

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
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DATE ENTERED

**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 GLENAYS

AND/OR COMMON

Leighton House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

926 Coopertown Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Bryn Mawr

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th

STATE

Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF

CODE

42

COUNTY

Delaware

CODE

045

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. Leonard Blair, Blair & Son, Incorporated

STREET & NUMBER

926 Coopertown Road

CITY, TOWN

Bryn Mawr

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania 19101

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Delaware County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Media

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

3/2/77

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Glenays house is an Italianate Villa built in three sections; the first section, the main house and small wing, was built in 1859. A second addition was added in the late 19th century and a third addition in 1925. The main section is a compact square which has symmetrical wing projections. Three stories high and three bays wide the walls are stucco over stone. The windows are placed on the facade with the largest windows (6 over 9) at the ground level and smaller windows (6 over 6) on the second story and eyebrow windows (3 over 3) above. The facade arrangement is based on established proportions used in 16th century Italian villas. The main section is covered with a low hipped roof, center ballustrade and two multiple stack chimneys. The main door is central and covered today by a gabled portico although earlier photos show a full length porch. There is also a center rear door.

The second section is also three stories high but lower than the first. Second and third story windows are the same as on the main section while first story windows are only 6 over 6. There is a large four window bay on the second story.

The third section has two stories and a low hipped roof. A four window bay is located on the second story and directly underneath is a large round-arch doorway.

The last and fourth section is also two stories. It is three bays by two and has three garage doors on the main entrance side of the house.

In the interior there is a careful balance of windows, doorways and spaces in the various rooms. The rooms are large and have high ceilings.

A central hall bisects the first and second stories of the main section. One large room with two fireplaces lies to the left of the main first story hall and two rooms to the right. The second story is divided into three rooms to the left and two to the right with a small room at the end of the hall. There are light rooms on the third floor. A pantry and kitchen are located in one of the three first story rooms.

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 type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) (Social/History)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1859 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Michael Erickson
George Howe

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Glenays (or Leighton House) was built on a 48 acre tract of land in Radnor Township acquired on 13 March 1859 by Richard R. Montgomery.

The dwelling was erected in that year, 1859, by the builder Michael Erickson. An addition to the projecting wing in 1925 and garden walls in 1928 were both designed by the great American architect George Howe.

The house was designed as an Italianate villa and its architectural and cultural significance lies in its being a prototype, a forerunner, of the country mansions built along the "Main Line" of the Pennsylvania Railroad in the subsequent years 1880-1920. It is both the first erected and the last remaining example of the Italian Revival in Radnor Township and is a rare survival in the western suburbs of Philadelphia where so much later eclectic architecture exists.

Glenays was built within half a mile of the busy community of White Hall (near the present Bryn Mawr Hospital) where a summer hotel was thriving and the trains of the Pennsylvania Railroad were making six stops a day at the new depot, also built in 1859. It was one of the earliest true country houses to be built by a summer resident in Radnor Township rather than enlarging and altering an existing farmhouse which was the usual pattern.

The grounds were laid out in the English Romantic tradition with special attention to the trees.

The first owner, Richard Roger Montgomery (1817-1888) was born in New Orleans, the son of the Chairman of the Bank of Louisiana and President of the New Orleans branch of the Bank of the United States. He was educated at St. Mary's College, Baltimore and the College of St. Louis in Paris, studied law in Philadelphia and was admitted to the bar in 1840. In addition to his residence at Glenays, he maintained a large brownstone town house in Philadelphia, at the N.E. corner of Sixth and Locust Streets facing Washington Square, a site now occupied by the J.B. Lippincott Publishing Company.

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GLENAYS - Delaware County

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Significance:

Interested in linguistics and literature, and a vestryman of Chirst Church, Philadelphia, Montgomery was the son-in-law of the celebrated lawyer, Horace Binney and a brother-in-law of the French Comte Olivier de La Rochefoucauld, grandson of the famous literary traveller, La Rochefoucauld-Liancourt. His eldest son, William Woodrow Montgomery, was a co-founder of the Merion Cricket Club whose first meeting was held at Glenays in 1865, another son, Horace Binney Montgomery, was Master of Fox Hounds of the Radnor Hunt.

The involvement of the Montgomery family in activities both in Philadelphia and in the country was mirrored by their successors at Glenays. The estate was sold in 1925 to Philadelphia publishing executive and polo player William Ellis Scull (who called the place Leighton House for an ancestral home in Herefordshire, England even as the Montgomerys had named it Glenays for a family place in Scotland).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.5 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	8
4	7
1	8
1	0

4	4
2	8
8	6
0	0

 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Mrs. E. Norton Hunt
F. J. Dallett/

Susan M. Zacher

ORGANIZATION

Radnor Historical Society/Pa. Hist. Mus. Comm. April, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

223 Iven Avenue/P. O. Box 1026

TELEPHONE

717-787-4363

CITY OR TOWN

Radnor/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 WILLIAM J. WEWER, Executive Director
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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4	7	1	8	1	0
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4	4	2	8	8	6	0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

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William J. Wewer

TITLE

WILLIAM J. WEWER, Executive Director
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

DATE

6/13/77

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DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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PAGE

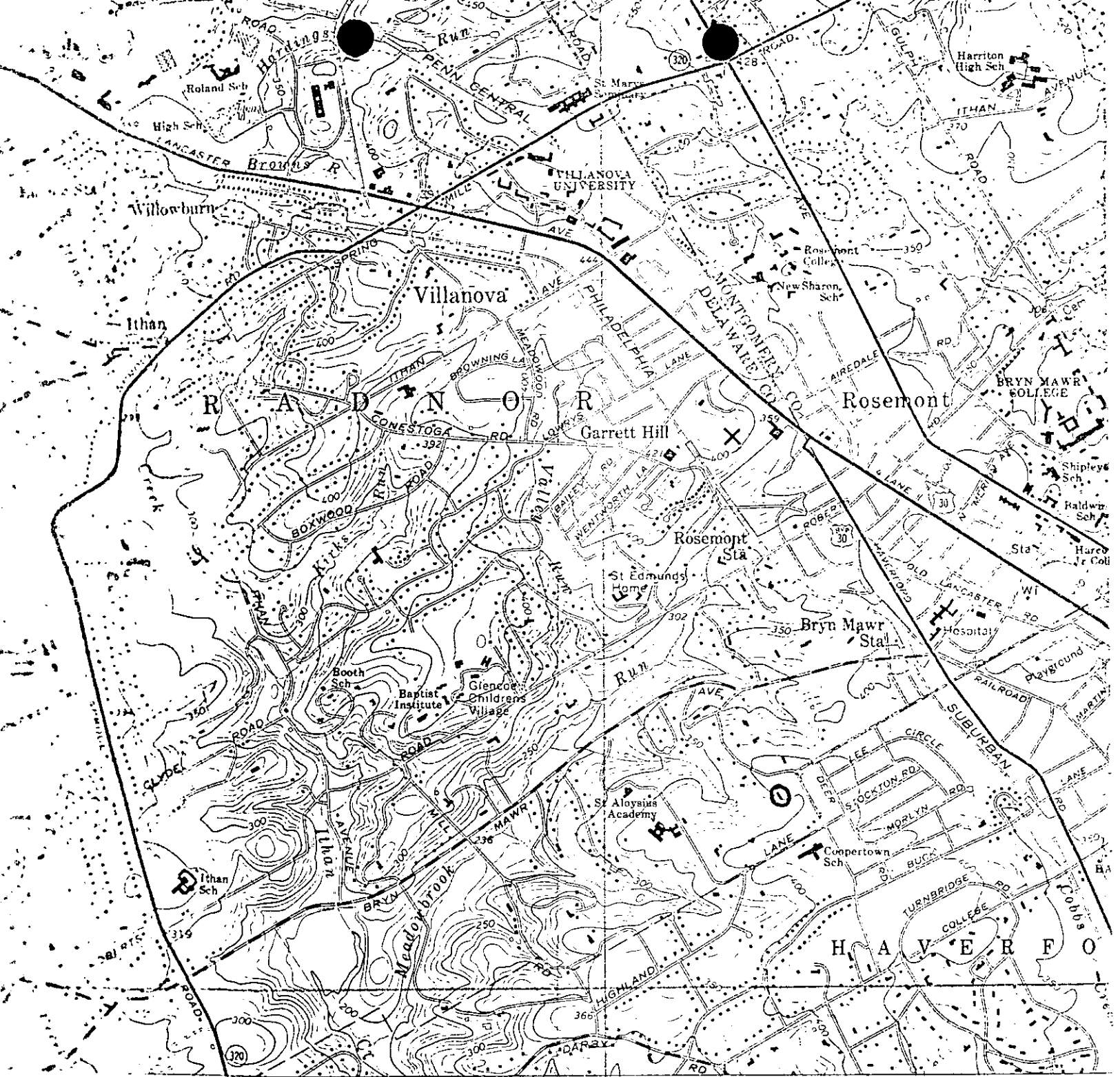
1

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

The building of Glenays and its use as the country place of the Richard R. Montgomery family and as the site of the first meeting of what became the Merion Cricket Club are noted in Samuel Fitch Hotchkin, Rural Pennsylvania in the Vicinity of Philadelphia (Philadelphia, 1897), pp. 134, 158. A comment of the family and the "old House" may be found in J. W. Townsend, The Old "Main Line" (1922), pp. 14-15.

The house is described and pictured in James C. Massey, "One Hundred Years of Radnor Architects," "The Bulletin of Radnor Historical Society", Vol. II, No. 3 (Spring, 1963), pp. 16-18.

A summary history and floorplans appear in Philadelphia Vassar Club, Designer's Show House 1974 Leighton House (printed program), pp. 3, 32-33. The former is based on Phyllis C. Maier, Leighton Farm 1859-1974, typescript in possession of the Radnor Historical Society, Wayne, Pennsylvania.



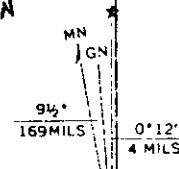
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 with Pennsylvania Department
 Topographic and Geologic Survey
 USCGS, and USCE
 from aerial photographs
 1952. Revised from aerial
 1965. Field checked 1966

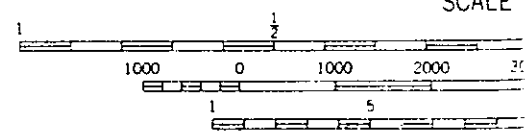
1927 North American datum
 on Pennsylvania coordinate system, south zone
 Transverse Mercator grid ticks,

indicate selected fence and field lines where
 on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
 indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

NORRISTOWN



UTM GRID AND 1966 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



CONTOUR INTERVAL IS METERS

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACT
 FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS