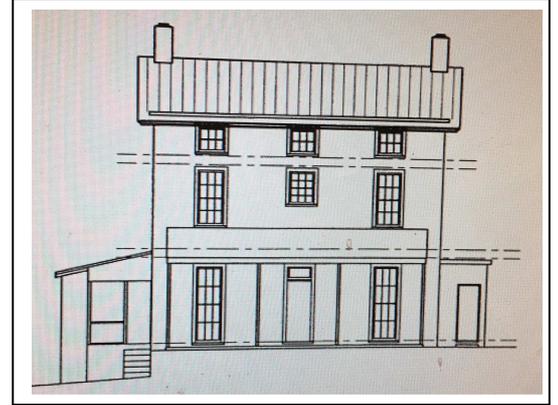
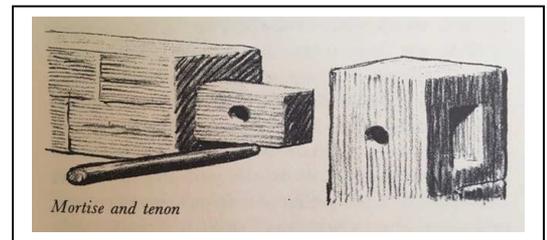
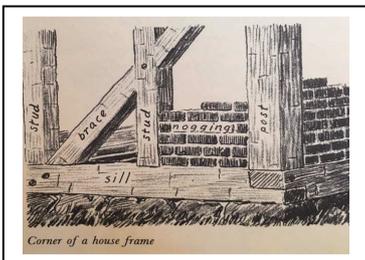


1000 Main Street, Darby Borough

1000 Main Street was built around 1852 by laborer and carpenter John J. White as a family home. Built of mortise and tenon timber frame held together by wooden pegs and Board and Batten vertical siding, (later covered with stucco), the building is still standing after 168 years. White may have been influenced in his design of 1000 Main by the pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing (1815-1852) and Samuel Sloan (1815-1884). Downing, whose book was first published in 1850, believed buildings should be in harmony with their surroundings and express strength, convenience, beauty, and truth. He particularly recommended wide porches and board and batten siding, both of which are part of 1000 Main. Sloan's book, published in 1852, speaks of a time when "Art will join Nature in decking our land with beautiful creations." Over the years, the building went through a number of uses including a doctor's office and apartments until it was purchased around the year 2000 by the Redevelopment Authority of Delaware County (RDA) to utilize part of the land for the Darby Transportation Center. About 3/4 of the land was taken for that purpose and then the building was leased in 2012 to the Friends of the Blue Bell under the following conditions: "Tenant shall undertake stewardship of 1000 Main including cleaning, planning, fundraising, and restoration of the building with the goal of opening it to the public as a multi-use educational and cultural facility."



Stabilization is required starting with replacing the metal roof which blew off in 2004 exposing the original cedar shakes. Following a series of tarps which shredded after about a year, money was donated for EPDM, membrane roofing which needs to be replaced. Grant applications are being prepared and your help is needed. It is hoped the RDA and the Borough will come to see that a functioning building is of more value to Darby than another vacant lot. Please join us in our efforts.



For more information, visit
www.DarbyHistory.com/1000Main
or call 610-809-4856