



224 North George Street York, PA 17401 • 717-843-0320 • Fax 717-845-6050

March 19, 2004

Mr. Mark Sammarone  
Marshall Manor E-newsletter  
502 Marshall Drive  
West Chester, PA 19380

Dear Mr. Sammarone:

The Borough of West Chester has contracted with Historic York, Inc. to expand the boundaries of the West Chester Downtown Historic District listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The existing district was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1985. Its boundaries include the commercial downtown of the Borough of West Chester. In addition to the existing National Register Historic District, the Borough also has a local historic district, administered by the Historical and Architectural Review Board (HARB), which shares the same boundaries of the existing National Register District. The boundary increase affects **only** the National Register District within the Borough of West Chester. No changes to the HARB district boundaries will be made as part of this project.

You are invited to attend one of two public meetings held at the Borough of West Chester's Municipal Building, 401 East Gay Street, West Chester, Pennsylvania on **Monday, April 19, 2004 at 7:00 PM** and **Wednesday, May 19, 2004 at 6:00 PM**. Historic York, Inc., the Borough's consultant, will make a brief presentation and be available to answer questions concerning the proposed nomination of the West Chester Historic District (Boundary Increase) to the National Register of Historic Places.

The proposed West Chester Historic District (Boundary Increase) will include 4,265 buildings, structures, sites, and objects within the borough. This project began in 2001 with the initiation of a determination of eligibility survey for the boundary increase and continued last year with the completion of a historic resources inventory of the Borough. Each building within the borough was inventoried, recording its age, construction material and architectural style. The survey identified that the borough contains an intact collection of eighteenth, nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings that are in good condition and retain much of their historic material. The West Chester Historic District (Boundary Increase) explains the borough's importance in its local industry and its architecture. Its period of significance begins c. 1750, the date of construction of the district's earliest extant building, and ends in 1954, the fifty-year guideline for significance in the National Register Program.

The National Register of Historic Places was established in 1966 by act of the United States' Congress and serves as the official Federal list of districts, sites, buildings that are historically important. By

listing the West Chester Historic District (Boundary Increase) to the National Register of Historic Places, the Borough will receive: consideration in planning for Federal, federally-licensed, and federally-assisted projects; eligibility for Federal tax provisions including the Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credit Program; and eligibility for Federal grants-in-aid whenever available. The listing to the National Register will not result in any burdens, requirements, or restrictions to individual property owners.

For additional information or questions concerning this National Register nomination project, please contact Mindy Higgins of Historic York, Inc. at 717-843-0320 or Joe Martino, the Borough's project coordinator, at 610-701-3763.

Sincerely,

*Mindy Higgins*

Mindy Higgins  
Executive Director