



UMHC Topics

Upper Moreland Historical Commission

Winter 2011

Historic Resource Inventory Adds Five Homes

On December 20th, the Board of Commissioners presented historic plaques and certificates to five township residents, bringing the number of properties on the UMHC Historic Resource Inventory to 41. Selection criteria include building age, historical significance and distinctive architectural features.

The homes on the Historic Resource Inventory can be viewed on the UMT website at www.uppermoreland.org, (Associations & Commissions) and they will be shown in a Tri-Centennial Book to be published by the Upper Moreland Historical Commission in May 2011.

The five new inventory homes added this year are pictured and described on this page.



407 North Easton Road - Willow Grove

Built in 1890, this house is part of the Calvary Presbyterian Church of Willow Grove and is occupied by its pastor Rick Tyson.



4100 Thistlewood Drive - Hatboro

Built in 1871, this Colonial Revival farm house is owned by Erin and Andrew Kowal.



2520 Pioneer Road - Hatboro

This 1870 house and was once part of Cherry Blossom Farm and is owned by Gail and Ernard Gustafson.



638 South York Road - Hatboro

This house was built on speculation in 1910 at the time Ashland Farm was subdivided and it is a wonderful example of Tudor architecture. The house is owned by Stephanie and Stephen Moros.



2760 Paper Mill Road - Huntingdon Valley

Historical records indicate that this farmhouse was constructed in 1938, and it is now part of the Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust preserve.

UMHC Mainstay Moving West

Millie Wintz, who has been an invaluable member of the UM Historical Commission since its founding in 2002, is moving to Florence Colorado in the spring where she is rehabbing a 150 year old Victorian building and will assist her daughter in running a local art college. Millie describes her new home, which is located in the southern portion of the state, as a town with one stop sign, no bus stop and a hitching rail on Main Street. She is converting the second floor of her building into a "flat" for herself and the elevator being installed has become one of the primary local attractions.

Trained as Architect at Penn and with a Doctorate degree in Education, Millie has been a key contributor to the Pennypack Trust, the Old York Road Historical Society, the UM Historical Association and the UM Historical Commission for as long as anyone can remember. She is currently a member of the Willow Grove Tri-Centennial Steering Committee as well.

Millie Wintz is one of the premier authorities on the history of the Willow Grove area and if you ask her a question about it, you had better have 45 minutes to listen to the answer. When I considered giving up the presidency of the Historical Commission a year ago, it was Millie who said "Oh no, you can't do that because we don't have time to train another one".

Millie will be returning to the area in May to conduct one of the four UMHA historical presentations, to give a program on the Historic Mills along the Pennypack Creek and to serve as narrator for the UMHC Historic Sites Trolley Tour, all of which are part of the Willow Grove Tri-Centennial Celebration. As a final gift to our area, Millie will be turning over her personal historical document files to the township and they will be set up as a special reference resource at the UMT Free Library.

For all of us who have worked with Millie Wintz over the years, we will miss her uncanny wit, her extensive knowledge of our history and her dedication to whatever job is at hand - Thank you Millie.

Dick Sayer - President UMHC



Tri-Centennial Update

The Willow Grove 300 Steering Committee has put together a new website to provide a schedule of events during the May-June Tri-Centennial Celebration, and it can be accessed at www.willowgrove300.com. Please check back on a regular basis, because the program is constantly being updated.



At noon on Sunday May 15, 2011, up to 250 residents will board a restored steam train at the Willow Grove station for an hour and a half narrated trip through historic Bucks County to New Hope. After a layover for lunch or shopping in town, the train will depart for the return trip to Willow Grove. This event will be one of the highlights of the Tri-Centennial Celebration.

Check at www.willowgrove300.com and the two local TV channels for the latest Tri-Centennial schedule and events information.

**Upper Moreland Historical Commission
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