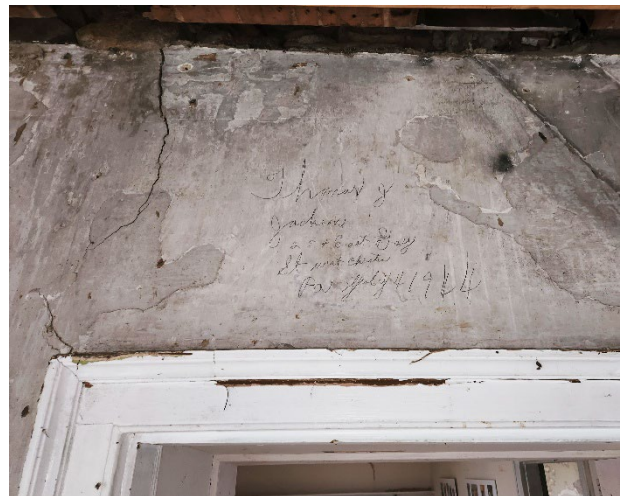


1944 Carpenter Signature Preserved



When Frederick Dershimer purchased the Barnard Property in 1944, he put in numerous improvements. One of these was a shelving unit at the end of the Dining Room (an area that once served as the Keeping Room). Duct work for upgraded 2nd floor heating was embedded in the unit and painted white to blend. During the 2010 Pocopson Volunteer Day, the shelving unit was still intact.

Sometime after 2010 the unit was torn down revealing a signature written in pencil above the door.



The signature reads:

Thomas J
Jackson

254 East Gay
St West Chester
Pa July 4 1944

The 1940 census lists Jackson as a carpenter. We believe Jackson signed his name to the plaster before covering it up with the shelving unit, knowing it might be rediscovered years later. While researching Jackson, we found his 1939 WWII draft card which listed him as employed by John Gibney at Lenape Park. Perhaps he and Dershimer crossed paths there? As part of the current restoration, the signature has been preserved in a Witness Window.

