

Wedding Wisdom

Getting Married In Historic Pennsylvania

(NAPSA)—The best place for a couple to start their new life together may be a place that's rich in history.

Historic locations are becoming increasingly popular wedding spots because of their charm, their character and the wealth of attractions for the wedding party to enjoy.

When you pick an historic area, it's easy to coordinate an impressive wedding site, picturesque accommodations and first-class dining.

For example, an increasingly popular wedding destination is Valley Forge, Pa., where the Convention and Visitors Bureau offers free planning services for social events such as weddings and family reunions, as well as meetings and conventions.

Besides being rich in national history, the area offers a wealth of beautiful and dramatic destinations to be married in, whether you desire a military-themed wedding or a patriotic Fourth of July wedding or just love the rich heritage.

One of the most stunning locations for a wedding is the Washington Memorial Chapel in Valley Forge National Historical Park. The chapel commemorates George Washington's life and the nation's history with rich, decorative elements, including statues, carvings and soaring stained glass windows.

The National Patriots Bell Tower features the Justice Bell, cast to support women's suffrage.

Another beautiful location is Graeme Park, a colonial mansion built in 1722 for the Colonial governor of Pennsylvania, Sir William Keith. The natural



Washington Memorial Chapel

wetlands, pond, and sweeping fields make the grounds a perfect backdrop for a wedding ceremony, reception or photos.

Also a sought-after venue for ceremonies is The Highlands Mansion and Gardens, a 44-acre historic site with a late 18th-century Georgian mansion and two-acre formal gardens.

If an outdoor wedding is your dream come true, consider The Gardens at Morris Arboretum. The romantic 92-acre Victorian garden displays rare trees, a rose garden, a swan pond, Japanese rock gardens, colorful flower gardens and also an 1898 fernery.

The William Penn Inn, established in 1714, offers an elegant site for a wedding, with guest suites available for overnights. There are also many top-rated conference centers and hotels that cater to events.

For more information on planning an event in the area, visit www.valleyforge.org.