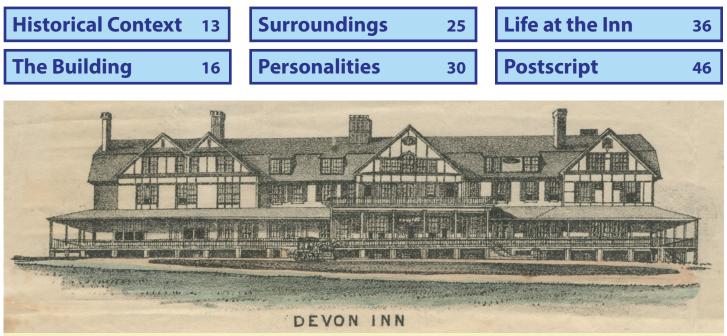
The Devon Inn Story: Further Discoveries

In the sections that follow, you will find information and images that expand upon and complement the historical narrative (Goshorn) presented on the preceding pages. This supplemental information is organized into six broad categories:



An engraving of the first Devon Inn (1882), a detail from the 1883 map. Courtesy of Greg Prichard.

Devon Inn History Timeline

1877 – 1895	Gilded Age in the U.S.; Railroads were one of
	the major growth industries.
1881 - 1882	Coffin and Alternus purchase nearly 500 acres
	along the Pennsylvania Railroad between
	Berwyn and Eagle
September 1881	Announcement of a new village to be called
-	"Devon"
February 1882	Ground is broken for first Devon Inn
August 1882	First Devon Inn opens under Crump
	management
December 1882	Foundation dug for new railroad station at
	Devon
August 1883	The first Devon Inn burns; Plans to rebuild
	begin immediately
May 1884	Second Devon Inn opens
September 1890	Earliest electric lighting at the Devon Inn
1893 to 1897	Panic of 1893; Economic depression
January 1895	Lemuel Coffin dies unexpectedly
January 1895	Miss M. E. Simmons becomes new manager
1896 - 1916	Progressive Era, period of social activism and
	political reform
July 1896	First Devon Horse Show held at the Polo
	Grounds
September 1896	Coffin, Altemus & Co. fails
August 1898	Miss Simmons purchases the Inn and a large
	portion of the surrounding property
October, 1908	Ford Model T introduced
January 1910	Miss Simmons passes away, and her sister
	Ellen Patten inherits the Inn

May 1910	Efforts are made to sell the Inn
April 1912	Titanic sinks
March 1913	Devon Inn loses liquor license and closes at
	end of season
April 1914	Ellen Patten and her husband sell the Devon
	Inn to a syndicate; Inn remains closed
March 1917	The Inn is sold and the Devon Manor School
	for Girls opens there in October
1917 to 1919	World War I
1920 to 1929	Roaring 20s
April 1920	Devon Horse Show purchases Polo Grounds
November 1923	Devon Manor School announces bankruptcy
January 1924	Devon Manor School property is sold at
	sheriff's sale
June 1926	Devon Park Hotel opens
May 1928	Valley Forge Military Academy is established
	and announces it will open at Devon
September 1928	Devon Park Hotel closes; Valley Forge
	Military Academy opens in the former
	Devon Inn
January 1929	Fire destroys Valley Forge Military Academy
	(the former Inn building)
1929 to 1941	The Great Depression
April 1930	The final standing wall collapses after the
	devastating Devon fireworks plant explosion
November 1939	Property is purchased by developer J. Robert
	Lenhart
May 1940	Homes are offered for sale on the site of
	former Devon Inn