

Water Tower Recreation Center Complex | 209 E. Hartwell La Robert McGoodwin | 1889, 1919. The Complex consists of the historic Water Tower built in 1859 by the Chestnut Hill Water Company, and a Recreation Center and public playground built on a former pumping station and reservoir site. Philadelphia Water Department took possession of the Chestnut Hill Works on January 20, 1873. The reservoir and Tower, originally capped with a wooden water tank, were built because Philadelphia's water system did not extend to Chestnut Hill until 1904, at which point this pumping station became obsolete. The Water Tower Recreation Center was built in 1919 by architect Robert McGoodwin in memory of Henry M. Houston Woodward, the eldest son of Dr. George and Mrs. Gertrude Houston Woodward, who was killed in the line of duty during World War I.