

LANCASTER TOWNSHIP *RE-TELLING OUR HISTORY*

Maple Grove: the park, pool, and the mill

September 14, 2020





Abbeville or Maple
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BEGINNING IN THE EARLY 1700S, THIS AREA HAS ATTRACTED A MULTITUDE

- The mill was created as a log structure circa 1720 as part of a 1,000 acre property that became known as Abbeyville.
- The mill provided a means for commercial processing of agricultural products, causing the formation of a substantial road for the Westward Expansion.
- The trolley system was a public transportation within the County in the late 1800s and 1st half of the 20th century. They created West End Park initially to increase the number of ticket-purchasing riders.



“RICH IN NATURAL BEAUTY” (1895)

AROUND 1912, RALPH COHO PURCHASED THE PARK & DUG A POOL



One of the platforms in the original Maple Grove pool. Notice bathers to the right and a group of musicians on the left of the platform. Water extends like a lake in all directions. Photo was made about 1920

This photo was taken before many of the landmarks we know today existed.

The platform in the pool was used for diving, for a bandstand, and for boxing matches.



THE POOL WAS SUPER-POPULAR!

The mill became a bath house for changing clothes and renting bathing suits.

Maple trees were growing quickly.

Sand was trucked in to create a perimeter beach.

Water was drawn out of the Little Conestoga Creek, filtered, and circulated into the pool.