



W A L L A C E

Brandywine Manor

Glenmoore

Springton

Little Washington

E S T

B R A N D Y W I N E

E A S T

Corner Ketch

DIPLOMA
MRS. S. J. S.

North

Indian

Camp Indian Run

Devereux Sch

GORDON

Clifton

PIPELINE

PIPELINE

PENN CENTRAL

CREEK

Run

Run

Branch

Fairview Ch

Cem

Swimming Pool

Swimming Pool

BM 365

Cem

307

526

2814

697

80

500

500

542

282

645

654

600

602

600

600

700

600

521

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600

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600

Wagontown Quadrangle
Pennsylvania - Chester County
United States Department of the Interior
Geological Survey

Aerial Photographs 1951
Field Check 1956
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum

Revisions from aerial photographs taken 1969.
This information not field checked.

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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
SPRINGTON MANOR FARM

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Springton Road and Creek Road, Route 282

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
16

CITY, TOWN
Wallace Township

VICINITY OF

STATE
Pennsylvania

CODE
42

COUNTY
Chester

CODE
029

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" 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"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Forward Lands, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER
810 Blackshire Road

CITY, TOWN
Wilmington

VICINITY OF

STATE
Delaware

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Chester County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Market and High Streets

CITY, TOWN
West Chester

STATE
Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE
11/13/78

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY 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

The Springton Manor Farm is a large farm complex located on 260 acres in Wallace Township. This 260 acres is most of the original land grant to Robert McConaghey. All of the fields are fenced with stone walls originally constructed when the fields were first cleared. The main house and barn are surrounded by a well-preserved collection of stone and frame outbuildings, numbering sixteen.

Building Inventory

The numbering system in this inventory corresponds with the placement of the structures on the "Field Plan, Springton Manor Farm" as well as the identification of the 8" x 10" glossy prints.

1. Semi-circular stuccoed stone cistern, circa 1870.
2. Small wood tool shed, circa 1850.
3. Three holer wood privy, circa 1840.
4. Two story, stuccoed, stone, spring and milkouse, circa 1836, 13' x 13'. Second story was used for meat and cheese storage.
5. Wood and stuccoed stone manor or main house was built in three stages: the core, circa 1836; north and south wings, constructed in 1887 and east wing plus alterations in 1912. See attached copy of 1912 floor plan. Part A (1836), utilized the following from the Federal architecture period: large lights, low pitch roof, louvered shutters on second floor and paneled shutters on the first floor, narrow architrave trim. George Bartol altered the older structure to conservative Queen Anne and added the additions (Part B), creating an L-shape in 1887. Twin windowed eyelid dormers appear on the east and west elevations while full sized, pitched roof, twin windowed dormers exist on the north and south elevations. The first floor verandah existed beyond the full length of the north facade for about 75 feet. Other verandahs are on the east elevation of the south extension (tin roofed), and an enclosed porch on the south side of the south extension. The latter wing is two stories and has horizontal lapped wooden siding instead of stone with corner boards. Tapered Tuscan columns support the hipped, asphalt shingled wrap-around verandah. All windows are double hung sash, two over two large lights, narrow lintels and sashes. The entrances are conservative trimmed, transom lights, and paneled doors. The medium pitched asphalt shingled roof is graced with tall brick chimneys. The 1912 floor plan (Part C), shows the details of the east extension plus other alterations. The most significant component is the Georgian detail utilized for the main entrance of the wing. Dormers were added to match existing work. The only minor changes since 1912 were the removal of diagonal braces on the verandah plus shortening the porch slightly on the north facade.
6. Stone and wood carriage house, 60' x 60', decorative cupola and brick interior chimneys with terra cotta chimney pots, circa 1840 and 1887.
7. Wood and tin wood shed, 25' x 12', circa 1870.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SPRINGTON MANOR FARM, CHESTER COUNTY

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8. Small wood garage, 23' x 12', circa 1880.
9. Stone, horizontal siding, two story tenant house, 31' x 30', extension of 38' x 14', circa late 1700's and later changed to conservative Queen Anne.
10. Stone and wood small barn, steep and shed roof, cedar shingles, 64' x 42', extension on west elevation, 32' x 15', circa 1845.
11. Wood chicken house, tin shed roof, 30' x 12', circa 1890.
12. Stone and wood bull pen, vertical board and batten, tin low pitched roof, 31' x 25', circa 1845.
13. Wood vehicle garage, medium pitched asphalt shingled roof, vertical board and batten, 44' x 20', circa 1845.
14. Wood corn crib, horizontal and vertical board and batten, 24' x 32', circa 1845.
15. Fieldstone, enormous germanic bank barn, 61' x 101', has a very steep cedar shingled roof topped with a louvered and spiked cupola. The stone and ground incline plane on west elevation has stone extensions with shed tin roofs on each side. In addition, vaulted brick and stone cistern is on the southwest extension. The east elevation has a wood and stone extension, 62' x 36', on north corner with twin silos. The stone walled barnyard, 64' x 50', leads to the conical columned forebay. The north and south elevations are similar with horizontal weathered siding (wood) in the steeped pitched gable ends only. The approximate construction date of the main barn is circa 1750.
16. The stone leanto with cedar shingles, circa 1711, had a low, pegged trimmed, single door on the north elevation. A wall fireplace existed to the east of the doorway with a datestone in the fireplace wall of 1711. The datestone has been stolen within the past few years. The west elevation had a small window which gave the leanto 1½ stories. The addition to the south, circa 1745, was a two story, stone Georgian architecture, two bay rendition with a medium pitched cedar shingled roof. Fireplaces (interior) existed on the west side which created the strong interior chimney. Water courses could be seen on the west, south and east elevations and well as a porch on the south facade. This structure is lovingly called Rose Cottage because it is surrounded by descendents of colonial roses planted by the McConaghey family in the late 1700's. The past two winters have deteriorated the structure until it is little more than a ruin. The main roof and south wall collapsed in 1977 and this past winter the north wall of the leanto collapsed due to severe weather. Since part of the structure is the earliest known European habitat in northwestern Chester County, some of the people in the community would like to have it saved and possibly reused as a local archives and/or museum.
17. Stone springhouse, collapsed into ruins, circa 1735.
18. Hydraulic dams, circa 1870.
19. Wood implement storage building, vertical board and batten, cedar shingles, 35' x 23', circa 1900.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES Construction: Circa 1711, 1735, BUILDER/ARCHITECT
 1745, 1750, 1836, 1845, 1887, 1912.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This 260 acre northwestern Chester County Agricultural area has been a continuous working farm since written records have been maintained in the early 1700's. The metes and bounds today are similar to the original survey of 1742 for Robert McConaghey. Mr. McConaghey constructed stone fences from the rocky fields in order to raise crops of rye and corn on the poor soil. After 1769, the trees were felled to supply wood for charcoal at Springton Forge nearby. He also became the local land tycoon through purchases of additional farmland, totally 1,100 acres. Abraham R. McIlvaine became the owner of Springton Manor Farm in the 1830's and was a Merino sheep farmer.

Abraham R. was reared a farmer, and settled on "Springton Farm" which is beautifully situated on the Brandywine. After it came into his possession the appearance and quality of the land was much improved, he being a systematic and thorough farmer.

In addition, he was president of the Agricultural Society of Chester and Delaware Counties as well as Vice-President of the State Agricultural Society. The major improvement of the latter 1800's was the installation of the hydraulic dam system, component of the industrial revolution, which distributed water to various sections of the farm. Water power was harnessed at approximately the 460 foot elevation, piped to the main barn at 510 feet and then past the manor house to the final cistern at 640 feet above sea level.

Two hundred years of various architectural styles remain as examples of change in the development of the farm. The earliest is the small leanto (stone) with shed roof, small windows, and low entrance, circa 1711. The addition to the leanto is two story stone, Georgian style, circa 1745, and known as Rose Cottage. The core of the manor house was Federal, circa 1836. In 1887, George E. Bartol expanded it and employed the following artisans to do the work: Benjamin G. Lewis, cellar digging; Gillander and Sons, glass; George W. Stine, Stonemason; G. Guthrie, Carpenter; M. Rambo and Son, lumber; Charles J. Field, hardware; Davis Page, Jr., Tinsmith; J. Fletcher Walton, Plasterer; Charles Ireby and Brothers, Painter and Glazier; Harry Davis, Millwork. Wilson Eyre and McIlvaine, Architects, 1003 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and 41 East 30th Street, New York City, New York, designed and executed alterations and additions to the manor house in 1912. See attached drawing and floor plan. The stone barn, circa 1750, 61' x 101', is the largest one still standing in Springton Manor. Most of the outbuildings are from the 1800's. The most interesting feature of them is the wooden horizontal siding, dadoed at 45 degree angles on top and bottom and overlapped, but not touching. This type of construction repelled rain run-off.

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The Bartol family who owned Springton Manor Farm as a country residence for seventy plus years was interested in conservation and strove to preserve botanical specimens. Some of which are the following: colonial roses planted in the 1700's near Rose Cottage; copper beech north of the manor house, huge English boxwood planted by the McIlvaine family near the manor house; twin white oaks, circumferences of 18' 10" and 16', respectively in 1978, and lovingly called the King and Queen white oaks by the Bartol Family and local citizens. The other specimens are Japanese red pine, larch, specimen birch and old azaleas, as well as a typical Chester County farm orchard. Miss Bartol's interest in conservation prompted her to deed the farm to Forward Land, Inc., 810 Blackshire Road, Wilmington, Delaware, a non-profit environmental organization whose goals include maintaining open space in rapidly developing communities.

The stone leanto on the north side of Rose Cottage, had a datestone in the fireplace wall of 1711, before its decay. It is the earliest known form of structural European habitat in Wallace Township. Furthermore, Robert McConaghey, the first documented landholder of the property had a continual feud with the Penn proprietors to obtain a patent for the ground. He was constantly refused on the premise that the proprietors wanted to keep Springton Manor for themselves and continually denied outright deeds to sections in the manor. He also was involved in early petitions for taverns, local cartpaths as they were needed; in addition to negotiations between the resident Indians, proprietary government officials, and local settlers. The most important document revealed the reason why the first settlers came to the area - it was the only open territory remaining in the 1730's and 1740's; they squatted on it even though it was rocky, wooded, and had poor soil.

The Honorable Abraham R. McIlvaine is also known for his involvement in politics.

In 1836 he was elected a member of the House of Representatives in Pennsylvania, and was re-elected in 1837. In 1842 he was elected to the Twenty-Eighth Congress from the Seventh District, composed of Chester County, and was re-elected in 1844 and 1846. The very capable and popular speaker was opposed to the annexation of Texas and the war with Mexico. Abraham Lincoln asked for and received advice from Mr. McIlvaine on the composition of his cabinet when he became President.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 260.5 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME _____

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A | 1,8 | 43,408,0 | 4,43,638,0

B | 1,8 | 43,426,0 | 4,43,548,0

C | 1,8 | 43,334,0 | 4,43,505,0

D | 1,8 | 43,318,0 | 4,43,808,0

E | 1,8 | 43,348,0 | 4,43,640,0

F | 1,8 | 43,342,0 | 4,43,640,0

G | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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

Jane L.S. Davison, for

ORGANIZATION

Forward Lands, Inc.

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

810 Blackshire Road

TELEPHONE

1-302-655-2151

CITY OR TOWN

Wilmington

STATE

Delaware

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 Ed Weintraub
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION