

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUL 23 1976
DATE ENTERED NOV 7 1976

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC The Pennypacker Mansion

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 5 Haldeman Road, R.D.#1 Perkiomen Twp. NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN Schwenksville, PA VICINITY OF 5 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
STATE Pennsylvania CODE 42 COUNTY Montgomery CODE 091

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mrs. Samuel W. Pennypacker
STREET & NUMBER 5 Haldeman Road, R.D.#1 Perkiomen Twp.
CITY, TOWN Schwenksville VICINITY OF 5 STATE Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Court House
STREET & NUMBER Airy and Swede Streets
CITY, TOWN Norristown STATE Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Montgomery County Inventory of Historic & Cultural Resources
DATE 1975 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Montgomery County Planning Commission
CITY, TOWN Norristown STATE Pennsylvania

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR
 DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

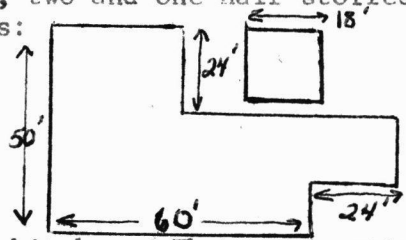
CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Originally, the house (the front main facade) was rectangular. The House as it exists today is basically "L" shaped. This is due to the fact that former Pennsylvania Governor Samuel Pennypacker added the rear addition, the small side kitchen, and a larger verandah to the original structure around 1902. Also added at that time were the dormer windows. With the exception of a new roof (1945) these are the only major modifications made to the house. (The rear addition built by the Governor includes two large rooms and one hallway downstairs, and two large rooms, one bathroom, and a hallway upstairs. The right side addition houses only the kitchen.)

The house itself is five bay, two and one half stories in height, with approximate dimensions as follows:



The small building is the original kitchen. The construction of the house is stone, covered with a coarse stucco. A verandah (flat roofed) encloses the entire front and left side of the house. The original kitchen still stands, completely intact, behind the original part of the house. The old kitchen is of the same construction as is the house itself.

The location of the house's main door is in the center of the main facade. Plain molding surrounds the head of the main door, as well as the sides of the door. The door has no transom panel and its side panels are recessed blind. The door itself has one large window which is contained in a substantial portion of the top half of the door. The bottom half contains one panel. The door's surround-material is the stone and stucco, typical of the entire house.

The windows of the house are also rectangular, and are shuttered. They have plain molding surrounding their heads and sides. The surround-material is again the stone and stucco typical of the rest of the house. The windows themselves are two sash. The windows on the second floor are of the same construction as those on the first floor, but a little smaller in size. The dormer windows, added circa 1900, have a gable with return. They are also two sashed.

The roof is made of wooden shingles, and its shape is that of a medium gable. The roof trim (eaves) is cornice boxed with a plain frieze. The roof trim (raking) is cornice boxed with return. The raking material is wood.

The building's chimneys are located "straddle ridge" at either ends of the house. They appear to be of the joined variety, and are made of brick.

Wooden columns are the support material for the house's large verandah. Two large stone slabs form the steps onto the verandah. There are no steps to the main door of the house.

Along with the mansion, there is a large barn on the nominated property. The barn is completely frame, except for a portion of tin roof. The foundation is stone and plaster.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

1903 - 1907

SPECIFIC DATES 1718-1730 (circa)

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built prior to 1730, presumably by Hans Joest Heijt, the dwelling now known as the Pennypacker mansion has marked the site of, or been witness to, numerous events of national, state, and local significance. A beautiful example of a Pennsylvania country mansion, the property was bought in 1747 by Peter Pennebecker, and it was during his ownership and that of his son Samuel's that the property, and mansion in particular, achieved national significance.

In 1755, a corps of General Braddock's army passed through Pennebecker's Mills, as the area was known at that time, on the way to their ill-fated rendezvous with the French and Indian forces near Fort Duquesne (Pittsburgh) on July 9, 1755. The event was not well recorded, so any questions as to whether or not the mansion was used by officers of the corps is speculation. However, the mansion was used as army headquarters during the September 26-29, 1777 encampment of the Continental Army at Pennebecker's Mills, and for this event its initial fame.

The American Continentals, left Pottsgrove on September 26, 1777, and headed past the Reverend Muhlenburg's church in Trappe, Pennsylvania towards Pennebecker's Mills. There they encamped for three days. During their residence in the area, General Washington used the Samuel Pennebecker home as his headquarters. It was while the General resided at the stately old mansion that some of the most encouraging news of the war to date was received. On Sunday the twenty-eight of September, General Washington received the news of General Horatio Gates' victory over General Burgoyne at Stillwater, New York. Encouraged by the news, a council of war was held to decide whether or not Continentals should move immediately against the British Army which was situated further down the Skippack Road in Germantown. The council decided against an immediate strike, but Washington, from his Pennebecker headquarters, sent numerous requests for equipment and additional troops to his officers and the distinguished citizens in the area. Thus, the wheels were initially put in motion at the Pennebecker's Mills for the American engagement with the British at Germantown. On Monday September 29, 1777, the Continentals left Pennebecker's Mills only to return to this part of the Perkiomen Valley after their near successful encounter at Germantown. The evidence is non-conclusive, however, as to whether or not Washington again resided at the Pennebecker mansion.

The Pennebecker home achieved further significance when it became the summer residence of former Pennsylvania Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker. Governor Pennypacker's intense interest in his home prompted him to write.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baker, William S. Itinerary of General Washington from June 15, 1775 to December 23, 1783. Philadelphia: J.E. Lippincott Co., 1892.

Bean, Theodore W. Bean's History of Montgomery County. Philadelphia: Everts & Peck, 1884.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5-6 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	8
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4	6	1	0	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	4	5	5	8	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Stephen L. Kehs / Madeline L. Cohen

ORGANIZATION

Perkiomen Twp. Planning Commission/ CHP/PIMC

DATE

July 13, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Cedar Road / Box #1026

TELEPHONE

717-787-4363

CITY OR TOWN

Schwenksville / Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

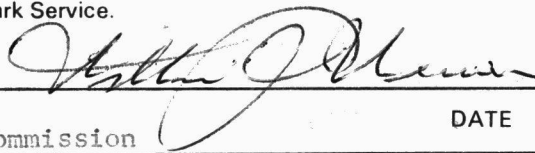
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE Executive Director
Pa. Historical & Museum Commission

DATE 7/20/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 11/9/76

ATTEST:

DATE 11/2/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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The Pennypacker Mansion

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE

1

Significance:

Pennypacker's Mills in Story and Song, a unique accounting of the events and the folklore surrounding the history of his residence. From the Revolutionary Ballads written by some Continental soldiers about their stay at the Pennebecker Mills to the writings of Washington. The Pennypacker mansion is truly one of America's unique homes.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Bibliography:

Eberlein, Harold D., and Lippincott, Horace M. Colonial Homes of Philadelphia. Philadelphia: The J.B. Lipponcott Co., 1912.

Fitzpatrick, John C. The Writings of George Washington. Washington D.C.: The United States Government Printing Office, 1933.

Kehs, Stephen L. The Headquarters of General George Washington at the Home of Samuel Pennebecker (September 26-29, 1777) Prior to the Battle of Germantown. An unpublished college paper in the possession of the author. 1974.

Kratz, Henry W. "Washington at Pennebecker's Mills," Historical Society of Montgomery County: Sketches. Norristown: The Herald Printing and Binding Rooms, 1900.

Pennypacker, The Honorable Govenor Samuel Whitaker. Pennypacker's Mills in Story and Song. Philadelphia, 1902. (Unpublished, and in the possession of Mrs. Samuel Pennypacker, granddaughter-in-law of the Govenor.)

Washington, George. The original manuscript of his September 27, 177 letter to Major General Lord Sterling written at Pennebecker's Mills. In the possession of Mrs. Samuel Pennypacker.

Property

The Pennypacker Mansion

760001657

State

Penn.

Working Number

7.23.76.3803

Montgomery

TECHNICAL

Photos

2

Maps

1

needs level of signifi called 11.1.76 **CONTROL**

OK *7.28.76*

*architectural significance checked but not addressed in the statement.
History O.K.*

HISTORIAN

accept
B. Crossen
9/13/76

alterations discussed

adequate for statement of hist. sign.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

accept
Lebovich
10.27.76

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

active
BRANCH CHIEF

accept
Cole
10.29.76

KEEPER

Wm
11/2/76

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered NOV 7 1976

Federal Register Entry

12-7-76

Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74



THE PENNYPACKER MANSION

NOV 7 1976

Montgomery County

Photo Credit: Stephen L. Kehs

Cedar Road

Schwenksville, PA

Photo Date: 1975

West view of the house

JUL 23 1976

12

PR 13

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



THE PENNYPACKER MANSION

NOV 7 1976

Montgomery County

Photo Credit: Stephen L. Kehs

Cedar Road

Schwenksville, PA

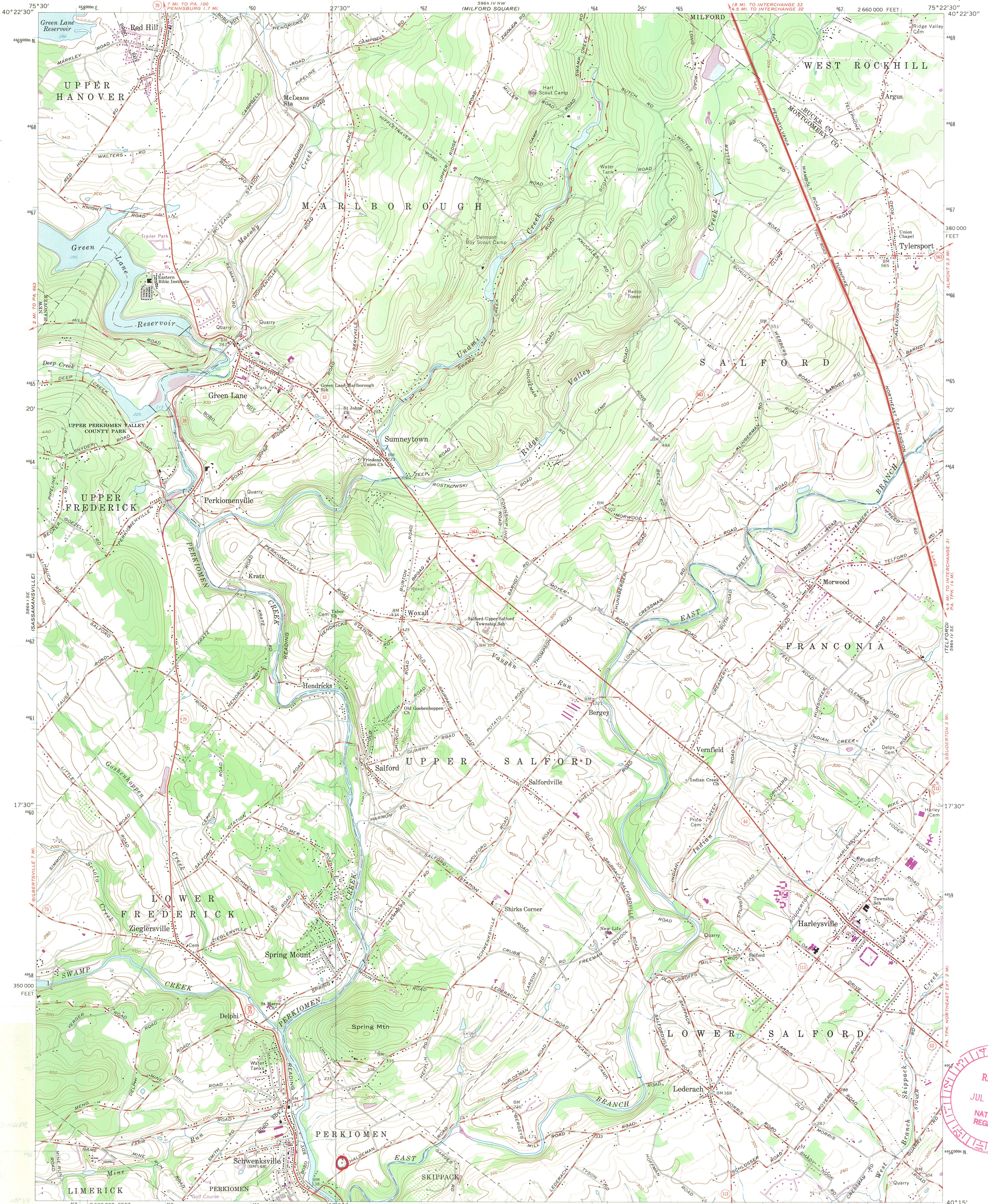
Photo Date: 1975

View of the barn

JUL 23 1976

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



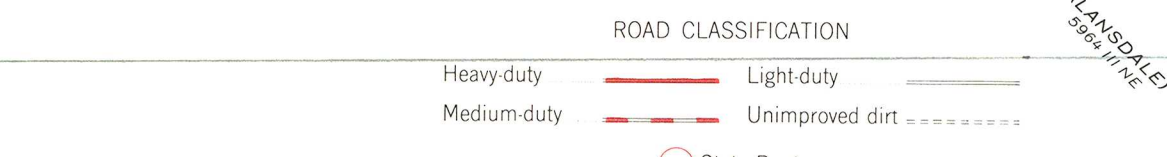
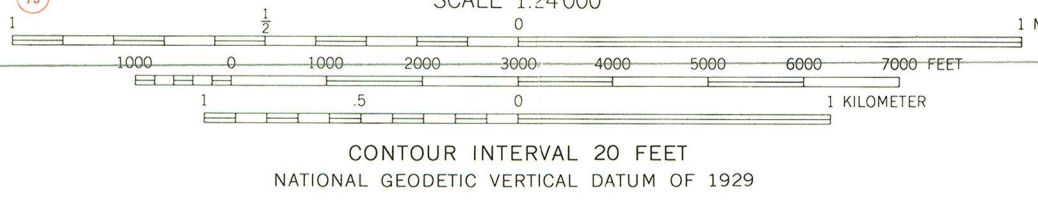
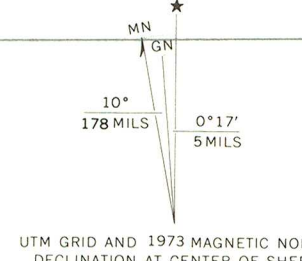
Mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1942. Planimetry revised by the Geological Survey 1960

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Pennsylvania coordinate system,
south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey in
cooperation with State of Pennsylvania agencies from aerial
photographs taken 1969 and 1973. This information not field checked



PERKIOMENVILLE, PA.
N4015-W7522.5/7.5

1960
PHOTOREVISED 1969 AND 1973
AMS 5964 IV SW-SERIES V81

J. L. SMITH CO. - MAPS
2104 WALNUT ST., PHILA., PA. 19103

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

PENNYPACKER MANSION
Montgomery County
Zone 18
461 080 4455 850

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE PENNSYLVANIA

Date Entered NOV 7 1976

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
<u>Pennypacker Mansion</u>	Schwenksville vicinity Montgomery County
Centre County Courthouse	Bellefonte Centre County
Bellefonte Academy	Bellefonte Centre County
Bergdoll Mansion	Philadelphia Philadelphia County
Williamsport City Hall	Williamsport Lycoming County
Brownlee, Samuel, House	Eighty-Four vicinity Washington County

Also Notified

Hon. Hugh Scott	State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. Richard S. Schweiker	Mr. William J. Wewer
Hon. Richard T. Schulze	Executive Director, Pennsylvania
Hon. Albert W. Johnson	Historical and Museum Commission
Hon. William J. Green	Box 1026
Hon. Herman T. Schneebeli	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120
Hon. Thomas E. Morgan	
Regional Director, Mid Atlantic Region	

86
✓57

NR Data Sheet

used: Brodbeck, Pennypacker
noted
12/14

DATE: 9/13/76
Reviewer: INITIALS: BG
DOE
NOV 7 1976
KP

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: ✓ Pennypacker Mansion ①

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION: ✓
STREET & NUMBER 5 Haldeman Rd.

CITY, TOWN VICINITY OF Schwenksville CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 5th
STATE ✓ Pennsylvania 42 COUNTY Montgomery code 091

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline) FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):
NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST
SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:
INTERIOR EXTERIOR ENVIRONS
- Substantially intact-1 ✓ Substantially intact-2 ✓ Substantially intact-3
- unknown - 4 ✓ unknown - 5 - unknown - 6
- not applicable - 7 - not applicable - 8 - Not applicable-9

CONDITION - EXCELLENT DETERIORATED UNALTERED ORIGINAL SITE
GOOD RUINS ALTERED MOVED
FAIR UNEXPOSED Reconstructed Unknown
Unexcavated Excavated

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO
IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO
IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- house
now- house

SIGNIFICANCE:

- ✓ ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ✓ ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- ✓ AGRICULTURE
- ✓ ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW/Gov't/politics
- LITERATURE
- 18 MILITARY
- MUSIC
- 21 PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)
- entertainment
- health
- recreation
- settlement
- socio/cultural
- urban & commun planning

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

architect/m.builder: *Hans Joest Heijt (presumed)*

landscape/garden designer:

interior decorator:

engineer:

artist/artisan:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role & appropriate date)

personal

*George Washington - headquartered here, 9/26-27/1777
Samuel W. Pennypacker - used as summer home, since turn of the 20th C. - former gov. of PA*

events

Gen. Braddock's army passed through here en route to rendezvous w/ French & Indian troops near Fort Duquesne on July 9, 1755. They may have camped here.

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): *1718^N-1730*

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS: *1902, 1945*

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S): *1755 - 1st/4 20th C.*

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

5-6

COMMENTS:

(include architectural information here)

description: stone covered, ~~of~~ course stucco; 2 1/2 stories, ^{modified} L shape, gabled roof, 3 interior end chimneys, center entrance, lowered shutters; rear and side additions, full width wrap around veranda and dormers added, c.1902; roof replaced, 1945; (detached kitchen (original)); large stone and frame barn.

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

The Pennypacker Mansion served as George Washington's Headquarters during the Continental Army's encampment of Sept. 26-29, 1777; later later it became the summer home of former PA governor Samuel W. Pennypacker.