

ST. MARY'S CHAPEL



The Chapel of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception is located at 694 E. Lincoln Highway, just across the road from the Ship Inn (c. 1796). Land for the church was donated by Mary Brazier, owner of the Ship Inn, and a devout Catholic. Legend suggests that stones from the Inn's livery were used in its construction. On the feast of St.

Mary of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 1873 the completed chapel was dedicated.

St. Mary's is unusual in that it served without interruption as a mission church (a branch of a regular parish church to which a priest would travel for services) until 1959 when it was acquired by the parish of St. Philip and James. Though a former hitching shed was converted to a fellowship hall at the rear, the chapel has not been enlarged during its existence.

The clergy and members of the parish of St. Philip and James continue to preserve the church in excellent condition. To this day it retains its original purpose of serving the community as a house of worship.

WOODLEDGE



Woodledge is situated on the north side of West Lincoln Highway, across from Oaklands Corporate Park, and within The Woodledge at Whitford Hills community. It is an extraordinarily well crafted and restored example of the Colonial Revival style. The house, designed by West Chester architect Ralph P. Minich, was commissioned in 1935 by Park L. Plank, a prominent industrialist in Downingtown. Mr. Plank was very active in civic affairs and served at one time on the West Whiteland School Board. He died at Woodledge in 1960.

The current owner, Neil Carsell, a native of England, was enchanted with the house and has lovingly worked to restore and enhance its livability for the 21st century.

FOX CHASE INN AND BARN

The Fox Chase Inn (right) has been rehabilitated to provide a comfortable residence and the barn (below left) has been recreated as an inspiring facility for the Peter Cheng Orthodontic Laboratories. Peter Cheng, CEO, founded the company that prepares dental crowns for juveniles using an innovative CAD/CAM milling process. Mr. Cheng, Ruth Cheng, Vice President, and their son Benjamin Cheng, COO, operate the company, Cheng Crowns.



The Cheng family took an incredible leap of faith when they sought to rehabilitate the barn for their business and the old inn for a residence. Their



respect for local history and adherence to the highest standards of construction are evident in all parts of these buildings. Assisting them in the process of creatively adapting this barn for commercial use were architect, Scott McIntyre of McIntyre, Capron & Associates, and builder Paul Cantello of Tri County Contracting Corporation.

The original part of the Fox Chase Inn was built c. 1765. In 1786, the owner, John Quinn, a weaver, applied for a tavern license; the first in West Whiteland Township. The inn was situated along the Old Kings Highway (Swedesford Rd.) then a busy east – west road. However, when the Lancaster Turnpike (US Route 30) was built c. 1792, newer more exclusive inns were built along the Turnpike and the old Fox Chase Inn reverted to a residence. In 1823 Job Remington built the present barn. The farm was acquired by Church Farm School in the early 20th century, continuing service as a farm. In the 1990's the School discontinued farming.

The Chengs acquired the buildings, with some acreage and fabulous views, in 2014. They have created a landmark in our Township landscape.