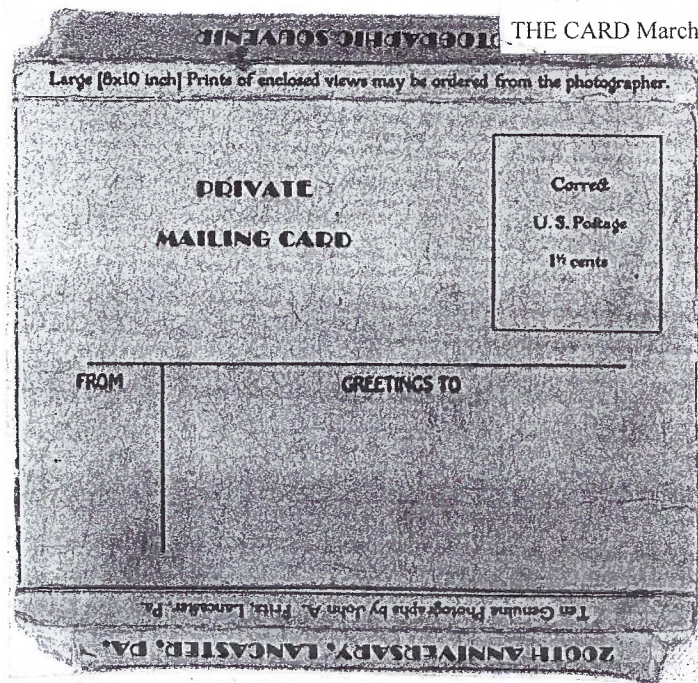
From Jim Ward's collection of city directories we found from early in the 1920's that John A. Fritz was a photographer for Darmstetter's Photography. Though by the time these images were taken he is listed as the owner of a 'Gift Shop' at 148 E. King St. with his wife Anna Marie. This is probably where this mini set was sold. He lived at 433 S. West End Ave. the directories also let us know.

The ten images include views of sites in the city and county of which there are many postcards. They are original views of sites often photographed for other cards. The set (which is reproduced life size) also includes two images marked as 'Early View' which he must have just reproduced. I thought it was interesting that the replica of the old courthouse which you see on real photo cards sitting in the square is in this image shown in Buchanan Park where it still sits today. Maybe they'll take it back to the square in 22 years for the 300th Anniversary?

This Page:

Right: An Early View of King and Queen Streets, Lancaster, Pa.

Left: Penn Square, Lancaster, Pa., in 1929.

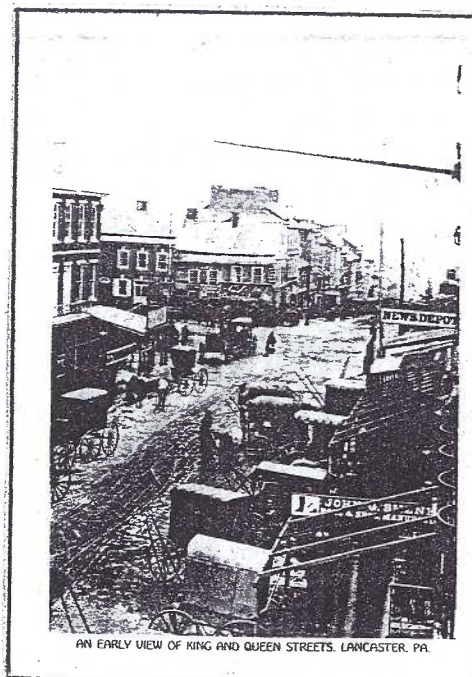


About the cards: (All reproduced life size)
Captions read left side top to bottom:

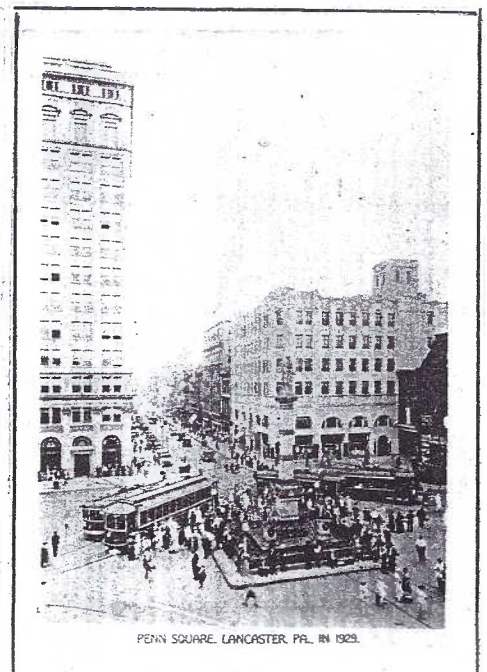
- An Early View of Penn Square, Lancaster, Pa.
- Donegal Church Lancaster Co. Pa. Built by the Presbyterians.
- Site of Home of Geo. Ross, Signer of Declaration of Independence, Lancaster, Pa.
- Birthplace of Robert Fulton inventor of the steamboat, Lancaster Co., Pa.

Right side top to bottom:

- The Cloisters, built 1723 by Seventh Day Baptists. Ephrata, Pa.
- Replica of Old Court House in which Continental Congress met, Lancaster, Pa.
- Witmer Bridge on Lincoln Highway, Lancaster, Pa. Erection started 1799.
- Christian Herr House, Oldest building in Lancaster, Co. Pa. built 1719.



AN EARLY VIEW OF KING AND QUEEN STREETS, LANCASTER, PA.



PENN SQUARE, LANCASTER, PA., IN 1929.

Club Page

by Al Schaub

February meeting

Our February meeting was a "free-for-all" event that provided the people who attended with an opportunity to enhance their collections and/or rid themselves of unwanted duplicates. Although attendance was a little less than normal I was amazed at how many of our members braved the ice and extreme cold in their desire to attend a Club meeting!

The competition category was titled "Most Interesting Holiday Card." The winners were:

1 st place	Walt Mowrer	"To My Valentine"
2 nd place	Betty Beck	"Get Busy"
3 rd place	Dede Schaeffer	"Mardi Gras"

Honorable mention went to: Carl Haffley, Tom Beck, Jim Ward, Harold Moyer, Sandra Schaub, Gere Greider, and Doug Milliken.

The door prizes were won by: Lee Stover (postcards), Mary Herr (\$1.00), Jim Ward (\$2.00), and Bill Middleton (\$3.00). The 50-50 prize of \$23.00 was won by Tom Beck.

In looking ahead, the competition for the March 19th meeting is: "Most Appealing Doll." This category allows the selection of living "dolls" as topical focus.

Of great importance is a change in the competitive procedure. Beginning with this month all entries should be pre-registered with competition chairman Jim Ward.

The March program will be a presentation on the Jamestown Exposition by our retired, former president, Dick Pendergrast. This should be a very interesting program, especially for those of us who have visited Jamestown or plan to do so in the future.

I don't want to sound like a broken phonograph record (do you remember them?) but we still are in need of a club librarian. Without one our valuable library program may be in jeopardy. I would greatly appreciate someone who is willing to serve our Club, in a not too demanding position, volunteering to serve in this capacity. This position provides a lot of interesting fun for someone who enjoys books.

In closing I want to thank the Board members who attended our planning meeting on February 11, 2007. As a recently elected president, and a relatively new Club member, I am impressed by Club operation being a true team effort by individuals who are very supportive both in regard to getting things done and through creative ideas.

