

Lancaster Crossroads

Photographs by Pat Cooney

A SoFoBoMo '09 Book

“You’ll come to a crossroad. Do you know what a crossroad is?”

That’s the question the teen at the newsstand in Tobercurry, County Sligo, Ireland, asked me. She was giving me driving directions to my cousin’s farm. It was seven years ago but the question has stayed with me.

At first the question seemed quite odd. Of course I knew what a crossroad was! It’s where two roads cross one another. But she did not use “crossroad” for any of the other intersections in her directions. She reserved it for one particular place some distance out of town. Was there something special about this particular crossroad?

When I arrived at this crossroad there seemed nothing special about it. Just two roads crossing one another in the middle of the fields with no houses visible in any direction. But it did remind me of other Irish crossroads I had seen during a childhood visit to Ireland some forty-five years before. Some of those remote crossroads had a large stone cross or a small shrine nearby. I suspect they had been special places for a long time. Perhaps that was what she meant.

These photos, all taken within Lancaster City, Pennsylvania, explore the visual meaning of some less ancient crossroads.

Pat Cooney, May 2009

Downtown Intersections



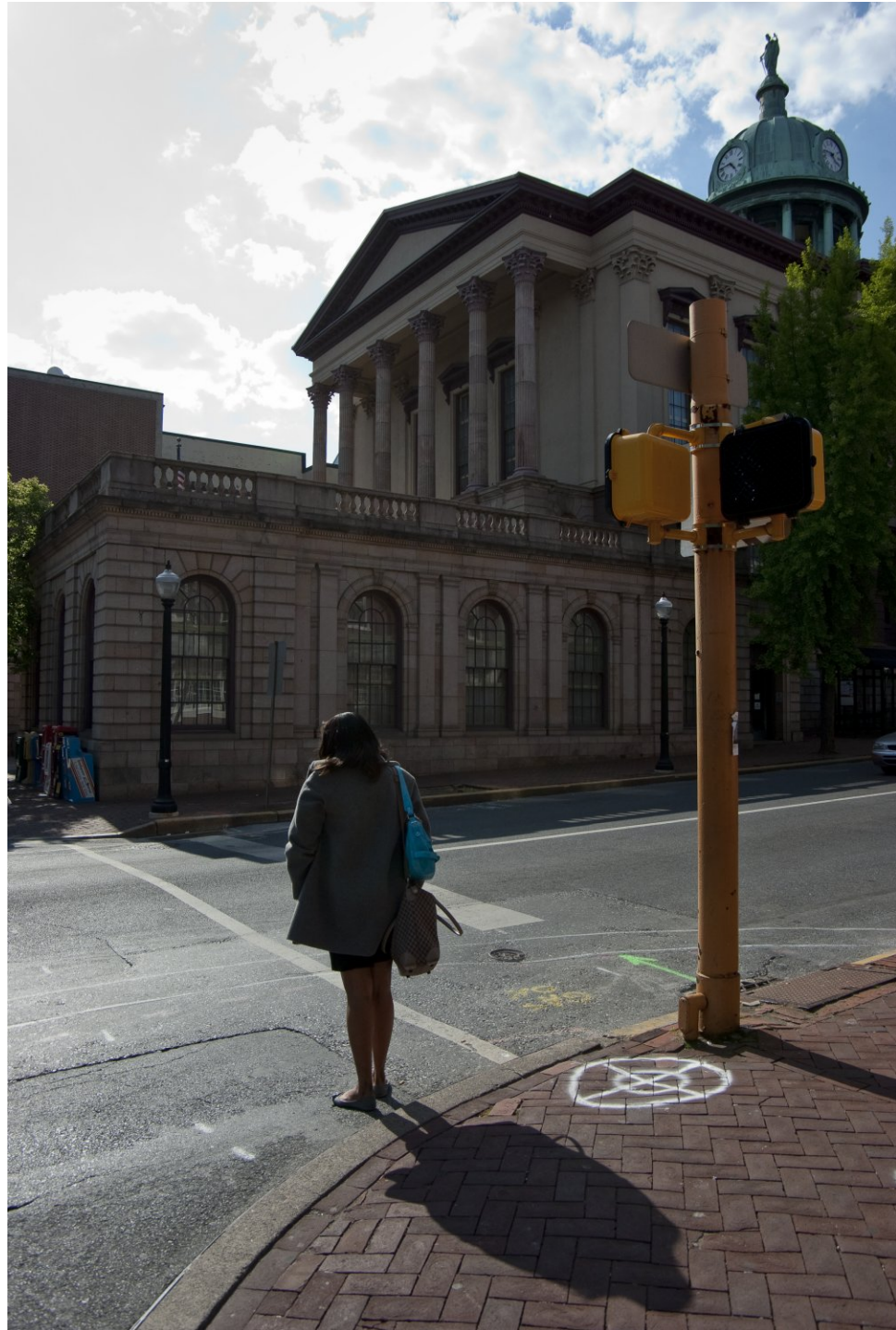
- 1 -
Southeast from
Duke and Orange

- 2 -

Southwest from
Duke and Marion



- 3 -
Northwest from
Duke and King





- 4 -

Southwest toward
Queen and King



- 5 -
North from
Duke and King

- 6 -
West from
Queen and King



- 7 -
East toward
Queen and King





- 8 -
North from
Duke and Orange

- 9 -
South towards
Duke and Orange





- 10 -
Southeast from
Market and Orange

Corners



- 11 -
North toward
Queen and James



- 12 -
Southeast from
Mulberry and Lemon

- 13 -
Southeast from
Prince and James





- 14 -
Southwest from
Queen and James



- 15 -
Northwest from
Queen and New



- 16 -
Southeast from
Duke and Chestnut

- 17 -
Southeast from
Charlotte and Harrisburg





- 18 -
Northeast from
Plum and Frederick



- 19 -
Southeast from
Plum and Frederick



- 20 -
West toward
Lime and King

Books and Coffee



- 21 -
Northwest toward
Pine and Chestnut



- 22 -
South toward
Pine and Chestnut



- 23 -
South Window onto
Pine and Chestnut

- 24 -
Southeast from
Pine and Chestnut



- 25 -
Southwest toward
Pine and Chestnut



- 26 -
Northeast toward
Pine and Chestnut





- 27 -
Mirror onto
Pine and Chestnut



- 28 -
Interior at
Pine and Chestnut

Crossings

- 29 -
North toward
Charlotte and Harrisburg





- 30 -
East from
Ruby and Columbia



- 31 -
Northwest toward
Lime and James



- 32 -
South from
Lime and James

- 33 -
Southeast from
Mulberry and Walnut





- 34 -
North toward
Lime and King

- 35 -
Northeast toward
Queen and Lemon





- 36 -
Northwest toward
State and James

Thanks to my wife, Margaret Cooney, and to my friends in the Lancaster Independent Photographers Group for their feedback on the selection and sequencing of these photos.

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