

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 LENHART FARM

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Southwest intersection of U.S. Route 22
and Pa. Route 143

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Lenhartsville Greenwich Twp. VICINITY OF

6th

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Pennsylvania

42

Berks

011

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Donald H. Kerchner, c/o Walter Diener, Esq.

STREET & NUMBER P. O. Box 377

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Wyomissing VICINITY OF

Pennsylvania 19610

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Berks County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER Sixth and Court Streets

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Reading Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1977

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Harrisburg, 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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Lenhart Farm is composed of a brownstone farmhouse, stone and frame barn and several outbuildings. 2½ stories high, the farm house exhibits a Georgian design in its 5 bay front, 3 bay rear, central hall and brick chimneys on both ends of the gable roof. The house shows attention to the front by using random coursed stone there and rubble-type stone on the remaining three facades. On the exterior, one finds wood window heads and keystones above the windows on the second floor front. Shutters are found on all of the windows of the house, louvered on the upper floor and panelled on the bottom floor. The roof is the standing seam tin-type with snowbirds. The moulding around the cornice and eaves is simple in design and displays a return at the gable ends. Although no date stone appears, the house is believed to have been built by the 3rd decade of the 19th century.

The house has been altered on the interior and exterior. In 1971 all window frames and sash were replaced, the exterior walls re-pointed, interior walls insulated and replastered and floors finished. In addition a working fireplace was added to the living room and brick chimneys were rebuilt. A frame vestibule was added to the rear middle bay of the house. A hood over the cellar entrance on the right side of the house is new as well as the front porch.

Other structures on the site are:

1. a frame pigsty (c. 1920)
2. a Pennsylvania type bank barn 78' x 60' with a datestone of 1841. This barn has a large forebay and is stone and frame.
3. a milk house of cinder block (1955)
4. a barnyard wall, stone covered with stucco (c. mid-19th century)
5. a wagon shed measuring 30' x 45', frame in construction and it houses lean-to sheds on the north side and a corncrib.
6. privy (c. 1920)
7. garage, gable-roof frame structure (c. 1930)
8. spring house - gable roof structure, half stone and half frame believed to have been built about the same time as the farmhouse
9. a lean-to storage shed of frame construction (c. 1920)
10. a stone-lined well excavated about the time of the construction of the farmhouse, only a wood cap is visible.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

PREHISTORIC
 1400-1499
 1500-1599
 1600-1699
 1700-1799
 1800-1899
 1900-

ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
 ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
 AGRICULTURE
 ARCHITECTURE
 ART
 COMMERCE
 COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

COMMUNITY PLANNING
 CONSERVATION
 ECONOMICS
 EDUCATION
 ENGINEERING
 EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
 INDUSTRY
 INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
 LAW
 LITERATURE
 MILITARY
 MUSIC
 PHILOSOPHY
 POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION
 SCIENCE
 SCULPTURE
 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
 THEATER
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lenhart farm was settled by a family of Germans from Pfalz, (Palatinate) Germany. The Lenhart's settled in the area of the farm before the erection of Greenwich Township or Berks County. The family expanded and are shown on a 1759 tax list as being of average means. Other than having a church named after them and later the town of Lenhartsville, little of note is recorded in the county annals.

The Lenhart farm is significant as a remaining example of early 19th century farm life. It typifies the construction of Georgian design using the regional brown sandstone and being executed in a Pennsylvania German style. The extant outbuildings such as the barn, barn wall, springhouse and carriage house show the relationship of the outbuildings to the main house.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historical Committee, The History of Lenhartsville and Vicinity...
(1976, pp. 3, 5, 6)

Montgomery, Morton L. Comp. Historical and Biographical Annals of Berks County, Pennsylvania... (Chicago: J. H. Beers & Co., 1909, 2 Vol.)
Vol. 1, page 263-64, Vol. 2, page 819, 1627, 1680.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 424810 4491830
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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

Charles Dunlevey, Administrative Assistant

ORGANIZATION

Office of Historic Preservation, PHMC

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN

Harrisburg

DATE

February, 1978

TELEPHONE

717-787-4363

STATE

Pennsylvania

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL X

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

ATTEST: DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Lenhart Barn and Dependencies

The Lenhart barn (78 feet long, 60 feet wide including enlarged forebay) is a typical banked barn with stables for cattle and horses on the ground floor and the threshing floor and mows for storage above. Because of its origin in the Southeastern part of this State and the number of this type of barn found here, it is frequently known as the Pennsylvania barn. The few examples found elsewhere are still known locally as a Pennsylvania barn. It is wholly an American architectural creation.

A stone in the byre wall, beside a door, bears the date 1841. If this be the true date that this barn was built, it indicates that this is not the first barn structure on the Lenhart farm.

A typical feature of this Pennsylvania-German barn is the laube or forebay, an overshoot of the barn floor affording an enlarged enclosure above and a protection to the walls, windows, and doors below. This sheltered space in front formed by the forebay is unique and not found in other barn types. The original forebay, only five feet wide, was extended to increase storage space to a twenty foot width about 1920.

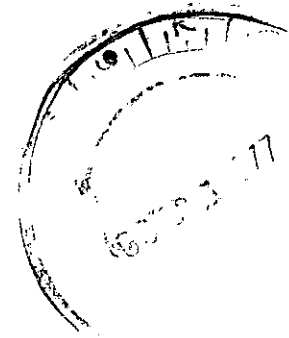
A total of seven stable and aisle Dutch doors at the grade level are hung on handwrought strap hinges and fitted with typical throw-bar barn door latches. Beams (on three foot centers) consisting of single timbers (forty feet long) still with bark on two sides span the entire width of the barn and support the two mows and two threshing or drive floors above the stables. A gently sloping earthen ramp or bank provides an approach for the heavily laden horse drawn wagon to enter the upper level through the two pairs of twelve foot high doors.

Inside, examination of the structural framework reveals that at the time this barn was built, prefabrication was already elevated to a science. All wood members were precut, fitted and numbered with Roman numerals. Posts, beams and purlins supporting the roof were sawed or adzed; holes were bored and chiseled into the oak timbers. Wooden pegs then locked mortise and tenons together to unite the entire framework into one strong, impressive unit.

The roof, supported entirely by ten inclined purlin posts with their braces forming a fan, was originally wooden shingles. Today the forebay roof is roll tin; the barn roof, sheet aluminum. The north gable end, originally stone, was removed because of deterioration and replaced with wooden siding about 1900.

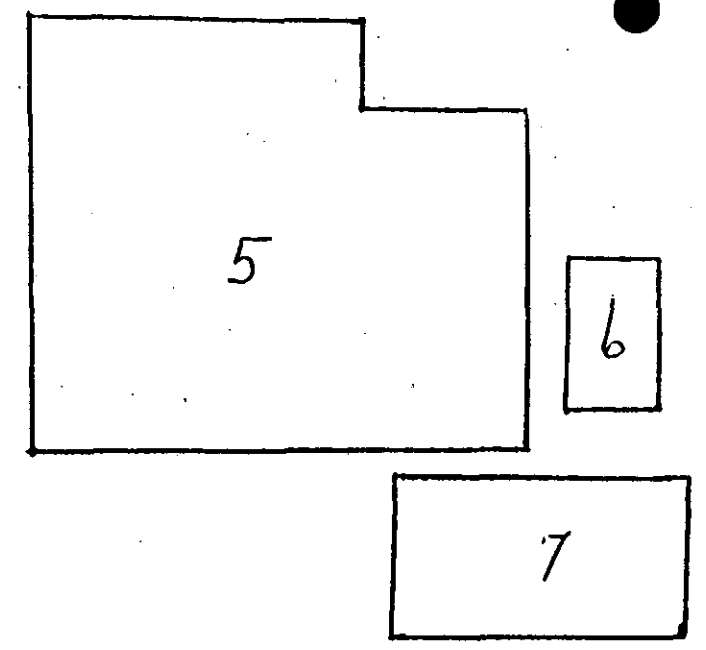
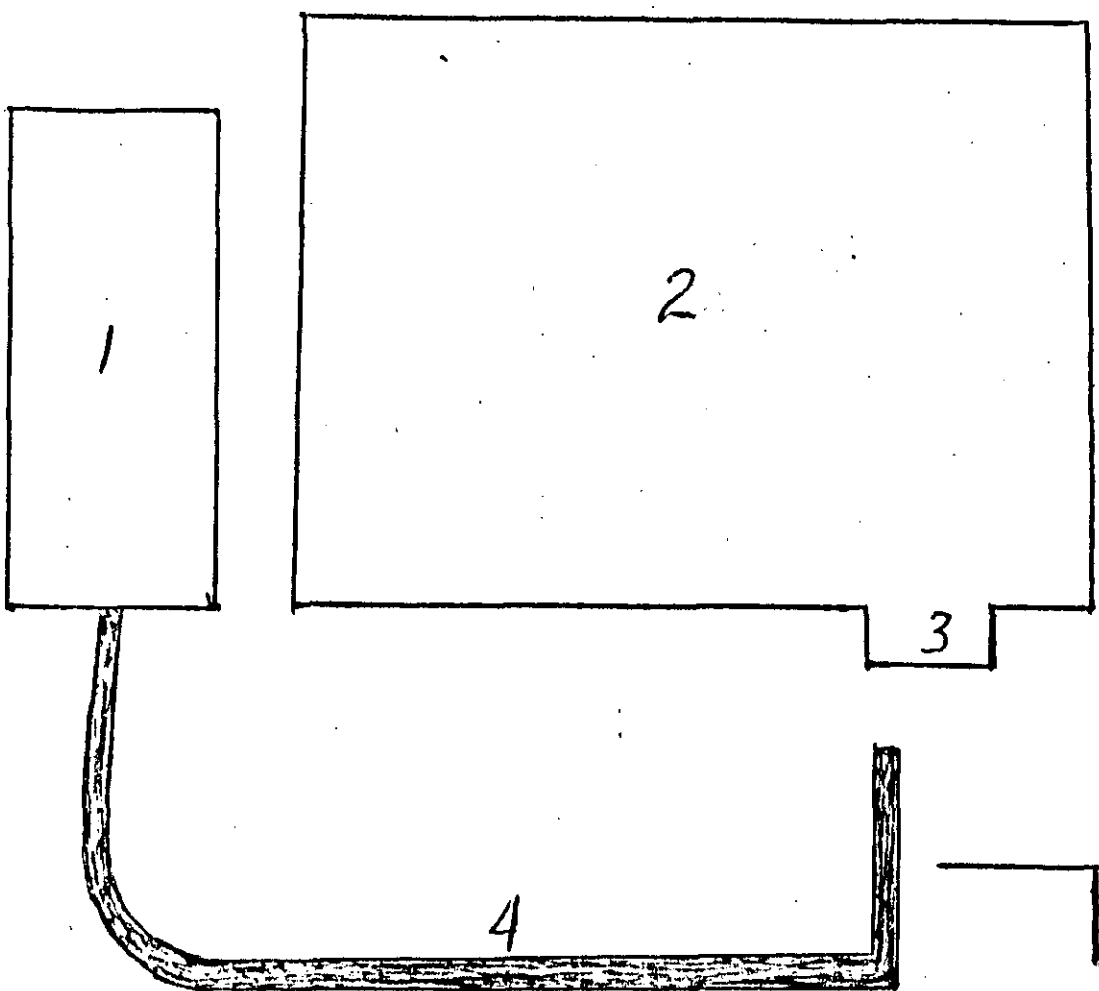
The facade of the forebay is decorated with three "hex signs", copies of the original ones painted on the barn when it was first built.

The barnyard is enclosed by a stuccoed stone wall four and one-half feet high and two feet wide.

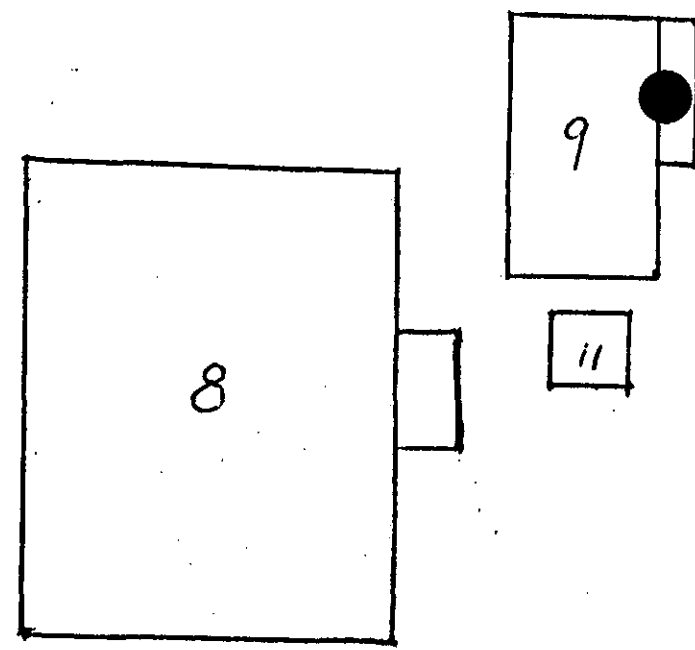
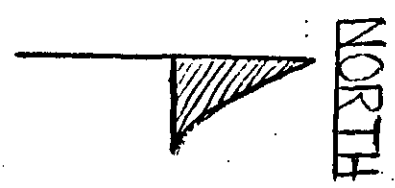


Dependencies

- Pig Sty 40.5 feet x 21.5 feet; wooden, story and a half high structure built about 1920. Painted sheet metal roof.
- Milk House 18.5 feet x 9 feet lean-to, cinder block structure built about 1955.
- Wagon Shed 30 feet x 45 feet; believed to be an older structure than the barn, framed with hand hewn oak posts and beams. Fitted mortise and tenons are held together with wooden pegs. It contains a corn-crib and storage loft. Two lean-to sheds are attached to the north side of this building. Painted sheet metal roof.
- Garage 21 feet x 10 feet; one-car garage built about 1930.
- Privy 8 feet x 4.5 feet, built about 1920.
- "Spring House" 22 feet x 14.5 feet; half stone and half frame construction probably built at the same time as the house (1810-1820). Originally used for butchering, washing and as a supplementary kitchen with bake oven, fireplace, and smoke house. Bake oven and fireplace were removed about 1930 and replaced with large stone and loft enclosed for use as smoke chamber. There is no spring or running water within the structure, but a twenty-seven foot deep, stone-lined well is directly in front of this building. New, wooden shingle roof.



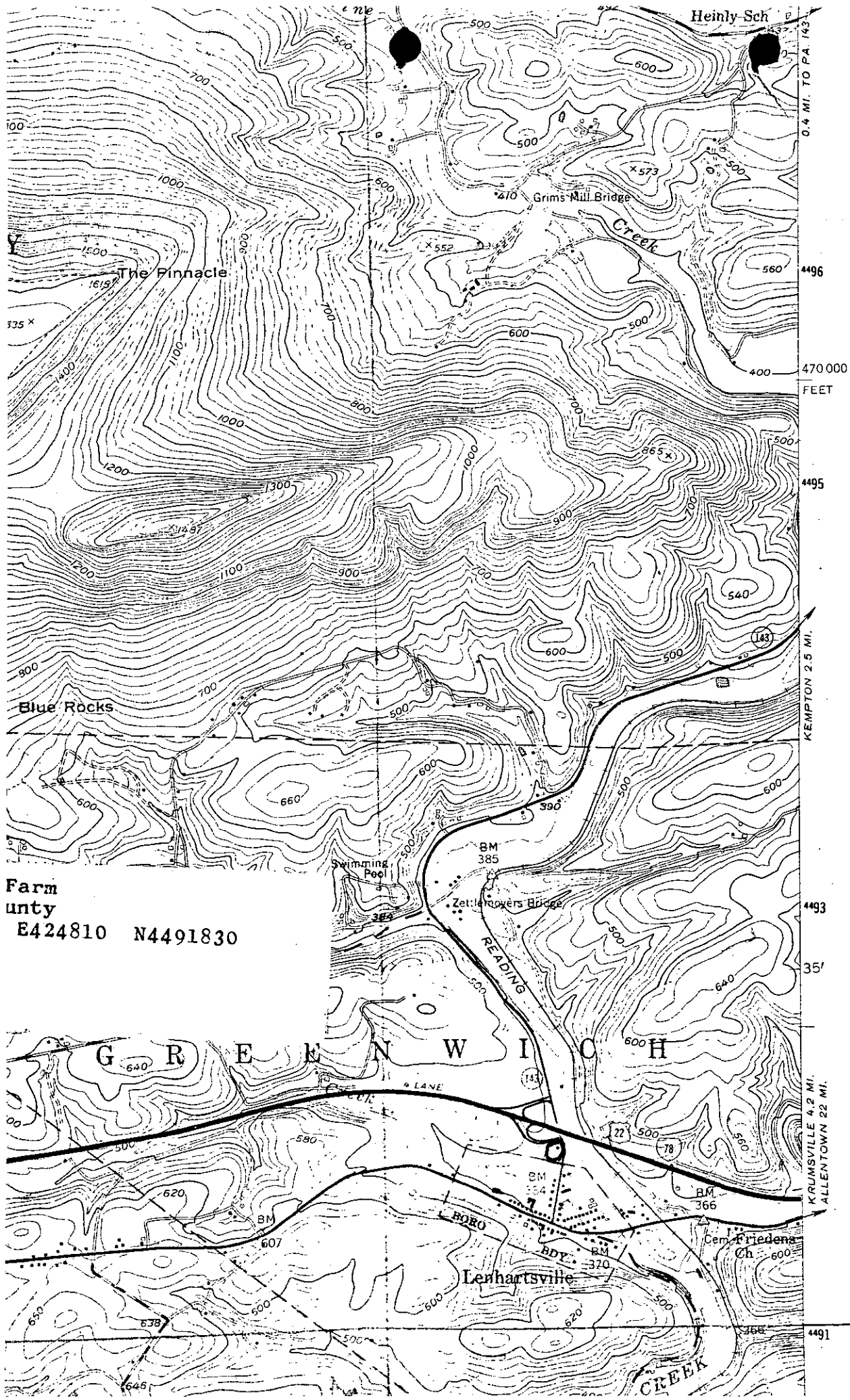
LENHART FARM



- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. PIG STY | 7. GARAGE |
| 2. LENHART BARN | 8. LENHART HOUSE |
| 3. MILK HOUSE | 9. "SPRING HOUSE" |
| 4. BARNYARD WALL | 10. LEAN-TO STORAGE |
| 5. WAGON SHED, CORN CRIB
AND LEAN-TO STORAGE | 11. STONE-LINED WELL |

1. PRTVN

(NOT DRAWN TO SCALE)



0.4 MI. TO PA. 143
4496
470 000
FEET
4495
KEMPTON 2.5 MI.
4493
35'
KRUMSVILLE 4.2 MI.
ALLENTOWN 22 MI.
4491

Farm
ounty
E424810 N4491830

424810
4491830

G R E E N W I C H

Lenhartsville

CREEK