











FOX CHASE INN

325

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
 OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION Box 1026
 PA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION Harrisburg, PA 17120

7. Local survey organization
West Whiteland Historical Commission

8. Property owners name and address

Church Farm School
Box 662
Paoli PA 19301

9. tax parcel number / other number
41-2-84

10. U.T.M. zone
18 4475510

11. status (other surveys, lists etc.)
CCHS

Map#
10 443191710
 usgs sheet: **Malvern**

12. classification
 site () structure () object ()
 building ()
 In N.R. district yes () no ()

13. date(s) (how determined)
1765 in chimney

14. period
1700-1799

15. style, design or folk type
**Penn Plan/
 Double Door Georgian**

19. original use
Residence-commercial

20. present use
Residence-farm

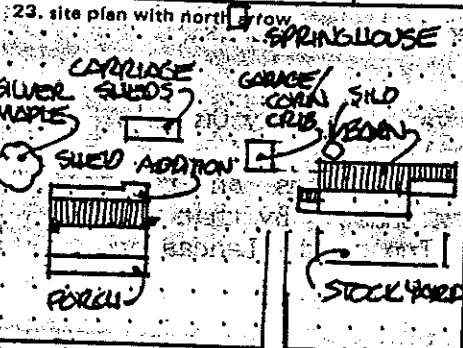
16. architect or engineer

17. contractor or builder

18. primary building mat./construction
Stone

21. condition
Above average

22. integrity
Above average



24. photo notation

PG: Richard Glum
 PV: Southwest elevation
 PD: 2/1980

25. file/location

CCHS, WWHC #109-49 #21

26. brief description (note unusual features, integrity)

This architectural complex which currently consists of a barn (1823), silo, wagon house with corn cribs, shed, springhouse, and farm house assumes a linear configuration along the north side of Old Lancaster Road near its intersection with the "Red Lion" (Ship) Road. With its single pitch roof, box cornice, balanced four bay facade with two entrances, and full length front porch the farm house seems to belong to the vernacular group known as double-door Georgian. As is frequently the case, however, it began as a smaller structure to which a major wing was added. The core, which is believed to occupy the western half of the existing farmhouse, is rectangular (20' x 30') stone, two stories, double pile and two bays wide, i.e., a Penn Plan. Although its walls are now stuccoed there is evidence of pointing on an exposed wall in the attic. There is no basement beneath the core. Its gable end chimney formerly served a large cooking fireplace which was removed in the 1950's at which time other changes were made to the interior. The stairway to the 2nd floor is

(continue on back if necessary)

27. history, significance and/or background

Commerce:

After extensive research, the conclusion was reached that this farmhouse on Swedesford Road was the first licensed public house in West Whiteland Township. John Quinn, whose occupation in the 1783 deed to the house is given as weaver, applied for a tavern license in 1786. In the petition he mentioned that he "hath erected a convenient house on the great road leading from Philadelphia and Lancaster in the Township of

(continue on back if necessary)

28. sources of information

West Whiteland Tavern Paper 1786-1800; 1798 Direct Tax; Data on occupations; CCHS: A.F. Reid T.S. 2013

29. prepared by:
**L. Goldstein WWHC
 M. Wolf BC**

12/1981 revision(s)

(continue on back if necessary)

1. County **Chester**
 2. municipality **West Whiteland Twp.**
 3. street address or specific location **613 Swedesford Road**
 4. survey code **029-09-41-325**
 5. other name (historic name if any) **Fox Chase Inn**

#26 cont.

located in the northeast corner. It follows a straight course and retains its heavy, beaded handrail and some beaded partitioning. The stairway to the attic is found in the southeast corner, and like its first floor counterpart, runs a straight course and uses wood partitions. There are a few, small, wooden closets in the core which appear to be original. The attic has pegged rafters and dovetailed collars.

Like the core, the wing appears to have been built in the 18th century. It is underlain by a full basement which contains bark covered log joists and a 12' rectangular support for a cooking fireplace (now closed off) on the first floor. There is evidence from tax records and in the attic that the roof was raised from one and a half to two stories. The stone chimney has obviously been extended to reach a higher roof. The rafters in this section of the attic, although pegged, do not have dovetailed collars and there is a difference in height between the front and rear walls where joined by the rafters.

#27 cont.

West Whiteland..." Three other petitions were submitted in that year and only Quinn's, for the Fox Chase, was allowed. Quinn operated the Fox Chase until 1793 in which year he died. Thomas Cummins rented the property from its new owner, David Williams, and ran the inn until 1800, after which no further petition were filed for Fox Chase. By that year there were four licensed taverns in the Township and the new Ship Inn on the Lancaster Turnpike probably drew from Fox Chase Inn's clientele.

Architecture:

Fox Chase Inn was built c.1765 on a Penn Plan, a popular two bay, double pile plan common to 18th century Philadelphia and its environs. According to the 1798 Direct Tax, there was an attached one and one half story log kitchen, the dimensions of which roughly correspond to the existing addition, now two stories and heavily stuccoed. Following regional traditions, the facade of the house was later modified to provide two balanced entrances. This type of alteration gave many an old farmhouse a modern appearance in the 19th century and provided a small degree of formality without the expense of the addition of an extra bay or two with a center hall. Although the so-called Double Door Georgian is found commonly throughout the County, it is rare to West Whiteland. The Fox Chase Inn is the Township's best example of the imposition of this vernacular style, in actuality a mere surface treatment, on an existing dwelling.

Agriculture:

In addition to its use as a tavern, the Fox Chase Inn was a small farm. All of the Township's public houses were located on farms, and Fox Chase Inn was part of one of the smallest, just 4½ acres in 1794. John Quinn's inventory filed in 1793 mentions "hay in the log barn" and "hay over the stable" as well as a small number of horses, a heifer, a "small amount of crop" and seven hives of bees. By 1798 the log barn was "almost down," and the stable's measurements were given as 30' x 18'. The small tract was acquired by Job B. Remington in 1821, by then incorporated into a larger farm. During Remington's ownership the farm took on its present appearance. The existing barn was erected in 1823. The property was sold to John Bell about 1840. Its origin as a small farm is implied by the unusual linear layout of the complex which is completely contained within the bounds of the original 4½ acre tract.

EVALUATION

EVALUATOR(S)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

West Whiteland Township, Chester County, PA MRA

Continuation sheet

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Survey Code 029-09-41-325
Fox Chase Inn

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The nominated acreage is the same 4 1/4 acre parcel which in 1767 was split from a larger tract to define the small farm on which the Fox Chase Inn was built. The same acreage remained associated with the Inn until it reverted back to a small farm in the early 1800's.

A contributing structure on the site is the early 19th century, rectangular, rubble stone banked "Great Barn" which features 2 conical stone forebay support columns, a non-gable centered opening and an early 20th century tile silo with pointed shake roof. Twentieth century outbuildings on the site which do not contribute to the significance of the resource include a 1 1/2 story, rectangular frame wagon house with shake roof, a 1 story, square, stone milk house with shake roof, a small frame carriage shed and a recently erected small frame tool shed.

West Whiteland Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania
Multiple Resource Nomination

Survey Code 029-09-41-325
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Summary Statement of Significance:

The Fox Chase Inn is eligible for listing under criterion C as one of the few examples of the Penn Plan in West Whiteland Township and as an example of one type of change that the original plan can undergo to make the structure more modern and useful over its lifetime. The double door facade is a common solution to ordering the added space but it is more usually found further west in the county where it has long been associated with the German settlement areas.

Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at a corner post by Conestoga Road (Swedesford Road); thence north north west by John Cuthbert's land 165 feet to a corner post; thence north 73° east by land late of William Thomas 1089 feet to a corner post; thence south south east by the said Samuel Lewis's land 173.25 feet to said Conestoga Road (Swedesford Road); thence by the same 1089 feet to the place of beginning, containing 4 1/4 acres.