

2014 Historic Preservation Awards Properties

Anne Cresson Boarding School for Girls



Anne Cresson Boarding School for Girls is being recognized for exceptional preservation efforts. It was originally built in the first half of the nineteenth century and was a stop along the West Chester Railroad. A boarding platform is still visible on the property. During the 1870's Anne Cresson established and maintained a school in the house. This is one of the earliest private schools in the Township, particularly noteworthy as a boarding school for girls. In the early 1900's bricks were manufactured from clay found on the site. Today the house is a grand residence.

Morstein Station



Morstein Station, circa 1879, is being recognized as an outstanding restoration project. The building served as a stop on the historic West Chester Railroad and was a ticket office and the station master's residence. Today the structure is part of the campus of Weston Solutions, Inc., a leading company in the integration of sustainable solutions for environmental concerns. Morstein Station is a visual representation of Weston's core values and commitment to community. This property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Exton Hotel



Exton Hotel, as it appears today, speaks to the dedication and determination of Dr. Leonard Giunta and his company, Giunta Enterprises. Rarely does an abandoned, deteriorated, building make such an attractive reentry to active life. Situated on East Lincoln Highway it was originally built in 1859 to provide food and shelter for travelers on the Chester Valley Railroad (now the Chester Valley Trail) and the Lancaster Turnpike (Lincoln Highway). It served for a time as a ticket office and post office.

The Exton Hotel has a long and colorful history as an inn and restaurant. At one time it was suspected to house women of “notorious ill repute” and during Prohibition was known to have a well-stocked supply of bootleg liquor. Following Prohibition the hotel received a proper liquor license and operated into the 1960’s as a bar and restaurant.

The hotel is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is being recognized by the West Whiteland Historical Commission as an outstanding rehabilitation project. The structure appears much as it would have originally looked. The front porch has been restored and the Chester Valley Trail is near the back door. The interior was rehabilitated to provide four rental apartments. The old hotel now provides a wonderful location for people who love history and enjoy the conveniences of today.