

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

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

John Cheyney Log Tenant House and Farm

AND/OR COMMON

Thomas Huston Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Station Road, Thornbury Township

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Cheyney

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th

STATE

Pennsylvania

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. Roy H. Grove

STREET & NUMBER

Station Road

CITY, TOWN

Cheyney

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Delaware County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

West Front Street

CITY, TOWN

Media

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

6/7/77

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Pennsylvania Historical and 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

There are four buildings on the 16.003-acre Grove property: a part log, part stucco-over-stone residence; a stone and frame barn; a "garage" containing a forge and farm kitchen; and a stone spring house. The buildings of the property date from c. 1760 to c. 1870. As a unit, they exemplify architectural styles of more than a century between the first period of settlement and the late nineteenth century.

The Tenant house is made up of two connected sections. The first section built prior to 1806 is a one and one-half story log structure measuring 13'2" by 16'4" and has a full cellar. Connected to the log structure on the southwest, is a frame and stucco addition.

The northeast gable end and rear (southeast) have been covered with stucco. A dormer and large overhanging porch was added in 1955 to the rear. One six pane window is located in each of the three exposed walls. The original entrance was located on the southeast side of the house. There is also a cellar entrance on the northeast gable end side.

The three story stucco over stone section was built between 1815 and 1848. It has a gable roof and interior a cement block chimney in the northeast gable end. The main entrance is on the southeast side. An entrance porch was added in the late 1800's. Two, 2 over 2 windows flank this porch. On the second story there are also two 2 over 2 windows. The third story has smaller eyebrow windows. There are no windows in the gable ends. The rear of this section has two, 6 over 6 windows on the first floor, two 6 over 6 windows and a small center one pane window, and two one pane eyebrow windows on the third. A large one story pent porch was added in 1955.

Associated with the house is a large stone and frame gable roof barn decorated with scalloped bargeboard. A shed and greenhouse were added to the barn. The dimensions of the original barn are 20' by 35'. The present barn with additions now measures 46' by 29'. A former barnyard wall, which projected to the north side of the barn, is incorporated into one of the additions.

The second outbuilding is a stone and frame gable roof structure used as a garage today. Measuring 19'10" by 25'6" it housed a forge and farm kitchen. The original stone forge is at the base of an interior chimney of fire bricks. A later iron forge marked "Buffalo Forge" stands adjacent to the stone forge, and its stove pipe enters the brick chimney which is lined with terra cotta which projects from the chimney exposed at the roof. An iron-lined brick "farm kitchen" with its original iron pot and wooden lid is built into the northwest corner of the building. Many artifacts original to building remain in its interior. Also located on the farmstead is a stone springhouse.

The buildings of the John Cheyney Tenant property represent architectural styles of three distinct time periods in the century between c. 1760 and c. 1870. The exteriors of the buildings retain their simple vernacular lines, unaltered except for additions on the rear of the residence and the addition of a front entrance porch on the stucco-over-stone section of the house. Of particular note is the excellent preservation of the log house. As a unit, the Grove property is an integral part of the local history of the Cheyney area.

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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Cheyney property is part of a land grant from William Penn to Richard Marsh, a merchant from Bristol. Richard Marsh, who received the land grant in 1681, had 1500 of his acres laid out and surveyed by John Baker. On July 14 and 15, 1697 Marsh conveyed in fee simple 5000 acres of land, of which the 1500 acres were a part, to John Bellers, merchant of London. Bellers in turn, in 1724, conveyed to John and Thomas Cheyney as tenants in common the said 1500 acres. John Cheyney, in 1726, conveyed 700 acres to Thomas and Elizabeth, his wife; and Thomas and Elizabeth conveyed 800 acres to John Cheyney. The brothers settled their portions of the land and were among the original founders of Thornbury Township.

The Cheyney buildings, situated at the base of a hill at the edge of meadowlands adjacent to Chester Creek, were constructed on 11 acres and left by John Cheyney, by his will of 1744, to his son, John. Richard, and Joseph; leaving all his "meadow that is upon the upper part of Chester Creek, cleared and uncleared" to be equally divided among the three sons who did not settle upon the place where their father lived.

The Direct Tax of 1798 lists the following property for John Cheyney: one log dwelling house, 20 by 26, 1.5 stories; one barn, 30 by 50, frame with cellars; one stable (log), 18 by 13; one carthouse, 20 by 22, stone pillars. Tenants: Robert Logan, one log house, 16 by 28; George Fox, one log house, 16 by 27. Although a log house of the dimensions of that presently attached stucco-over-stone addition of the house is not listed among John Cheyney's property in 1798, a "messuage and tract of land" of 11 acres was conveyed in John Cheyney's will of 1805 to his nephew, William Cheyney. The bounds of the 11 acre tract identify it as the same presently owned by the Groves. It is possible that the log section of the Grove house was originally larger, as one dimension is the same as those listed for the John Cheyney tenant houses. In any case, the log house was apparently on the property by 1805.

In 1809 William Cheyney and Elizabeth, his wife, conveyed for \$850, a messuage and two tracts of land to James Greer. James Greer sold the two parcels with buildings etc. to Ezekial Johnson in 1810. Provision was made for William Speakman to cut and haul away the timber he had purchased of James Greer before the sale. In 1815 Ezekial Johnson conveyed to Thomas Huston, "a Blackman," a "certain massuage, plantation and tract or parcel of land" containing 11 acres with "allowances for roads and highways."

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

By his will of 1817 Thomas Huston conveyed to his wife the "shop and half the lot adjoining to it on the north side of the road running through my land for and during her natural life." Thomas's wife pre-deceased him and the property was divided among his three children. For \$60, two of the heirs agreed to sell their share of the property to Thomas S. Huston, their brother. The sale was subject to payment of a mortgage of \$550 due on the property. Thus the property was in the Huston Family from 1815 until 1840 when Thomas S. Huston officially purchased the property.

In 1853 the 11 acre section of the Cheyney property was listed in Cato Smith's will as part of his "other property", which Smith, who lived in West Chester, requested his friend Townsend Eachus (Sheriff) to sell. By the sale in 1854, Thomas C. Cassidy acquired the 11 acre tract for \$1,060. In 1856 he added 171 perches to the property, purchased from Mary Willcox estate. This was part of the property sold by Thomas Cheyney's executors to John Yarnall in 1729. After construction of the railroad this parcel was cut off from the Willcox property. Cassidy retained the property until its sale in 1875 to John Baker. John Baker kept the property until 1904, when it was conveyed to James Lafferty. Lafferty also acquired a 6 acre tract of land from Frank and Bertha Webster, which comprises the western section of the Cheyney property.

The Cheyney property is significant both historically and socially. The log section of the house is a remnant of farm settlement patterns of the eighteenth century when southeastern Pennsylvania was undergoing settlement by farmers and landowners who divided the William Penn land grants into farms of 300-150 acres. Tenant houses, such as that on the Cheyney property, were used to house labor on the farm. Several such tenants in Thornbury Township were listed on the Direct Tax as "Negro". Settlers, such as John and Thomas Cheyney brought slaves with them, but they were soon freed by the Quaker settlers and housed in tenant log houses on farms.

The sequence of purchases of the log house reflected the history of Cheyney. In 1815 a Blackman had acquired enough affluence to purchase 11 acres of land and a "message" perhaps one lived in by his Black predecessors. He had a shop and was able to leave his wife \$80 in his will. It is possible that either he or his son built the stone addition to the house, which appears architecturally to have been built between 1815 and 1848.

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ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 3

By 1854, when the farm was acquired by Thomas Cassidy, who maintained it for about 20 years, farm life had changed, as a result of advances in technology. The "garage" of the property reflects these changes with its iron-lined farm kitchen and Buffalo forge. A former tenant house had become enlarged to a self-sufficient farm of its own.

Thus, architecturally, the Cheyney residence is an example of the vernacular style of two periods. The building as a unit retains its simple lines and its two parts complement each other. Although several log tenant houses were listed on the Direct Tax for Thornbury, few remain in tact. The log house is excellently preserved. Historically, the property represents a century of Cheyney history, and played an important role in the history of both the White and Black population of the area.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 16 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	4,5,6	1,4,0	4,4	2,0	0,6,0	B	1,8	4,5,6	2,3,0	4,4	1,9	9,4,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING		
C	1,8	4,5,5	9,4,0	4,4	1,9	9,2,0	D	1,8	4,5,5	9,1,0	4,4	2,0	0,6,0

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

Elizabeth Righter

ORGANIZATION

DATE

5/14/77

STREET & NUMBER

East Strasburg Road R. D. #3

TELEPHONE

215-692-7053

CITY OR TOWN

West Chester

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 and 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

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	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING		
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William J. Wewer

TITLE WILLIAM J. WEWER, Executive Director
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

DATE 1-16-78

FDR NPS USE ONLY

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DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

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KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Delaware County Courthouse. Deed Books: 2065:1278; 1759:124; 1317:256; Y-13:94;
Z-12:412; S-4:508; B-4:397; K-2:627; D-2:326; B-2:408;
W:221; U:577,541; S:369; I:555,687; G:41,38; D:376; B:
321,323.

Chester County Courthouse. Deed Book A-2:24.
Will Books 20:232; 16:368; 11:357; 1:281; W:157; E:54.

United States Direct Tax of 1798 Second District Tax Division, 4th and 5th Assessment
Districts.

Chester County Historical Society 1681 - Land Files
1800 - Newspaper Clippings

Smith, Benjamin A. 1880 Atlas of Delaware County, Pennsylvania

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Verbal Boundary Description:
(Using Map from Estate of James Lafferty)

Starting at a post on the south side of Saw Mill Road then southwest for 887 feet to a post then east 1274 feet to a marker stake then northwest 422 feet to the center of Saw Mill Road then north for 80 feet to the Wawa Branch of the P.B. & W. Railroad, then in a curving line along the railroad, then in a curving line along the railroad for 3247 feet to a point on the north side of Saw Mill Road, then south across Saw Mill Road to the original post.

Defense of Boundary:

The boundary of the property nominated include the eleven acres of the original John Cheyney land conveyed in his 1805 will. The remaining five acres were added to the property after 1904 from the estate of Frank Webster. The present 16 acres make up the total land currently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Roy H. Grove.

John Cheyney Log Tenant House and Farm
Delaware County

Site Layout

TRACT IN THORNBURY TOWNSHIP, DELAWARE COUNTY, PA.
LANDS OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES LAFFERTY

CONTENTS = 16.003 ACRES

SCALE - 1 IN. = 100 FT



