



Falcons

Broad

G O S H E N

4426

4425

240 000  
FEET

Taylor 1768 House  
Chester County  
Zone 18

A E444900 N442329 B E444940 N442318  
C E444690 N442311 D E444665 N442323

Sewage  
disposal

WEST CHESTER 1 MI.  
PHILADELPHIA 27 MI.

57°30"

4423

EAST

T I

A S

H

BRANCH

WEST CHESTER 1.5 MI.  
PHILADELPHIA 26 MI.

Seonelltown

(WEST CHESTER)  
5863 1 NE

4420  
6 MI.  
PHILADELPHIA

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

*Yes* 34

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 *Taylor 1768 House*

AND/OR COMMON  
*"Meadowview Farm" "Taylor-Parke House"*

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
*West Strasburg Road*

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN  
*East Bradford* VICINITY OF *5th*

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE  
*Pennsylvania 42 Chester 029*

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME *Mr. and Mrs. B.J. Clark, Jr.*

STREET & NUMBER  
*RD #1, West Strasburg Road*

CITY, TOWN  
*West Chester* VICINITY OF *Pennsylvania*

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
*Chester County Courthouse*

STREET & NUMBER  
*High Street*

CITY, TOWN  
*West Chester* STATE *Pennsylvania*

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
*Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places*

DATE *May 17, 1973*  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
*Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission*

CITY, TOWN  
*Harrisburg* STATE *Pennsylvania*

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Taylor 1768 House was, as the name indicates, built in 1768. There are three distinct sections to the house; a 2½ story main section, a 1½ story kitchen wing, and an attached shed.

The front facade of the main section is composed of cut stone while the remaining elevations are composed of plain fieldstone. The gabled roof has been reshingled with composition shingle and is characterized by a brick chimney at side left and a refinished brick chimney at side right. A pent surrounds the main section between the first and second floor windows. A circular datestone is centered on the 2nd story of the front facade. The front facade of the main section is 4 bays wide with seven 12 over 12 sash windows with shutters and the main door located off-center to the left.

The kitchen wing is attached to the eastern elevation of the main facade, it is one and ½ stories high and is composed of fieldstone. The roof is gabled and is characterized by a large stone chimney located at side right. The windows are 2 over 2 sash and the main door is located off center to the left. The wing is two bays wide.

The shed is a large stone structure attached to the eastern elevation of the kitchen wing. The shed which extends perpendicularly behind the house, is really two sheds linked at the base by a connecting structure. The shed is built entirely of stone and is one story. The shed retains its original wooden shingles.

Also located on the property is a large gable roofed frame barn with a two and ½ story gable roof extension. This structure was added to the farm c.1900 and is used for cattle and sheep today.

11/20/74 1768

11/20/74

11/20/74

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 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 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

1768

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A picturesque article about this house, written in 1942, mentions that "The windows shivered with the concussion of shot and shell of the Battle of Brandywine". The Taylor 1768 House is less than 2 miles from the scone of some of the action which led up the famous battle. And a skirmishing party is said to have been as far north as this Strasgarret of this very house. But it is as an example of well done regional architecture, unhurt by time, which makes this Taylor House important.

Built in 1768 by the grandson of the immigrant Abiah Taylor, the house measures approximately 36 x 40, with a large kitchen wing in the east. It has a history of having housed large families. It can be considered a mansion; its detail has finesse, but it stresses no classic vacabulary. As a variation of the Penn Plan, it is not a center-hall house. It is not even a 5-bay house. Its stairs do not feature an open stringcase, or a landing window. The 8½" treads and the 7" resers are proportioned more to the spacing of boxed stairs. There are eaves rather than a cornice and pent eaves rather than a stringcourse. For its date, these facts may suggest what Gowans call "retardataire", but these very features combined with the date make this a prime example of what was the Pennsylvania country style in the Georgian period.

In its 4-bay design, facade emphasis is apparent in the 4' x 6' 12/12 windows set in a wall of dressed dark grey stone. The 4-paned transomed door, set on the outer edge of the wall, has 8 fielded panels. A circular datestone is set in the upper center section of the facade. The 12/12 windows are not limited to the facade; there is a total of 17. The garret windows, symmetrically placed, are also large, 6/6. This heaviness of design and detail can be seen throughout the structure.

The date of this house is significant for comparison to other principal places nearby. Cliveden, 1763, has similiar windows even to the heavy muntins. The Humphrey Marshall house, 1773, in West Bradford, has a comparable floorplan and a datestone of similiar shape and placement. The Marshall house also has a closed string stairway and a mantel treatment which resembles that used in the northwest first floor room of the Taylor house.

The house sits south of a protective hill and is shaded by trees over 200 years old. In front of the house is a road which has been established east/west route for over 250 years, and beyond that is meadowland.

The builder, a grandson of a settler, was a member of the Assembly from 1795-1801. It was he to whom reference was made in a 1791 tavern petition when the place of the tavern is termed as "a place commonly called Abiah Taylor's town." Taylor, 1801, was the 1st person buried at the Bradford Meeting burial grounds, across the road from the Humphrey Marshall House. The builder had been a hatter (a hatter's shop existed on the place until about 1900), but Taylor was also taxed with a mill. Tenants and owners who have followed have been millers and farmers. Samuel Parke, at the turn of the century, had a model dairy farm.

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*TAYLOR 1768 HOUSE*

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

*Although this is a house with many parallels, the Taylor 1768 House is also without duplicate. Already on the HABS survey of the 1950's, the place deserves protection because it is so authentic and so exemplary of a small neighborhood's "best" as well as a larger region's "finest".*

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Chester County Courthouse:

Deeds: N, p.456 (1760); E13, p.108 (1906); H23, p. 182 (1949); A25, p. 406 (1951).

Road Dockets: 1735, 1744.

Will: Bk 22, p. 28 (1863); Bk 27, p. 307 (1880).

Inventory # 4898, (1802).

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5 Acres

QUADRANGLE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

QUADRANGLE SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,8 | 4,4,4,9,0,0 | 4,4,2,3,2,9,0

B 1,8 | 4,4,4,9,4,0 | 4,4,2,3,1,8,0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 1,8 | 4,4,4,6,9,0 | 4,4,2,3,1,1,0

D 1,8 | 4,4,4,6,6,5 | 4,4,2,3,2,3,0

E \_\_\_\_\_

F \_\_\_\_\_

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

Alice Kent Schooler, Historic Sites Research

ORGANIZATION

DATE

June 14, 1973

STREET & NUMBER

853 Parkside Avenue

TELEPHONE

215-696-8406

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 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 Ed Weintraub

DATE

State Historic Preservation Officer

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

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UTM REFERENCES

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

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Alice Kent Schooler, Historic Sites Research  
 ORGANIZATION

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STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Ed Weintraub*

TITLE

Ed Weintraub  
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

6-4-79

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