



# PENNYPACKER MILLS



When Samuel W. Pennypacker purchased this 142-acre farm in 1900, he renovated and expanded the house to include a modern kitchen, central heating, and indoor plumbing. The mansion is decorated with many family heirlooms and furnishings that reflect what life was like in the early 1900s. This elegant country mansion became the focal point for family reunions, celebrations, and a respite for a busy Judge, and later Governor.

He was a gentleman farmer, with an overseer to manage the farm and workers who milked the cows and planted the crops. The successful dairy operation provided needed milk and butter to the citizens of Philadelphia.

A three-acre garden produced fresh vegetables during the growing season. Chickens, turkeys, pigs and dairy cows allowed the family to dine on farm fresh food. The local general store, Pennypacker & Bromer, along with occasional trips to the Reading Terminal Market, provided specialty items.

The inextricable connection of Pennypacker Mills to both the Pennypacker family and early American history strengthened Pennypacker's connection to the home. In fact, within the covers of a Pennypacker family bible are notes written about the encampment of General George Washington and thousands of Continental soldiers in the fall of 1777. Samuel collected artifacts found on the property and marked the graves of soldiers who died and were buried at Pennypacker Mills upon their retreat from the Battle of Germantown.

## Contact Information for:

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*PA Gov. Samuel W. Pennypacker*

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Tree Swallow



Kitchen

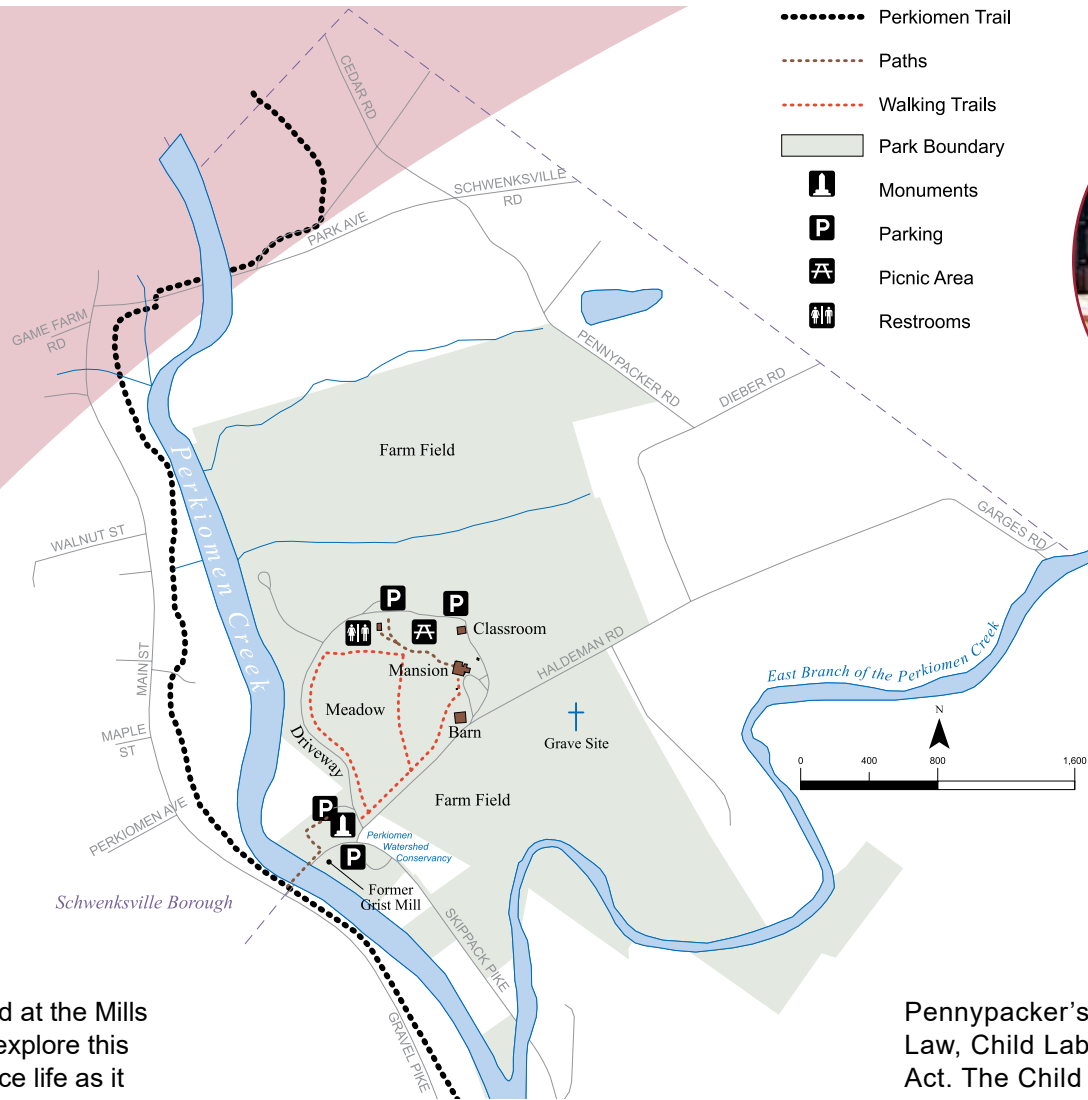


Eight generations of Pennypackers lived at the Mills from 1747 to 1980. Today, visitors can explore this Colonial Revival mansion and experience life as it was in the early 1900s.

**Samuel Pennypacker:  
Not Like Any Other Governor!**

Pennypacker devoted much of his life to history as an author, historian, and collector of antiques. As governor, he had the foresight to preserve natural resources and pass progressive legislation which helped shape Pennsylvania throughout the 20th century.

Born in 1843, Pennypacker received a formal education that included a degree in law from the University of Pennsylvania. In 1872, he became



a member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and served as their president from 1900 until his death in 1916.

In 1889, Pennypacker was elected a judge in Philadelphia and served as Pennsylvania's Governor from 1903-1907. As governor, Pennypacker helped bring the preservation of history to the forefront. Having his own collection of historic books and manuscripts, Pennypacker was appalled at the conditions in how state records were cared for, thus he created the Pennsylvania State Archives.

Some legislative highlights from Governor

Pennypacker's term include the state's first Libel Law, Child Labor Laws, and the Pure Foods Act. The Child Labor Laws stated that children between the ages of 14 and 16 were limited to working 60 hours per week and children under 14 could not be employed at all. Governor Pennypacker also established the State Highway Department, the State Police, and the forestry school at Mont Alto.

You can find Pennypacker's name on an elementary school in Philadelphia, a dormitory at Penn State University, and on numerous historic markers. Governor Pennypacker's accomplishments are still felt to this day and there is no better place to learn more about his legacy than at Pennypacker Mills!

Victorian Christmas



Laundry Chores

