



Historic Insights



by Gene Pisasale

Frick's Lock: A Chester County Ghost Town



Canals were a critical part of America's early transportation network. Allowing much easier movement of heavy commodities, the Schuylkill Canal, Erie Canal and others transformed our economy. Frick's Lock is a small village in northeastern Chester County with a link to the Industrial Revolution. It was once part of the bustling Schuylkill Canal, but now sits frozen in time, waiting to be rediscovered. This lecture takes guests on a trip back in time to the canal era of the early-mid 1800s, when barges moved coal, iron ore and vital supplies around our nation.

Lecture Outline:

- The noble experiment: America as fertile ground for new ideas
- The Industrial Revolution
- Frick's Lock and the Schuylkill Canal
- The dramatic transformation: 1815- 1848
- Pennsylvania: crucible for innovation and progress
- The march of technology: canals, railroads and the telegraph
- Joseph Schumpeter and the challenge of creative destruction
- The Internet: a modern "canal" for transport of vital information

About the Author:



Gene Pisasale is an author and historian who lives in Kennett Square, Pa. He's written nine books, conducts an ongoing lecture series and contributes a column titled "**Living History**" to media outlets in the Philadelphia area. He earned a Master's Degree summa cum laude in American history at American Public University. Gene began his career as a petroleum geologist after earning a Master's Degree in petroleum geology from The University of Texas at Austin. He later worked as an energy analyst and portfolio manager in the investment industry after earning an MBA Finance from San Diego State University, the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and Certified Financial Planner (CFP) certifications. He is an approved **Speaker** and **Visiting Scholar** at the Delaware Humanities Forum. Gene has presented his lectures at a wide range of venues, including the **Hamilton Grange National Memorial** (Alexander Hamilton's home in New York), **Paterson Great Falls National Historic Park**, **Fort McHenry** in Baltimore, **Brandywine Battlefield Park** and the **Union League** in Philadelphia. If your group has guest speakers, he welcomes inquiries for lecture presentations, book signings and other events.

Contact: (610) 925-1795 E-mail: Gene@GenePisasale.com Website: www.GenePisasale.com