



March 2012

Come Celebrate 200 Years of the Lower Merion Academy!



The Lower Merion Historical Society, in conjunction with the Lower Merion School District and the Academy Trustees is hosting a Bicentennial Gala on Saturday, April 28th to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Lower Merion Academy, an 1812 Quaker schoolhouse that was the first public educational institution built in the region. The Quakers educated children regardless of race, class, gender, or religious affiliation. The Academy continues to be a respected

symbol our Lower Merion's rich heritage, and is a safe haven, open to anyone who requests its use for peaceful purposes.

The Society will hold its annual meeting at the Academy in the afternoon, and proceed to the Woman's Club of Bala Cynwyd in the evening for presentations, a silent auction, and refreshments. For more information, purchase tickets, or to give a tax-deductible donation, visit [our website](#) and if you would like to donate an item for the silent auction, please contact Sarah Francis, Gala Chair, at sarah.francis@gmail.com.

Watershed Congress along the Schuylkill River

This year marks the 15th anniversary! [The Watershed Congress](#) has evolved over the years to advance the best available information and techniques for protecting and restoring watersheds. The focus on networking across disciplines means that Watershed Congress melds science, policy and practical applications into one program. As a result, the annual Watershed Congress is a highly anticipated event for people interested in understanding, protecting and restoring their local streams.



This year's program features 28 concurrent sessions, 6 poster sessions, and 2 extended workshops covering a broad range of watershed topics. One of the poster sessions will feature *Sustainable Stormwater Initiative at Cynwyd Train Station* presented by Sarah

Francis of the *Lower Merion Historical Society*.

Be sure to [register and join in](#) on this informative day long workshop that is scheduled on March 10th at Montgomery County Community College, West Campus in Pottstown.

The Woman's Club of Bala Cynwyd: A Century of "Civic Betterment"



In celebration of the centennial of the founding of the [Woman's Club of Bala Cynwyd](#), the Club, the Lower Merion Historical Society, and the Lower Merion Conservancy will present an illustrated lecture in the Club's own historic property. Begun in 1912 by a small group of civic-minded women, the Woman's Club created a free public library for the community, organized efforts to support soldiers and refugees, created a school lunch program and

supported playgrounds, installed a community nurse, fought for a woman's right to vote – and that was just the beginning! Today, the Club continues its tradition of important civic work for several area organizations, and hosts classes and grand celebrations. Jerry Francis of the Historical Society and the Conservancy's own Lori Salganicoff will give this lecture in the Woman's Club and Levering Mill House. All donations to the nonprofit Club's Building Fund will be applied to the ongoing maintenance of these beautiful historic buildings. Come join us at:

The Woman's Club of Bala Cynwyd
326 Bala Avenue, Bala Cynwyd
Sunday, March 18, 2:00 p.m.

Free! Audience: Adults and children ages 14 & up

The 2012 Preservation WatchList (14th Annual)

The Historical Society wants to recognize the efforts of the Lower Merion Conservancy to preserve and to protect our housing landscape.

The *Preservation WatchList* is an important advocacy tool used by the Lower Merion Conservancy to assist the community in preserving the built environment of Lower Merion and Narberth. While the list helps prioritize Conservancy efforts, it also calls attention to larger issues such as neighborhood quality of life, improvements needed in existing public policy, and the problem of



demolition by neglect. The ultimate goal is to generate awareness that promotes positive action.

The WatchList was coordinated by Lori Salganicoff, the Historic Preservation Director at the Conservancy. The Historic Preservation Advisory Committee, a group of architects, realtors, preservationists, and historians, helped craft this list and included: Kathleen Abplanalp, Rita Auritt, Suzanna Barucco, Christian Busch, Gerry Fisher, Jerry Francis, Philip Franks, Jeff Groff, Elise Kemery, Christine Jones, Jeff Levine, Martha Moffat, Karen Nagel, Lori Salganicoff, and Jean Wolf.

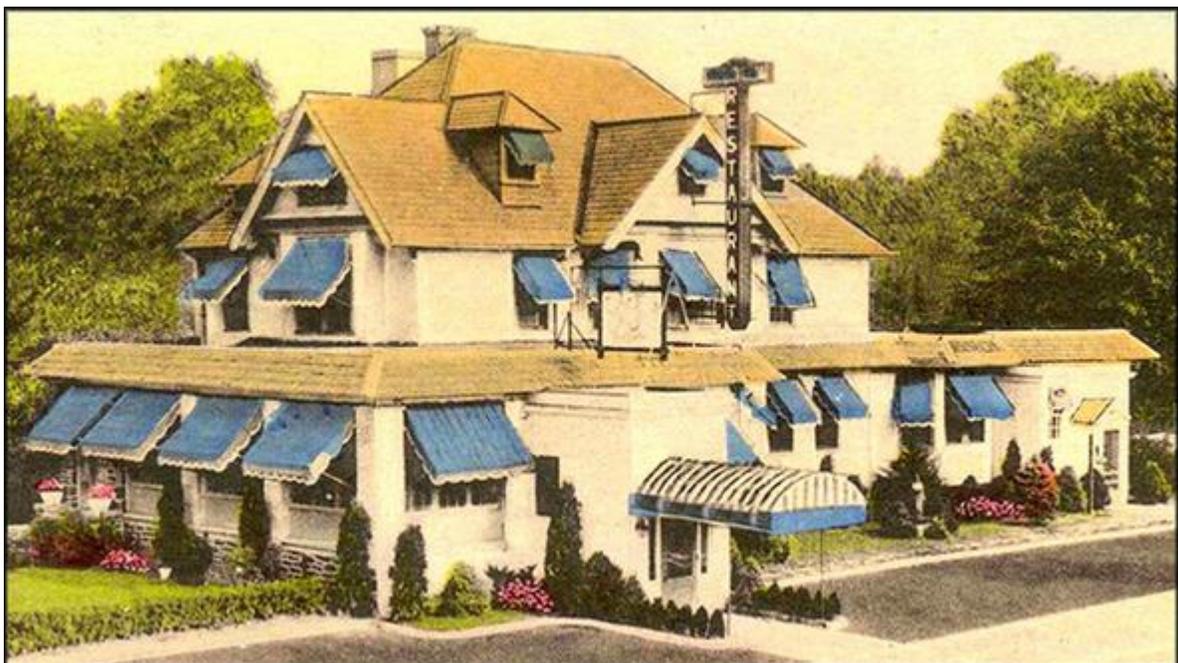
The 2012 Preservation WatchList is as follows:

1. Bala Avenue Commercial Corridor (shown above)
2. Streams and Structures
3. Oddfellows Hall and Cemetery (324 Righters Mill Road, Gladwyne)
4. Barker Mill (1400 Mill Creek Road, Gladwyne)
5. R6A-zoned Neighborhoods
6. First Baptist Church (120 East Athens Avenue, Ardmore)
7. Lewis House (1231 Montgomery Avenue, Wynnewood)
8. 115 West Montgomery Avenue, Ardmore
9. Inwood Farm Barn (Conshohocken State Road at Spring Mill Road, Gladwyne)
10. Historic Windows

Visit the [Conservancy's WatchList webpage](#) to download a full-color pdf and read how the list was created.

Building Photographs: To Preserve Today for Tomorrow's History

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



This restaurant was known for its checkered tablecloths and a picture of puppies in wineglasses. Was the food famous or just the drinks? It was replaced by a modern office building and that's changed too; do you know where it is?

Click [here](#) to see all the buildings that have been on this corner.

The April issue will be the agenda for our April 28th Annual Meeting/Open House and the election of Directors for the Class of 2015 at the Lower Merion Academy followed by the *Bicentennial Gala* at the Woman's Club of Bala Cynwyd..



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.

