

## March 2015

# William Penn Inn



Located at 533 East Lancaster Avenue & 1024 Cedar Grove Road in Wynnewood.

We are well on our way in preserving our beloved *William Penn Inn*. The proposal to save the Inn is working its way thought the various Township Committees. Here is the <u>latest news</u>.

The Inn was on the February 23rd agenda of the Historical Commission...<u>here is that story.</u>

Finally, the Inn is on the March 2nd agenda of the Planning Commission. "A proposal to subdivide the

two existing lots into four lots and construct three new single family detached dwellings with vehicular access from Cedar Grove Road on Lots 2-4. The existing building, a Class II historic resource (our *William Penn Inn*), will remain on Lot 1 and be converted into three condominium units."

Stay tuned as a construction timeline is developed and the Inn is reborn.

#### Historic Trail Tour with Sadie

Saturday, March 21, 2015 @ 10:30am to 1:00pm. Sadie Francis will host a tour of the historic, renovated 1890 *Cynwyd Train Station*, then take a field trip to check out the signage at the trailhead, and walk 1.5 miles down the *Cynwyd Heritage Trail* to take a peek at the entrance to the Manayunk Bridge (checking on construction progress). At that point we will backtrack a bit to the beginning of a hiking trail which will lead us to some older rights-of-way, take in various historical sites, and traverse the Towpath Bridge across the Schuylkill River to the *Manayunk Brewery*: we'll be getting to the Brewery by about 12:30pm. **Admission is Free**!



# **Collection Highlights**



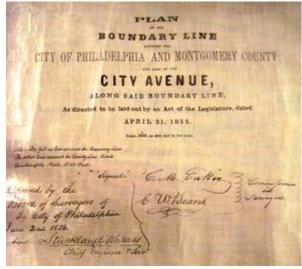
In addition to our volunteers, the Historical Society's major asset is our library collection. We are the special research library, for the people of the Township of Lower Merion and the Borough of Narberth, that continues to grow in size and in scope. Library acquisitions are an ongoing process. Some of our library material is donated by local residences while others we purchase when items come up for public sale. We do have a modest annual budget for the acquisition of new materials to fill the gaps in our coverage. Here is an example of a recent purchase off *eBay*. It is a real photograph c1890 to c1910 of the

Bala Train Station.

#### A Piece of History for Sale

We have been offered an opportunity to purchase the *Draft Boundary Line Road Between Philadelphia and Montgomery Counties from Cobbs Creek to River Schuylkill 1855.* The hand drawn map shows the layout of the proposed City Avenue. The map is 95 inches long and 15 inches high on linen with a written survey. This *true copy* has been appraised by Freeman's Auction for \$650.00.

We would like to purchase this map and survey, but the asking price is above our budgetary means. If you are interested in making a donation to the Historical Society to help us acquire this map and survey, please email us at <u>lmhistory@comcast.net</u>. We would be most grateful for your financial support. Shown above is a portion of the frontpiece of the map.



## Building Photographs - Preserving Today For Tomorrow's History

The March photo from our **Buildings web** shows some changes to our history.

These two 19th century buildings are in the <u>Historic Inventory</u>. The owners are applying to demolish <u>this one</u> and <u>the one next door</u>. They will use the area for parking while *One Ardmore Place* is being built on the lot across the street.

See the details in the Main Line Times.



We have made it quicker and easier to find the street and building you want by upgrading the Buildings web site. Instead of scrolling through all the streets that start with C, for instance, just enter the first 3 letters of the street name in the box, such as *Cri*. Below the box, the one you want will pop up, along with others; click one to send it up to the box and then click Search in the next box.

# Favorite Links <u>About Us</u> <u>Lower Merion Historical Society's Website</u> <u>Membership Information</u> <u>Buy Our Books</u>

### 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.

