

## OR HADASH – A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BUILDING

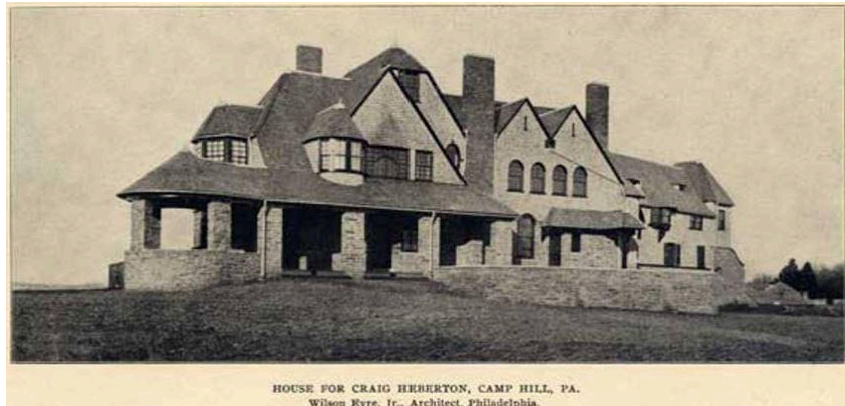
Or Hadash is privileged to be the current occupants of Heberton House, aka, Fairwold.

During the revolutionary war, George Washington camped on three hills outside of Philadelphia in late 1777 before moving on to Valley Forge. The hills were sparsely vegetated at the time and one seemed ideal for a troop encampment. It became known as Camp Hill.

In the mid to late 1800s, the Camp

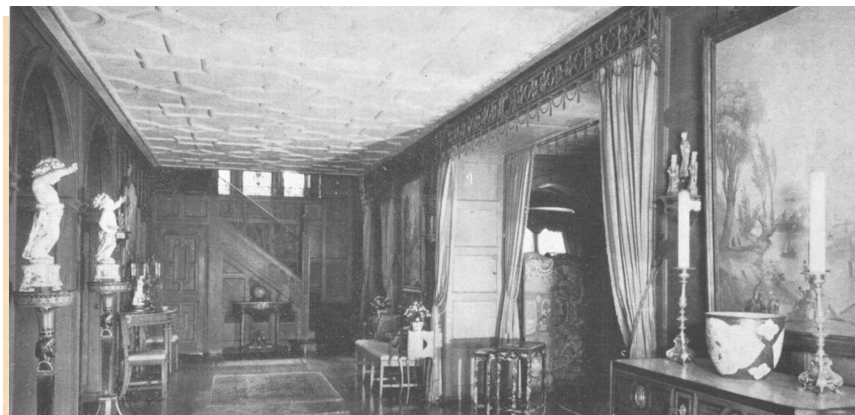


Hill became a popular place for affluent Philadelphians to build summer homes because of the view and distance from the smoke and dirt of the city. One such home was built for \$20,000 in 1888 by Craig and Helen (nee Crothers) Heberton as the centerpiece of a 55 acre farm. Mr. Heberton was a stockbroker in Philadelphia. He may have been raising cattle there at the time.



Records of the American Jersey Cattle Club show GLADYS listed to a C. Heberton in Ft. Washington.

The building was designed as a shingle style cottage in the New England style that was popular at the time by Wilson Eyre. Shingle houses used large shingle covered gables extensively. The interior was done in the Arts & Crafts movement.



Beginning in 1907, Mrs. Heberton hosted children

from Philadelphia for a summer event on the grounds.

In 1913, the Hebertons moved to Montecito, California and built a mansion named El Hogar. They sold Fairwold to Richard M. Cadwalader, Jr for \$65,000. Mr. Cadwalader had recently wed Emily Roebling whose grandfather had designed the Brooklyn Bridge and started a steel company in Trenton.

Mr. Cadwalader's father, Richard M. Cadwalader, Sr., owned a house named Camp Hill Hall just up the hill. Camp Hill Hall is now the home of WEC, Worldwide Evangelization for Christ.

During World War I, the Cadwaladers allowed the building to be used as a convalescent home for wounded soldiers.

In 1916, Mr. Cadwalader hired DeArmond, Ashmead and Bickley Architects to face the shingled parts of the house with stone and to expand it into a Tudor-revival mansion.



View of Living Room



View of Ball Room

It is noteworthy that Mr. Cadwalader Sr. commissioned Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company to build a 104 foot yacht that he sold to his son in 1926. The yacht was named Savanarola.



When he sold it to his son he replaced it with a new yacht named Sequoia. That yacht was sold to the US government and the USS Sequoia was used by presidents from Franklin Roosevelt to Ronald Reagan.

In 1922, Mr. Cadwalader again hired DeArmond, Ashmead and Bickley for the addition of a large music room/solarium complete with a built-in pipe organ and musician's balcony. Estey Pipe Organs opus 2096 was commissioned in 1923.

George B. Gay, the realtor for the Cadwaladers and namesake for Gay Way, bought Fairwold after Emily died in 1942. He lived there a short time then sub-divided the building and donated half of it to the Oreland Baptist Church. In 1949 the church added a raised platform in the ball room to create a sanctuary and sub-divided the basement to create classrooms. They also added walls to the arched entrances to the ball room in order to seal it off when needed. Mr. Gay announced the gifting of the building at the first meeting of the Oreland Baptist Church in 1949. He stipulated in his will that the building could only be used for religious purposes.

The Oreland Baptist Church disbanded in 1987 and the building was sold to New Life Presbyterian Church.

Congregation Or Hadash purchased the building from New Life Presbyterian Church in 1995. The congregation has made many improvements to the building including a new roof a remodeled office and a new heating system. The addition of our Healing Garden, new flooring on the patio and paving of both terraces have provided us with a wonderful outdoor space that we use as often as possible.

The emphasis for education and tradition exude from every crevice in the building. The inherent strength of the stone work combined with the depth and richness of the woodwork have become synonymous with our inherent strength toward Jewish tradition and the depth and richness of our congregation.

