

IX. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (check one or more as applicable):

Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century Specific Date(s)
 (if known).....

AREAS:

Aboriginal		Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Music	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historic	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion and/or		Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Invention	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Art	<input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Literature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social - Humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Communications	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Theatre	<input type="checkbox"/>	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Including Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Note: One may wish to attach here appraisals by noteworthy local historians or other interested parties who have knowledge of the property.

For over two centuries Brinton's Mill played an important role in the commercial life of the area in which it is located. The first mill on the site was built prior to 1719 by Nicholas Fred. Edward Brinton remodeled and enlarged it around 1760. John Hill Brinton's Journal states that William Dailey, a miller, recollected having seen a date stone "1769" when the mill was rebuilt in 1824. When the structure was renovated in the 1960's the workmen found the date "1762" in the plaster. The mill is still operational.

At the Battle of the Brandywine, 11 September 1777, General John Sullivan and his troops were bivouacked at Brinton's Ford (adjacent to the mill) with the responsibility of guarding all Fords north of Chadds Ford. It was Sullivan's reconnaissance forces who reported that the British forces were nowhere near the Fords of the Brandywine, when they were actually outflanking Washington's Army. Brinton's Ford was the center of the American Forces until early in the afternoon. After that, Sullivan's troops were ordered forward to the area near Osborne Hill.

The mill, house and granary are now the property of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Wyeth. Mr. Wyeth has used a great many of the local buildings, landscapes and people as subjects for his paintings. His works hang in the major galleries and private collections of the United States. He has influenced the tastes of this generation more than any other living artist. Through his paintings people throughout the world have become familiar with Chadds Ford and the countryside around it.

IX. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ()

X. FORM PREPARED BY:

NAME AND TITLE:

*Eleanor M. Webster, Consultant for
Tri-County Conservancy*

ORGANIZATION:

DATE:

June 70

STREET AND NUMBER:

Box 141

CITY OR TOWN:

Chadds Ford

STATE:

Pa

XI. PLEASE SEND COMPLETED FORM TO:

Keeper
Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites & Landmarks
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Box 1026
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108

VIII. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	EXCELLENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GOOD <input type="checkbox"/>	(Check one)		FAIR <input type="checkbox"/>	DETERIORATED <input type="checkbox"/>	RUINS <input type="checkbox"/>	UNEXPOSED <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check one)		(Check one)		MOVED <input type="checkbox"/>	ORIGINAL SITE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	ALTERED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNALTERED <input type="checkbox"/>						

VIII. (A) EARLY APPEARANCE (Old prints, old photos, photos of paintings and prints):

Note: Early views are most important since they often show a property before drastic changes were made. Please seek out any old photos, prints or photos of paintings, or prints that show the property. Place these in chronological order and comment upon the date of each view if possible.

There are three structures of interest at Brinton's Mill. They are an eighteenth century stone mill, an early nineteenth century granary and a twentieth century stone house constructed upon the foundations and within the walls of an eighteenth century dwelling.

The first mill was built around 1720. There are no known sketches or descriptions of the building. In the 1760's the roofline was raised, the building expanded, and the Evans method of milling begun. Another major renovation occurred in the early 1800's. The present owners have restored it to its eighteenth century appearance.

The granary was built about the time the mill was remodeled for the second time. Its exterior has not changed, except that a large window replaces the barn doors on the west facade. The interior was remodeled to make the building into an apartment.

The house was altered numerous times to permit larger tenant families to live in it. It finally burned in the 1920's. The present house preserves the walls which were still standing and captures the flavour of the earlier structure. The photographs reflect the exterior similarity between the house before it burned and now.

VIII. (B) PRESENT APPEARANCE:

Note: Please include exterior, interior and detailed views when possible. Any measured drawings or sketches of interesting details are also helpful.

The photographs appended to this report illustrate the exterior of the present buildings.

Pennsylvania Historical
& Museum Commission 3/1969
Register of
Historic Sites & Landmarks

Please Type or Print

<i>Official Use Only</i>	
NUMBER:	COUNTY:
TYPE OF PROPERTY:	

I. NAME **Brinton's Mill**

COMMON NAME OF PROPERTY:

OTHER:

II. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

U.S. 100 North of the Village of Chadds Ford

CITY OR TOWN:

CHADDS FORD

COUNTY:

CHESTER

III. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS		ACCESSIBLE TO PUBLIC	
District	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public	<input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes:	
Building	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition:		Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted	<input type="checkbox"/>
Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Preservation Work in Progress	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/>
Structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Both	<input type="checkbox"/>			No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Object	<input type="checkbox"/>						

PRESENT USE (Check One or More if Applicable)

Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	Museum	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religious	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Comment below)	
Educational	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Additional Comments:

IV. OWNERSHIP

NAME:

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Wyeth

STREET AND NUMBER:

Creek Road

CITY OR TOWN:

Chadds Ford

COUNTY:

Chester

V. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:

Chester County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

High and Market Streets

CITY OR TOWN:

West Chester

COUNTY:

Chester

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY **30.09 acres**

VI. (A) REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

None Known

DATE OF SURVEY:

FEDERAL

STATE

COUNTY

LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

(B) MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(Books, Pamphlets, Theses, Research Projects, etc. See Instruction Sheet.)

PRIMARY SOURCES:

Chester County Courthouse. Deed Books: I, p. 99; A-2, p. 5; A-5; M, p. 62; D-28, pp. 395-7; V-3, p. 398.

Will Books: 9-7, p. 57; B-2, p. 96.

Chester County Historical Society. Journal of John Hill Brinton. Manuscript.

Miscellaneous Deeds. 7 February 1701. Edward Shippen and Nathan Stanberry to Joseph Phipps; 27 1st month 1714. Joseph Phipps' receipt for payment of quitrents.

Miscellaneous Manuscripts on Birmingham Township, Chester County.

Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Taylor Collection - 1679-1740. Early Survey of Property.

Townsend, Joseph. Some Account of the British Army Under the Command of General Howe and of the Battle of Brandywine. Philadelphia: Townsend Ward, 1846.

(Cont'd)

VII. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LARGE PROPERTY--OVER TEN ACRES

SMALL PROPERTY--LESS THAN TEN ACRES

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			O R	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	39°	53'	17"	75°	36'	42"		"	"	"	"	"	"
NE	39°	53'	17"	75°	36'	21"							
SE	39°	53'	01"	75°	36'	21"							
SW	39°	53'	01"	75°	36'	42"							

LIST ALL COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING COUNTY BOUNDARIES

Notice on the use of maps: Please pinpoint property on the largest scale map possible (e.g., a township map is preferable to a county map, which in turn is better than a State map). Please try to find a map that uses the grid coordinate system and includes a notation as to scale. State geodetic maps are preferable when obtainable, but county, township, or local road maps are also acceptable.

VI. (B) MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Continued)

SECONDARY SOURCES:

Atlas of Chester County, Pennsylvania. Safe Harbor (Pennsylvania): A.R. Witmer, 1873.

The Brandywine Story: 1777-1952. Brandywine Battlefield Park Commission, September 11, 1952.

Breou's Official Series of Farm Maps: Chester County, Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: W.W. Kirk & Co., 1883.

Canby, Henry Seidel. The Brandywine (Rivers of America Series). New York: Farrar and Rinehart, 1941, pp. 191-8.

Daily Local News. West Chester (Pennsylvania), 21 May 1879.

Futhey, J. Smith and Gilbert Cope. History of Chester County, Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: Louis B. Everts, 1881.

Heathcote, Charles W. History of Chester County, Pennsylvania. West Chester: Temple Press, 1926.

Lossing, B.J. Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution - Second Edition. New York: Harper Brothers, 1852, p. 377.

MacElree, W.W. Along the Western Brandywine. West Chester: W.S. Hickman, 1912, p. 139.

Smith, George. History of Delaware County, Pennsylvania From the Discovery of the Territory Included Within Its Limits to the Present Time. Philadelphia: Henry B. Ashmead, 1862.

Ward, Christopher L. The Delaware Continentals. Wilmington: Historical Society of Delaware, 1941, p. 201.