Welcome additions to their home may not always be family heirlooms. This antique child's sled was a Christmas present to Melissa from William. The fireplaces although not in use become a warm focal point through Melissa's creative decorating.

# Hostetters Of Hayesville

(Continued from Page B18) bricks, but we still have moisture in some of the areas," said Melissa.

Colonial homes also lacks many of the amenities which modern houses boast.sThis colonial home lacks many of the amenities of which modern houses boast. Built in closets were a thing of the future in the 1700's. The only closet in this home was not built to hang clothing.

One person who stopped in and wanted to see the house, but I am cautious with people stopping in. He said he had lived here before and remembers his mother praying in the prayer closet off the master bedroom. come in. We talked for a while before he came in and said he remembered his mother praying in the prayer closet off the master bedroom. And there was a closet there and no other rooms had one and I always wondered what it was for."

never seems to be enough of them. In this house there is only one in each room, and although it is hard

changed that, they have only added a few.

The Hostetter, Price and Slauch History

Melissa has brought some personal family history into their home in the form of furniture. Throughout each room are pieces handed down from her mother or father's family. And the children Rebekah and Phillip know each piece as Grammy Price's bed or Grammy Slauch's table. Melissa feels the children have learend something from being surrounded by these heirlooms and have acquired an appreciation for history and family.

They know that this is Grammy Price's," said Melissa as she runs her hands over a metal white bed, no doubt remembering the nights she spent in that bed at her grandmother's home. "I slept in that bed when I was little and now they sleep in it. I grew up with all of these things and they will, too. I And electrical outlets, there guess it gives them a sense of security.

Few pieces have been purchased, but those which have, to believe, the Hostetter's have not already have special memories. William surprised Melissa one Christmas with a child's sled. It was not new. It was the wooden model, the one most likely seen in a Currier and Ives print. And it was not an easy gift to find.

Then there is the oak rolltop desk which Melissa describes as Williams prize. And other peices which are not family heirlooms have been made special because Melissa's father has restored them in his spare time.

The Hostetters have made their house a home, peice by piece and room by room. Over the years they have sanded floors, removed wallpaper, painted and stencilled and have gradullly furnished their home with the decor that best fits their lives.

In October of 1987 the Hostetter's home was on the tour of homes for Chester County Day. Melissa is amazed that anyone would want to see their home.

"We just live here. It just so happened that we live in a very old home, but if I had a new home I still would have made it look old somehow and I would have wanted all of my family's antiques around me. I am very content here. I think we'll be staying her a long time," said Melissa.

This old home with high celings and cold brick walls and bare wood floors may sound cold, but upon entering there is an immediate rush of warmth, comfort and security. Its beauty as well as its warmth is not just the result of decorating, it goes deeper than that. This warmth and beauty comes from treasuring family memories and not from treasuring family antiques.

In one hundred years from now the Hostetter history will become a part of the legacy begun by Henry Hayes. What they have done on their 18th century home will be recorded in the annals of the Chester County Historical Society. And if the home is still standing, its future occupants will be digging through the society's collection of newspaper clippings to learn something about the Hostetters. If they are curious enough to uncover the long history of their home as Melissa has done.

And as those who have toured the Hostetter home admire the beautiful stenciling Melissa has done and the refinished wood floors and the renewed brick which William has devoted so many hours to, no doubt, that in 100 years, new occupants will labor to make their own changes. And just as the Hostetters shook their head in disbelief at the large bluebirds which adorned the walls of Phillips bedroom when they first saw the house, the future occupants will marvel at the pineapples stenciled border along the top of he living room walls.

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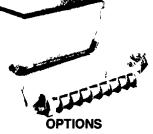
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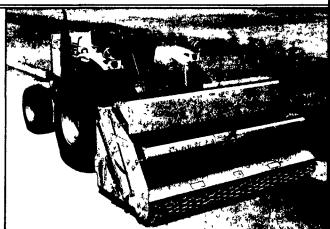
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