



Friends of the 1803 House, Inc.

55 South Keystone Avenue
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www.1803house.org
Tax id Number: 23-2053852

November, 2020

Dear Friends,

Hope this letter finds you and your family well and safe.

We, the Friends of the 1803 House, have been digging deep into the history of the 1803 House since 1975, constantly studying, interpreting and preserving a primary example of a Pennsylvania settler's fieldstone homestead.

Seven years ago a group of elementary school children from the neighboring charter school under the direction of their teacher commenced an organized archaeological dig on the east side of the kitchen/entry room using a grid plan. They discovered the cornerstones of another field stone structure, maybe built by Jacob Ehrenhardt, or his father or someone else. The Friends wondered, what was the extent of this fieldstone construction deep under our lawn?

Fortunately, we were introduced to the professor of archaeology at Lehigh University, Professor David Small. Over the course of the next five years, the Lehigh archaeologists and 1803 House volunteers completed the dig and discovered this contiguous dry layer fieldstone foundation system. There has been no conclusive evidence of what the foundations was for, but through the study of artifacts collected, we can pinpoint the date and use of this construction. Thanks to the effort of the Borough of Emmaus, the dig had been backfilled and lawn is being established.



We have dug deeper into the history of the 1803 House and expanded the story of its construction giving us a new focus to our research on the 1803 House.

We are thankful the flood on August 4, 2020 did not damage our recently complete archaeological dig. The 1803 House was surrounded by water, which filled the basement and one inch into the above first floor. Thanks to the efforts of loyal volunteers the basement was cleaned out but sadly not much was salvageable. The furnace and oil tank have to be replaced and we need a professional cleaning service to clean up the basement full of mud and the hardwood floors on the first floor.



We now have to **"dig deep"** into the resources of the community asking for funding and "In-kind" efforts to get back to where we were at the end of 2019. We had to cancel our two major fundraising events due to the COVID pandemic. This year we are depending on your participation in the appeal to help with the mounting flood bills so we can continue to preserve and maintain this historical site in your community.

Please consider supporting 1803 House with a tax-deductible contribution to help with our flood damage costs amounting to around \$12,000. We now have two ways to contribute on our website... "Gofundme Charity" or by check. To get to our website, go to 1803house.org and review how to donate online.

Thank you for you continued support,

Richard Farmer

Richard Farmer
President, Friends of the 1803 House