

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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

1. NAME

COMMON:
Conrad Grubb Homestead

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Perkiomenville Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Lower Frederick Township

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42 COUNTY: Montgomery CODE: 091

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 type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Philip Gehret

STREET AND NUMBER:
Perkiomenville Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Lower Frederick Township

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Montgomery County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
Airy and Swede Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Norristown

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: 1972 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
William Penn Memorial Museum

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN:
Harrisburg

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Pennsylvania

COUNTY: Montgomery

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(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 Grubb Homestead site consists of a dwelling house of stone with a brick addition, a barn with milk house attached by a breezeway, shed, well house, attached arched dirt cellar, restored eighteenth century garden and indications of earlier buildings in the lawn. A meadow has been enclosed with restored worm and post and rail fencing.

The features common to Germanic houses in Pennsylvania which may be found in the Grubb house include: the three room floor plan (kitchen, formal room, and downstairs sleeping quarters), the wall cabinets and a slanted roof structure. Some deviations from the normal plan do exist. The fireplace is along the inside wall of the kitchen, opening to the side of the kitchen, and with the rear wall along the formal and sleeping rooms. It thus radiates heat into these rooms and makes possible the placement of stoves in the latter two rooms, which are fired from the fireplace. The kitchen fireplace in the Grubb house is at the far end of the long kitchen opposite the front door. In this position, the fireplace back is on an outside wall. Behind the fireplace, outside the house, is the attached bake oven.

The present appearance of the two and one-half story dwelling is that of a partially restored mid-eighteenth century Germanic house. The house is built of red to grey shales and sandstones. The cornerstones are larger than stone used otherwise. The facade consists of squared stone upto the level of the pent roof. This is the only area of the house so treated. The six-over-six sash windows are arched on the ground floor, as are the doors, with the exception of the front door which has a flat lintel.

Several features of the design of the house point to its connection with Conrad Grubb's occupation as a weaver. The joists in the ceiling of the downstairs sleeping room are of oak. These joists support the floor of the room which contained the heavy loom. In the floor of the upstairs room the present owners noticed a round hole drilled into the floor which had the markings of a square block around it. This feature was located in such a position as to be ideally suited to receive the shaft of the warping reel.

The orientation of the entire house may also have been dictated by the need for maximum light in the loom shed. The house is located on the cardinal points of the compass so that the southwest side will receive the maximum natural light and heat from the summer sun. The weaver could sit with his back to the window, the light from the sun falling over his shoulder and onto the shed before him.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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"/> Prehistoric
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Education
<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry
<input type="checkbox"/> Invention
<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape
<input type="checkbox"/> Literature
<input type="checkbox"/> Military
<input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Political
<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> Science
<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> Theater
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

_____ |
|---|--|---|---|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Conrad Grubb Homestead is a prime example of a restored Germanic home which contained a home industry. The house is significant architecturally as a variant of the basic house type brought by the German settler. The restoration completed to this point has demonstrated a thorough understanding of the way of life of the original occupant.

In 1743, Conrad Grubb purchased one-half of the land owned by his brother, Henry, as a bequest from their father. It is thought that the land purchased by Conrad was undeveloped, while Henry retained the land that had already been improved. Conrad farmed while at the same time practicing the weaving trade. In 1754, he built the stone house. He died in 1798, leaving no heirs.

The Conrad Grubb house is a variant of the Germanic central fireplace house with the three room floor plan. The central fireplace and three room plan are broadly associated with Germanic cultural elements moving from south to north. These elements include the bake oven and purlin roof. It is possible to say that this house has clearly defined architectural antecedents in Europe. Too little, however, is known about the European distribution of these phenomena to identify the complex of features represented by the Grubb house with any particular geographic area or ethnology.

Considerable research has been done by the owners and local volunteers to establish the role of home industry in this house. Conrad Grubb is known to have been an active weaver, and there are a number of features in the house whose purpose it is to facilitate the trade of weaving.

The primary significance of the Grubb house is in its preservation of a total rationale for the structure

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bean, Theodore. History of Montgomery County. Philadelphia: Everts and Peck 1884.

Archanbault, A. Margareta. A Guide Book of Art, Architecture, and Historic Interests in Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: The John Winston Co., 1924.

Brumbaugh, G. Edwin. "Colonial Architecture of the Pennsylvania Germans," The Pennsylvania German Society, Proceedings and Addresses..., 1930. Norristown, Pa.: Norristown Herald, 1933.

Raymond, Eleanor. Early Domestic Architecture of Pennsylvania. New York: William Helburn, Inc, 1931.

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	40° 18' 18"	75° 30' 56"		0		
NE	40° 18' 18"	75° 30' 36"				
SE	40° 18' 02"	75° 30' 36"				
SW	40° 18' 02"	75° 30' 56"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 100 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

ORGANIZATION: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission DATE: June, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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: Walter J. Moore
State Liaison Officer

Title: Executive Director, Pa. Hist. and Museum Commission

Date: 4/19/77

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

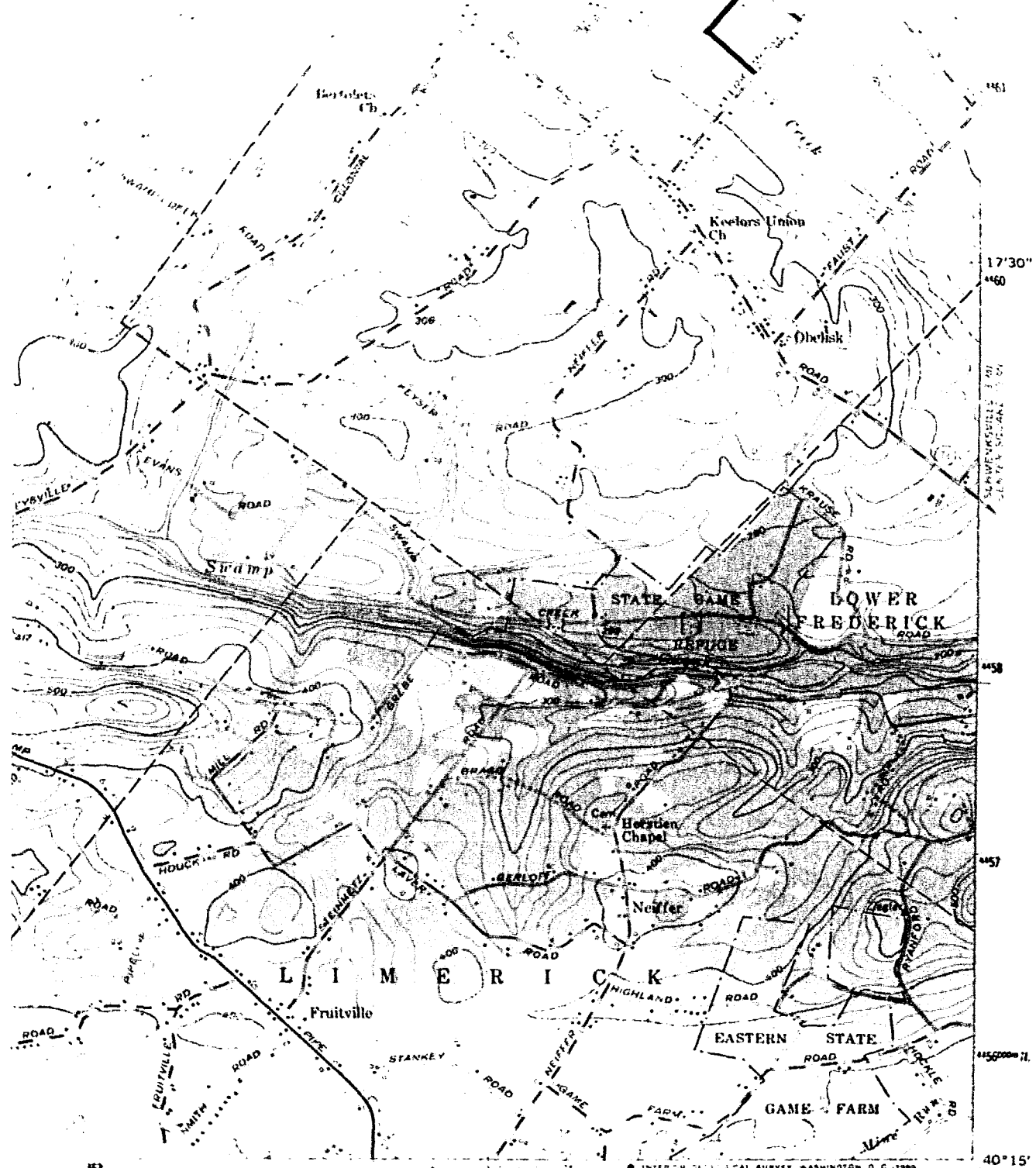
Date: _____

ATTEST: _____
Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UPPER FREDERICK



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy duty ——— Light duty
- Medium duty - - - - - Unimproved dirt
- State Route

SASSAMANSVILLE, PA.