

Quaker
Meetinghouses
of Western Quarter



London Grove Friends Meeting

In Celebration of 300 Years

The Western Quarter invites friends and neighbors to tour
the 11 active Meetings and 8 historic Meetinghouses



1. Centre Monthly Meeting

311 Centre Meeting Road and Adams Dam Road, Greenville, DE 19807

Worship: 11:00 am

<http://westernquarterquakers.org/centre>

Centre has an active and friendly community of over 50 members. The building dates from 1795, and retains much of its original character including the candles, woodstove, and sliding partitions which once separated the men's and women's business sessions. Located near Winterthur Museum and the town of Centreville, Delaware, Centre Meeting is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.



2. Fallowfield Monthly Meeting ❖

800 Doe Run Road
Coatesville, PA 19320

First Day School: 10:00 am

Worship: 11:00 am

<http://westernquarterquakers.org/fallowfield>

The original log structure built in 1794 was replaced in 1801 by the

present brick building. Set in the village of Ercildoun, Fallowfield is a vital community with a rich legacy of seeking the Light Within and a concern for its early advocacy of anti-slavery, standing for temperance and patronage of education. Today, it continues with its advocacy to end human trafficking and works with local food cupboards. In the Orthodox cemetery, diagonally across the intersection from the Meetinghouse, is the gravesite of Rebecca Pennock Lukens, of the Lukens Steel Company. Another well known member was Charlotte Sitterly, astronomer and physicist. People's Hall was constructed in the late 1830s for the surrounding community to hold anti-slavery meetings.

❖ *Orthodox Burial Ground Location:*
750 Doe Run Rd., Coatesville, PA 19320



3. Hockessin Monthly Meeting

1501 Old Wilmington Road
Hockessin, DE 19707

Worship: 10:45 am

First Day School: 11:10 am

<http://westernquarterquakers.org/hockessin>

The east end of the Meetinghouse was built in 1738 and the west end was added in 1745. Remodeling in 1929 removed the dividing partitions and added an auxiliary wing. In 2013,

the auxiliary wing was replaced by the newest addition with a handicapped accessible entrance. It contains a large multipurpose gathering room, a kitchen, library, coat room and restrooms. The building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Sentiment for the abolition of slavery resulted in association with Thomas Garrett and the Underground Railroad. Interest in education records show support for two early local schools, and more recently they held a preschool for local children. Hockessin today is known for its diverse membership and its welcoming home for members and community.



4. Kendal Monthly Meeting and Crosslands Worship Group

Kendal: 225 Kendal Drive
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Worship: 10:30 am

<http://westernquarter-quakers.org/kendal>

Crosslands: 1660 E. Street Road,
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Worship: 10:00 am

<http://westernquarterquakers.org/crosslands>

These historically Quaker retirement communities house Kendal Monthly Meeting and Crosslands Worship

Group. Kendal Meeting welcomes Friends and attenders from a broad swath of religious backgrounds to worship in the Library at the Longwood Center. Crosslands Worship Group welcomes worshipers to join them in the William Penn Room at the Community Center. The spiritually rich communities of each include many sojourning members who also retain their membership ties with another Monthly Meeting.



5. Kennett Monthly Meeting

125 West Sickle Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Worship: 11:00 am

First Day School: 9:30 am

<http://www.kennettfriends.org>

Kennett Meeting boasts a vibrant community whose activity grows from a solid spiritual foundation. A white-washed stone Meetinghouse on East State Street was completed in 1814 and replaced in 1873 by a large red brick building on the same site. The present structure, built in 1958, includes spacious facilities for meetings, classrooms, library, kitchen and dining, and also houses the

Western Quarterly Meeting office. The membership is active in the community and often hold events of interest. Kennett Monthly Meeting also cares for Old Kennett Meetinghouse on Route 1, near Hammorton.



6. London Grove Monthly Meeting ❖

500 West Street Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Worship: 9:30 am

First Day School: 10:30 am

Meeting phone: 610.268.8466

<http://www.londongrovemeeting.org>

London Grove is a spiritual community whose worship is often profoundly deep, followed by opening exercises of prayer and song. There are multi-generational programs for youth. An original stone and log Meetinghouse was built in 1724. The present stone building, dating from 1818, was constructed large enough to hold Western Quarterly Meeting sessions. A large wing with classrooms was added in 1968. The substantial building is accented by a giant Penn Oak tree on the grounds, said to be one of the largest White Oaks in the state. The Meeting and community sponsor a kindergarten called London Grove

Friends Kindergarten. A Plant Sale is held each May, in addition to activities throughout the year.

❖ *Orthodox Burial Ground Location:* From route 926 at London Grove, drive South on Newark Road, and turn left at “Archie’s” into driveway past brick house which was originally the Meetinghouse.



7. Marlborough Monthly Meeting

361 Marlboro Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Worship: 11:00 am

<http://www.marlboroughmeeting.org>

Marlborough is a deeply Christ-Centered Community which focuses on the Truth found in Scripture. Marlborough’s charming atmosphere welcomes worshipers and visitors alike. The Meetinghouse anchors the small historic village of Marlborough and shares a view of the valley below. The brick Meetinghouse was built in 1801. The building was restored in 1972, retaining most of its original features including the sliding partitions. One side was previously a schoolroom and is kept as such today. Electricity was added along with a modern

kitchenette and restrooms. In the 1800s members were active in working for freedom from slavery. Some joined with Longwood Progressive Friends to further their cause, but after emancipation and freedom those members drifted back to their own Meeting. Another interesting test of conscience tells of Foot Washing and Forgiveness.



8. Mill Creek Monthly Meeting

1140 Doe Run Road
Newark, DE 19711

Worship: 10:30 am

<http://westernquarterquakers.org/mill-creek>

Mill Creek continues to offer a peaceful oasis for worship and a faith community in the busy 21st century. Members met in homes from 1838 until the Meeting House was built in 1841. The 1.25 acre grounds were given to the male members and include an “upping block” for riders on horseback, and a “strangers’ row” in the graveyard. Weekly Meeting for Worship was held until 1915 after which Friends met once a month. By 1930, only an annual meeting was held. However, in 1954 the Meeting was reopened and now holds a weekly meeting.



9. Newark Monthly Meeting

Newark Center for Creative Learning
401 Phillips Ave
Newark, DE 19711

Worship and First Day School:
10:20 am

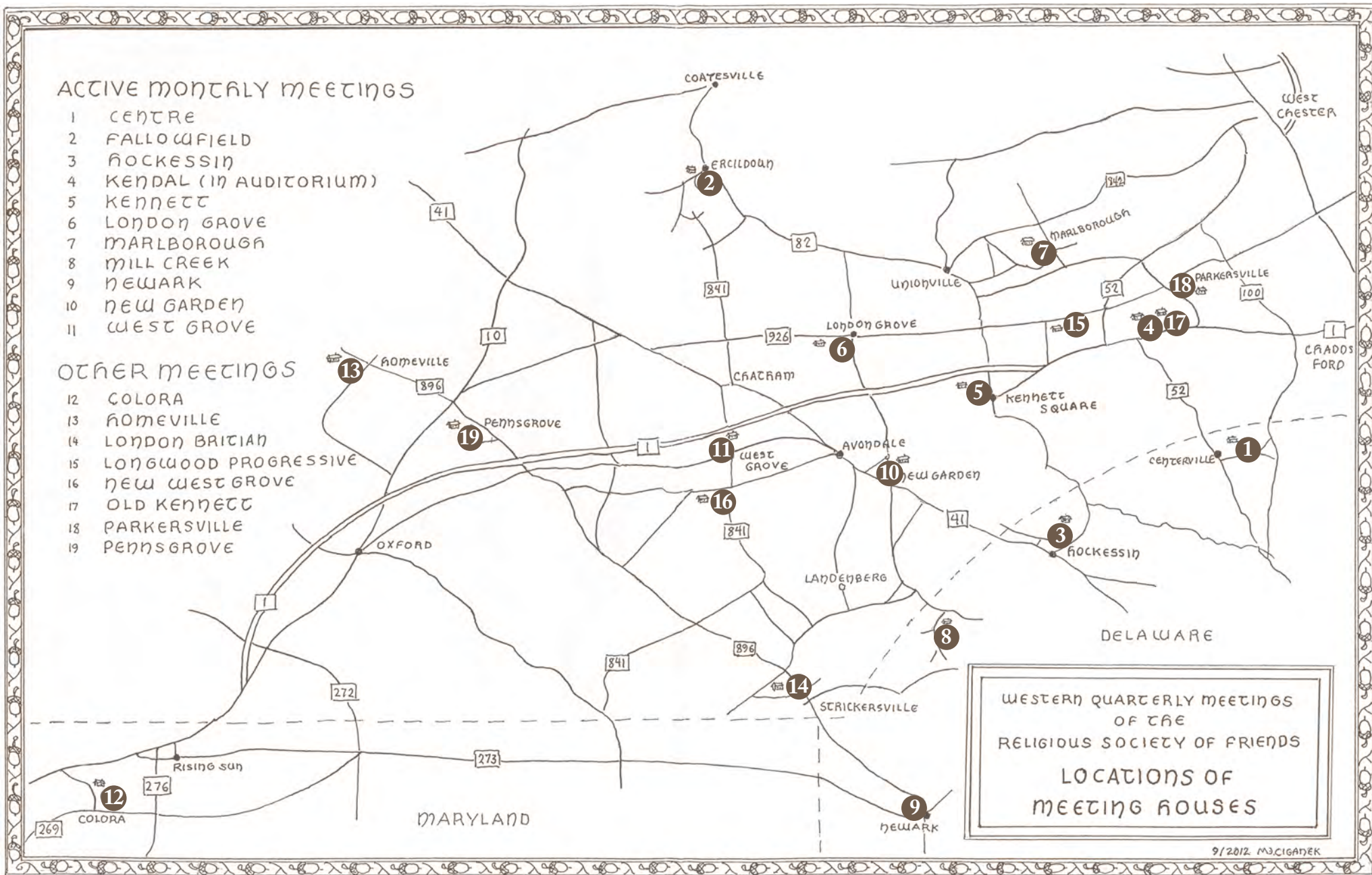
Winter Worship: September to May meets at Newark Center (see above)

Summer Worship: June, July, August held at London Britain Meeting, located on:

PA 896, 1415 New London Road
Landenberg, PA 19350

<http://westernquarterquakers.org/newark>

Newark Monthly Meeting is close-knit community of Friends who worship near the University of Delaware. This Meeting was established as a Monthly Meeting in Western Quarterly Meeting in 1965. Newark worships at the Newark Center for Creative Learning from the Sunday after Labor Day to the end of May. In summer, Newark holds worship, June through August at the quaint, historic London Britain Meetinghouse.



All Monthly Meetings have burial grounds except Kendal/Crosslands, Kennett, and Newark. Some Meetings endured a schism during a split in 1827 between Orthodox and Hicksite Quakers. There was a reunification

in 1955, but some Orthodox burial grounds remain without accompanying Meetinghouses. These are indicated beside the titles of Monthly Meetings where relevant with this symbol ❖.



10. New Garden Monthly Meeting ❖

875 Newark Road
Toughkenamon, PA 19374

Worship: 10:00 am
First Day School: 10:45 am

<http://westernquarterquakers.org/new-garden>

New Garden welcomes both worshippers and community groups to its doors. It was settled by Friends from County Carlow, Ireland, who were the first to establish a building to house a Meeting community. The first Meetinghouse here, built in 1715, was of hewn logs. A second one was constructed of bricks in 1743 and forms the south end of the present structure. The north end was added in 1790 and the entire building remodeled in 1902. An addition was built in 1926. In the 1800s, New Garden had members active against slavery including Isaac Jackson, Joshua Lamborn, Jacob Lindley, and Enoch Lewis.

❖ *Orthodox Burial Ground Location:* From New Garden Meeting, drive south on Newark Road, and just past mushroom house, turn left into driveway to cemetery, in yard of brick house.



11. West Grove Monthly Meeting

153 East Harmony Road
West Grove, PA 19390

Worship: Adult Class is held at 9:00 am
Children's First Day School: 10:15 am

<http://westernquarterquakers.org/west-grove>

West Grove is old in its history and simple in its worship, with a vibrant and close community. An original Meetinghouse was built in 1786. The present structure was erected in 1903, large enough to hold the Orthodox Quarterly Meetings. In 1827, the Hicksite members moved to the New West Grove Meeting and the West Grove Orthodox members remained at Harmony Road. The Meetinghouse was restored after a fire in 1975 and an addition was added in 2003. West Grove Meeting also houses the West Grove Early Care & Development Center: <http://westgrovedaycare.com/>. Two historic Meetinghouses under the care of West Grove are New West Grove on State Road and Colora Meeting in Maryland.



12. Colora Meetinghouse

Colora, MD 21917

<http://westernquarterquakers.org/colora>

This Meetinghouse was built in 1841 of native stone. It remains open once annually for worship, usually on the third Sunday of September at 2:00 pm. The Meeting was originally known as Nottingham Preparative Meeting and was part of Baltimore Yearly Meeting. In 1854 it joined with some nearby Meetings to form the Primitive Yearly Meeting. It became affiliated with Western Quarterly Meeting in 1890 and began as a Monthly Meeting in 1945. Although Colora no longer houses an active Friends community, the early charms of the building and its quiet surrounding have been retained. The area of Colora was at first on The Nottingham Lots laid out by William Penn. However, when the dispute over boundary between Maryland and Pennsylvania was settled by the Mason and Dixon survey, Colora and neighboring Lots found themselves located in Maryland.



13. Homeville Meetinghouse

4877 Homeville Road
Oxford, PA 19363

<http://westernquarterquakers.org/homeville-meetinghouse>

Meeting for Worship is held during the summer months. The Meeting at Homeville was originally known as Oxford Preparative Meeting. At first it was part of Fallowfield Monthly Meeting, but in 1842 joined with Penns Grove Preparative Meeting to form Penns Grove Monthly Meeting. Built in 1839, the brick Meeting was used for worship weekly until 1915 when it was laid down. The Meetinghouse and grounds are presently under the care of The Homeville Cemetery Company. Veterans from as far back as the Civil War rest at this peaceful country setting.



14. London Britain Meetinghouse

1415 New London Road, Route 896
Landenberg, PA 19350

[http://westernquarterquakers.org/
london-britain-meetinghouse](http://westernquarterquakers.org/london-britain-meetinghouse)

This Meetinghouse is under the care of West Grove Meeting. It has been used for Newark Monthly Meeting worship during the summer months at 11:00 am every Sunday between Memorial Day and Labor Day. For the past 10 years, an August Art Show has been held with exhibits of plein air art works by local artists. The Meetinghouse was built in 1834 on land sold by Evan and Sarah Garrett to Daniel London and deeded to George Sharpless, Daniel Thompson, and Charles Paxson of London Britain. It was opened by Orthodox Friends who were members of West Grove Meeting. Genealogies record the marriages of members at London Britain. An old diary notes that in 1917 members held an evening Peace meeting.



15. Longwood Progressive Meetinghouse

300 Greenwood Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348

[http://westernquarterquakers.org/
longwood-progressive-meetinghouse](http://westernquarterquakers.org/longwood-progressive-meetinghouse)

Longwood Progressive Meetinghouse was built in 1854. Today it is a County Visitors Center located near the entrance to Longwood Gardens. During the height of slavery, this Meeting provided such famous speakers as John Greenleaf Whittier, William Lloyd Garrison, William Henry Channing, Susan B. Anthony and Sojourner Truth. The cemetery was the project of abolitionist Joseph A. Dugdale who lived at Red Lion. Following emancipation, members drifted back to their own Meetings. The adjoining burial ground (across the road) is still in use today. A map is available in the Visitors Center. One member of London Grove, Mary Dugan, recently created a new understanding of the importance of the Underground Railroad. In Mary's memory, we include Longwood in our celebration.



16. New West Grove Meetinghouse

609 West State Road
West Grove, PA 19390

[http://westernquarterquakers.org/
new-west-grove-meetinghouse](http://westernquarterquakers.org/new-west-grove-meetinghouse)

This brick Meetinghouse dates to 1831. After being out of regular use for some seventy years, it was renovated from 1970 to 1972 with the guidance of an Avon Grove teacher and his students. The Meeting is a part of West Grove Monthly Meeting. Dr. Ann Preston, known as the founder of the Women's Medical College was a member and is buried in the burial ground. An annual Meeting for Worship and Carol Sing is held just before Christmas.



17. Old Kennett Meetinghouse

489 Meetinghouse Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348

[http://westernquarterquakers.org/
old-kennett-meetinghouse](http://westernquarterquakers.org/old-kennett-meetinghouse)

Old Kennett rests at the entrance of Kendal Retirement Community. Meeting for Worship is held in this 1710 building during the summer months. It is also opened for weddings and historic events and serves as an important historical link to the rich Quaker heritage of the area. It is under the care of Kennett Meeting.



18. Parkersville Meetinghouse

1232 Parkersville Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Worship: 9:30 am

[http://westernquarterquakers.org/
parkersville](http://westernquarterquakers.org/parkersville)

Meetings were discontinued here in 1939, but were started again a few years ago by some interested Friends and are held each First Day at 9:30 am, in addition to an Annual Meeting on the second Sunday of September. The first meeting place of Kennett Monthly Meeting Orthodox was the octagonal school at the village of Parkersville. By 1830 they had found a lot to purchase and subscriptions in the amount of \$722.50 were collected to finance the building of a Meetinghouse. Friends moved into the new

Meetinghouse in 1831. A fire in November 1917 destroyed the flooring, rafters and roof but the benches were saved by neighbors who rushed to the scene. The spark came from leaves that were being burned. The building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.



19. Penns Grove Meetinghouse

725 Penns Grove Road,
Lincoln University, PA 19352

Worship: 10:00 am, on the fourth Sunday of June, July and August.

<http://westernquarterquakers.org/pennsgrove-meetinghouse>

Penns Grove was built in 1833 for a Preparative Meeting. Penns Grove Preparative and Homeville Preparative Meetings became a Monthly Meeting in 1842. The Meeting was laid down in 1952. Lucretia Mott attended the first Meeting for Worship. The many names on gravestones in the burial ground seem to indicate a once large membership.



Compiled for London Grove's 300th Anniversary by a special committee including Ruth Thompson, Mary Jo Ciganek, Rebecca Mitchell, Mary Sproat, Pat Horrocks, and Mary Dugan; and published jointly by London Grove's 300th Anniversary Committee and the Meetings of Western Quarter.

6/14-1M
Printed in the USA