



May 2017

We Are Having a Festival And You Are Invited

Merion Friends History Festival

Saturday May 20, 2017 (Rain or Shine)



We are excited to announce that [Merion Friends Meeting](#) has partnered with [The Lower Merion Historical Society](#), [The Lower Merion Conservancy](#), and [Harriton House](#) to present a family-oriented festival focused on Lower Merion in the period 1820-1860, when horses were key to the local economy and Quakers played a significant role in the community.

The festival is open to the public with no admission charge. Step into the year 1850 when you enter the campus of Merion Friends Meeting at 615 Montgomery Avenue in Merion on Saturday May 20, 2017 between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Learn about the key role of horses in Lower Merion at this time and about the challenges to simplicity-loving Quakers presented by growing wealth. There will be re-enactors in period garb, a blacksmith demonstration, a quilt turning and period crafts and games for children. Visitors may also take tours of both the Meetinghouse, which dates to 1695, and the burying ground, oldest in the area. Hand-cut silhouettes and horse-drawn carriage rides will be available for a fee and visitors may purchase hot and cold food from the period.

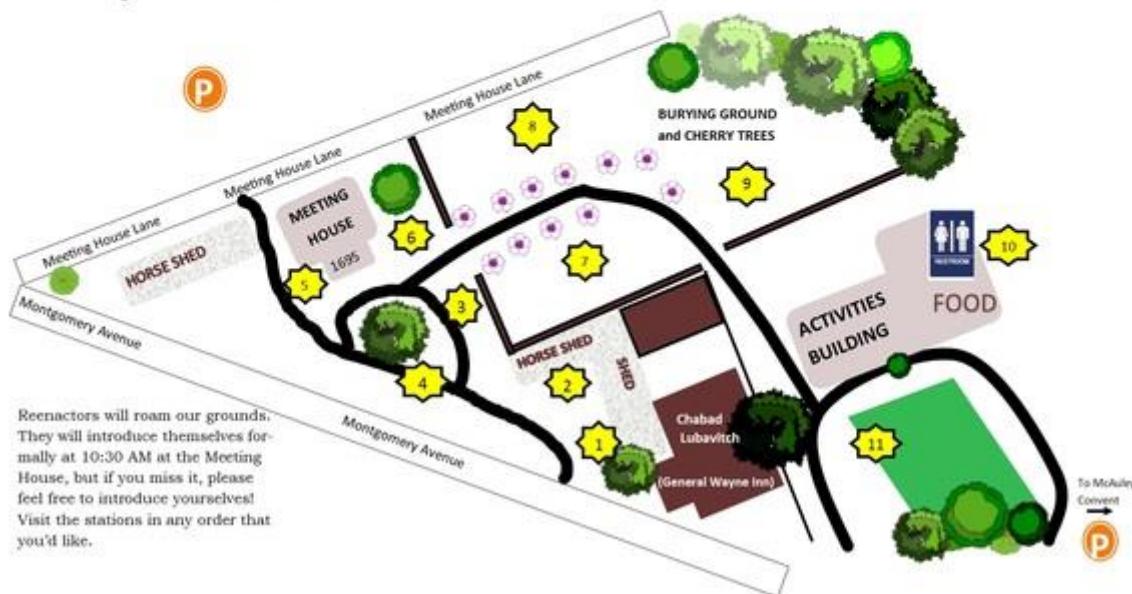
In response to this year's *One Book, One Lower Merion* selection, *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead, and other popular media, there has been renewed interest in the journeys of enslaved people and the Underground Railroad. Festival exhibits will include Quakers' roles in the American abolitionist movement and the Underground Railroad as well as the role of horses and carriages in Lower Merion then; and Quaker dress in the early nineteenth century.

Historical Stations to Visit

1. Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad
2. Horse and Carriages Exhibit
3. Blacksmith Demonstration
4. Lower Merion Society for the Detection and Prosecution of Horse Thieves
5. 1695 Meeting House Tours
6. Underground Railroad Exhibit
7. Anti-Slavery Movement and Scavenger Hunt
8. The Burial Ground and Cherry Trees
9. Quaker Botanists
10. Children's Games
11. Carriage Rides * 11:00—2:00

In the Activities Building

- Quilt Display Presentation; Quilt Turning at 11:00 am, 12:30 pm and 2:00 pm
- Quaker Plainness and Period Clothing
- Silhouette Cutting from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm
- Lower Merion Historical Society
- Lower Merion Conservancy
- Children's Crafts
- **Food all day**
- **Restrooms**



There is plenty of parking in the immediate area. The kind managers at *Doggie Style Pets* and the Sisters of *McAuley Convent* have graciously lent us the use of their nearby lots. Also, additional parking can be found either on residential streets nearby, such as Meeting House Lane, Schiller Avenue, Monroe Road, and Mercer Road. These are just a short walk to the *Merion Friends History Festival*.

For more information, [click here](#)

• *Favorite Links*

- [About Us](#)
- [Lower Merion Historical Society's Website](#)
 - [Membership Information](#)
 - [Buy Our Book](#)



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.

