

Fairfeld Garage & Motor Company

This building, now the offices of Sensonics International, was built as the Fairfield Garage & Motor Company where cars were repaired, fueled, and sold by the Crecelius family. In the 1920s, Frederick W. Crecelius moved his family from South Philadelphia to Haddon Heights, where he and his sons, Frederick, Jr. and Edward, ran the company. By the 1950s, the business name changed to "Fairfield Automotive Supplies" and sold auto parts.

The name of the garage was derived from the area of town known as Fairfield Estates. When Haddon Heights was incorporated in 1904, its western boundary extended only to Bellmawr Avenue. The portion of town from Bellmawr Avenue to the Black Horse Pike remained part of Centre Township until 1925 before joining the Borough.

Above the garage there were six apartments that were called "cold water flats" because they didn't have any hot water piping. One of the families who lived there had a nine-year-old daughter, Beatrice Deuter, who met Kenneth D. Crecelius, the son of Frederick, Jr., and fell in love. Married in 1953, Ken and Bea lived together on Sycamore Street in Haddon Heights until Ken's death in 2016. Some of their descendants still live in Haddon Heights in 2022, including their granddaughters, Jennifer and Rachel Crecelius, and their great-granddaughters, Shannon Hagan and Giavanna Rossello.

Haddon Heights Historical Society

In memory of Lynn Laitman



This view of the station's gas pumps shows a custom sedan being serviced. This was a large, expensive car from a custom body shop. The rounded windows and body curves indicate it dates to no earlier than 1926; the slim-spoke artillery, detachable-rim wheel with small hubcap indicates it was manufactured before 1929. The smooth window surrounds are unusual for this period since most car windows were surrounded by decorative indents, often painted another color.



Frederick W. Crecelius, Jr. with the company truck, a 1930 or 1931 Ford Model A panel delivery truck.



The Crecelius home stood to the left of the garage at 409 Black Horse Pike. Built in 1924, the house was demolished in 1972 for the construction of a Wawa Food Market, and is now the location of a karate academy.