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August 2011

Hi Joanne,

The Joseph Price Historic Marker

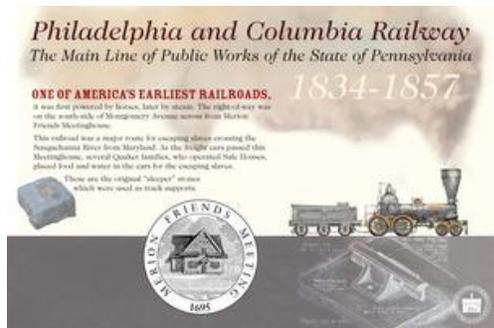
Joseph Price, a Quaker farmer, was born in 1753. He was the fourth generation of a prominent Welsh family to live in Lower Merion. He was a militia captain and major and a Mason, who also, along the course of his illustrious career, became a miller, an innkeeper, a carpenter, and coffin-maker. In 2003 the Historical Society installed a roadside historic marker at the house that he built on Montgomery Avenue near Meetinghouse Lane.



Recently we noticed that the historic marker had weathered and was in need of re-painting. Our volunteers Ted Goldsborough (pictured on the right) and Bob McCormick removed the top of the marker and turned it over to Alan Glickman (pictured on the left) of *Montgomery Signs, Inc.* of West Conshohocken who refinished and repainted the marker *pro bono*. Thank you, Alan, for your time and hard work!

For more information about Joseph Price, read the article in the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission's Summer 2011 issue of the Pennsylvania Heritage magazine by John Fea entitled [Cultivating Piety: The Religious World of Joseph Price](#).

P&CCR Historic Marker



Also in the vicinity, at the entrance gates to the Merion Friends Meetinghouse, there is a little tribute to the *Philadelphia & Columbia Railway*. In 2009, the Friends, in collaboration with the Historical Society, dedicated a display of eight original *Sleeper Stones*.

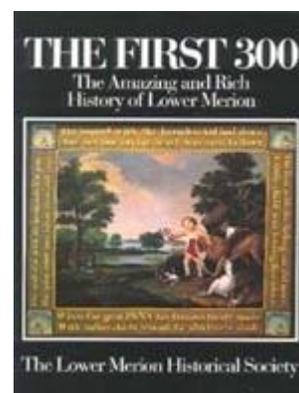
The accompanying sign addresses the Abolition Movement, the railroad as part of the Underground Rail Road, and the involvement of the Quaker

residents.

Summer Reading Suggestions

August is a time to relax and enjoy some good reading. We suggest these books of local interest:

- [The First 300: The Amazing and Rich History of Lower Merion](#) by The Lower Merion Historical Society
- [The Hidden History of the Main Line: From Philadelphia to Malvern](#) by Mark E. Dixon
- [Lower Merion and Narberth](#) by The Lower Merion Historical Society
- [Main Line by Rail: Its History and Transformation](#) by George Harding
- [Maps of Lower Merion & Narberth, PA 1851 to 1961](#) by Franklin Maps. For order information call (610) 265-6277
- [West Laurel Hill Cemetery History Book](#) by West Laurel Hill



A Modern Classic

Frank Lloyd Wright's *Suntop Homes*, located in Ardmore, were an experiment designed to set a new standard for the entry-level housing market in the US by increasing density and incorporating the tenets of Wright's USONIAN architecture. This 4-unit "quadruplex" dwelling was built and patented in 1939, but the onset of the World War, mounting community opposition and project budget overruns halted plans to develop more.

The *Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy*, a national non-profit advocacy group dedicated to the preservation of Wright's built works, will host their [2011 Annual Conference](#) in Philadelphia from September 21st - 25th. Register for the conference to learn

more about America's greatest architect, and enjoy three afternoons of touring that will visit all four local Wright works—including our *Suntop Homes*, as well as designs by other noted modern architects such as Kahn, Neutra, Howe & Lescaze, Bishop & Beidler, Raymond and Dow.

Building Photographs To Preserve Today for Tomorrow's History

Our August picture is from www.lowermerionhistory.org/buildings/, where it is part of our future history:



The Inwood Farm barn near the top of Conshohocken State Road in Gladwyne has been awaiting demolition for 7 years. Now it seems to be on the way to a teardown and replacement by five new houses using the 1896 building materials.

The Main Line Times has a [story](#) on the barn, and there are 16 [photos](#) of the barn on our Buildings web page.

The September issue will have a progress report on the conservation and cataloging of the W. Robert Swartz Photo Collection and an update on the Cynwyd Train Station.

Favorite Links

- [Lower Merion Historical Society's Website](#)
 - Our [Preserve America Website](#)
 - [Membership Information](#)
 - [Buy Our Books](#)

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE LOWER MERION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Lower Merion Historical Society is an organization dedicated to *Preserving Our Past For The Future*. This is accomplished by stewardship of local history, education of the community, preservation of historic resources and outreach to promote awareness of the cultural heritage of the Township of Lower Merion and the Borough of Narberth.



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