

THE BULLETIN

of the

RADNOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME VIII

2021

No. 1



The Radnor War Memorial

A Centennial History

“The Radnor Historical Society is committed to preserve, protect, present, and promote the history of Radnor Township.”

The Bulletin of the Radnor Historical Society has been printed annually and distributed to members of the Society since 1950. Today, each issue is compiled after its cover date, so that reports on the Society's programs and developments correspond with the year shown on the cover.
This issue was printed in May, 2022.

On the Cover

The Radnor War Memorial with its flags flying on a windy day in April, 2022, a month short of its 100th birthday.

(Front and back cover photos by Greg Prichard)



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INCORPORATED APRIL 30, 1948

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VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 1

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Editor's Note

An Anniversary Worth Recognizing

The Radnor Historical Society begins the eighth volume of its *Bulletin* with this special commemorative issue, which we dedicate entirely to the story of the Radnor War Memorial.

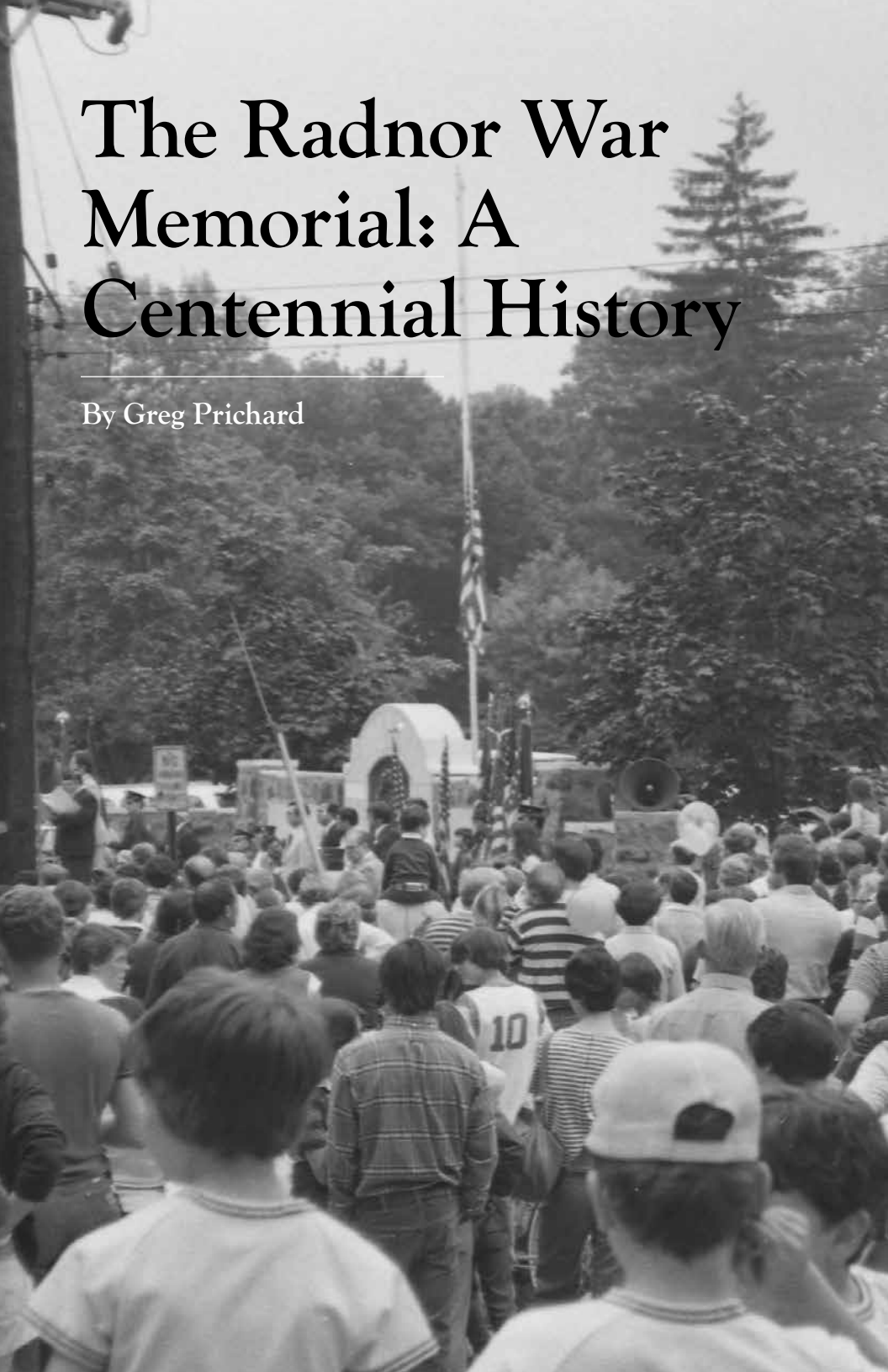
It is, of course, the centerpiece of the Township's annual Memorial Day parade. Yet it is also an extraordinary work of art and a permanent symbol of what a community can create when those who understand the importance of recognizing sacrifice contribute to a common cause.

The Radnor Historical Society has preserved the archives of the various committees that created and maintained the memorial over the past century, and those records formed the foundation of this history. Though it was one group of Radnor citizens who spurred the creation of the memorial 100 years ago, it has taken a century's worth of dedicated citizens, volunteers, and professionals to keep the memorial as a focal point of Radnor Township. This issue is dedicated to them. **B**



The Radnor War Memorial: A Centennial History

By Greg Prichard



When it comes to the collective memory of wartime, the First World War is usually not at the forefront. It is far from the most recent conflict, and the statistics of its human toll and physical destruction have been supplanted by newer wars many times over. Yet at the beginning of the 20th century, Americans had never sacrificed so much in a foreign conflict.

Not since the Civil War had each and every town across the United States been so dramatically impacted by war – not by the direct damage of the war itself, but by the deployment, loss, and lingering effects of battle overseas on the people who served.

We know it as “World War I,” but while it raged and in the years after it was the “Great War” and the “War to End All Wars.” Those dramatic pronouncements spoke to the scale and gravity of the conflict and its impact on the lives of Americans. The memory of that time would long linger in the minds of those who lived through it, but what of future generations? Even some children of fallen servicemen were too young to remember the time of conflict.

A nationwide movement arose to preserve the memory of the war in a tangible way in town squares and other places of prominence. These monuments took various forms: statues, arches, plaques, and columns among them. Some remarkable monuments were erected in our area, including a massive arch spanning the Plush Mill Bridge connecting Media and Swarthmore (removed in 1958). A community center in Lower Merion Township, the Merion War Tribute House, was erected in honor of the 81 men from Merion who served. Most common, however, were smaller but still dignified monuments that were artistically designed and made of high-quality, long-lasting materials.

The citizens of Radnor Township also sought to recognize those from the community who served and lost their lives in the War. A committee was established in 1921 for the purpose of determining a location, design, and scope for a Radnor war memorial. Their goal to have it ready to dedicate by May of the following year was ambitious, as was their belief in the ability of the residents to fully fund a monument of the finest materials designed by two exceptional creative artists.

A hundred years later, their efforts can still be appreciated, and while those of us in the 21st century can be thankful to have such an impressive monument, it is those listed on it whose sacrifices truly deserve our gratitude.

Left: Crowds fill South Wayne Avenue on Memorial Day 1978.

Artist and Architect

The enduring beauty of the memorial should be credited to two men whose artistic brilliance has stood the test of time.

R. Tait McKenzie (1867-1938) was born in Canada and moved to the United States in 1904 to teach at the University of Pennsylvania. In addition to being a celebrated sculptor, he was also an accomplished athlete and physician. His understanding of anatomy undoubtedly aided his skill as a sculptor of the human form.

Like his subjects on the memorial, McKenzie himself served in World War I for the Canadian forces. While serving in the military he developed innovative methods to rehabilitate wounded soldiers. As a result of this service, his extensive work over the years after the war to sculpt memorials far and wide likely had great personal meaning for him.

In addition to monuments, McKenzie sculpted various depictions of historical figures as well as medals and reliefs. His most famous work, "The Ideal Scout" (1937), depicting a Boy Scout, has been replicated numerous times for cities across the United States and overseas.

Louis S. Adams (1878-1971) was the architect of the stone and marble wall in addition to the original memorial site's landscaping. As an employee of the Olmsted Bros. landscape architecture firm based in Brookline, Massachusetts,



Other McKenzie sculptures for war memorials. Left: "The Homecoming," Cambridge, England. Above: "The Volunteer," Almonte, Ontario, Canada.

Adams contributed to the planning of several major projects including Forest Hills Gardens in New York. Upon relocating to Radnor in the early 1920s, he established a private practice that took on projects mostly within the Main Line. Adams was heavily involved with the Ardrossan estate in the years succeeding the construction of the Montgomery family's 1912 main house from a design by Horace Trumbauer. Increasingly famous for his high-end commissions, Trumbauer may have been too expensive to design the massive number of new buildings the family wished to create on their extensive property, so Adams might have been a more appealing local alternative who happened to also be well-versed in landscape design. At Ardrossan, Adams can be credited with the designs of the water tower on Newtown Road, the nearby tenant houses, alterations to "Banjotown" houses, and various stables and outbuildings.

Adams also designed a handful of homes in Lower Merion Township, but his most notable and recognizable work there was the Albrecht flower shop on Montgomery Avenue at Meeting House Lane. Supposedly influenced by elements of the Taj Mahal, the 1929 shop is one of the Main Line's most exotic structures. It has since been enlarged and converted for other uses.

Interestingly, Adams resided at a home on Radnor Chester Road a short distance from the Radnor War Memorial's original location, on land previously owned by the Chew family. After raising his family in Radnor, Adams relocated to Peru, Vermont, where he lived until his death at age 93.¹



The exotic Albrecht store on Montgomery Avenue in Lower Merion, designed by Louis S. Adams in 1929.

Planning and Design

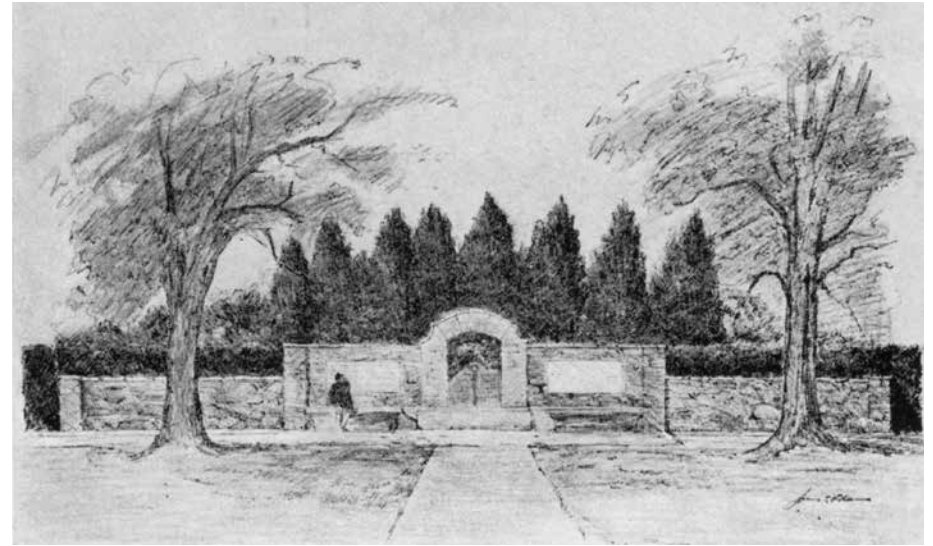
From concept to dedication, the creation of the memorial took just over half a year. In the fall of 1921 a memorial committee was formed by several prominent men and women of Radnor Township. The minutes of this committee's meetings are now in the archives of the Radnor Historical Society.

At a meeting on October 24, 1921, it was reported that several members of the committee toured the township from Rosemont to Wayne to inspect prospective sites for the memorial. The committee recommended a site where Iven Avenue intersects with Lancaster Turnpike (which was then commonly referred to as the Lincoln Highway). "This location," the minutes stated, "is considered to be the nearest geographical center on the (Lincoln) Highway, and is desirable for the reason of the available space and the improvement it would be to the present dangerous crossing." It was noted that the permission of both the Chew and Sinkler families would be required, possibly implying that the monument would be placed in the middle of the intersection on a triangle, necessitating the encroachment of the expanded roadway onto both adjacent properties. The Chew family, which owned the land to the west, was willing to donate the land for this use. Mr. Sinkler, who owned the east side, needed to be approached. For around 200 years the Chews had owned several hundred acres of land here centered around their manor home, "Vanor," and including a number of older structures on both sides of Lancaster Avenue. The St. Davids Golf Club used a portion of their land west of Iven Avenue and Radnor Chester Road as a golf course.

The committee's second choice was the intersection of Pembroke Avenue and Lancaster Avenue, which was favorable for "being near the center towards Wayne and because of the triangle at the crossroad lending itself admirably for the purpose."

The third choice was in front of the library, which at the time was a small stone building on Lancaster Avenue across from the Anthony Wayne Theatre. This library still stands and is now an office building.

Next, the design of the memorial was discussed. Mr. and Mrs. Chew said that they were willing to donate a boulder. An estimate received for the creation of a tablet to be mounted to it, proposed to be bronze with a spread eagle on top, was deemed to be not suitable. This tablet had originally been planned to include all of the names of the Radnor men who fought in the war, but as that number was believed to be 500 or more, it was decided to list the names only of those who gave their lives.



Louis S. Adams' approved sketch for the design of the memorial wall.

At the November 14, 1921 meeting, there was more discussion about the ideal location, with a plea made to reconsider the Pembroke Avenue option. It was noted that due to its central location it would be seen by more school children. The Iven Avenue location in front of the golf course was said to have a more beautiful background, and in the end this location was unanimously chosen. Architects' sketches were then presented, and one committee member suggested placing the memorial in the center of the road to improve the safety of the intersection. Another suggestion was made to top the boulder with a statue of a doughboy (a term used for World War I soldiers) rather than an eagle. A special committee was appointed to consider the matter of design, the members of which included architect Louis S. Adams.

An update was given to the committee on January 18, 1922 about the proposed mid-intersection location, which was not found to be feasible. In addition, the available apparatus was not suitable to move the donated boulder. Alternative solutions were found quickly, with the Chew estate giving a site entirely on one side of Lancaster Avenue. Louis Adams then prepared a new design that was expected to cost about \$10,000 (the equivalent of over \$171,000 in 2022). In the drawing Adams presented, a bronze tablet was set in a stone wall with benches, "the whole in a symbolical setting of laurel-leaved oak cypress." Adams "made a plea for a really artistic memorial which would have permanent value even under changed conditions when a boulder would



McKenzie's preliminary clay models of the Radnor memorial's relief sculpture.

look out of place," speaking of "the duty we owed the coming generation and the way the older countries had met it." The proposed sculptor of the bronze tablet, R. Tait McKenzie, was touted by committee member Mr. Chew as a Philadelphian with a world-wide reputation. The concept was unanimously accepted by the committee. However, the balance of funds collected at this time was a few dollars short of \$400, meaning a significant effort would need to be made to raise the thousands of dollars required. Still, in order to have the memorial ready in time for Memorial Day, the committee planned to begin construction in just six weeks.

The effort to raise funds from residents was extensive. Letters were mailed to various organizations in the township and read aloud to church congregations. Collection bowls were placed in various locations and pleas were made weekly on the front page of the *Suburban & Wayne Times*, where fundraising

progress was tracked on a pie chart in each issue.

The letter mailed to residents made a compelling appeal for contributions. It read in part: "Thus far, the residents of Radnor Township have taken no action to commemorate the twenty or more men who gave their lives to safeguard civilization and to protect our homes. The citizens of the neighboring communities have erected some form of memorial, but Radnor Township has been lax in this respect." It was further noted that the memorial



The finished bronze tablet being set into the memorial wall.

project was one for the entire township rather than any specific organization, and it was hoped that no solicitation for funds would be necessary in order to raise the required \$10,000.

Fundraising efforts had been somewhat successful by the time of the committee's March 2 meeting, when over \$3,800 had been raised. By this time the stone was on site and the marble was ready to be delivered. McKenzie's bronze was on track for delivery by May 26, though both he and architect Adams felt that the amount of wording proposed by the committee needed to be reduced. The date of the dedication was also decided upon: just two days after McKenzie's expected delivery date.

The committee authorized the beginning of construction on March 8, proposing that a sign be erected next to the construction asking passing motorists if they had yet contributed. By this time sufficient funds had been raised to pay for the memorial, exclusive of the bronze, quoted at \$5,000. The committee decided that the ranks of those named on the tablet should be included; at McKenzie's suggestion this decision was later reversed.

On Friday, April 8 it was reported that the wall would be finished the following Monday and the trees planted on Wednesday. The number of names (those who died and whose families consented to their inclusion) was set at 19, with space to be left for more should it have been decided that other names qualified for inclusion.



The committee was told on April 21 that the construction was nearly complete, and the model of the bronze was very beautiful. Planting was almost finished, and it was decided to install flagstone walks with stone edging around the memorial rather than asphalt. The committee voted to include the name of Joseph O'Dirrisio, who grew up in Wayne and moved elsewhere shortly before the war, on the tablet. This last minute inclusion explains why his name, listed last, is the only one out of order alphabetically.

The idea of somehow listing the names of the hundreds of Radnor residents who served in the war lingered. Blank marble tablets were installed on either side of the main bronze tablet for this purpose, but the names were never added. Given the difficulty of determining the final list of 20 names to be included on the bronze, the task of correctly identifying, confirming, and contacting several hundred individuals or families was likely too daunting.

McKenzie's high relief bronze tablet in fact arrived on time. It proved to be a work of exceptional artistic and typographic expression. The relief sculpture featured a group of doughboys emerging from a trench toward danger, their rifles with bayonets leading the charge.

McKenzie expertly captured a sense of forward motion, a moment in time when some of the men faced possible doom. The split-second depiction of six soldiers in motion resembles a later sculpture: the centerpiece of the Marine Corps War Memorial in Washington, D.C. sculpted by De Weldon and dedicated in 1954. Weldon had the famous photograph of six soldiers raising the flag at Iwo Jima by Joe Rosenthal to use as reference, whereas McKenzie created the composition for Radnor's memorial on his own.

A University of Pennsylvania freshman named Charles Bates Weisberg posed as McKenzie's model for the memorial as well as for his American Legion medal (also sculpted in 1922).² Weisberg lived a colorful life, later owning a rare book store and becoming infamous for forging historical documents. He was sent to prison for his crimes several times, and he died there in 1945.³ This complicated character's story lives on in the 21st century through his forgeries continuing to fool experts (derailing a significant Freeman's auction in 2002) as well as his depiction on Radnor's permanent war memorial.

McKenzie, who had worked with other notable architects such as Paul Cret, was impressed with Adams' design, commenting, "Mr. Adams has an unusual sense of fitness. Not only is the monument very fine in design, but it seems to me a matter of particular comment that he has so stained the marble

Left: The McKenzie bronze, photographed in 1924.



The newly installed memorial in 1922, and the same location in 2022.

with rusty color that it harmonizes with the field stone of the wall. I feel sure many architects would have been satisfied to leave the glaring white of the marble as it was. I am pleased to have work of mine appear in such an ensemble." McKenzie was in such demand that he could not attend the Radnor ceremony. He set sail for England a day before to assemble a statue in Cambridge called "The Homecoming." From there, he proceeded to his native Almonte, Ontario, where he was commissioned to create yet another memorial.⁴

Completion and Dedication

On the afternoon of Sunday, May 28, 1922, two days before Memorial Day, a ceremony was held on the site of the new memorial. Veterans of the war donned their uniforms and marched from American Legion posts in Wayne, Ardmore, and Bryn Mawr. The Military Band from the Philadelphia Navy Yard was also present.

The ceremony began with a prayer by Rev. Richard H. Gurley, Chaplain of the Anthony Wayne Post, American Legion. Next, Radnor school children sang "America." Mrs. Robert Graffen Wilson then gave a report of the memorial committee, and the deed to the property was presented from Mr. Chew to W.S. Ellis, Chairman of the Radnor Township Commissioners.

An address was given by George Wharton Pepper, noted lawyer and Easttown Township resident who was a few months into his first year as a United States Senator representing Pennsylvania. His remarks, in part, included the following:

"It seems to me that but little speaking is in order when grateful friends gather to pay tribute to those who did not speak, but achieved. We are assembled here where two roads meet and where the stream of life flows ceaselessly by. Presently we shall pass on and everything will look as it was before we came. But in that brief interval something will have happened that will have changed the spot forever.

"In that brief time, we shall, by dedicating this memorial, have given it a tongue with which to speak. It will bid the traveler pause and listen to the message that this spot is sacred forever to the men and women of this community who offered their lives when their country called. Twenty were taken. Today that 20 are part of the great community of invisible comrades, an army of occupation on that far shore, holding a place there for those of us who prove worthy. Shall we not here highly resolve to lead our lives so that when we join those twenty they will salute us?"⁵

After the Navy Band played four flourishes, it accompanied the school children singing "The Star Spangled Banner." The memorial then was unveiled by three children of fallen servicemen: Frances Cotter, daughter of William



The attendees of a luncheon at Vanor preceding the memorial dedication ceremony.



The dedication ceremony shortly after the unveiling of the plaque. Two of the three children of fallen servicemen who revealed the tablet are in front. The man in the white dress uniform in both photographs is William A. Wiedersheim, Jr. of Chamounix Road, who served on the memorial committee.



On May 29, 1922, the Philadelphia Inquirer published photographs of the crowd at the memorial dedication and Senator Pepper in front of the tablet.

Powell Cotter, Supply Company, 315th Infantry, who was killed in September, 1918, and Pennington Howard Way, Jr. and Gordon Townsend Way, sons of Lt. Pennington H. Way, Sr. of the 96th Aero Squadron, who was shot down in an aerial fight with eight German planes at the beginning of the St. Mihiel drive. The three children pulled cords to make a veil fall to reveal the bronze tablet. Camille O'Dirrisio, whose son was listed last on the tablet, laid a wreath of white peonies with three red poppies in the center.

Following the unveiling, three volleys were fired by U.S. Marines, and a quick march was played by the Navy Band. From the memorial site, members of the Anthony Wayne Post marched with the band to St. Martin's Church on King of Prussia Road, where special Memorial Day services were held.

The final treasurer's report showed that contributions were made by over 600 families as well as churches, organizations, and 100 percent of school children. A number of local companies donated services and materials, and as a result receipts exceeded expenditures to leave a balance of nearly \$1,200. These funds were given to the Township for the continued upkeep of the memorial.

Moving a Monument

The area of Lancaster Avenue in the vicinity of the memorial was undergoing huge changes in the 1960s. The Chew family's estate had been broken up in the '50s, leading to the construction of a new Radnor High School and commercial buildings including the TV Guide headquarters, Wyeth Laboratories, and Treadway Inn. The family's mansion, "Vanor," where memorial patrons lunched before the 1922 dedication, was lost to the redevelopment. In 1965, a B. Altman Co. department store was being constructed on the south side of Lancaster Avenue on one of the last untouched portions of the former St. David's (then Main Line) Golf Club. As a result of the growing popularity of this part of Radnor, the highway was being widened.

The construction of the Altman store (which still stands and is occupied by Giant, TJ Maxx and other stores) ruined the serene backdrop the war memorial enjoyed for over 40 years, but the encroachment of the road was the memorial's biggest threat. Prior to road construction, Altman's disassembled the monument and moved the pieces to the grounds of the new Radnor Township building for safekeeping. Altman's also agreed to move and reassemble the memorial at a site found to be suitable.

Intense public discussion about the memorial's relocation began around March of 1965. At that time, the Commissioners had approved the reconstruction of the memorial on the grounds of the future Township Building on Iven Avenue a short distance from the memorial's original location. In an archived letter to the Secretary of the Radnor School Board, the Radnor Historical Society took particular interest in the choice of a suitable new site for the memorial, with the Society's President, Dorothy H. Therman calling Iven Avenue a "back road" where few would see it. Mrs. Therman suggested a nearby intersection of Radnor Chester Road, which was on land owned by the School District. A site on school grounds was seen as ideal by some, including members of the Anthony Wayne Post of the American Legion, which was composed principally of World War I veterans. Theodore B. Brooks, Historical Society board member and Vice Commander of the Post, said that the Post's members believed that "its relocation should be in an area where it will serve as an inspiration for the young people of the community." Both Therman and Brooks suggested to the Commissioners of Radnor Township that a committee be formed to consider options for new locations.

Citizens also commented on the proposed relocation. In a letter to the editor of the *Suburban* published March 18, 1965, Charles Walton Hale



On April 16, 1965, the Suburban & Wayne Times published this photo-composite (not to scale) showing where the memorial was proposed to be installed at the high school.

recalled: "Sunday, May 28, 1922, was one of the most important days in the history of our community, for on that day the war memorial which had been located at the corner of Lancaster Pike and Iven Avenue was dedicated and virtually the entire population of this patriotic community was present." A particularly meaningful letter came from Pennington H. Way, Jr., who in 1922 was one of the three children who unveiled the tablet. Then of Hillsborough, California (but still a *Suburban* subscriber), Way wrote of his support for the formation of a committee to choose the most suitable new location.

A short time later Charles Walton Hale was appointed by the Board of Commissioners as Chairman of the committee to study the memorial's relocation, and by early April the committee included representatives of the School Board of Radnor Township, the Bateman-Gallagher and Anthony Wayne Posts of the American Legion, the Radnor Historical Society, the Student Council of Radnor High School, the Saturday Club of Wayne, the Civic Council of Radnor Township, the Radnor Township Police Department,

the Radnor Township League of Women Voters, and two members of the families of men whose names appear on the memorial.

This group's initial inclination was to recommend a new site on the grounds of Radnor Senior High School, which would retain the monument's central location in the Township while fulfilling the desire to be visible to the township's youth. The committee met at the high school on April 10, 1965, to review options. The assembled members decided that "the memorial should be relocated in an area where it will be seen and appreciated by the youth of our Township," Hale wrote to Rocco A. Odorisio, President of the Radnor Township Board of Commissioners three days later. "It should not be located in an isolated spot where it might appear to have been placed just to get it out of the way, but rather it should be placed where it can command the dignity and respect it deserves, and with reasonable expectancy that it will not be vandalized." Other ideal conditions for a new site included being away from loud, moving traffic (more of a problem in 1965 than it was in 1922), proximity to parking facilities, and with enough room for people to sit and stand during ceremonies. The committee strolled the school property and came to a consensus on a site on the south side of the driveway loop in front of the high school building. There, the land would need to be carved out to place the memorial on ground level with the driveway.

In May the committee was informed that the School Board was not willing to consider the preferred location on the high school grounds, but was more agreeable to an alternative on the property. After a summer hiatus the committee met on September 12, 1965 to take a final vote on the potential new locations, which were narrowed down to the Altman property (set back from the memorial's original location), the new municipal parking lot at South Wayne and Runnymede Avenues, and the grounds of the new Township Building. It was a 4-3 vote among those present in favor of the municipal lot location, though a later poll of committee members not present made this spot the clear winner. Its location close to parking and a Radnor Township public school were seen as advantages to this site, as well as its visibility and central location that could be blocked for ceremonies without significant disruption.

The creation of the municipal lot at the corner of South Wayne and Runnymede came at the loss of a Victorian home built by George P. Fallon and last owned by the widow of Dr. Robert P. Elmer. Dr. Elmer had purchased the property in 1904. Two old trees from the Elmer property were left standing at the corner, which complemented the newly relocated memorial when it was faithfully reconstructed before the end of 1965.



A 1956 aerial photograph of Wayne, showing the Radnor Junior High School at right and the home at 101 Runnymede Avenue across South Wayne Avenue. The approximate location where the memorial would be reconstructed almost a decade later is depicted by the red line.



A Suburban & Wayne Times photograph of the newly reconstructed memorial in December 1965, showing the old trees that stood for another few years.

An Enduring Monument

Throughout the rest of the 20th century, the nation continued to suffer through wars that made the First World War seem insignificant by comparison. In recognition of those who served and fought in the Second World War, a carved wood memorial wall was installed in the Memorial Library of Radnor Township which, as its name states, was dedicated to those who served. In Garrett Hill, a monument was erected in 1949 with a tablet listing the names of seven members of that Radnor community who were killed during World War II.

The World War I memorial was still Radnor's largest and most impressive monument, and at its new home the memorial became the endpoint for Radnor Township Memorial Day parades and the center of focus for other events that recognized the service and sacrifices of all veterans.

The relocated monument still displayed the two blank marble tablets on either side of the bronze that were originally intended to be inscribed with the names of all Radnor residents who served in World War I. In 1982, 60 years after the memorial's dedication, plaques were unveiled to partially cover these slabs: the plaque on the left listing the men and women of Radnor Township lost in World War II (86 names), and a plaque on the right listing residents killed in the Korean War (three names) and Vietnam War (nine names).



Radnor children unveil the World War II and Korea/Vietnam plaques in 1982.

Although the memorial was not originally in South Wayne, the Wayne Public Safety Association, the civic association dedicated to that neighborhood, has taken it upon themselves to maintain the grounds and plantings around the memorial for many years.



The World War II and Korea/Vietnam plaques shortly after installation.



The McKenzie bronze in 2009 and 2012, before and after restoration.

The condition of the McKenzie bronze was becoming a concern as the memorial approached its 90th birthday. Following in the footsteps of previous generations, a committee consisting of representatives of multiple organizations was formed and met in November 2010. Community members contributed financially and the landscapers from Chanticleer designed and installed new plantings. Two additional flagpoles were installed directly behind the memorial and various hardscaping improvements were made.

Eugene Hough, a member of American Legion Post 668 and founder of Heritage Guild Works, restored the McKenzie bronze tablet with the assistance of local students. Hough co-founded Saving Hallowed Ground, which used the memorial's restoration and anniversary as a pilot project to create an innovative video with Radnor Studio 21 to recognize the soldiers of various wars. In the video, actors dressed in the uniforms of soldiers from conflicts from World War I through the War Against Terror in Iraq and Afghanistan were made to appear as if they were emerging from the memorial wall. Also participating were cadets from Valley Forge Military Academy & College and a young woman who portrayed Mary Holmes Howson, who died during an air training accident in World War II and is the only woman listed on the memorial.



Actors paid tribute to soldiers of different conflicts in 2012 by portraying them for a video and ceremony.

In conjunction with this work, students of St. Katharine of Siena School researched the histories of each of the names on the memorial so that their stories would not be lost to time.

On Tuesday, May 15, 2012, a public rededication ceremony of the restored memorial took place, after which a program was held at the Radnor Memorial Library. There, Marty Costello, Commander of American Legion Post 668, spoke about the 90 year history of the memorial, and the video was shown.

Videos of both the re-dedication ceremony and presentation are available to view at radnorhistory.org/video. **B**

The author acknowledges all past histories of the memorial, including in Emma C. Patterson's "Your Town and My Town" columns for the Suburban & Wayne Times published on July 13 and 20, 1951; an article by Peggy Snow for the 1967 Bulletin; Jeanne LaRouche's "Looking at History Along the Main Line" columns for the Main Line Times published on May 24 and June 28, 1984; and Marty Costello's talk given at the Radnor Memorial Library in 2012.

End Notes

1. Obituary of Louis S. Adams. Bennington Banner (Bennington, Vermont), Aug 16, 1971, p. 14.
2. "Brain Test Winner Scorns 'Schooling.'" Clipping from unidentified newspaper. August 15, 1922.
3. "Forgery in the Music Library: a cautionary tale.." The Free Library. 2004 Music Library Association, Inc. 22 Apr. 2022, <https://www.thefreelibrary.com/Forgery+in+the+Music+Library%3a+a+cautionary+tale.-a0118445532>
4. Clipping of a column by Edith W. Powell, Public Ledger, May (?), 1922.
5. "Unveil Memorial to Radnor Heroes." Conshohocken Reporter, May 30, 1922, p. 4.

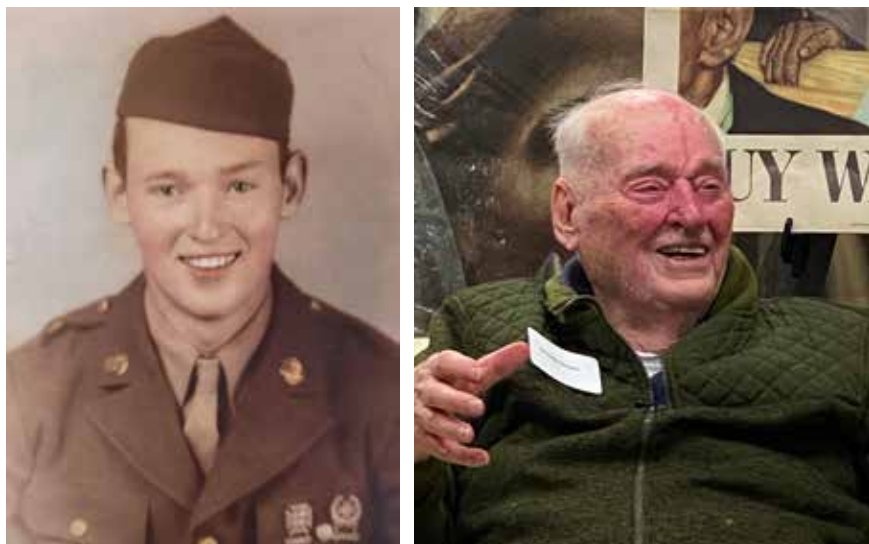
Programs of the Year

Program Spotlight

Veterans Day with Wayne Resident and WWII Veteran Charles Doyle

Thursday, November 11, at the Philadelphia Print Shop

Video of this program is found at radnorhistory.org



40+ year Radnor resident Charles Doyle, a WWII veteran, talked about his service in Europe, meeting his wife in France, his post-war job as a salesman with the McCormick Spice Company, and the tree he brought to Radnor when his family moved to the area from Boston. A natural storyteller, Doyle moved those in attendance with his remarkable personal recollections.

Author Talk: Joyce Mosley, author of *Gram's Gift*

Thursday, February 11, online via Zoom

Gram's Gift tells the story of an African-American family with African, European, and Native American roots. Gram decided it was time

for her grandchildren to know the contributions made by their ancestors. Her lesson begins with Cyrus Bustill, who was born enslaved, purchased his freedom, operated a successful bakery business, and provided bread to George Washington's troops camped at Valley Forge during the Revolutionary War. Author Joyce Mosley, a member of the DAR, assumed the role of family historian over 30 years ago. She has documented her family history to European settlers and Cyrus Bustill.

Celebrate Women in History: Bessie Coleman, First Negro Aviatrice

Wednesday, March 24, online via Zoom

Portraying Bessie Coleman on video, Tammy Denease took us on a journey into the world of the First Negro Aviatrice. The story begins in Atlanta, Texas, 1892, with Bessie Coleman, the daughter of an African American maid and sharecropper of mixed Native American and African American descent.

The Doctors Blackwell: A Conversation with Author Janice P. Nimura

Wednesday, April 7, online via Zoom

Janice P. Nimura is the author of the new engrossing and enlightening group biography, *The Doctors Blackwell: How Two Pioneering Sisters Brought Medicine to Women and Women to Medicine*. In bringing the Blackwells' world to life, Nimura maintains narrative momentum, packing the text with memorable vignettes that reads like historical fiction. Peppered with appearances of Abraham Lincoln, Florence Nightingale, Susan B. Anthony, and others, the book affirms the prominent place of the Blackwell sisters in medical history.

An Evening with Robert Strauss in conversation with Stephen Fried discussing *John Marshall: The Final Founder*

Thursday, April 15, online via Zoom

Video of this program is found at radnorhistory.org

When did the Founding end? 18th and 19th-century contemporaries believed John Marshall to be, if not the equal of George Washington and Benjamin Franklin, at least very close to that pantheon. In his new book, journalist and historian Robert Strauss recounts how the Chief Justice acted as the glue that held the Union together after the original founding days.

The Supreme Court met in the basement of the new Capitol building in Washington when Marshall took over, which is just what the executive and legislative branches thought of the judiciary. Strauss was joined by award-winning journalist Stephen Fried, author of *Rush: Revolution, Madness & the Visionary Doctor Who Became a Founding Father*.

William Lightfoot Price: From Wayne to Rose Valley

Wednesday, April 21, online via Zoom

Video of this program is found at radnorhistory.org

William L. Price (1861-1916) was one of the primary architects for the original developments of North and South Wayne. His “pen” designed over 100 houses in Radnor Township and so much more. Price’s career began in Wayne, then Overbrook Farms, designing the model homes for Wendell & Smith – yet left a lasting legacy throughout the Delaware Valley, though his career lasted only 38 years. During the time his expertise grew, Will Price was the designer of majestic estates for the wealthy industrialists of the late 19th century. At the turn of the 20th century, his focus became the creation of two Arts & Crafts communities, Arden and Rose Valley. The presentation was given by Scott Laughlin, a Realtor with BHHS Fox & Roach specializing in historic property marketing.

Heritage Theatre Guild presents Famous American Women – Rachel Carson: Marine Biologist, Reformer, and Mother of Modern Environmentalism

Wednesday, April 28, online via Zoom

Video of this program is found at radnorhistory.org

Rachel Carson, born on a Springdale, Pennsylvania farm in 1907, is remembered today as the woman who challenged the notion that humans could obtain mastery over nature by chemicals, bombs and space travel than for her studies of ocean life. Her sensational book *Silent Spring* (1962) warned of the dangers to all natural systems from the misuse of chemical pesticides such as DDT, and questioned the scope and direction of modern science, initiating the contemporary environmental movement. Pat Jordan, professional actor, playwright, and director, brought Rachel Carson to life in this virtual one-woman live performance.

Wayne Architectural Bike Tour

Saturday, July 10

RHS Board Member Greg Prichard led this tour through Wayne’s fascinating neighborhoods, where fellow riders learned about the extraordinary history of this small town in the heart of the Main Line. The tour was about 6 miles long and took about 2 hours. This tour was co-presented by the Young Friends of the Preservation Alliance, the Radnor Historical Society, and the Lower Merion Conservancy.

Party Like It’s 1976! With Jim Segrave-Daly

Wednesday, September 22, On the lawn of the Finley House

Hear ye! Hear ye! Do you know that Philadelphia is getting ready for our country’s 250th birthday in 2026? Local historian Jim Segrave-Daly gathered attendees on the front lawn of the Finley House for an in-person, lively event. Jim talked about how Philadelphia and its surrounding countryside celebrated America’s bicentennial almost fifty years ago.

Celebrate an Early Halloween at The Finley House

Saturday, October 30, at the Finley House

This special event for all ages included area high school students reading and performing Victorian Halloween poems, pictures in front of our Conestoga Wagon, a costume parade, candy, donuts and cider!

Tom Clavin, author of *Lightning Down: A World War II Story of Survival*

Friday, November 5, online via Zoom

Tom Clavin is the bestselling author of 18 nonfiction books on American and military history, sports, and entertainment. He previously worked as a newspaper editor and writer, including for the *New York Times* for 15 years. Clavin’s new book *Lightning Down* tells the riveting and largely untold true story of Joe Moser, who on August 13, 1944 set off on his forty-fourth combat mission over occupied France. Soon, he would join almost 170 other Allied airmen as prisoners in Buchenwald, one of the most notorious and deadly of Nazi concentration camps. **B**

Membership Report

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Chadds Ford Historical Society	Lower Merion Historical Society
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Shawn Morgan	Katie Scannapieco
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Samuel Chew	Earl Livengood
Charles Doyle	Happy Shipley

Radnor Historical Society 2021 Report

Donations

John Ansley

- 1958 negatives of “Woodstock” and “Chuckswood”

Susan Bierwirth Arbios

- 1913 tennis trophy given to Alice von Bernuth

Christina Basciano

- HP computer monitor

Daniel & Jennifer Beacom

- Book: *Rocket Man: Astronaut Pete Conrad's Incredible Ride to the Moon and Beyond*

Jane Beatty

- Five publications relating to the Wayne Presbyterian Church

Judy Blatchford

- 19th century flax spinning wheel and blue woven coverlet

Jeff and Patty Boujoukos

- 2021 Radnor High School football programs

Joseph Breck

- Wooden quilting frame

Amanda Bringham

- Two books: *The Man Who Made Wall Street* and *Philadelphia Lawyer*

Louis D'Amicantonio

- Photograph of 1940 Radnor High School football team

Lynn Ellis

- Bride doll in satin dress, ca. 1920s
- Three books

David Fenimore

- Undated atlas page of Radnor Township

- Three books: *The Main Line Country Houses*; *Excellence That Endures: The First 225 Years of the Episcopal Academy*; *The Episcopal Academy 1785-1984*

Jane Golas

- WWII-era “Gray Lady” nurse uniform
- Handkerchief with writing stamp
- 1915 wedding dress
- Vintage SEPTA schedules
- Vintage Jell-O recipe booklet

Robert Grumbacher

- 2019 Devon Horse Show & Country Fair program and schedule

Masako Hamada

- Various items pertaining to J. Franklin McFadden

Betty Luscher

- Maps and blueprints for 520 Meadowbrook Circle
- 1913 atlas map of Wayne & St. Davids

Lori McKay

- Vintage Spring Valley Mineral Spring Water booklet

Michael Myers

- 1969 Radnor Township Residents' Guide

Greg Prichard

- *The Keystone*, Spring 2021 issue

The Estate of Wallace Richter

- Seven historical books

John Smith

- 19th century map of Radnorshire

Quincy Williams

- Two Radnor Township Citizens Defense Corps certificates



TO
THE MEN AND WOMEN
OF RADNOR TOWNSHIP
WHO SERVED IN THE WORLD WAR