

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
"Forge Hill"

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Wawa

STATE: Pennsylvania      CODE: 42      COUNTY: Delaware      CODE: 045

**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"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<input 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) _____ _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Miss Dorothea Wood

STREET AND NUMBER:  
"Forge Hill"

CITY OR TOWN: Wawa      STATE: Pennsylvania      CODE: 42

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Delaware County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Front and South Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Media      STATE: Pennsylvania      CODE: 42

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970       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: Penna.

COUNTY: Delaware

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent   
  Good   
  Fair   
  Deteriorated   
  Ruins   
  Unexposed

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(Check One)

Altered   
  Unaltered

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(Check One)

Moved   
  Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Forge Hill is a large, 2½ story dressed fieldstone house with five-bay front, built between 1798 and 1800. In 1936, the house was completely restored and an ell added to the north elevation. Very little of the house has been changed since its construction, and great care was taken to preserve the original character of the house during reconstruction.

On the south side, two transomed doors led to the interior--the eastern door opened to a hallway while the other door, toward the western end, led to a small room with a cooking fireplace. The hallway had doors that led to rooms on either side and a stairway with square, reeded spindles that led to a narrow second floor hall. The two large rooms on the first floor each had a fireplace with the eastern room also having a built-in corner cupboard.

On the western end of the second floor were two unheated bedrooms that could be reached only by an enclosed stairway in the kitchen. In the main section there were two bedrooms with fireplaces, a smaller unheated room, and the hallway.

In 135 years the house had deteriorated considerably, but most of the original interior woodwork remained intact. The woodwork of the mantels, the reeding and gougework, and interior mouldings were restored along with the five original fireplaces and three original cupboards. The major element that is missing is the staircase, but it was reconstructed using some of the reeded spindles from the original stairway.

On the exterior, the six over six sash windows and shutters were restored, the three-chimneyed tin roof was replaced with a wooden shingled roof, and a 1½ story L-shaped field stone section was added to the norther side of the main house.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry    | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" 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

Forge Hill was the home of Joseph Thatcher, a well-known Delaware County coachmaker, and remained in the family possession until 1882. Joseph, his two oldest sons and a grandson were the prominent figures in operating the profitable tilt and blade mill and coachbuilding shop along Chester Creek. In 1900, George Wood purchased the property, and in 1936 he left the property to his daughter, Dorothea. By this time, the house had deteriorated greatly, and Miss Wood contracted to have the house restored to its original appearance and an addition built. The restoration was successful in rescuing old interior woodwork, replacing the tin roof, and generally returning the structure to its original character. Forge Hill is significant as an early example of preserving historic buildings.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Primary sources

Chester County Courthouse  
 Deeds from 1760-1785 Book A2, Vol. 25, pp. 152, 155  
 Road docket  
 Wills Book D, p. 226  
 Delaware County Courthouse  
 Deeds from 1826-1900 Book X, p. 55; Book H5, p. 209  
 Wills 1841, 1882, 1926  
 Road docket

(continued)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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	° ' "	° ' "	39° 54' 02"	75° 27' 48.6"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		
SE	° ' "	° ' "		
SW	° ' "	° ' "		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 5.5 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:  
 August, 1971

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: [Signature]  
 State Liaison Officer

Title: Exec. Director, Pa. Historical and Museum Commission

Date: 6/11/72

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

[Signature]  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

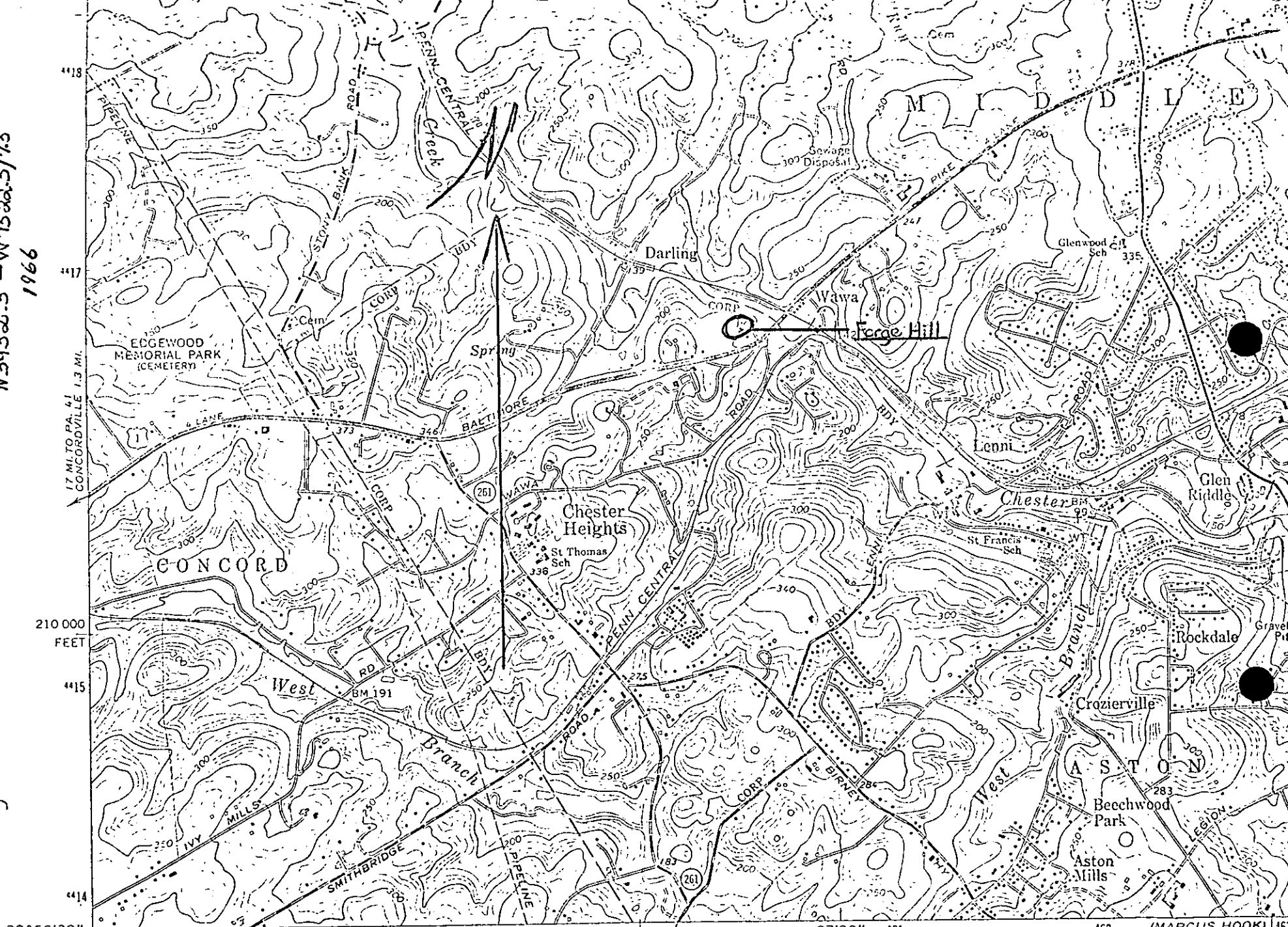
Media, Pa.

NW/4 Chester 15' Quadrangle  
N3952.5 - W7522.5/7.5

1966

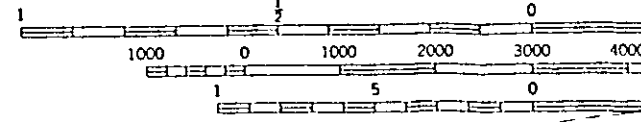
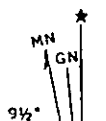
Latitude: 39° 54' 02"

Longitude: 75° 27' 48.6"



210 000 FEET  
 39° 52' 30" 75° 30' 458 459 2 640 000 FEET | CHELSEA 0.6 MI. 8 MI. TO U.S. 202 27' 30" '61 '62 (MARCUS HOOK) '63  
 5963 IV SW  
 SCALE 1:24000

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE  
 Topography by planetable surveys 1943  
 Revised from aerial photographs taken 1965. Field checked 1966  
 Belknap projection, 1927 North American datum



WINGTON NORTH  
 5963 I SE