

The Friends of Hopewell Furnace



Darby Quaker Meeting & The Underground Railroad:

In 2023, the Darby Quaker Meeting and the Darby Schoolhouse were admitted to the National Park Service **Network To Freedom**. More than 60 members were station masters, conductors, or stockholders. Who were they?

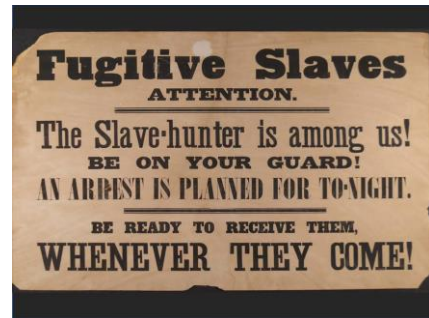
Harold Y. Finigan, Historic Preservationist and Educator, Darby Quaker Meeting

When: Sunday, December 15, 2024, at 2pm

Where: Hopewell Furnace Visitor Center Theatre
2 Mark Bird Lane, Elverson, PA 19520



Free



Ironically, when the Quakers came to Pennsylvania in 1682 to establish an intentional community based on the teachings of Jesus, some 70% were slaveholders. Within less than 100 years, the organization had rejected slaveholding and become the leaders in eliminating slavery within the British Empire. Harold Finigan, Historic Preservationist and Educator, will discuss how the Darby Quakers, working within the internal politics of Quakerism, but outside the legal framework of the Constitution made this happen.

Mr Finigan's research led to the recognition of the National Park Service Network to Freedom Program for the Darby Meetinghouse & Darby Friends school as the only two accredited buildings in Delaware County, PA.

The case study of Allen Ricketts shall be presented, a freedom seeker who was later kidnapped and taken South to be again sold into slavery, in the little-known reverse UGRR.

Due to capacity limitations in the park's theatre, those interested in attending are encouraged to arrive as early as possible prior to the advertised start time to ensure a seat.