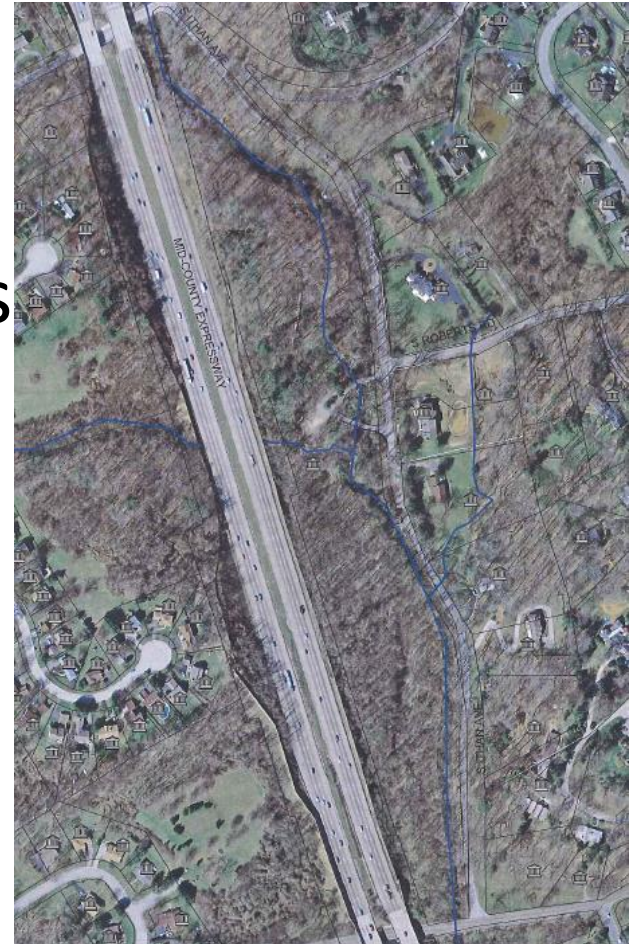


Ithan Valley Park Update

Originally presented to Radnor
Township Park and Rec Board in July,
2011 with recent updates

- Introductions
- Background/Interest
- Historical improvement efforts
- Recent activities
- Thoughts and ideas for IVP



Members and Interested Parties*

- Leslie Bowes – Executive Director, Radnor Conservancy
- Tammy Cohen – Interim Director, Parks and Recreation Dept., Radnor Township
- Rick Colbert – Executive Director, Tyler Arboretum
- John Constable – local homeowner
- Tom Crane – local homeowner
- Pete Kingsbery – local homeowner
- Diana Mizer – Radnor Conservancy
- John Nagle – Commissioner, Ward 5
- Tom Needham – Headmaster, Hill Top Prep School
- Ted Pollard – President, Radnor Historical Society
- Claire Sawyers - Director, Scott Arboretum
- Elaine Schaeffer - Commissioner, Ward 4
- Bill Thomas – Executive Director & Head Gardener, Chanticleer
- John Ward – Arborist and friend to Radnor Township
- Dave Wesler – Science Department, Hill Top Prep School

* In alphabetical order

Background

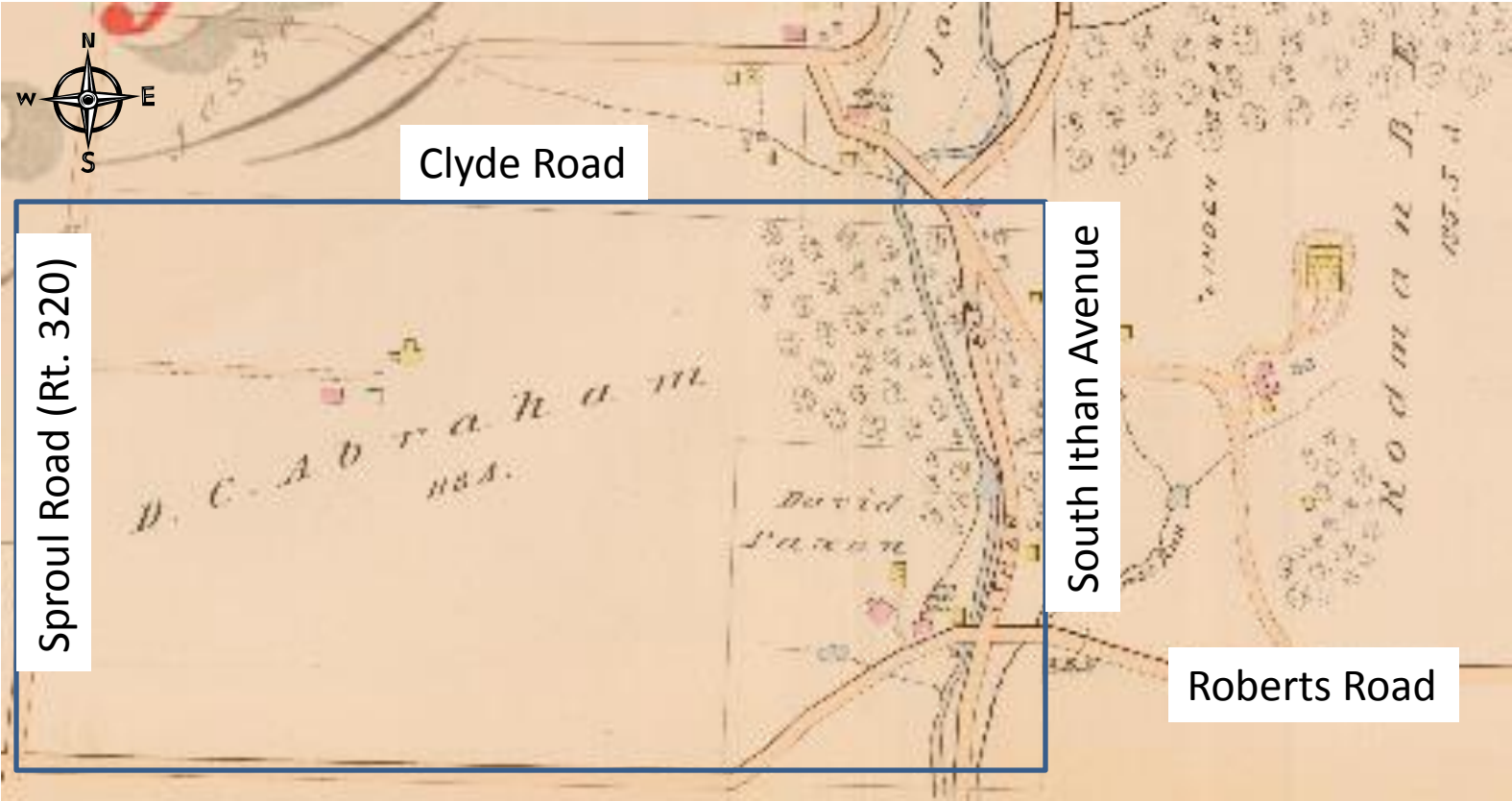
John Evans



- 1790 – 1852
- Ran family mills and farm
- Developed an interest in botany
- Collected and traded specimens locally
- Expanded collections to eastern U.S.
- Expanded trading to Europe
 - Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England
- “In the number of distinct species of trees and shrubs it was doubtless unrivaled in his [Evans’] day, while in herbaceous plants it had few equals.” (J.W. Harshberger, Garden and Forest Magazine, May 12, 1897)

Background

Evans' Farm sold off after death



Section of 1887 PA Railroad Atlas Plate 15

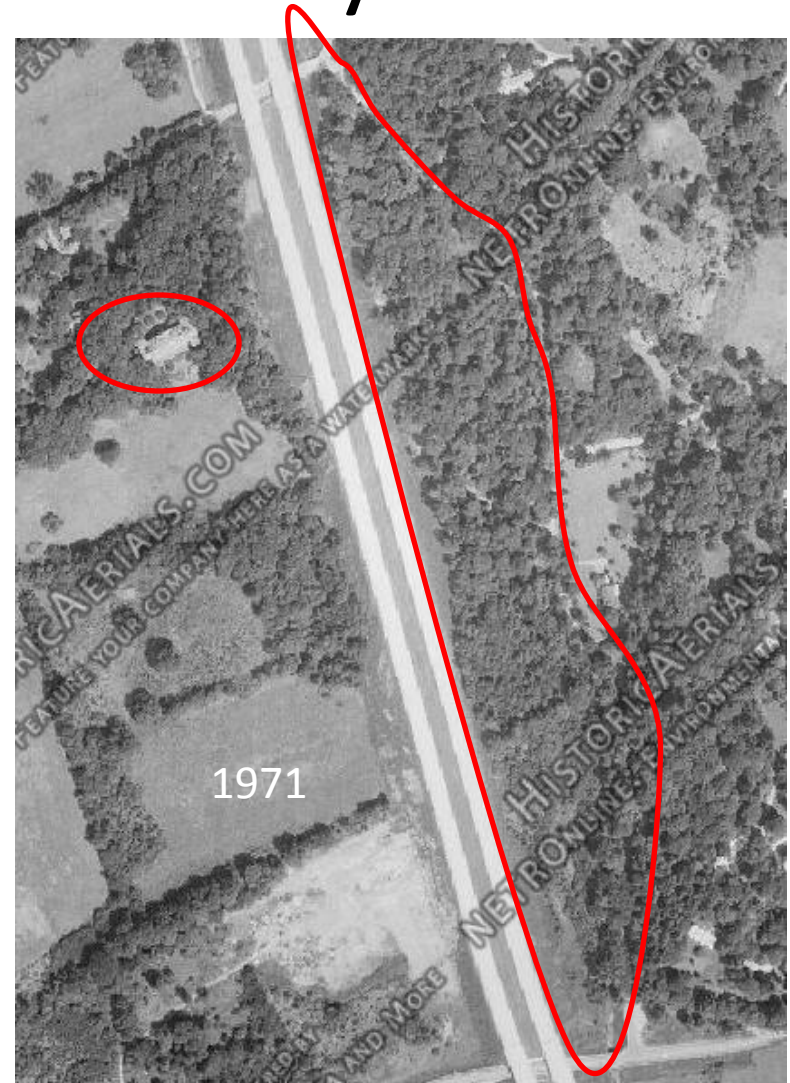
Background Timberline Estate



- W. Hinckle Smith purchase lands back to the original farm in early 1900s; Build mansion and gardens, maintaining and enhancing the grounds of the original 'arboretum'

Impact of the Blue Route

“The birth of Ithan Valley Park”



Efforts at IVP over the years



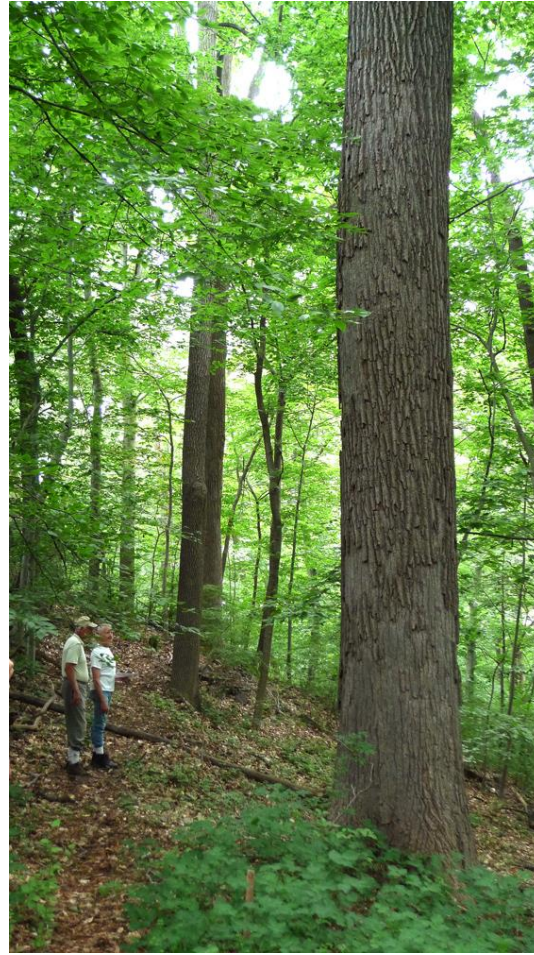
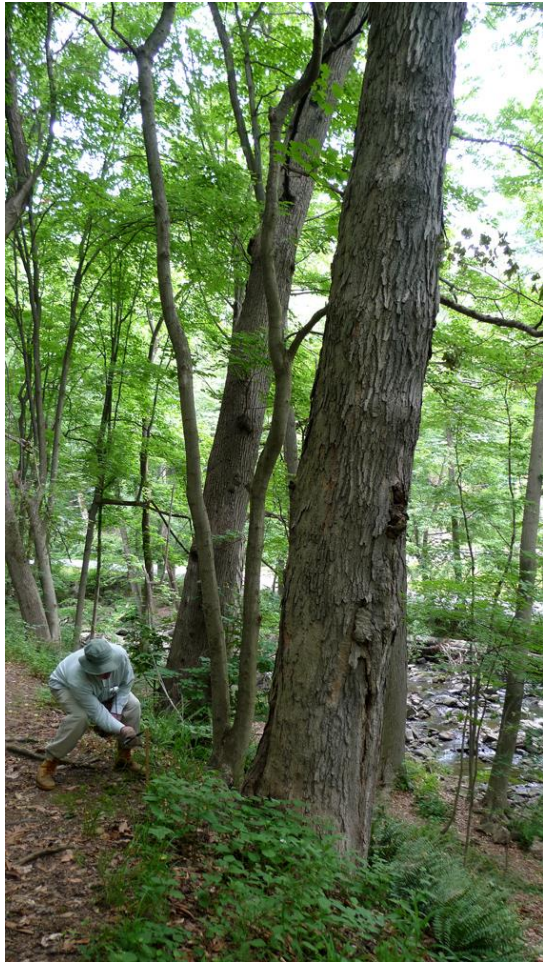
- Periodic Community Cleanups
- Adopted by Hilltop School for cleanups
- Attention from RMS Watershed Class
- Various Scout Projects
- Some trail work
- 2005 Tree Survey
- General “passive neglect”

Goals & Objectives

- Recognize the contribution made by John Evans
- Save this treasure from 'passive neglect'
- Organize efforts to improve the park
 - Identify trees, shrubs and flowers & other items of note
 - Cut away invasive vines from trees & shrubs
 - Establish/improve trails
- “Tell the park’s story”
 - Tree markers
 - Historic Markers
- Investigate other opportunities with the park
 - Preserve a portion for natural habitat
 - Identify Educational options
 - Botany
 - Water Power
 - Environmental Studies

Recent Tree Survey

Spring 2011



Tree Survey results*

1. White Oak *Quercus alba*
(possibly a Burr Oak, *Q. macrocarpa*),
52".
2. Fir *Abies Sp.* several trees near the
above oak.
3. Fir *Abies sp.* on the right side of the
drive.
4. Black Walnut *Juglans nigra*
5. Tulip Tree *Liriodendron tulipifera*, 40".
6. Sugar Maple *Acer saccharum*, 12'
further to left.
7. Magnolia *acuminata*
8. Yellowwood *Cladrastis Kentukea*,
9. Oak, (Red?) *Quercus Sp.* 40+".
10. Scarlet Oak *Quercus coccinea*, 48+".
11. White Oak *Quercus alba*, 20".



12. Buckeye *Aesculus glabra*,
13. California Incense Cedar
Calocedrus decurrens, 60".
14. False Cypress
Chamaecyparis pisifera 'squarrosa
15. Elm *Ulmus sp.*
16. Rhododendron *Rhododendron sp.*
Possibly Asian species or hybrid.
17. Tulip Tree *L. tulipifera*, 45+".
18. European Linden *Tilla cordata*.
19. Sycamore leaf Maple
Acer pseudoplatanus.
20. Tulip Tree *L. Tulipifera*, 72+".
21. Cork Tree
Phellodendron amurense, Asian
species.
22. Zelkova *Zelkova serrata*. eastern
Asia.

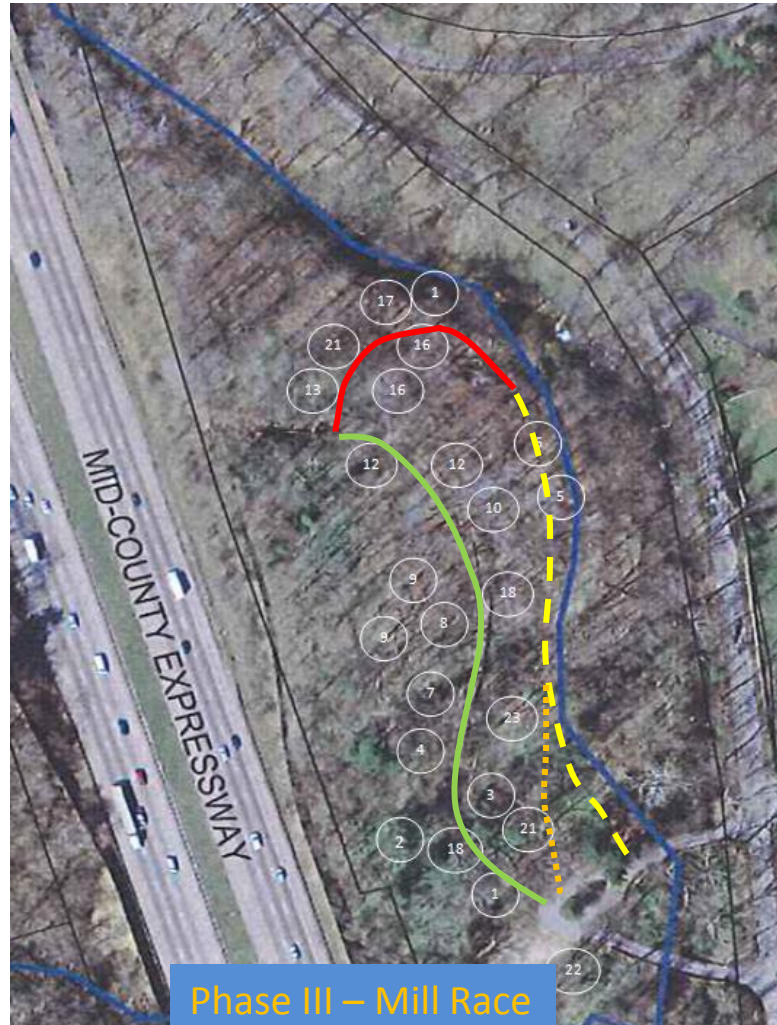
Entrance at Roberts Road

*Confirming 2005 and establishing a mapped basis to go from

Proposed footpaths

Phase IV – Northern Slope

Phase I – Driveway



Phase II - Stream

Phase III – Mill Race

Additional paths

Phase VI - Northern

Clyde Road



Bryn Mawr Ave.

Phase V - Southern

Working with Radnor Township

- Community-driven effort
 - Coordinate plans with Township
 - Building/Improving the trails
 - Assume responsibility/liability
 - Performing periodic maintenance
 - Attracting funding where needed
- Township support
 - Provide a P.O.C. (P&R and/or P.W.)
 - Provide input/approval to plans
 - Wood chipping debris at “cleanups”
 - Remove debris at “cleanups”

Working with Radnor Township(cont.)

- Tree Removal and/or Tree Maintenance
 - Recognized as a significant cost, requiring a professional
 - No current plans
 - Any future intentions will be raised and coordinated with the Township

Accomplishments

- Main focus on removal of vines, clearing existing paths
 - Macadam Road
 - Mill Race Path
 - Stream Path
- Individual and group Core Team clean-up efforts – approximately 100 hours
- Large-group Efforts – Fall 2011:
 - Community Clean-up
 - Villanova Student Volunteer Clean-up
 - Hill Top School Student Volunteer Clean-up

Accomplishments(cont.)

- Communications:
 - Articles/Advertisements
 - Township Newsletter
 - Main Line Suburban Life
 - Patch.com
 - Ithan PTO group email
 - Taped interview on Channel 21
 - Established a website -
(<http://evansarboretum.wordpress.com>)
 - Filmed video of Community Clean-up posted on YouTube

Accomplishments(cont.)

- Established relationship with Hill Top School
 - Supported funding request
 - Hosts the Core Team Meetings
- Core Team meetings – Monthly to semi-monthly

Plans

- Complete the Sand Garden cleanup
- Initiate Southern path cleanup – basic trail and loop established
- Connect with Boy Scouts to discuss and potentially kick off Eagle Scout Projects, including:
 - Erect a Bulletin Board – current Boy Scout project
 - Install tree markers
 - Install Historic/Interpretive markers
 - Northern Slope Steps – completed Boy Scout Project
 - Connector Trail - current Boy Scout project
 - 4-5 Log Benches current Boy Scout Project
- Conduct Valley Forge Military Academy Clean-up
- Conduct multiple Community Clean-ups
- Conduct and film a Tree Tour
- Update the web site
- Increase Community communications
- Provide updates to the Township Newsletter
- Reach out to Bird Enthusiasts to start planning a Bird Sanctuary

Acknowledgements

- Thanks to the Park & Recreation Departments and to Public Works for their support and input to our efforts
 - Steve Norcini
 - Mark Domenick
 - Tammy Cohen
- Thanks to the Hill Top School for their support and allowing us to have meetings at the school
 - Tom Needham - Headmaster
 - Dave Wesler – Science, Biology and Hands-on ‘viner’