



August 2012

"Yesterday Was History! What Can We Do With It Today?"

Cynwyd Train Station Revitalization Progress Report



Earlier this year the Historical Society received a grant from the *Merion Community Association* to pay for the cleaning, repair, and repointing of the outside brick walls at the station. Following the Historical Commission's guidelines of *best practices* for masonry restoration, *Stumpo Construction* has begun work on the restoration of the 1890 brick walls. Using a specialized pneumatic chisel, Al Stumpo is removing the damaged mortar and then repointing the damaged bricks with a lime-based mortar that is colored with a red mineral oxide pigment. We will be posting additional updates as the Historical Society finishes the repairs to the Cynwyd Train Station.

Pennsylvania Community Transportation Initiative (PCTI) Update

If you stop by the Cynwyd Train Station, you will see the beginning of the transformation of the station into a community gathering space. This area will still be used by the commuters of SEPTA's *Cynwyd Line*, but will also have an expanded use as a Trailhead for the *Cynwyd Heritage Trail*. Thanks to the PCTI grant, to PennDOT, to SEPTA and to the Township for the funding of this project.

This transformation began in June when SEPTA removed the lower level shed to make space for a new platform area for the commuters.



View of the shed before demolition



View of the platform after the demolition of the shed



This panoramic view shows the extent of these recent renovations. What you see is the new pedestrian handicap ramp (ADA) that will be used by the commuters and by users of the *Cynwyd Heritage Trail*. During the month of August new fencing will be installed that will separate the active *Cynwyd Line* from the *Cynwyd Heritage Trail*. Also, new railings will be installed on the ADA ramp.

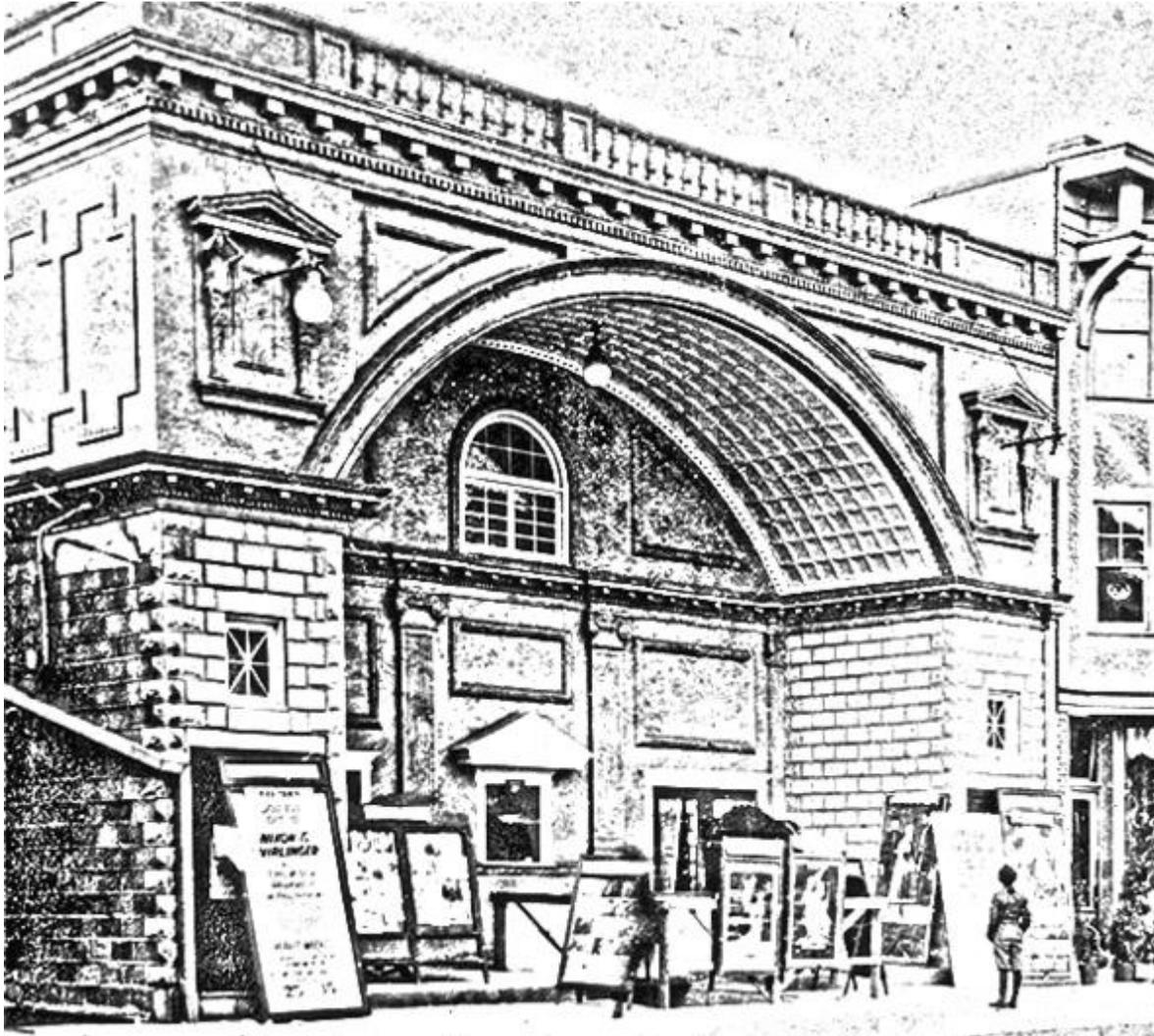
In October, the finishing touches to the entire site will begin. This work will be the planting and landscaping of the area and the installation of other amenities to beautify the area. We all look forward to these final touches to the Trailhead of the *Cynwyd Heritage Trail*.

[Photos of the final concrete work on the station](#)

Building Photographs:

To Preserve Today for Tomorrow's History

Our August photo from www.lowermerionhistory.org/buildings/ is part of our history:



Today's name and use are very different from the original building in this 1921 photo. The use has changed at least twice; the Roman arch front has been replaced by Art Deco. This photo has a clue to the owner and how he was killed on the French Riviera.

Click [here](#) to see how the building has changed.

The September Issue of *Milestones* will include a story about the Pennsylvania Historical Society's final report concerning the Historical Society's Special Library Collections, about West Laurel Hill's re-discovered main entrance at Barmouth Station, and about the newly restored *Merion Community Association's* 1916 lamp post located at the *Merion Tribute House*.

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.

