

Old House, New Life
“What’s So Great About This Old House, Anyway?”

Kennett Square Borough Hall
Lower Level Conference Room
120 Marshall Street, Kennett Square, PA

- This program is produced by the Kennett Borough Historical Commission as a benefit to owners of older properties
- Who should attend?
 - Owners of homes or buildings that are more than 50 years old
 - People who are interested in learning more about preserving, restoring and maintaining older homes
 - People who are considering performing work on their older home
- There is no fee for any of the classes.
- You do not have to sign up for the classes, but space is limited. First come, first seated. We will not exceed posted room capacity.
- You do not have to be a resident of Kennett Square to attend.
- There are no prerequisites for any of the classes. Come to as many or as few as you like.
- Each session will be approximately one hour of presentation with one half hour of “question and answer”.
- Refreshments will be served during the Q&A session.

All classes- 7:00-8:30 PM

September 13

“Peeling Back the Layers”

How does historic preservation pay off in the long run?

- Presented by architect Dennis Melton as an overview for the entire series
- This class will focus on the financial and “quality of life” benefits to be gained by the homeowner by using proven preservation methods

October 18

“Exterior Detailing”

Trim, siding and decorative details.

- Older homes typically have exterior details created in wood
- Window and door trim, eaves, roof gable ornaments and siding add much to the identifiable character of an older home and should be preserved to maintain that character
- Deferred maintenance of these details can cause the homeowner much frustration and may result in their removal or being covered over
- This class will focus on how these items can be brought back to life and how they should be maintained

- November 15 **“Splash of Color”**
All about painting!
- Once all of those wood details have been restored it is necessary to protect them with a beautiful coat (or two) of paint!
 - This class will demystify the steps necessary to paint the exterior of your home as well as how often you should repaint and other maintenance tips
- December **HOLIDAY BREAK.**
- NO SESSION
- January 17 **“Research the Roots”**
How to investigate your home’s history
- Are you curious about who lived in your house before you? Do you feel that you are a part of the legacy of your home rather than just the current owner?
 - This class will show you how to trace the transfer of ownership of your old house all the way back to its original builder
 - Tips will also be given on how you can apply for a historic bronze marker proclaiming the name of the original owner of the house and its construction date
- February 21 **“Anchor Down”**
Everything you wanted to know about your roof.
- The roof is as much a part of the appearance and function of your home as the exterior walls
 - Proper maintenance of the existing materials will ensure its full life span
 - When it comes time to replace your roof, selection of materials that will provide long life, protection to the interior and good looks to go with the other parts of the house is critical
- March 27 **“Lay it Out”**
Landscaping
- Making choices in selecting new plants or maintaining older ones can be made easier with a few helpful pointers
 - The gardens that surround your older home do not have to be a maintenance nightmare, but a joy that will add value to the property
- April 17 **“Temperature Control”**
Heating, ventilation and air conditioning.
- Have you considered upgrading the heating system or adding a cooling system to your home?
 - This class will help you make good choices when it comes to selecting systems and contractors to do the work
- May 15 **“Eyes to the Soul”**

Windows. How to care for them, should you replace them?

- Older windows can be frustrating, but consider the long range investment before going straight to replacement windows
- This class will take a look at the real economics behind restoring versus replacing your old windows
- Advice will also be given on how to maintain new and old windows to keep them functioning properly and maximizing their lifespan