

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania
COUNTY: Berks
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Conrad Weiser Park

AND/OR HISTORIC: Conrad Weiser Home

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: RD #1

CITY OR TOWN: Womelsdorf CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: #6

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42 COUNTY: Berks CODE: 11

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress 	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Recorder of Deeds, Berks County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: Court Street

CITY OR TOWN: Reading STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Plan of Conrad Weiser Memorial Park by Frank M. Frankhouser, Reading

DATE OF SURVEY: July 1929 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Pennsylvania
 COUNTY: Dauphin
 ENTRY NUMBER:
 DATE:
 FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Conrad Weiser House is rectangular stone farmhouse, one-and-a half stories high, with a shingled gable roof and an interior gable-end chimney at the north and south ends. The house was built by Weiser in 1729 on his farm which eventually totaled 1000 acres. There is one room on the first floor which served as the kitchen, dining room, and parlour. The attic served as the sleeping quarters and there is a basement with an outside entrance. The fireplace on the south end of the house occupied the greater part of the wall and is equipped with a bakeoven as well. In 1751 the north end of the house was added to accomodate the growing family. The addition is little more than an extension of the original structure, with a fireplace and a separate basement. The house burned and has been completely restored c. 1926 with period pieces including two chairs and a table owned by Weiser.

Northeast of the house is a small combination springhouse-smokehouse which was also built by Weiser. The two story structure is stone with a non-historic tile roof. The smokehouse and fireplace are located on the second level, and the springhouse on the ground level.

Aside from the two historic structures within the 26 acres of the park are the two story stone house, circa 1834, just to the north of the Weiser House, which is inhabited by the caretaker, as well as a restroom and two service facilities to the west, and a log cabin which was moved there from the Juniata Valley. North of these structures, and west of the Weiser House are the graves of Weiser, his wife, and several of their children, as well as a statue of Shikellamy. With the exception of the aforementioned five non-historic structures, the remainder of the 26 acres is landscaped with local shrubs and trees. **These five buildings do not contribute to the national significance of the landmark.**

Boundaries:

The landmark consists of the 26 acre memorial park, the only portion of the Weiser farm which is still open and relatively un-intruded-upon.

Beginning at the iron pipe set at the intersection of U.S. 422 and the western boundary of the Conrad Weiser Memorial Park, proceed east along the south curb of Route 422 1319.5' to its intersection with the private lane forming the eastern boundary of said park, thence south along said lane 770', thence west along the private lane forming the south boundary of said park 1204.7', thence north along the western boundary of said park 1146.6' to the point of origin.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE As the principal colonial agent in the arbitration and implementation of Indian policy in Pennsylvania, Johann Conrad Weiser was largely instrumental in maintaining the peace along the western border of that State in the two decades preceding the French and Indian War. Born in Germany in 1696, Weiser emigrated with his family to New York in 1710, and in the winter of 1713-14 he lived in the Mowhawk Valley as the adopted son of Chief Quagnant of the Iroquois Confederacy. In 1729, Weiser moved to the Tulpehocken Valley of Pennsylvania, and in 1737, as one of the foremost experts in Indian affairs, he was delegated by James Logan as the colonial ambassador to the powerful Iroquois Onondaga Council. Weiser's mission was successful, and as a result, the powerful Six Nations of the Iroquois maintained peaceful relations with the colonists in Pennsylvania and elsewhere through the French and Indian War.

The Conrad Weiser home on U.S. 422 in present day Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania is currently maintained as a commemorative museum by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. The one-and-a half story stone farmhouse, built by Weiser in 1729, is located in a 26 acre park.

Biography:

Johann Conrad Weiser was born on November 2, 1696, to well-to-do parents in Wurttemberg, Germany. Following the death of his wife, the elder Weiser and his eight children emigrated to New York in 1710. In 1714, the family family settled in Schoharie. In the winter of 1713-14 Conrad lived with the Iroquois Chief Quagnant in the Mowhawk Valley, as his adopted son, learning much of the Mowhawk tongue and Indian customs. Weiser returned to his family for only a short while, before he left after a family dispute and established his own farm near an Indian village near Schoharie. From 1719 to 1729 he served the whites as an Indian interpreter, until in 1729 he removed his wife and family to the Tulpehocken Valley at present day Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania, where he started another farm which eventually ran to a thousand acres.

At this time Weiser renewed his friendship with Shikellamy, the agent of the Iroquois in Pennsylvania, who was highly respected by Indians and whites alike. As one of the most able interpreters and one of the most learned colonists in Indian affairs, Weiser early saw the significance of the support of the Iroquois Six Nations in checking French expansion in the West, and he

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Morton L. Montgomery, History of Berks County in Pennsylvania (Phila., 1886)
 Paul A.W. Wallace, Conrad Weiser, 1696-1760, Friend of Colonist and Mohawk (Phila., 1945).
 J.S. Walton, Conrad Weiser and the Indian Policy of Colonial Pennsylvania (Phila., 1900).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 26 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Richard Greenwood, Survey Historian, Landmark Review Task Force

ORGANIZATION: Historic Sites Survey DATE: 2/10/75

STREET AND NUMBER:
1100 L Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE:

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____
 _____ (NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

William H. Starna
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 8/31/78 (NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

ATTEST:
William Lebowich
 Keeper of The National Register

Date June 15, 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Conrad Weiser Home
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

convinced James Logan of this by 1730. In 1731 and 1736 Weiser and Shikellamy arranged for conferences in Philadelphia with Logan, the Penn^{SA} representative which resulted in the Penn^{SA} recognition of the Iroquois authority over the Indians within Pennsylvania borders. Although this new policy alienated the colonists' old allies, the Delaware and the Shawnee, Weiser foresaw that it would benefit the colonies as a whole. This was amply demonstrated in 1737, when Weiser was enjoined to make haste to the Ondondaga Council in New York, to invite Iroquois representatives to a peace conference in Williamsbrug, Virginia, in order to avert a war between the Virginians and the Iroquois. Traveling in the dead of winter, Weiser arrived at the Council, exhausted to the point of collapse after six weeks of travel, and succeeded in having the Council dispatch its runners to call off the preparations for war. *but*

At the treaty of Logstown (Ambridge) in 1748 Weiser won over the western tribes, thereby extending Pennsylvania Indian trade to the Mississippi and claiming the Ohio-Allegheny country for the English colonies.

In the same year Shikellamy died and with him went Weiser's commanding position as a backwoods diplomat. He remained one of the best of the interpreters until his death, but Sir William Johnson and George Croghan superseded him in the formulation of policy. Nonetheless, most of the Iroquois remained allies of the English colonists through the French and Indian War.

Weiser's further activities included service as Lieutenant-Colonel in the First Battalion of the Pennsylvania Regiment during the French and Indian War in 1756. For nearly two years that battalion under his command held a line of forts from the Susquehanna to the Delaware River. In 1758 he was an interpreter at the Easton peace conference, where the Iroquois forced the Delaware~~s~~ to cease hostilities.

Weiser also served as the first president judge of Berks County from 1752-60, and ~~also~~ helped to layout the town of Reading in 1755. In addition he was an active member of the German Reformed Church and was for a time a member of the Ephrata Cloister.

He died at his farm in Womelsdorf on July 13, 1760, following a gradual loss of health.

Property

Conrad Weiser Home

264

Boundary Definition

Rec'd ~~7.17.75~~
8.4.75

State

Penn.

Working Number

NHL

TECHNICAL

UTM appears incorrect

CONTROL

Photos _____

Maps _____

10.20.75

One photo inaccurately labeled.

HISTORIAN

Boundary OK
J. W. [unclear]
13 D 76

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

BOUNDARY OK

LEBOVICH
2-2-76

ARCHEOLOGIST

Boundary - OK

OTHER

Shuff
6-9-78

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Boundary is ok
Lebovich
6/13/78

BRANCH CHIEF

Lebovich for [unclear]
June 15, 1978

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered _____

Federal Register Entry _____

Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74



Conrad Weiser Home, Front (North) and Side (west)
elevations

1974

MS
9

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Conrad Weiser Home

AND/OR COMMON

Conrad Weiser Home

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Womelsdorf

—VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Berks

STATE

Pennsylvania

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT R.E. Greenwood

DATE OF PHOTO 1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Historic Sites Survey

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

Conrad Weiser Home Front (North) and side (west) elevations



Conrad Weiser Home: View from the northeast of (left to right)
Springhouse, Weiser Home, and the caretakers' residence.

1974

Wesley

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Conrad Weiser Home

AND/OR COMMON

Conrad Weiser Home

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Womelsdorf

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY Berks

STATE
Pennsylvania

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT R.E. Greenwood

DATE OF PHOTO 1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT Historic Sites Survey, Washington

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

View from the northeast of (left to right) Springhouse, Weiser Home,
and the caretaker's residence.



Conrad Weiser Home: Rear (South) and Side (East) Elevations.
Caretaker's house on the left.

Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Conrad Weiser Home

AND/OR COMMON

Conrad Weiser Park

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Womelsdorf

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Berk

STATE

Pennsylvania

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Unknown

DATE OF PHOTO Verified 1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT Unknown

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

Rear (south) and side (east) elevations, Caretaker's
house to the left.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Conrad Wisler Home

AND/OR COMMON

Conrad Wisler Home

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Womelsdorf

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Berks

STATE

Pennsylvania

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

U.S.G.S. 7.5' series, Womelsdorf Quad.

SCALE

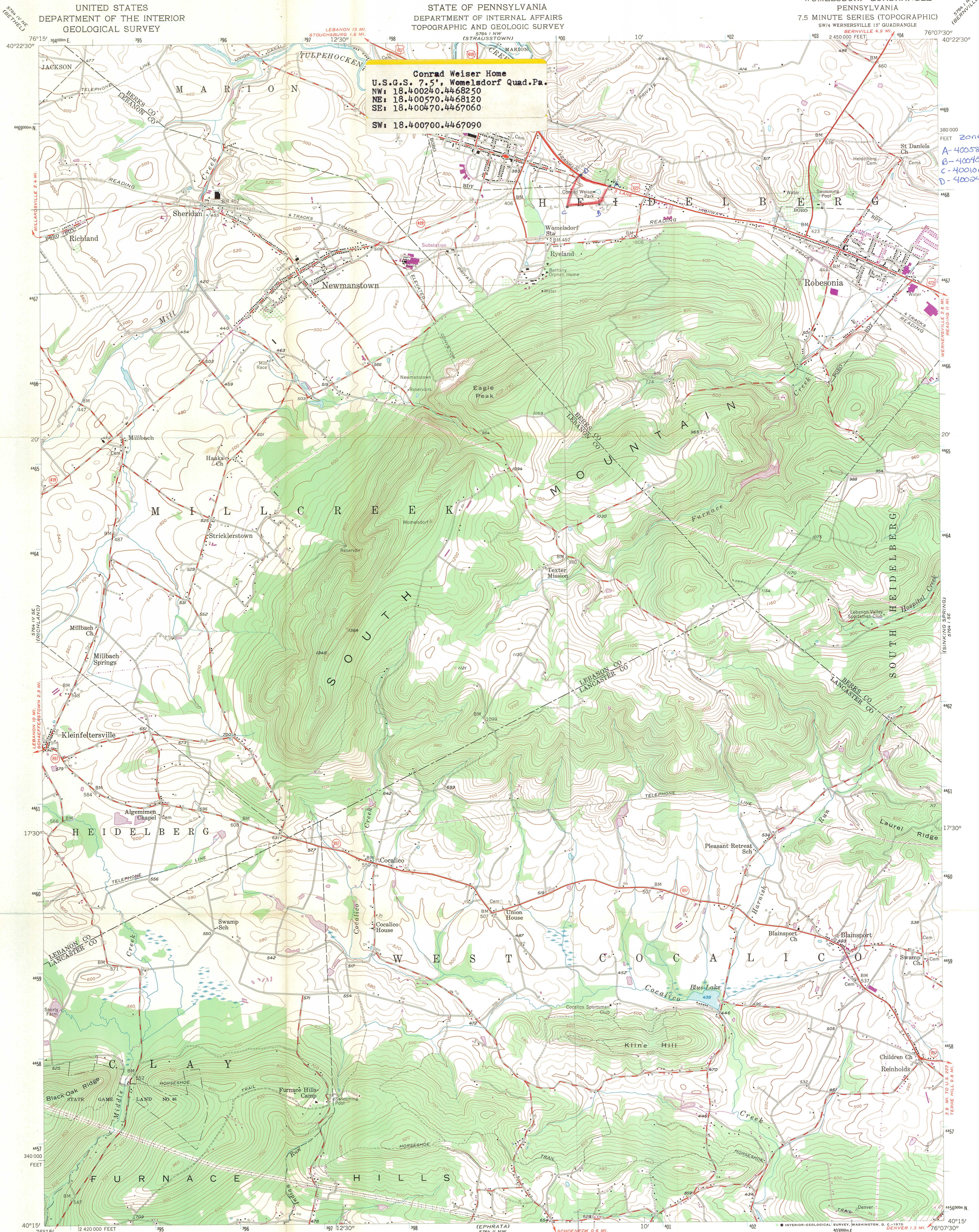
1:24,000

DATE 1955, photorevised 1969

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

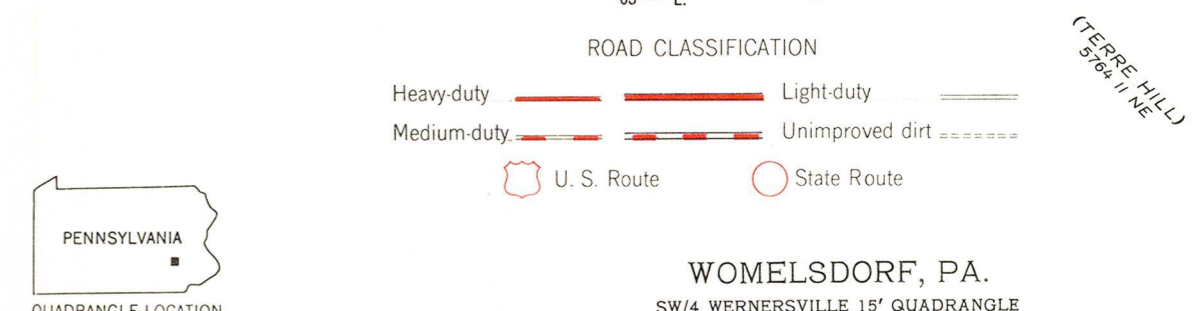
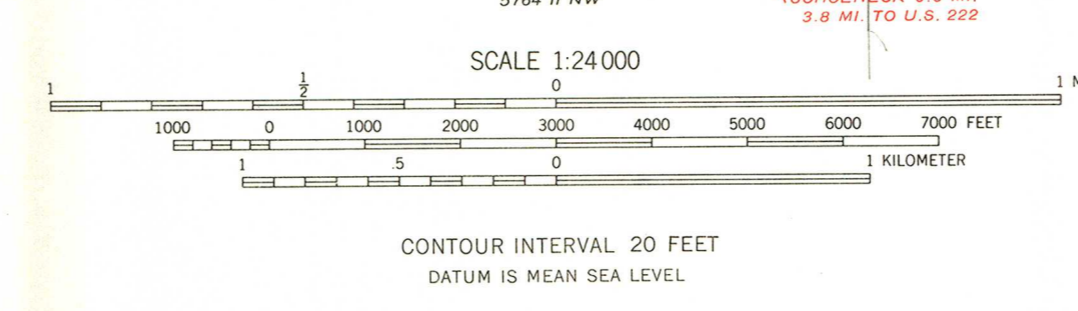
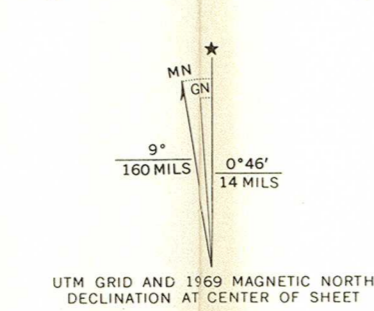
1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES



Conrad Weiser Home
U.S.G.S. 7.5', Womelsdorf Quad. Pa.
NW: 18.400240, 4468250
NE: 18.400570, 4468120
SE: 18.400470, 4467060
SW: 18.400700, 4467090

Zone 18
A-400580-4468125
B-400450-4467925
C-400100-4467910
D-400240-4468270

HOPELAND 1.5 MI.
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USSCS
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
Aerial photographs taken 1951. Field check 1955
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Pennsylvania coordinate system,
south zone
1,000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with State of
Pennsylvania agencies from aerial photographs taken 1969. This
information not field checked



WOMELSDORF, PA.
SW/4 WERNERSVILLE 15' QUADRANGLE
N 4015 - W 7607.5/7.5
1955
PHOTOREVISED 1969
AMS 5764 1 SW-SERIES V831

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR INFORMATION SERVICE

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

For Release OCTOBER 9, 1960

SECRETARY SEATON ANNOUNCES PLAN TO REGISTER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES

Historic landmarks of national significance and interest may be registered by the National Park Service under a plan announced today by the Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton.

The National Registry of Historic Landmarks is designed to recognize and endorse the preservation and protection of structures and sites now administered by the States, other public agencies, or historical societies and to encourage private owners of historic landmarks to maintain such properties.

"The establishment of this Registry," said Secretary Seaton, "serves a long-felt need for the Federal Government to give moral support and recognition to organizations now concerned with the preservation of archeological and historic properties. Because of the number of important historic landmarks in our great Nation, it is manifestly impossible for the Government to acquire or manage these sites or support them financially, although they are an integral part of the American heritage."

The Federal involvement, said the Secretary, will be limited to the issuance of certificates, periodic inspection and arrangements for the site owner to acquire a suitable marker. He emphasized that participation in the program is entirely voluntary.

In addition, said Secretary Seaton, the Registry will provide tourists and students a list of the more important of the large number of landmarks recognized by a variety of organizations throughout the country.

The Secretary said that the Registry of National Historic Landmarks is an outgrowth of the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings program of the National Park Service. That program, authorized by the Historic Sites Act of 1935 directs "a survey of historic and archeological sites, buildings, and objects for the purpose of determining which possess exceptional value as commemorating or illustrating the history of the United States."

Studies of significant historic and archeological sites are submitted to the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments for review and evaluation. The Board then makes recommendations to the Secretary concerning which sites are eligible for Registered National Historic Landmark status.

The National Survey is preparing a number of "theme studies" covering all the major periods of human history of our country. Although many sites are studied, only a few are designated as having "exceptional value." Administrators or owners of any site recommended shall be eligible to receive a certificate issued by the Secretary designating that site as a Registered National Historic Landmark upon application and agreement to certain standards of protection and management.

Five theme studies covering the English, French, and Spanish Exploration and Settlement; the Development of the English Colonies, 1700-1775; and The Advance of the Frontier, 1763-1830 have been completed. The five theme studies have been approved by Secretary Seaton and may later be published for public distribution.

In the English, French, and Spanish themes on Exploration and Settlement, 52 sites are listed as possessing exceptional value. Seventeen of them are represented and interpreted in the National Park System and related areas. The remaining 35 sites are eligible for Registered National Historic Landmark status.

In the Development of the English Colonies, 1700-1775, 50 sites are recommended, of which five are in the National Park System and three have been designated as national historic sites in non-Federal ownership. The remaining 42 sites are eligible for registration status.

In the Advance of the Frontier, 1763-1830, 22 sites are recommended, of which seven are in the National Park System. The remaining 15 sites are eligible for registration status.

A list of sites eligible for Registered National Historic Landmark status--developed as a result of the first five studies--is attached.

A list of themes presently under study by the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings program is also attached. Completion of additional theme studies will be announced from time to time, with their accompanying lists of landmarks of exceptional value, said Secretary Seaton.

x x x

Spanish Exploration and Settlement

In the Spanish study there are 26 sites listed as possessing exceptional value. Sixteen of these, not administered by the National Park Service, are eligible to receive certificates as Registered National Historic Landmarks. They are as follows:

1. San Luis de Apalache, Florida. Typifies the Spanish mission system in Florida. San Luis de Apalache became the administrative center of the Old Spanish province of Guale. Privately owned.
2. Fort San Carlos de Barrancas, Florida. Built during the last Spanish occupation of West Florida, it was an important defense bastion of Pensacola. Administered by the United States Navy.
3. La Fortaleza, Puerto Rico. The first true fortification of San Juan built between 1533 and 1540 as a defense against French and English freebooters. Administered by the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
4. Columbus Landing Site, Virgin Islands. Earliest site now under United States dominion associated with Christopher Columbus. Columbus, on his second voyage in 1493, put in at this spot. Administered by the Territorial Government, Virgin Islands.
5. The Cabildo, New Orleans, Louisiana. The present building, erected in 1795, housed the Administrative and Legislative Council which ruled Spanish Louisiana. Owned by the city of New Orleans.
6. Fort San Lorenzo, Panama Canal Zone. A link in the Spanish lifeline across the Isthmus of Panama in its New World empire. Administered by the United States Army.
7. Hawikuh, New Mexico. This pueblo ruin, the largest of the fabled "Seven Cities of Cibola," was the first pueblo visited by Francisco Coronado in 1540. Owned by the Zuni Indian Tribe.
8. Palace of the Governors, Santa Fe, New Mexico. One of the most historic buildings in the United States, the Palace of the Governors served successively as the Spanish, Mexican, and American capitols of New Mexico. State owned.

9. Acoma, New Mexico. Believed to be the oldest continuously occupied settlement in the United States, it was intimately associated with 16th century Spanish expeditions, including those of Coronado, Rodriguez and Chamuscado, Espejo, and Onate. Owned by Acoma Indian Tribe.

10. Pecos, New Mexico. Was the point of departure of Coronado's expedition from New Mexico to Quivira in present day Kansas. State owned.

11. Taos, New Mexico. Exemplifies Indian resistance to Spanish rule during the 17th century. It was the headquarters of the 1680 Pueblo revolt. Owned by the Taos Indian Tribe.

12. San Xavier del Bac, Arizona. One of the finest surviving examples of Spanish mission architecture, it commemorates the missionary activities of the famous Padre Kino. Owned by the Catholic Church.

13. San Diego Presidio, California. Commemorates the founding of the first mission in California. It marks the first permanent European settlement on the Pacific Coast of the United States. Owned by the city of San Diego.

14. Royal Presidio Chapel, Monterey, California. For three-quarters of a century Monterey was the stronghold of Spanish-Mexican civilization on the Pacific coast. It was the capital of California from 1776 until shortly before the American occupation. Owned by the Catholic Church.

15. Santa Barbara Mission, California. Of the 21 California missions, Santa Barbara is outstanding for its unusual and continued vigor. It is also perhaps the best preserved. Owned by the Catholic Church.

16. Carmel Mission, Monterey, California. The most important of the California Spanish missions from an ecclesiastical standpoint. It was the headquarters of the two great Franciscan Fathers, Padres Serra and Lasuen. Owned by the Catholic Church.

In addition 10 sites are represented and interpreted in the National Park System, as follows:

1. De Soto National Memorial, Florida
2. Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, Florida

3. Fort Matanzas National Monument, Florida
4. San Juan National Historic Site, Puerto Rico
5. San Jose Mission National Historic Site, Texas
6. Gran Quivira National Monument, New Mexico
7. El Morro National Monument, New Mexico
8. Tumacacori National Monument, Arizona
9. Coronado National Memorial, Arizona
10. Cabrillo National Monument, California.

French Exploration and Settlement

In the French Exploration and Settlement study, 14 sites have been recognized as possessing exceptional value. Nine of these, not administered by the National Park Service, are eligible to receive certificates as Registered National Historic Landmarks as follows:

1. Fort St. Frederic, Crown Point, New York. For almost a quarter of a century, from 1731, Fort St. Frederic was a keystone of France's defenses of Canada. State owned.
2. Old Fort Niagara, New York. Throughout the colonial period and the early years of the United States, control of this strategic site was the goal of military operations of France, England, the United States, as well as the League of the Iroquois Indian tribes. State owned, but administered by a private association.
3. Starved Rock, Illinois. As the base of the Sieur de la Salle's administration and development of the Mississippi Valley, Starved Rock was the first major center of French influence in the Illinois country. State owned.
4. Sainte Genevieve, Missouri. Of all the numerous Creole missionary, fur trading, farming, mining, and military establishments in the Illinois country, only Sainte Genevieve has retained much of its early appearance. It constitutes an important survival of New France in the Mississippi Valley. Privately owned buildings.
5. Fort de Chartres, Illinois. Near Prairie du Rocher, this was the 18th century center of French civil and military government in the Illinois country and was one of France's most imposing fortifications in North America. State owned.
6. Arkansas Post State Park and historic environs. Situated near the mouth of the Arkansas, Arkansas Post was the first white settlement in the lower Mississippi Valley and the later Louisiana Purchase. It was established by the famed Henri de Tonty, lieutenant of the Sieur de la Salle. Partially state owned.
7. Fort de la Boulaye, Louisiana. Represents French defense of the mouth of the Mississippi River against English and Spanish encroachment in the early 18th century. Private ownership.

8. Ursuline Convent, New Orleans, Louisiana. This site represents the influence of French culture on Louisiana. It was established about 1727 by Ursuline nuns to "relieve the poor, sick, and provide at the same time for the education of young girls." Owned by the Catholic Church.

9. Fort Toulouse, Wetumpka, Alabama. From 1717 to the end of the French and Indian War, Fort Toulouse was the offensive-defensive eastern outpost of French Louisiana. It figured significantly in the French drive to wrest control of the Southeast from the Spanish and the English. Site partially State owned.

In addition, five sites are represented and interpreted in the National Park System, as follows:

1. Saint Croix National Monument, Maine, authorized by law
2. Grand Portage National Monument, Minnesota
3. Ackia Battleground National Monument, Mississippi
4. Fort Caroline National Memorial, Florida
5. Chicago Portage National Historic Site, Illinois, non-Federal ownership.

English Exploration and Settlement to 1700

The Advisory Board has recognized 12 sites as having exceptional value in this phase of American history. Ten of these, not administered by the National Park Service, are eligible to receive certificates as Registered National Historic Landmarks. These are as follows:

1. Stanley-Whitman House, Farmington, Connecticut. Built about 1664 and considered a classic example of New England architecture. Owned by the Farmington Village Green and Library Association.
2. Coles Hill, Plymouth, Massachusetts. Part of the settlement site of the Plymouth Colony of 1620, affording a sweeping view of the bay into which the Mayflower sailed and the shore on which its grateful passengers made their settlement. Owned by the Pilgrim Society.
3. Fairbanks House, Dedham, Massachusetts. Believed to date from at least the middle of the 17th century, and perhaps as early as 1636, it is one of the most picturesque and authentic survivors of the colonial homes of New England. Owned by the Fairbanks Family in America, Inc.
4. Old Ship Church, Hingham, Massachusetts. Built about 1681 and an example of the 17th century Puritan Church in New England. Owned by the Unitarian Church.
5. The Parson Capen House, Topsfield, Massachusetts. One of the most perfect of New England colonial houses, believed to have been built in 1683. Owned by the Topsfield Historical Society.
6. The Whipple House, Ipswich, Massachusetts. One of the earliest New England houses, built in 1640. This fine Puritan home and its later additions reflect growth and prosperity through several generations. Owned by the Ipswich Historical Society.
7. Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House, Newport, Rhode Island. Probably built in 1695, this house is an outstanding example of architecture of the late 17th century and is significant as a representation of architectural transition from 17th to 18th century. Owned by the Newport Historical Society.

8. Adam Thoroughgood House, Princess Anne County, Virginia. One of the oldest houses in the English speaking colonies, believed to have been built circa 1636-40. It is a fine example of the central-hall plan house of 17th century Virginia. Owned by the Adam Thoroughgood House Foundation.

9. Bacon's Castle, Surry County, Virginia. The earliest of the Virginia cross-plan houses and one of the most remarkable architectural monuments of the colonial period. It was built by Arthur Allen about 1655 and figured prominently in Bacon's Rebellion of 1676. Privately owned.

10. Saint Luke's Church, Isle of Wight County, Virginia. An authentic 17th century Virginia church in the Gothic style of medieval English parish churches. Owned by Historic Saint Luke's Restoration, Inc.

In addition, two sites recognized as having exceptional value are already included in the National Park System. They are as follows:

1. Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, North Carolina.
2. Jamestown National Historic Site, Virginia. Partly owned by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities and partly owned by the United States.

Development of the English Colonies, 1700-1775

The 42 sites listed below have been recognized as having exceptional value in commemorating or illustrating the history of the United States:

1. Lady Pepperell House, Kittery Point, Maine. A house of great architectural distinction, built by the widow of Sir William Pepperell about 1760. Owned by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.
2. Hammond-Harwood House, Annapolis, Maryland. A distinguished Georgian dwelling, completed about 1774. Owned by the Hammond-Harwood House Association.
3. Whitehall, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. A colonial dwelling with temple-type portico, built by Governor Horatio Sharpe at the close of the French and Indian War and subsequently enlarged. Privately owned.
4. Christ Church, Cambridge, Massachusetts. A superb example of religious architecture; designed by Peter Harrison and constructed in 1759-61. Owned by the Episcopal Church.
5. Faneuil Hall, Boston, Massachusetts. The "cradle of liberty" in the years immediately prior to the American Revolution; designed by John Smibert. Owned by the city of Boston.
6. Isaac Royall House, Medford, Massachusetts. A 17th century structure which was extensively remodeled and enlarged in the 18th century by Isaac Royall, a wealthy merchant and his son. Owned by the Royall House Association.
7. Jeremiah Lee House, Marblehead, Massachusetts. One of the finest surviving examples of colonial architecture; built by Lee in 1768. Owned by the Marblehead Historical Society.
8. King's Chapel, Boston, Massachusetts. A fine example of religious architecture; designed by Peter Harrison and built in 1749-54. Owned by the Unitarian Church.
9. Massachusetts Hall, Cambridge, Massachusetts. The oldest surviving building of Harvard University; built in 1718-20. Owned by Harvard University.

10. Old South Meeting House, Boston, Massachusetts. Scene of many of the notable colonial protest meetings prior to the Revolution, including that which led to the Boston Tea Party in 1773. Owned by the Old South Association.
11. Old State House (Second Town House), Boston, Massachusetts. One of the oldest American public buildings and of foremost historical significance; built in 1712-13 and rebuilt in 1748 after its destruction by fire. Property of the city of Boston.
12. Shirley-Eustis House, Roxbury, Massachusetts. An imposing 18th century house, built by Governor William Shirley about 1747. Owned by the Shirley-Eustis House Association and the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.
13. Warner-McPheadris House, Portsmouth, New Hampshire. An early Georgian residence, built by Captain Archibald McPheadris in 1718-23. Owned by the Warner House Association.
14. Nassau Hall, Princeton, New Jersey. The first permanent building of Princeton University, built in 1754-56. Owned by the University.
15. Fort Ticonderoga, Ticonderoga, New York. Fort at the junction of Lake Champlain and Lake George, which played such an important role in the French and Indian War and the American Revolution. Owned by the Fort Ticonderoga Association.
16. Johnson Hall, Johnstown, New York. The home of Sir William Johnson, superintendent of Indian affairs for the northern colonies from 1763 to 1774. State owned and administered.
17. St. Paul's Chapel, New York, New York. A church of New York City's colonial era, designed by Thomas McBean and built in 1764-66. Owned by the Episcopal Church.
18. Bushy Run Battlefield, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Site of the battle of August 5-6, 1763, which crushed the Indian uprising known as "Pontiac's Rebellion." State owned.
19. Conrad Weiser House, Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania. Home of Conrad Weiser, an important Indian agent in Pennsylvania in the mid-18th century. State owned.

20. Fort Duquesne and Fort Pitt, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Sites of important forts of the French and Indian War period at the strategic confluence of the Monongahela and Allegheny Rivers. State owned for the most part; but Allegheny Chapter, D.A.R. owns and administers the blockhouse.
21. Graeme Park, Horsham, Pennsylvania. A great Pennsylvania field stone house; one of the most distinguished architectural examples in a region rich in fine 18th century houses. State owned.
22. John Bartram House, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Home of the great botanist; said to have been built by Bartram's own hands in 1731. Owned by the city of Philadelphia.
23. Mount Pleasant, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The most important of a number of distinguished houses in Fairmount Park, built by John McPherson in 1761-62. Owned by the city of Philadelphia.
24. The Brick Market, Newport, Rhode Island. An architecturally noteworthy public building, designed by Peter Harrison and built circa 1762-63. Owned by the city of Newport.
25. First Baptist Meetinghouse, Providence, Rhode Island. Both architecturally and historically one of New England's most notable public buildings constructed in 1774-75 from a design credited to Joseph Brown. Owned by the Baptist Church.
26. Old Colony House, Newport, Rhode Island. A superb public building of colonial America, possessing both architectural and historical distinction, designed by Richard Munday and built in 1739-41 to house the General Assembly of the Colony of Rhode Island. State owned.
27. Redwood Library, Newport, Rhode Island. One of the oldest library buildings in continuous use in the United States, completed about 1750 after a design by the architect, Peter Harrison. Owned by the Redwood Library and Athenaeum.
28. Drayton Hall, Charleston County, South Carolina. An early Georgia mansion, often considered the "outstanding surviving example of South Carolina's plantation houses." Privately owned.

29. Miles Brewton House, Charleston, South Carolina. A splendid example of the Charleston "double house," built 1765-69 for Miles Brewton from a design by Ezra White. Privately owned.
30. Robert Brewton House, Charleston, South Carolina. The earliest accurately dated example of the Charleston "single house," built by Miles Brewton for his son in 1730. Privately owned.
31. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Charleston, South Carolina. One of the great Georgian churches of America, noted for its very early giant portico. Owned by the St. Michael's Church Corporation.
32. The Mulberry, Berkeley County, South Carolina. One of the most impressive of the 18th century river rice plantations, with a manor house built by Thomas Broughton about 1714. Privately owned.
33. Greenway Court, Clarke County, Virginia. Stone "land office" building used by Thomas Lord Fairfax for his Northern Neck Proprietary from 1762 to 1781. Privately owned.
34. Mount Airy, Richmond County, Virginia. One of the few stone houses built in Virginia in the 18th century; built by Colonel John Tayloe in 1758-62 from a design by John Ariss. Privately owned.
35. Stratford Hall, Westmoreland County, Virginia. Ancestral home of the prominent Lee family of Virginia; birthplace of many noted men, including two signers of the Declaration of Independence and Robert E. Lee, and an unusual example of early Georgian architecture. Owned by the Robert E. Lee Memorial Foundation.
36. Westover, Charles City County, Virginia. A noted example of early Georgian architecture, built by William Byrd II about 1730-34. Privately owned.
37. Wren Building, Williamsburg, Virginia. Restored original building of the College of William and Mary; ascribed to Sir Christopher Wren; originally built 1695-1702 and rebuilt after a fire in 1705. Part of William and Mary College.

In addition, five historic districts have been recognized as of exceptional value. These are:

1. Old Deerfield Village, Deerfield, Massachusetts. A community of early 18th century houses, mostly built soon after the disastrous Indian raid of 1704. Private homes and houses owned by the Deerfield Heritage Foundation and the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association.
2. Huguenot Street, New Paltz, New York. Group of five stone houses, built by Huguenot settlers during the 18th century. Owned in part by Huguenot Patriotic Historical and Monument Society, and by private individuals.
3. Elfreth's Alley, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. A row of 33 late 17th and 18th century houses, preserving the appearance of the Philadelphia of that period. Private ownership.
4. Charleston, South Carolina. A community of fine 18th and 19th century houses. City and private ownerships.
5. Williamsburg, Virginia. Eighteenth century capital of colonial Virginia restored since 1927 under the auspices of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., involving the restoration of some 100 buildings and the reconstruction of approximately 350 more. Mostly owned and administered by Colonial Williamsburg, Inc.; some private ownerships.

The National Park System now includes five areas representing the development of the English colonies during the period 1700-1775. These are as follows:

1. Hopewell Village National Historic Site, Pennsylvania
2. Salem Maritime National Historic Site, Massachusetts
3. Fort Frederica National Monument, Georgia
4. Fort Necessity National Battlefield Site, Pennsylvania
5. George Washington Birthplace National Monument, Virginia.

In addition, three National Historic Sites in this theme are in non-Federal ownership:

1. Gloria Dei Church National Historic Site, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
2. St. Paul's Church National Historic Site, New York, New York.
3. Touro Synagogue National Historic Site, Newport, Rhode Island.

Advance of the Frontier, 1763-1830

In the Advance of the Frontier, 1763-1830 study, 22 sites have been recognized as having exceptional value. Fifteen of these, not administered by the National Park Service, are eligible to receive certificates as Registered National Historic Landmarks as follows:

1. Erie Canal, New York. Completion of the Erie Canal by the State of New York in 1825 speeded settlement of the Old Northwest and gave Western agriculture direct access to Eastern markets. Ownership is divided between the State of New York and private individuals.
2. Fallen Timbers Battlefield, Ohio. General "Mad Anthony" Wayne's decisive victory over Ohio Indians and Canadian militia allies on August 20, 1794, successfully asserted United States sovereignty in the Northwest country and resulted in opening of the Ohio country to settlement. Four acres of the site are owned by the State of Ohio and administered by the Ohio Historical Society.
3. Forks of the Ohio, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. From the middle 18th Century through the early 19th Century, Forks of the Ohio represented the strategic key to the Ohio Valley and the vast territory drained by the Mississippi. Control of this key point was a major objective in French, English, and American struggles for North America. Now part of Point Park in the Golden Triangle, Pittsburgh. Owned by the city of Pittsburgh. Bouquet's blockhouse, an outlying fortification of Fort Pitt, is owned by the Daughters of the American Revolution, Allegheny Chapter.
4. Jackson Square, New Orleans, Louisiana. This is the site of the raising of the American flag over the newly purchased Louisiana Territory in 1803. Owned by the city of New Orleans.
5. Long Island of the Holston, Tennessee. Daniel Boone made Long Island of the Holston the starting point of his Wilderness Road through Cumberland Gap. The Battle of Long Island Flats in 1776 crushed Indian fighting strength during the critical years of the American Revolution. Privately owned, partly by the Tennessee Eastman Company.
6. Plaza Ferdinand the VII, Pensacola, Florida. In this square, on July 17, 1821, was consummated the transfer of Florida from the rule of Spain to that of the United States. Owned by the city of Pensacola.

7. Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. Prairie du Chien portrays the roles played by the French, British, and Americans in settlement and development of the American Northwest. It marks the site of discovery of the Upper Mississippi River by Louis Joliet and Pere Marquette in 1673, and was later the Western terminus of the Fox-Wisconsin portage route. Variouslly owned by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Wisconsin State Medical Society, and private individuals.

8. Straits of Mackinac, Michigan. Key to control of the upper Great Lakes, within a period of 150 years. The Straits were claimed successfully by France, England, and the United States. They were the heart of John Jacob Astor's Northwestern fur trade empire. Owned variously by the State of Michigan, the town of St. Ignace, and the town of Mackinac Island.

9. Tippecanoe Battlefield, Indiana. The American victory at Tippecanoe on November 7, 1811 destroyed the Shawnee Chief Tecumseh's plans for a confederation of northern and southern tribes against westward expansion. It also sparked agitation for war against the British in 1812. Owned by the State of Indiana.

10. Holland Land Office, New York. The Holland Land Office typifies the role of foreign speculative enterprise on the early American frontier. The Holland Land Company probably was unsurpassed in its enlightened treatment of settlers. Owned by Genesee County, New York.

Subtheme - The Lewis and Clark Expedition

1. Three Forks of the Missouri, Montana. At this notable landmark, Lewis and Clark decided that the Missouri River ended and they gave to the three forks that joined here the names: the Gallatin, the Madison, and the Jefferson. Owned by the State of Montana, by railroads and other private owners.

2. Lemhi Pass, Montana - Idaho. This site marks the spot where the Lewis and Clark expedition crossed the Continental Divide, passing to the Pacific Slope of the Rocky Mountains. Owned by the Federal Government.

3. Travelers Rest, Montana. This was used as a campsite by Lewis and Clark, both on their trip to the Pacific Coast in 1805 and on their return in 1806. Private ownership.

4. The Lolo Trail, Idaho. Along this famous buffalo trail of the Nez Perce, the Lewis and Clark Expedition was guided across the Bitterroot Range. Owned by the Federal Government.

5. Sergeant Floyd Grave and Monument, Iowa. On August 20, 1804, Sergeant Charles Floyd, a kinsman of Captain William Clark, who was co-leader of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, died as the expedition proceeded up the Missouri River. He was the only member of the expedition to lose his life during the two and a half year journey to the Pacific and back, and he was the first United States soldier to lose his life west of the Mississippi River. His burial place on the high bluff overlooking the Missouri has important associations with the Nation's early history and the great Lewis and Clark Expedition.

The National Park Service presently includes five areas representing events and personages associated with the Advance of the Frontier, 1763-1830, and two that are authorized and in process of being established. The seven areas are as follows:

1. Meriwether Lewis National Monument, Tennessee
2. Jefferson National Expansion National Memorial, Missouri
3. Natchez Trace Parkway, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi
4. Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee
5. Horseshoe Bend National Military Park, Alabama
6. Fort Clatsop National Memorial, Oregon (authorized and in process of establishment)
7. Grand Portage, Minnesota.

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

List of Themes, Subthemes,
and Special Studies

- I. Prehistoric Hunters and Gatherers
- II. Early Indian Farmers
- III. Indian Villages and Communities
- IV. Spanish Exploration and Settlement
Special Study: Spanish Colonial Sites in the Panama Canal Zone
- V. French Exploration and Settlement
- VI. English Exploration and Settlement to 1700
- VII. Dutch and Swedish Exploration and Settlement
- VIII. Contact with the Indians
- IX. Development of the English Colonies, 1700-1775
- X. The War for Independence
- XI. The Advance of the Frontier, 1763-1830
Subtheme: The Lewis and Clark Expedition
Special Study: Lincoln State Park and Nancy Hanks Lincoln State Memorial
- XII. Political and Military Affairs, 1783-1830
- XIII. Political and Military Affairs, 1830-1860
- XIV. The Civil War, 1861-1865
- XV. Westward Expansion and Extension of the National Boundaries to the Pacific, 1830-1898
Subthemes: The Santa Fe Trail
The Mining Frontier
The Cattlemen's Empire
The Farming Frontier
Military and Indian Affairs
Special Study: Fort Bowie
" " Fort Davis
The Texas Revolution and the War with Mexico, 1820-1853
The Fur Trade Era
Special Study: The Bailly Homestead
Overland Migrations of the Trans-Mississippi West
Great Explorers of the West
Transportation and Communication
Special Study: Promontory Summit (Golden Spike)
Special Study: The Hubbell Trading Post

- XVI. Indigenous Peoples and Cultures
- XVII. Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture
- XVIII. Travel and Communication
- XIX. Development and Conservation of Natural Resources
- XX. The Arts and Sciences
 - Subthemes: Education
 - Architecture
 - Literature, Painting, and Sculpture
 - Inventions and Scientific Discoveries
- XXI. Development of the United States to World Power
 - Special Study: Fort De Soto
 - " " Hawaii
 - " " Alaska

OCT 18 1960

pa

Hon. George M. Rhodes
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rhodes:

Pursuant to your telephonic request, we are happy to send you the enclosed information on the Conrad Weiser House, which is eligible for Registered National Historic Landmark status.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) E. T. SCOYEN

Acting Director

Enclosure

Copy to: Regional Director, Region Five
Mr. Littleton ✓

HEKahler:mg 10-17-60

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

December 18, 1961

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Honorable Conrad L. Wirth
Director, National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Wirth:

We have completed the enclosed forms (in duplicate) for three of the Commission's historic properties as follows:

Governor Printz Park
Graeme Park
Conrad Weiser Memorial Park

It is our understanding that these forms constitute a formal application for a certificate and bronze marker designating these historic properties as Registered National Historic Landmarks.

Sincerely

/s/ s. K. Stevens

S c

C O P Y

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION
STATE MUSEUM BUILDING
HARRISBURG

DEC 21 8 55 AM '61

December 18, 1961

Mr. Conrad L. Wirth, Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

DEC 26 1961

Dear Mr. Wirth:

As the (owner, owners) of Conrad Weiser Memorial ^{Home} ~~Park~~ located in
(name of site)

Womelsdorf Berks County Pennsylvania
(City) (County) (State)

(I, we) hereby make formal application for a certificate () and bronze marker, 17" x 18", () designating this historic property as a Registered National Historic Landmark. (Check one or both as desired)


1. Fully conscious of the high responsibility to the Nation that goes with the ownership and care of a property classified as having exceptional value and worthy of Registered National Historic Landmark status (I, we) agree to preserve, so far as practicable and to the best of (my, our) ability, the historical integrity of this important part of the national cultural heritage.

2. Toward this end, (I, we) agree to continue to use the property only for purposes consistent with its historical character.

3. (I, we) also agree to permit an annual visit to the property by a representative of the National Park Service, as a basis for continuing landmark status.

4. If for any reason, the three conditions mentioned above cannot continue to be met, it is agreed that the Registered National Historic Landmark status shall cease and that until such status is restored by the Secretary of the Interior, neither the Registered National Historic Landmark Certificate nor the Marker will be displayed.

Sincerely yours,


Executive Director

*Cert. to Reg 5-
ON 4-24-62*

December 27, 1961

158-CHA

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Acting Chief Historian

Subject: Application for Certificates and Markers for Three sites in Pennsylvania

Attached is a copy of a letter from Dr. S. K. Stevens, and completed application forms for Governor Printz Park, Greene Park, and Conrad Weiser Memorial Park. Please review these application forms and let us know if these are the correct titles to appear on the certificates and markers.

Also will you kindly tell us to whom the markers should be shipped when they are prepared?

Acting Chief Historian

Attachments

Region Five
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

L58

February 2, 1962

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Assistant Regional Director

Subject: Names to be Used on Registered National Historic
Landmark Plaques

In reply to Acting Chief Historian Porter's memoranda of December 27 and December 28, we have checked the names of the sites mentioned therein. We have learned from Mr. Maurice K. Goddard of the Department of Forests and Waters that his Department prefers "The Forks of the Ohio" to "Point State Park." The plaque should be sent to Mr. Goddard at the park when it is completed.

Dr. S. K. Stevens has informed us that his office prefers "The Printzhof" to "Governor Printz Park" and "Conrad Weiser Home" to "Conrad Weiser Memorial Park." When these plaques are completed they should be sent to Dr. Stevens at his office in Harrisburg.

All the other names should be used as they were given in your memorandum, and the plaques sent to the persons whose names are given on the application forms.

(Sgd.) George A. Palmer

Assistant Regional Director

In duplicate

L58

Region Five
243 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

January 4, 1962

Conrad Weiser
+ Graeme Park
+ Printzhoff
+ 11/5

Dr. S. K. Stevens
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Historical and
Museum Commission
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Dr. Stevens:

Our Washington Office has notified us that you have submitted Landmark application forms for Governor Printz Park, Graeme Park, and Conrad Weiser Memorial Park. A question has arisen regarding the designations which should appear on the certificates and plaques, and we would greatly appreciate your advice in this matter.

From your service with the Special Consulting Committee you will recall there has been discussion as to whether present-day park and memorial names should be given for the classified historic sites and buildings, or whether we should use, when practicable, only the historical designations. For example, at the last meeting of the Consulting Committee, it was the consensus that Governor Printz Park would more appropriately be designated "The Printzhof." The name "Graeme Park" as given in your application would conform to the usage which suits the park or memorial designation, while the application for Conrad Weiser Memorial Park raises a question similar to that involved in Governor Printz Park. In the case of the Conrad Weiser site we wonder if a designation such as "Conrad Weiser Home" would not be in accord with the views of the Consulting Committee that sites should be identified by names conveying their historical significance rather than by their present-day administrative names?

Your views as to the designation of The Printzhof and the Conrad Weiser Home will be most useful in helping us arrive at site names which will be satisfactory to the State, and as nearly as possible in accord with the recommendations of the Special Consulting Committee.

We will appreciate also your advice as to whom the markers for the

above sites should be shipped when their individual designations have been established and the markers have been prepared.

Sincerely yours,

Murray N. Holligan

Murray N. Holligan
Regional Chief of Interpretation

Copy to: Director

April 24, 1962

L58-CHA

Conrad Weiser

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five
From: Acting Chief Historian
Subject: National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings:
Certificates to be sent to Owners

We are enclosing the following Registered National Historic Landmark Certificates for sites in your Region:

1. Conrad Weiser Home, Pennsylvania ✓
2. Fort Crailo, New York
3. Graeme Park, Pennsylvania
4. Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church, Delaware
5. Isaac Royall House, Massachusetts
6. Philipse Manor, New York
7. The Printzhof, Pennsylvania

We regret that the signatures are slightly blurred in some instances. We have been advised, however, to award them as herewith submitted.

All of the above owners have made application for markers. Please advise us to whom we should send the markers for Fort Crailo, Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church, Isaac Royall House, and Philipse Manor.

Porter

Acting Chief Historian

Enclosures

Copy to: Mr. Littleton

JOLittleton:gb

LS8-CHAH

March 6, 1963

Dr. S. K. Stevens
Executive Director
Historical and Museum Commission
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Dr. Stevens:

This is to inform you that we are shipping the Registered National Historic Landmark Plaque for the Conrad Weiser House, Pennsylvania, to you today via Railway Express. We would appreciate it if you would advise us upon receipt of the plaque.

It is a pleasure to have you participate in our Landmark Program.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

Charles W. Porter III
Acting Chief Historian

cc:

Regional Director, Northeast

Mr. Littleton

JOLittleton:bfr

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

March 25, 1963

Executive Director

Mr. Charles W. Porter III
Acting Chief Historian
National Park Service
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Porter:

I do not believe I sent to you a formal acknowledgment of the receipt of the Registered National Historic Landmark Plaque for the Conrad Weiser House (Pennsylvania).

The plaque is very well designed and if I may say so quite handsome. The Commission is very proud that the Conrad Weiser House has been designated as a Registered National Historic Landmark.

Most sincerely

/s/ S. K. STEVENS

SC

L

C O P Y

Copy sent to Region April 1, 1963

Northeast Region
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

L58

August 7, 1963

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Regional Director

Subject: National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings;
Presentation of the Registered National Historic Landmark
Plaque and Certificate for the Conrad Weiser Home,
Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania

The Registered National Historic Landmark plaque and certificate for the Conrad Weiser Home, Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania, were presented by Dr. S. Sydney Bradford on August 4. Pastor Frederick S. Weiser, Historian, John Conrad Weiser Family Association, chaired the event, which began at 4:00 P. M. Dr. S. K. Stevens, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, accepted the plaque and certificate. About 150 people attended the ceremony. Attached are two copies of the program for the occasion.

(Sgd.) Ronald F. Lea

Regional Director

Enclosures 2,
program and Biennial Visit Report

October 1, 1963

L58-CHAH

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Northeast Region

From: Chief, National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings

Subject: National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings:
Landmark Presentation Ceremonies and Reports of Visits

Thank you for keeping us informed of the presentation ceremonies,
and for the visitation reports for the following Landmarks:

1. MacDowell Colony, New Hampshire
2. Bushy Run Battlefield, Pennsylvania
3. Conrad Weiser Home, Pennsylvania
4. Fort Stanwix, New York
5. Hurley, New York
6. Noah Webster Birthplace, Connecticut

/s/ John O. Littleton

cc:
Mr. Littleton

JOLittleton:mg

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

1. STATE Pennsylvania	2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. Theme IX, Dev. of the English Colonies, 1700-1775
3. NAME(S) OF SITE Conrad Weiser House - Conrad Weiser State Memorial Park	4. APPROX. ACREAGE 26 acres
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet) Berks County, two miles east of Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania on U. S. Highway 422.	
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner) State (Commonwealth) of Pennsylvania, administered by Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.	
7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)	

Conrad Weiser's contribution to the development of the English Colonies in the eighteenth century was one of great significance although his important role has been somewhat neglected. Weiser came to America from Germany in 1710 when he was about fourteen years old. As a youth he spent much time among the Indians of western New York learning their customs and language. In 1729 he moved to Pennsylvania and prospered as a farmer. His appreciation of Indian affairs and knowledge of Indian languages was probably unequalled in the colonies and his efforts were of great significance in winning the support of the Iroquois for the Penns. He then cemented the Iroquois alliance although this was accomplished at the expense of alienating the Delawares and the Shawnees. Weiser saw the Indian problem as one common to all the Indian colonies and he saw its solution on a colony-wide rather than a provincial basis. He helped avert war between Virginia and the Iroquois in 1743 and his influence with the red men marked a shifting of direction of Indian affairs from New York to Pennsylvania. By the Treaty of Logstown in 1748, Weiser won over the west tribes thereby extending Pennsylvania's Indian trade to the Mississippi. With the death of one of his close Indian allies in 1748, Weiser lost his commanding position as a "backwoods diplomat" although he remained one of the best of the Indian interpreters until his death. Weiser's later career lacked the major significance of his earlier work but the Indian alliances he had done so much to form were a decisive factor in England's victory over France in the climactic struggle for North America. Weiser died on July 13, 1760 leaving behind him a long career of valuable service to the developing English colonies.

In Conrad Weiser Memorial Park is preserved the restored house built by Weiser in 1751 on his Womelsdorf plantation. The graves of Weiser, his wife and a number of his Indian associates are nearby. The house currently serves as a small museum but it has no significant collections of Weiser material. In addition to the main house, the original Weiser spring house and other outbuildings have been maintained.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)
Paul A. W. Wallace, Conrad Weiser, 1696-1760, Friend of Colonist and Mohawk (Philadelphia, 1945); Conrad Weiser Park, pamphlet published by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Harrisburg, 1956); J. S. Walton, Conrad Weiser and the Indian Policy of Colonial Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, 1900).

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)

10. PHOTOGRAPHS* ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	11. CONDITION Very good	12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.) State park - house museum	13. DATE OF VISIT 3/13/58
14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) <i>Charles E. Shedd, Jr.</i> Charles E. Shedd, Jr.	15. TITLE Historic Sites Historian	16. DATE 5/20/58	

* DRY MOUNT ON AN 8 X 10 1/2 SHEET OF FAIRLY HEAVY PAPER. IDENTIFY BY VIEW AND NAME OF THE SITE, DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH, AND NAME OF PHOTOGRAPHER. GIVE LOCATION OF NEGATIVE. IF ATTACHED, ENCLOSE IN PROPER NEGATIVE ENVELOPES.

(IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED USE SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET, 10-317a, AND REFER TO ITEM NUMBER)

Conrad Weiser House

Location: Conrad Weiser State Memorial Park, near
Wamelsdorf, U. S. Route 422, Berks County

Ownership-Administration: Commonwealth of Pennsyl-
vania, Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg.

Significance: Conrad Weiser's contribution to the develop-
ment of the English Colonies in the 18th century was one of great signif-
icance although his important role has been somewhat neglected. Weiser
came to America from Germany in 1710 when he was about fourteen years old.
As a youth he spent much time among the Indians of western New York learn-
ing their customs and language. In 1729 he moved to Pennsylvania and
prospered as a farmer. His appreciation of Indian affairs and knowledge
of Indian languages were probably unequalled in the colonies and his ef-
forts were of great significance in winning the support of the Iroquois
for the Penns. He then cemented the Iroquois alliance although this was
accomplished at the expense of alienating the Delawares and the Shawnee.
Weiser saw the Indian problem as one common to all the Indian colonies
and he saw its solution on a colony-wide rather than a provincial basis.
He helped avert war between Virginia and the Iroquois in 1743, and
his influence with the red men marked a shifting of direction of
Indian affairs from New York to Pennsylvania. By the Treaty of Loga-
town in 1748, Weiser won over the west tribes, thereby extending
Pennsylvania's Indian trade to the Mississippi. With the death of
one of his close Indian allies in 1748, Weiser lost his commanding

position as a "backwoods diplomat" although he remained one of the best of the Indian interpreters until his death. Weiser's later career lacked the major significance of his earlier work but the Indian alliances he had done so much to form were a decisive factor in England's victory over France in the climactic struggle for North America. Weiser died on July 13, 1760, leaving behind him a long career of valuable service to the developing English colonies.

In Conrad Weiser Memorial Park is preserved the restored house built by Weiser in 1751 on his Womelsdorf plantation. The graves of Weiser, his wife and a number of his Indian associates are nearby. The house currently serves as a small museum but it has no significant collections of Weiser material. In addition to the main house, the original Weiser spring house and other outbuildings have been maintained.

Bibliography: Paul A. W. Wallace, Conrad Weiser, 1695-1760, Friend of Colonist and Mohawk (Philadelphia, 1945); Conrad Weiser Park, pamphlet published by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Harrisburg, 1956); J. S. Walton, Conrad Weiser and the Indian Policy of Colonial Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, 1900).

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Burke Co
See NHL file

The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings

Conrad Weiser House, Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania

Conrad Weiser's contribution was one of great significance although his role has been neglected. Weiser came to America from Germany in 1710. As a youth he spent much time among the Indians of western Pennsylvania and prospered as a farmer. His appreciation of Indian affairs and knowledge of Indian languages were probably unequalled in the colonies and his efforts helped win the support of the Iroquois for the Penns. He then cemented the Iroquois alliance. Weiser considered the Indian problem common to all the colonies and saw its solution on a colony-wide rather than a provincial basis. He helped avert war between Virginia and the Iroquois in 1743. By the Treaty of Logstown in 1748, he won over the west tribes and extended Pennsylvania's Indian trade to the Mississippi. With the death of one of his close Indian allies in 1748, he lost his commanding position, but he remained one of the best Indian Interpreters until his death. Although his later career lacked significance, the Indian alliances he helped form were a decisive factor in England's victory over France in the struggle for North America. Weiser died on July 13, 1760.

Conrad Weiser Memorial Park preserves the restored house built by Weiser in 1751 on his Womelsdorf plantation. The graves of Weiser, his wife and a number of his Indian associates are nearby. The house serves as a small museum. In addition to the main house, the original Weiser spring house and other outbuildings have been maintained..

NSHSB

2-11-64

REGISTRY OF NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

BI-ENNIAL VISIT REPORT

Conrad Weiser Home, Pennsylvania

Date: August 6, 1963

Visited by: S.S. Bradford

1. Location: Two miles east of Womelsdorf, on U. S. Highway 422.

2. Theme: IX, Development of the English Colonies, 1700-1775.

3. Owner:

a. 1961. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, administered by the
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

b. Present: Same

New

4. Use

a. 1961: Memorial Park

b. Present: Same

Changed as follows:

REGISTRY OF NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

BI-ENNIAL VISIT REPORT

Conrad Weiser Home, Pennsylvania

5. Physical condition

a. 1961: **Excellent**

b. Present: Excellent; Good; Fair; Poor

Comments: **None.**

6. Special Problems: **None**

7. Suggestions offered to the owner: **None.**

↳ Director 2

S. Sydney Bradford
Historic Sites Historian

REGISTRY OF NATIONAL
HISTORIC LANDMARKS

REPORT OF BIENNIAL VISIT TO
Conrad Weiser House

Date of visit August 1, 1968

Visited by John C. W. Riddle, Superintendent, Hopewell Village NHS
(name) (title) (office)

Received by Mr. and Mrs. Kramer, Curator, Conrad Weiser Home
(name) (title) (office)

Condition*

Grounds and picnic are arranged in a neat and orderly fashion.

The Pond, which lies a short distance from the house and museum, is in bad condition and needs some attention from state health authorities.

Operation**

The Plaque was located outside near the museum on a post in the spot selected at the time of the ceremony. I could not locate the certificate and was informed by Mr. Kramer that he believed the certificate to be presently located in the museum in Harrisburg. Mr. Kramer said that it was placed in one of the exhibits relating to Conrad Weiser in the new museum located in that city. Investigation of this exhibit failed to turn up the certificate and the Superintendent will follow through on the matter to find it and request that it be displayed at Conrad Weiser according to the original agreement when designated as a landmark.

It is apparent that staffing is low and Mr. Kramer has to supplement what the one maintenance man can not accomplish. He has asked for more help but seemed doubtful if he would be successful in his recruitment efforts.

*Grounds, structure/s, furnishings

**Note any changes in ownership, sponsoring organizations, operating staff, use, location of plaque and certificate, etc.

Special Problems

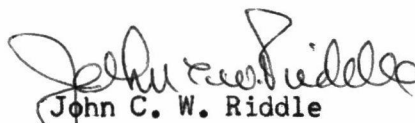
Help is a problem. Overcrowded picnic facilities poses another problem to the area.

He was concerned about the Pond and what steps could be taken to clean it up.

Suggestions Offered

I suggested that through his own office he try to get someone from the state health department to work with him on cleaning up the Pond.

He was informed that we would be glad to help in ways that we could.



John C. W. Riddle

(signed)
November 8, 1968

REGISTRY OF NATIONAL
HISTORIC LANDMARKS

REPORT OF BIENNIAL VISIT TO
Conrad Weiser House

Date of visit September 17, 1970

Visited by John C. W. Riddle, Superintendent, Hopewell Village NHS
(name) (title) (office)

Received by Mr. Ira Kramer, Caretaker, Conrad Weiser House
(name) (title) (office)

Condition*

Grounds and picnic area are neat and well kept.

The pond, one acre in size, now drained, cleaned, and cemented will again be filled with water. This will eliminate the former stagnated, odoriferous, and unsightly appearance and will present a much more pleasant situation to the visitor to the area. The pond, once filled with water, will be stocked with golden carp and golden trout.

Operation**

The plaque remains in good condition. The certificate is still located in Harrisburg, but Mr. Kramer is going to make every effort to see that it is brought to the Homestead where it can be properly displayed.

The area has an annual visitation of approximately 10,000 persons which includes the use of both the picnic area and the museum. A fee of .25 cents per adult is charged for entrance to the museum. Children under 12 years of age and school groups are admitted free.

Staffing, according to Mr. Kramer, is still considered low which at present includes the caretaker and two maintenance men. Mrs. Kramer sometimes volunteers her services during periods of heaviest visitation.

*Grounds, structure/s, furnishings

**Note any changes in ownership, sponsoring organizations, operating staff, use, location of plaque and certificate, etc.

Special Problems

More help is needed. Picnic facilities are still crowded and need to be expanded. Larger appropriation from the State would be needed to correct these conditions. A new maintenance building, wood over cement blocks, 760 sq. ft., has just been completed but more money is needed to bring electric services into the unit to make it completely operational.

Suggestions Offered

Still the same old problem, try to obtain more money to improve operations. We realize that this is an internal fiscal problem and must be resolved at the State level.

State Parks and Historical areas throughout the state are operating on a stop-gap appropriation. This system is good until February 1971, at which time they will again have to go before the State Budget Director and ask for more money. If enough monies is not found then the only alternative would be for the state to close down some of their areas. This, I'm sure, they would not want to happen as it would bring too much public pressure to bear upon them and would only help to compound this problem.

(Sgd) John C. W. Riddle

(signed)

John C. W. Riddle

September 25, 1970

REGISTRY OF NATIONAL HISTORIC
AND NATURAL LANDMARKS

REPORT OF BIENNIAL VISIT TO

Conrad Weiser House

Date of visit October 6, 1972

Visited by John C. W. Riddle, Superintendent, Hopewell Village NHS
(name) (title) (office)

Received by Mr. J. Paul Hertzog, Custodial Guide, Conrad Weiser House
(name) (title) (office)

Condition*

Grounds are neat in appearance. Evidence of some dead and dying elms, which will be removed and replaced with another species. Considerable landscaping and reseedling of an old ditch bank which leads to the pond has been accomplished. Pond is still a problem because of a leak around the rim. Pond has also been the subject of conversation locally regarding the polluted mess of the algae buildup. Efforts have been made to remedy the situation with an application of chemical sprays approved by the Department of Environmental Resources in Harrisburg.

Operation**

Mr. Ira Kramer, former Caretaker, retired on July 8, 1972, and Mr. Hertzog, Maintenceman for the area, was notified from Harrisburg on October 5 that he had been appointed to fill the vacant slot.

The plaque remains in good condition. The certificate was located in the museum and will soon be affixed to the wall for all visitors to see.

Annual visitation approximates 10,000 persons yearly with no noticeable increase or decrease in the visitation pattern.

One college student was hired for the summer months to fill in after the retirement of Mr. Kramer.

*Grounds, structure/s, furnishings

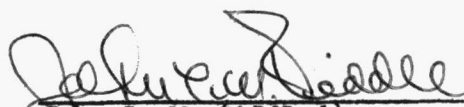
**Note any changes in ownership, sponsoring organizations, operating staff, use, location of plaques and certificates, etc.

Special Problems

Repairs and redecoration to the Caretakers House before he moves into the area.

Suggestions Offered

Hire another maintenanceman to replace the position left vacant by the promotion of Mr. Hertzog. Strive to hire at least one college student for interpretive work during periods of heavy visitation.



John C. W. (signed)

November 3, 1972

REGISTRY OF NATIONAL HISTORIC
AND NATURAL LANDMARKS

REPORT OF BIENNIAL VISIT TO
CONRAD WEISER HOUSE

Date of visit December 19, 1974

Visited by Earl J. Heydinger, Park Ranger, Hopewell Village NHS
(name) (title) (office)

Received by Mr. & Mrs. J. Paul Hertzog, Custodial Guide, Conrad Weiser House
(name) (title) (office)

Condition*

Grounds reflect care. While surrounded by "commerce", the operations of the adjoining Farr Nursery (at the worst) show today's necessary motor trucks at a historic barn. This is adjacent to the House parking lot which has a common exit with the nursery.

Traffic on the Harrisburg Road is not visible at the House, but can be noticed from the grounds.

Collectively, the Robesonia churches donated 25 appropriate trees, now planted.

Operation**

The Plaque is easily noticed in approaching the House from the parking lot; the certificate is equally prominent in the House (Museum).

Adult visitation gained through free Senior Citizen admission as did use of the grounds. This visitation and the decrease of school visitation by over a fourth both reflect the fuel situation.

The maintenance slot was not filled. The summer "boy" worker required the expected supervision and handled the equipment as a "boy". The "girl" summer student guide in the museum also reflected the "modern" attitude toward work; rather constant use of her portable radio was cited. Most likely she will return for 1975.

*Grounds, structure/s, furnishings

**Note any changes in ownership, sponsoring organizations, operating staff, use, location of plaques and certificates, etc.

Operations (Cont.)

The problem mentioned in 1972 regarding interior repair and redecoration of the caretaker's house was solved by the Hertzog's, "without red tape", through their own work and money. They do pay rent for the adjacent living quarters.

Special Problems

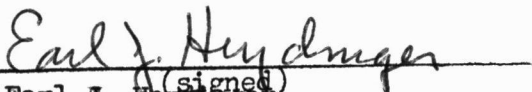
Mo major problems, but casually mentioned in general discussion by the Hertzogs. Necessary lighting within the House (Museum) does not meet Underwriters standards because it is two #14 wires in the single lamp cord.

The flagstone walk from the parking lot visible in a 1968 Regional photo was replaced by modern blacktop. It does survive to the east of the caretaker's house.

Historic tile roofs on the House and Spring House do not have the small shingle insert between tiles as at Hopewell. This lack may be the cause of dampness and rotting at the eaves of both structures.

Suggestions Offered

Hire a more dependable maintenanceman to replace "modern boy".


Earl J. Heydinger
December 26, 1974

Weiser Day
1963

CONRAD WEISER HOME

HAS BEEN DESIGNATED A
REGISTERED NATIONAL
HISTORIC LANDMARK

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE
HISTORIC SITES ACT OF AUGUST 21, 1935
THIS SITE POSSESSES EXCEPTIONAL VALUE
IN COMMEMORATING AND ILLUSTRATING
THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1962

Conrad Weiser Memorial Park
Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania

Sunday, August 4, 1963

4:00 p.m.

Participants

Six organizations, in one way or another interested in the Weiser heritage, combine to sponsor today's activities. The National Park Service, Department of the Interior, has provided the official designation of the Weiser Home as a Registered National Historic Landmark. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission administers Weiser Park and the museum in the home. The Conrad Weiser Park Association provided the initiative in creating the park and continues in an advisory capacity to support the Weiser tradition. The Historical Society of Berks County and its quarterly journal, the *Historical Review of Berks County*, preserve all lore of Berks. The Pennsylvania German Folklore Society is devoted to recording the life of the Pennsylvania Germans, today and yesterday, and has published a full-length biography, *Conrad Weiser, Pennsylvania Peacemaker* by Arthur D. Graeff. The John Conrad Weiser Family Association consists of all descendants of John Conrad Weiser the elder (died 1746). It has published *The Weiser Family*, a genealogy of the descendants of the Weisers, and is currently publishing a short pamphlet about Weiser.

Die Geschlechter der Weisser aus Klein-Aspach, 1475-1959, by Rudolph Weisser, Stuttgart-Rohr, is a carefully compiled record of the Weiser/Weisser family in Germany until the present. It is the hope of the Weiser Family Association that pertinent extracts may be published, along with other data concerning the Weiser *Heimat* (home-place), Gross Aspach.

Sound equipment is provided by courtesy of Mr. Robert Zink, Manheim, Pennsylvania. The programs are provided by the John Conrad Weiser Family Association, Box 97, Manheim, Pennsylvania. Correspondence is invited concerning Weiser genealogy. The facilities of Conrad Weiser Park have been made available by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Dr. S. K. Stevens, executive director, Mr. Ira Kramer, park custodian.

Weiser Day - 1963

PRESIDING Pastor Frederick S. Weiser
Historian, John Conrad Weiser Family Association

Program

WELCOME

PRESENTATION OF *DIE GESCHLECHTER DER WEISSER*

AUS KLEIN-ASPACH, 1475-1959 Mrs. Francis Martin
Buffalo, New York, on behalf of the author, Herr
Rudolf Weisser, Stuttgart-Rohr, West Germany

PRESENTATION OF THE REGISTERED NATIONAL

HISTORIC LANDMARK PLAQUE S. Sydney Bradford, Ph.D.
Historian, National Park Service

RECEPTION OF THE LANDMARK PLAQUE S. K. Stevens, Ph.D.

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

ADDRESS: "Something about Weiser Park" Arthur D. Graeff, Ph.D.

President, Pennsylvania German Folklore Society

President, Conrad Weiser Park Association

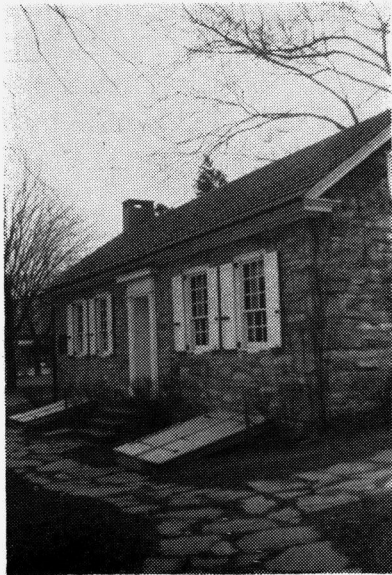
Editor, Historical Review of Berks County

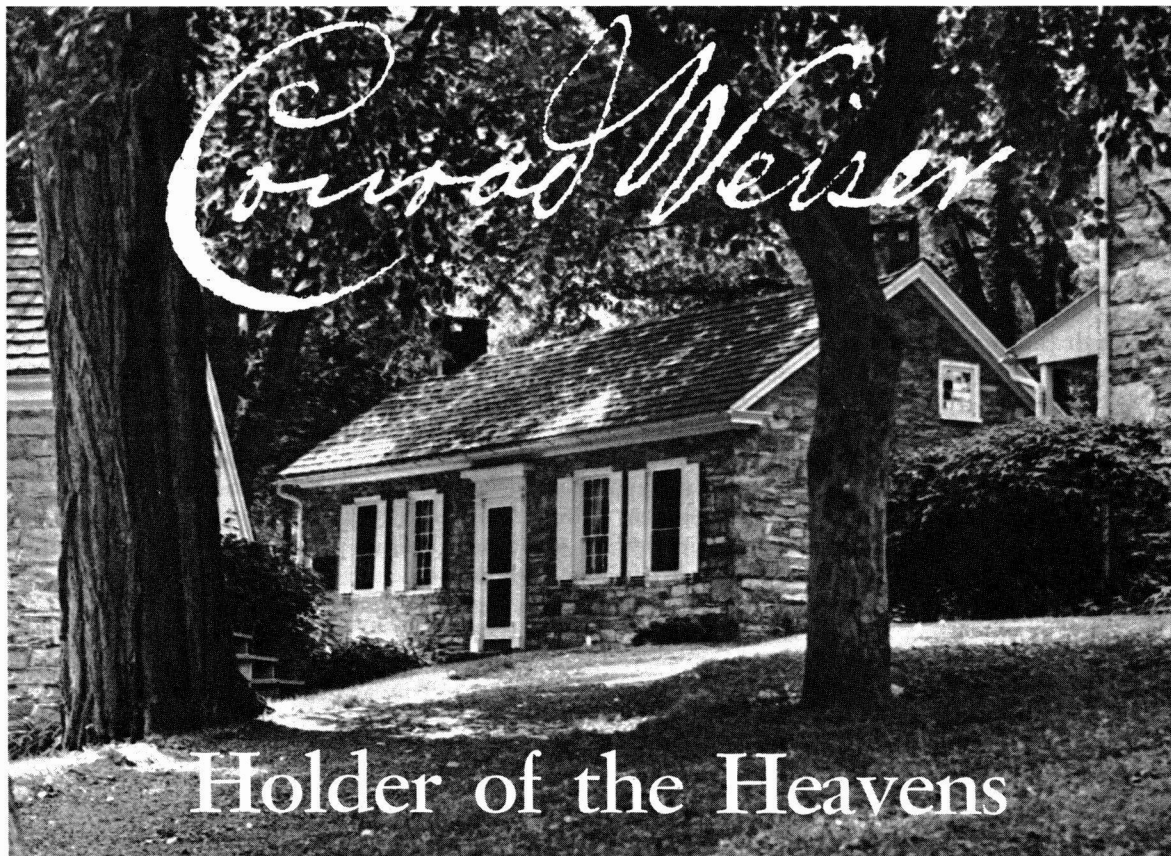
DECORATION OF THE GRAVES OF CONRAD AND

ANNA EVA (FEG) WEISER Mrs. Ida Krick

Chicago, Illinois, great-great-great-
great-granddaughter of the pioneers.

LORD'S PRAYER AND BENEDICTION





Conrad Weiser's home at Womelsdorf, open to the public.

CONRAD WEISER'S picturesque career as farmer, traveler, churchman, county judge, diplomat, soldier, and member for a time of the Ephrata monastic community, reflects so many facets of early American life that his most important role, that of keeper of the peace, is apt to be forgotten. For many years he was the key to good relations between white men and Indians in Pennsylvania. The Indians called him *Tarachiawagon*, the "Holder of the Heavens." It might be said that he held up the sky (by keeping off an Indian war) for the colonists as well.

It was this role as a peacemaker that made him so important in the history of our Commonwealth and nation.

It is easy to see how the role came to him. Born in the village of Affstät in Württemberg, Germany, November 2, 1696, he was brought by his father with others of the Weiser family to New York in 1710. Conrad spent the winter

and spring of 1712-13 in the Mohawk Valley among the Six Nations, or Iroquois Confederacy or League, as an adopted son of Chief Quaynant. The knowledge he gained there of the language, customs, and statesmanship of the Iroquois Confederacy (the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca, and Tuscarora nations) prepared him for his later career as an Indian interpreter and ambassador.

From the Mohawk Valley in 1729 he brought his German wife, Ann Eve, and their children to Pennsylvania. They settled at the foot of Eagle Peak, at what is now the town of Womelsdorf, mid-way between Reading and Lebanon. There, in the Tulpehocken Valley, he prospered as farmer and tanner. He built a stone house, brought up a large family (he and Ann Eve had fourteen children in all), was appointed Justice of the Lancaster County courts, and, when Berks County was erected in 1752, became its first President Judge. For

many years he was the foremost figure in the region.

In official circles in Philadelphia he was early known as the man who understood Indians. James Logan, Provincial Secretary, used Weiser's knowledge of the Iroquois Confederacy to work out a good Indian policy for the colony.

To understand the significance of this new policy, it is necessary first to see the dangers it was intended to avert.

Pennsylvania was at that time (the early eighteenth century) governed by Quakers, most of whom were strict pacifists determined to avoid the use of military force even in self-defense. Weiser and Logan, on the other hand, thought a strong hand was needed to keep the peace on Pennsylvania's borders. They saw disturbing signs on the frontier. Differences between Indians and white men sometimes led to bloodshed. It was feared that hotheads on either side, in the absence of any military force to restrain them, might use these incidents to rouse their people and incite them to massacre and war.

The danger lay in two areas. The Delaware and Shawnee Indians in eastern Pennsylvania, although not forgetful of the happy relations they had once enjoyed with William Penn, were growing restless as they found themselves being pushed out of their home territories by advancing settlements. An even graver danger seemed to lie in the Susquehanna Valley. In this region large bands of Indian refugees from the south, moving slowly northward to join the Iroquois in upstate New York, were establishing temporary colonies as they went.

Weiser and Logan knew these refugee colonies to be sponsored by the Iroquois. Among the latter it was a tradition, fortified by the legend of their culture heroes Dekanawidah and Hiawatha, that Indians of other nations who desired the Confederacy's protection should be received and adopted. Accordingly, various bands of Indians, the remnants of uprooted nations, were being brought into the League "on the cradleboard," as their phrase ran. Tuscaroras, Nanticokes, Conoys, and Tuteloës, at different times sent agents to Onondaga (the Iroquois capital) to ask permission, which they received, to move north through Pennsylvania.

The Iroquois were glad to use these refugees as a means of saving the Susquehanna Valley

as long as possible for the Indian race. At the same time, they were aware that the migrations posed an acute danger of violent clashes with neighboring white men. Above all the Iroquois wanted to maintain the friendly relations William Penn had established with their fathers.

To maintain this diplomatic policy—keeping good relations both with their Indian colonies and with "Brother Onas," that is Pennsylvania—the Onondaga Council, highest governing body of the Confederacy, dispatched a deputy to embody Iroquois authority over Pennsylvania's Indians. He was to see that they neither suffered nor inflicted serious harm. This powerful official, when Conrad Weiser came to Pennsylvania, was known among the Delawares as *Shikellamy* [Shi-KELL-a-mee], "Our Enlightener."

The new Indian policy which Weiser helped to formulate was, in a word, to recognize Iroquois authority over the Indians within Pennsylvania's borders. By this means, it was hoped, the settlers and traders on the frontiers would receive the firm protection that Quaker principles forbade.

In theory the policy was sound. But could it be administered? In the state of race tension rising in the woods, could there be found men of sufficient integrity and stature to hold the confidence of both races while conducting delicate negotiations like those in a Cold War?

The Iroquois had already appointed Shikellamy, who held the respect of Indians and white men alike. Pennsylvania appointed Conrad Weiser. He was known to get along well with some of the Mohawks—but what about his standing with the Iroquois as a whole and the famed Onondaga Council?

It was the answer given to that question that made his first journey to Onondaga in 1737 so important. It showed the Iroquois that he had the qualities they most admired in a man: truthfulness, courage, and utter devotion, even to the point of death, to the task he had in hand.

On that journey he was commissioned by Pennsylvania to bear an invitation from the government of Virginia to the Onondaga Council to send delegates to a peace conference at Williamsburg. The matter was urgent because Virginia was an ally of the Catawbas, with whom the Iroquois were at war. Virginia was in danger of being drawn into a war with the

Iroquois which might bring Pennsylvania in too. Conrad Weiser was instructed to make all speed in order to reach Onondaga in time to halt Iroquois war parties scheduled to set out in the spring.

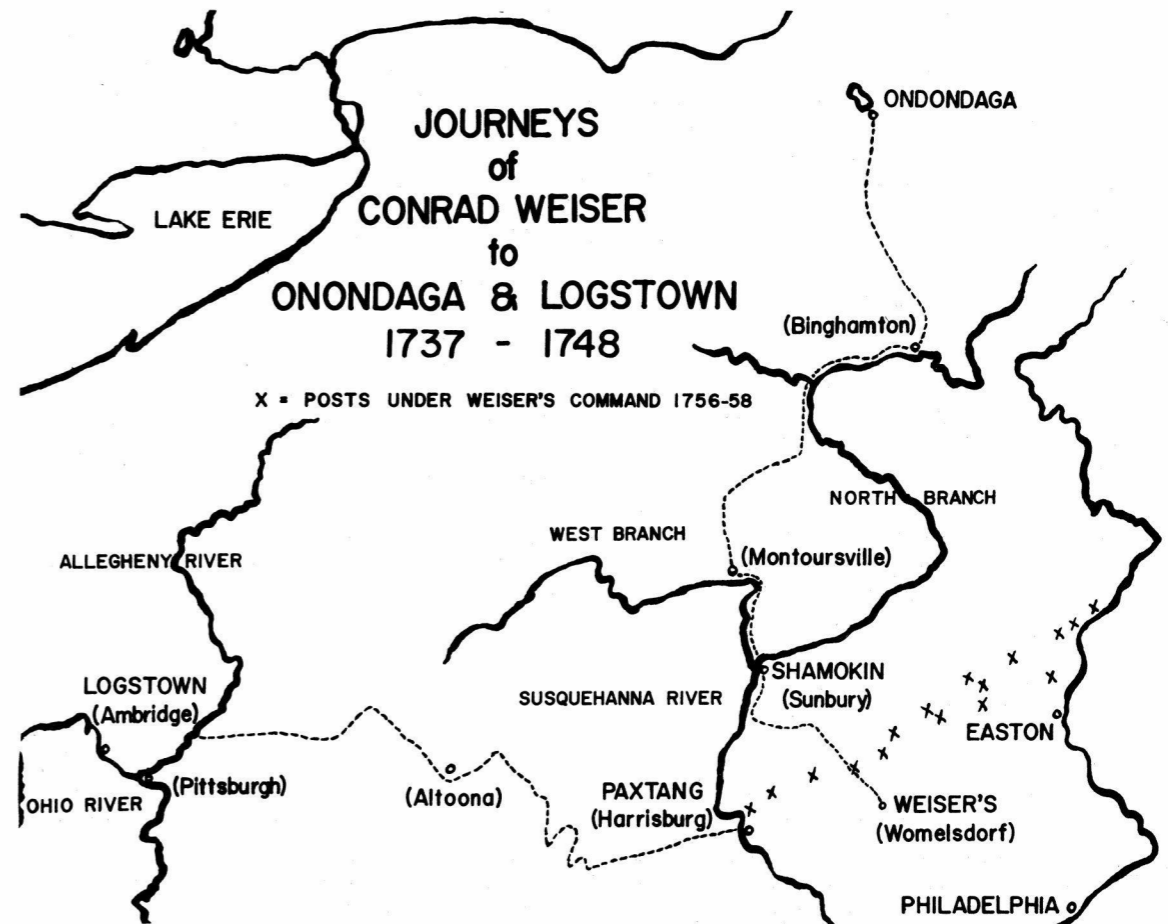
He left home on February 27, 1737. After crossing the Blue Mountain by Indian path and joining up with Shikellamy, he and his party ran into heavy snow. Travel became difficult and dangerous, but, with peace or war at issue, Weiser pressed on. They struggled on foot through snow that was sometimes up to their knees, and climbed cliffs to escape flooded valleys. After six terrible weeks, exhausted, starving (for the Indians they met were themselves without food), Conrad Weiser collapsed in the snow. If it had not been for Shikellamy, he would have died on the trail.

But on April 10 they reached Onondaga. Weiser had sufficient strength to stand before the assembled chiefs and deliver his message,

confirming it with a belt of white wampum, symbol of peace. Indian runners were at once dispatched to all parts of the Six Nations country to call off preparations for war.

He emerged from that ordeal an Iroquois hero. When in 1743 he came back to Onondaga, it was to "take the hatchet out of the head of the Six Nations," that is, to make amends for the slaying of some Iroquois travelers by white men in Virginia. He was hailed as *Tarachiawagon*, the "Holder of the Heavens," a title hitherto reserved for the Master of Life, the Great Spirit. Count Zinzendorf, the Moravian leader, trying to convey a sense of the high esteem in which Weiser was held in the Indian world, called him the "Emperor of the Iroquois."

Conrad Weiser was one of Pennsylvania's most noted travelers, whether on horseback, on foot, or by canoe. He made five journeys to the Iroquois homeland: in 1737, 1743, 1745,



1750, and 1751. His most important journey after 1737, however, was one made in 1748 to Logstown, eighteen miles below the Point at Pittsburgh on the Ohio River. He made this trip to "brighten the chain of friendship" with the western Indians and, more specifically, to claim the Ohio-Allegheny country for the English colonies. That this resulted in French counterclaims leading to the French and Indian War is only another way of saying that it was an attempt (ultimately successful) to save the Ohio Valley for the English-speaking people.

He was a man of peace until France's Indian allies, the Delawares and Shawnees, took up the hatchet. They soon defeated General Braddock and began to murder settlers in the Susquehanna Valley. Then, in October, 1755, hearing a rumor that Indians in the French interest had crossed the Susquehanna and were about to attack settlements in the Tulpehocken Valley, Weiser raised a force of men overnight and marched them toward the Blue Mountain.

During the next weeks he organized town guards and posted volunteers at strategic points along the Blue Mountain barrier. Early in 1756 he was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel of the First Battalion of the Pennsylvania Regiment. For nearly two years that battalion, under his command, held a line of forts extending from the Susquehanna to the Delaware River, thus preventing the French and their allies from penetrating too deeply into the Province.

Meanwhile, most of the Iroquois remained loyal to the bonds of friendship with Pennsylvania. They kept their refugee colonies quiet and exercised a restraining pressure on the Delawares. Finally, at the Easton peace conference in 1758, at which Conrad Weiser was an interpreter, they made the Delawares drop the hatchet. A few weeks later, the French at the Forks of the Ohio, threatened by the advance of a British army and deprived of their Indian allies, blew up Fort Duquesne and retired.

Conrad Weiser was Berks County's most distinguished citizen during colonial days and, in retrospect, the best loved of Pennsylvania Dutchmen. Although he lived much in the world of affairs, he was at heart deeply religious. For a time he took part in the strange



Weiser's seal from a legal document.

experiment in mystical religion conducted at Ephrata. Later he became the foremost layman of his day in the Lutheran Church in America. He was also a promoter of the great Indian mission (a noble ex-

periment in race relations) which the Moravian Church established in Pennsylvania and Ohio.

His daughter Maria married Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, "the Patriarch of the Lutheran Church in America." Two of his grandsons were among the founders of the United States: Major General John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg, hero of Brandywine, Germantown, and Yorktown (where his troops made the final assault on the British lines); and Frederick Augustus Conrad Muhlenberg, Speaker of the House of Representatives in the First and Third Congresses.

On July 13, 1760, Conrad Weiser died at his home in the Tulpehocken Valley. His death was lamented in Indian fashion by an old friend, Seneca George. Addressing himself to white men at Easton in 1761, Seneca George held in his hand a belt of white wampum, with four black streaks, and said, "We . . . are at a great loss and sit in darkness, as well as you, by the death of Conrad Weiser, as since his death we cannot so well understand one another; By this Belt we cover his Body with bark."



CONRAD WEISER HOUSE

United States

Womelsdorf, PENNSYLVANIA

Department of the Interior

National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

THE NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS



Conrad Weiser's contribution was one of great significance although his role has been neglected. Weiser came to America from Germany in 1710. As a youth he spent much time among the Indians of western New York learning their customs and language. In 1729 he moved to Pennsylvania and prospered as a farmer. His appreciation of Indian affairs and knowledge of Indian languages were probably unequalled in the colonies and his efforts helped win the support of the Iroquois for the Penns. He then cemented the Iroquois alliance. Weiser considered the Indian problem common to all the colonies and saw its solution on a colony-wide rather than a provincial basis. He helped avert war between Virginia and the Iroquois in 1743. By the Treaty of Logstown in 1748, he won over the west tribes and extended Pennsylvania's Indian trade to the Mississippi. With the death of one of his close Indian allies in 1748, he lost his commanding position,

but he remained one of the best Indian Interpreters until his death. Although his later career lacked significance, the Indian alliances he helped form were a decisive factor in England's victory over France in the struggle for North America. Weiser died on July 13, 1760.

Conrad Weiser Memorial Park preserves the restored house built by Weiser in 1751 on his Womelsdorf plantation. The graves of Weiser, his wife and a number of his Indian associates are nearby. The house serves as a small museum. In addition to the main house, the original Weiser spring house and other outbuildings have been maintained.

NSHSB

Conrad Weiser Park
on the
PENNSYLVANIA TRAIL OF HISTORY



Conrad Weiser Home and Springhouse

Colonial Home of Pennsylvania's
Ambassador to the Indians

PENNSYLVANIA
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Administered by

THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL
AND MUSEUM COMMISSION

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania



The Springhouse

AT Womelsdorf on U.S. 422 the *Pennsylvania Trail of History* brings the traveler to CONRAD WEISER MEMORIAL PARK, site of the home of Conrad Weiser, who was the foremost Pennsylvania German of his day and the strongest influence for peace between the Indians and the white men in all the English Colonies.

Born in Wurttemberg in 1696, Weiser came to New York with his father as a youth and spent several months as an adopted son of Quaynant, a Mohawk chief in the Schoharie Valley. Coming to Pennsylvania in 1729 with his wife, he settled in the Tulpehocken Valley just below

Eagle Peak. The next thirty-one years until his death in 1760 were busy indeed for this talented man, who was a farmer and a tanner, a founder of Reading and first president judge of Berks County, a monk at Ephrata Cloister and a pillar of the Lutheran church, a lieutenant colonel in the French and Indian War and the grandfather of the famous John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg, general in the American Revolution.

His greatest achievements were in the field of Indian relations. With an insight into the Indian mind developed among the Mohawks and through his friendship with Shikellamy, Iroquois representative at the Forks of the Susquehanna (Sunbury), he had a mature understanding of Indian-white relations and of the interests and outlook of the Six Nations (the Iroquois Confederacy). He and James Logan, the Provincial Secretary, formulated the policy of recognizing the suzerainty of the Six Nations over the Indians in the Province and thereby gave the Confederacy an interest in protecting the Pennsylvania frontiers. This farsighted policy and Weiser's own prestige among the Indians gave to Pennsylvania and its neighbors a remarkable freedom from Indian incursions until the time of the French and Indian War.

Here at CONRAD WEISER MEMORIAL PARK the visitor can see the restored home of this famous negotiator and man of affairs. The original portion of the intriguing stone house was built shortly after Weiser settled here in 1729, and the second room was added in 1751. A few feet down the hill stands the stone springhouse with its stream of cool water. Inside the house are museum displays portraying the life of Weiser's day and the many activities of this versatile German pioneer. Elsewhere on the grounds are Weiser's grave and a statue of his Indian friend Shikellamy. This beautiful park is a fitting memorial to one of Pennsylvania's great men and to the Indian relations so vital to the Province.



Statue of Shikellamy



Lagoon at Conrad Weiser Park

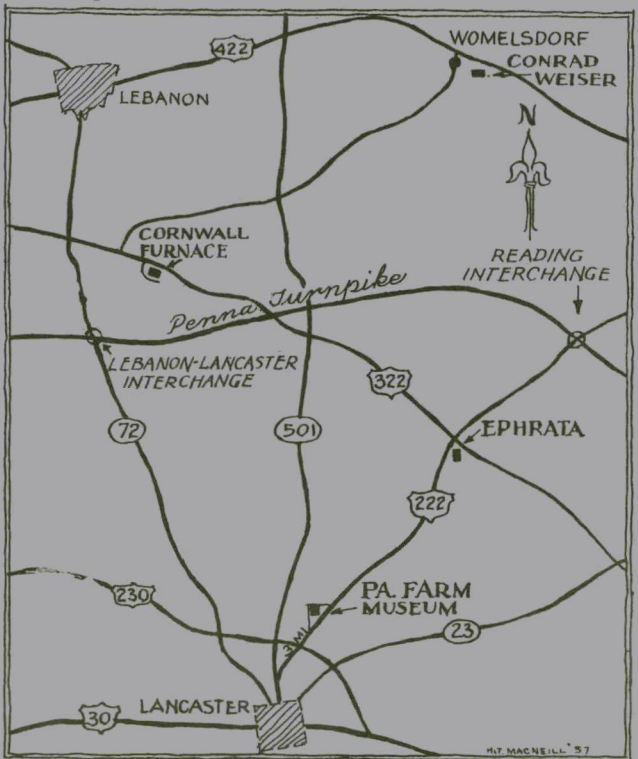
Visiting Hours

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME: 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. weekdays; noon to 6:00 P.M. Sunday.

WINTER: 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Tuesday to Friday; 10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Saturday; noon to 4:30 P.M. Sunday; closed Monday.

Hours subject to change.

Telephone: Womelsdorf, Code 215, 589-2934



PENNSYLVANIA TRAIL OF HISTORY



CONRAD WEISER PARK

Colonial Home of
Pennsylvania's Ambassador to
the Indians

1970

Administered by
THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL
AND MUSEUM COMMISSION

The home of Pennsylvania's eighteenth-century "ambassador" to the Iroquois Indian nation and the spacious grounds which suggest its wilderness site stand today on the *Pennsylvania Trail of History* at Womelsdorf. Conrad Weiser, the keeper of the peace between Indian and white man, built this home in 1729 when he moved from New York to become one of Berks County's first settlers.

Born in Germany in 1696, Conrad Weiser came to New York in 1710 with his family. His education in Indian customs and language began early, when he spent the winter of 1712-1713 as the adopted son of Chief Quaynant of the Iroquois Indians. Later, as land became scarce in New York, he brought his family to Pennsylvania, settling at the foot of Eagle Peak in the Tulpehocken Valley. Here he remained for the rest of his life, prospering as a farmer and tanner, and bringing up his fourteen children.

Weiser's knowledge of the Indians made him a much sought after figure in early Pennsylvania. He and James Logan, Provincial Secretary of Pennsylvania, formed the Indian policy which kept Pennsylvania free from Indian disturbances until the French and Indian War. An alliance with the powerful Iroquois directed them to control the Delawares and other Pennsylvania Indians. Weiser was instrumental in creating this policy, and he was essential in its execution. He and Shikellamy, the representative of the Iroquois, worked closely together, traveling through the wilderness to keep the border peaceful from 1737 to the 1750's.

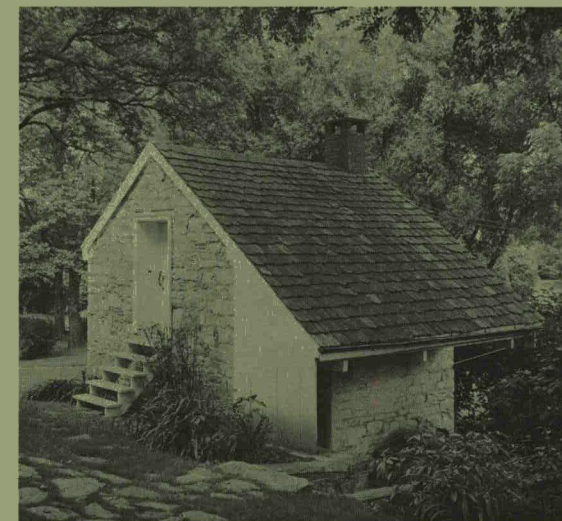
With the coming of the French and Indian War, Weiser was forced to abandon these peaceful missions in order to defend his home and the surrounding area. In 1756 he was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel of the First Battalion of the Pennsylvania Regiment, and for the next two years he had the heavy responsibility of holding the forts stretching from the Susquehanna to the

Delaware River. The treaty Weiser had made with the Iroquois remained firm during this period, however, and in 1758, with Weiser acting as interpreter, the Iroquois forced the Delawares to retire from the field. Shortly after this, the French withdrew from the Forks of the Ohio (Pittsburgh), and the pressure on the frontier was greatly lessened.

Weiser's interests lay not only in preserving peace with the Indians. For a time he participated in the mystical religious community established at Ephrata by Conrad Beissel. He was too much a part of the active world to remain in seclusion for long, however. Later he became a



Weiser's Iroquois Friend, Shikellamy



strong supporter of the Lutheran Church. He also promoted the Moravian mission to the Indians of Pennsylvania and Ohio. In 1741 he was appointed Justice of Lancaster County, and when Berks County was formed in 1752, he became its first President Judge. When the town of Reading was laid out, Weiser was active in the planning group.

Conrad Weiser's descendants also gained prominent positions for themselves in the later history of Pennsylvania. His daughter Maria married Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, "patriarch" of the Lutheran Church of America. Two of his grandsons were among the founders of the United States: General John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg, hero of Brandywine, Germantown, and Yorktown; and Frederick Augustus Conrad Muhlenberg, Speaker of the House of Representatives in the First and Third Congresses.

The house which Conrad Weiser built in 1729 consisted of one large room, which served as kitchen, dining room, and sitting room. At one end was a great fireplace and bakeoven, which provided ample refreshment both for family and the numerous visitors who made Weiser's a stopping point on their travels. Above were sleeping quarters under the sloping roof. With the family expanding, an addition was made to the house in 1751. These rooms are now a museum, with

most of the pieces on display coming from Berks County, some of them dating to Weiser's time. Weiser also built the stone springhouse downhill from the house. On a small knoll near his home are the graves of Weiser, his wife Ann Eve, and several of their children. The large stone house presently used by the caretaker was built in 1824. Also on the grounds is a statue representing Shikellamy carrying a peace pipe, with one hand open and raised in the Indian gesture of friendship.

The Conrad Weiser Memorial Park was established in the 1920's under the leadership of the Berks County Historical Society. In 1926, Weiser's descendants gave the homestead to the Conrad Weiser Memorial Park Association, and restoration of the house was begun. In 1935 the Department of Forests and Waters of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania assumed control. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission took charge in 1953, and has continued to maintain the natural beauty of this memorial to one of Pennsylvania's earliest keepers of the peace.



Visiting Hours

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME: 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
weekdays except Monday; 1:00 to 5:00 P.M.
Sunday.

WINTER: 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. weekdays except Monday; 1:00 to 4:30 P.M. Sunday.
Hours subject to change.

Telephone: Womelsdorf, Code 215, 589-2934