



## Greentree—The Town That Never Happened

May 16 • 6:30 PM

General Wayne Elementary School Auditorium  
20 Devon Road, Malvern

The Willistown Parks & Recreation Department and Willistown Historical Commission are pleased to host Bart Van Valkenburgh, a Willistown resident, who will present a program on the history of the Greentree area of northeastern Willistown Township located between Paoli and downtown Malvern. Bart serves as a board member of several local history groups including The Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund, The Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society (TEHS), and the Willistown Historical Commission.

Bart is a 40-year resident of the Greentree area and has been fascinated by the history of that part of Willistown. He recently reviewed some photos from the TEHS archive showing 1930's pictures of Greentree's roadways and Pennsylvania Railroad's Greentree station. These photos are the inspiration behind his program. Bart will start the story with the late 18th Century development of the roadways and taverns that became the nucleus of the towns that grew on the Main Line.

The program then covers the 19th Century including the development of Lancaster Road and the 1834 Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad. Bart will then discuss the growth of the area driven by the railroad. He'll take us to the 20th Century discussing the development of the highways and automobile and the electrification of the Paoli rail line and its effect on Greentree and the western Main Line. The program closes with Bart's theory regarding why Greentree never became a town like Paoli or Malvern but survives as a great neighborhood in Willistown Township.