The Dove Mill District

The Dove Mill was probably built in 1748 and used as a grist and fulling mill by David Davis. In 1756 it definitely belonged to Conrad Sheetz, the Germantown papermaker. It was handed down through the family and their in-laws, Francis Sheetz, Kemener, and Helmhold until 1798 when it was acquired by Amies, the Swiss foreman of Wilcox's Ivy Mill (paper making). Amies appropriated the Wilcox watermark—the dove with a sprig of ivy in its beak—and named the mill, Dove Mill. It became famous for its paper under Amies' management.

Later (1851) Charles Humphreys operated a cotton factory here, and Will Hamptons and Sami Williamson also owned the mill (n.d.)—at one time sewing machines were manufactured here (amusement park). Kate Sheetz, a descendant, lived to an old age in a dilapidated frame house opposite the mile stone.