

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania	
COUNTY: Bucks	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Pennsbury Manor

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
near U.S. 1 and 13

CITY OR TOWN:
Falls Township, near Morrisville

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42 COUNTY: Bucks CODE: 017

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
administered by Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Bucks County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Doylestown STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: 1972 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7: DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

ORIGINAL:

By the mid eighteenth century the original manor house had collapsed before any sketches or paintings had been made of it. The present structure is based on Penn's letters and conjecture.

PRESENT:

Pennsbury Manor is a two and a half story brick house in a style typical of the William and Mary period. The brick is set in an English bond pattern. The front, facing the Delaware River, is five bays across with a multi-paneled central door. The windows are casement opening out. Those of the first floor have brick arches above them and those of the second floor have leaded glass panels above them. Three jerkin-head dormers and two large chimneys are on the roof. A large frame section occupies the rear of the house. A one and a half story brick kitchen with a large chimney extends to the left of the main entrance. The interior is seventeenth century in style and furnished in period antiques, typical of the furnishings that Penn most likely owned.

Much of the plantation arrangement of the estate has been reconstructed. Today there is a bake and brew house, a smoke house, a plantation office, ice house, and stable. Some of these are conjectural. Penn's gardens with native and foreign plants have been replanted.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **circa 1682 and 1939**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Pennsbury Manor is a reconstruction of the manor house built by William Penn as his home in the new world. The original manor-house and surrounding tract of land was an expression of the personal taste of the founder of Pennsylvania. It was the environment where he hoped to spend a large portion of his life.

The site of Pennsbury was chosen by Penn's cousin and deputy governor, William Markham. The deed of July 15, 1682 was the first to be executed between Penn and the Indians. It was paid for in wampum, gilders, blankets, clothing, tobacco and other goods.

The house was planned by Penn and construction may have begun before his arrival in October, 1682. Unfortunately Penn was forced to return to England in 1684 and appointed James Harrison to be overseer. Harrison received voluminous letters detailing instructions for the completion of the house and laying out of the grounds.

Due to political affairs Penn was not able to return to the new world until 1699. Pennsbury was home for the Penn family while in America until 1701 when Penn had to return again to England. This was the last time he saw Pennsbury.

The estate was maintained for a few years after Penn's departure, however, by 1707 the house had begun to fall into a decaying condition. During Penn's illness attention necessarily was diverted from Pennsbury to administering the colony. The estate rapidly fell into total ruin and the estate was sold.

In 1932 Pennsbury was given to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and reconstruction of Penn's beloved home was begun. Around the original foundation were found bricks, nails, hinges, window glass, delft tiles, and pieces of casement. With these artifacts and a knowledge

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(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries)

8. Significance continued

of contemporary architecture, the manor house was completed by 1939. The house is furnished in seventeenth century antiques, similar to what Penn probably owned. Many of the out buildings on the plantation have been reconstructed along with Penn's fine gardens.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Files Bureau of Historic Sites & Properties contain a tremendous amount of information regarding the reconstruction of Pennsbury Manor

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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 ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE E°	LONGITUDE P°		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	74° 46' 5"	40° 8' 0"				
NE	74° 45' 55"	40° 8' 2"				
SE	74° 45' 15"	40° 7' 50"				
SW	74° 46' 0"	40° 7' 20"				

See included Zerox map

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Dewey Lee Curtis, Curator

ORGANIZATION: Pennsbury Manor (Penna. Historical & Museum Commission) DATE: 6/23/69

STREET AND NUMBER:
Pennsbury Lane

CITY OR TOWN: near Morrisville STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 37

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: S. K. Stevens

Title: Ex. Director

Date: July 30, 1969

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest Allen Connelly
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

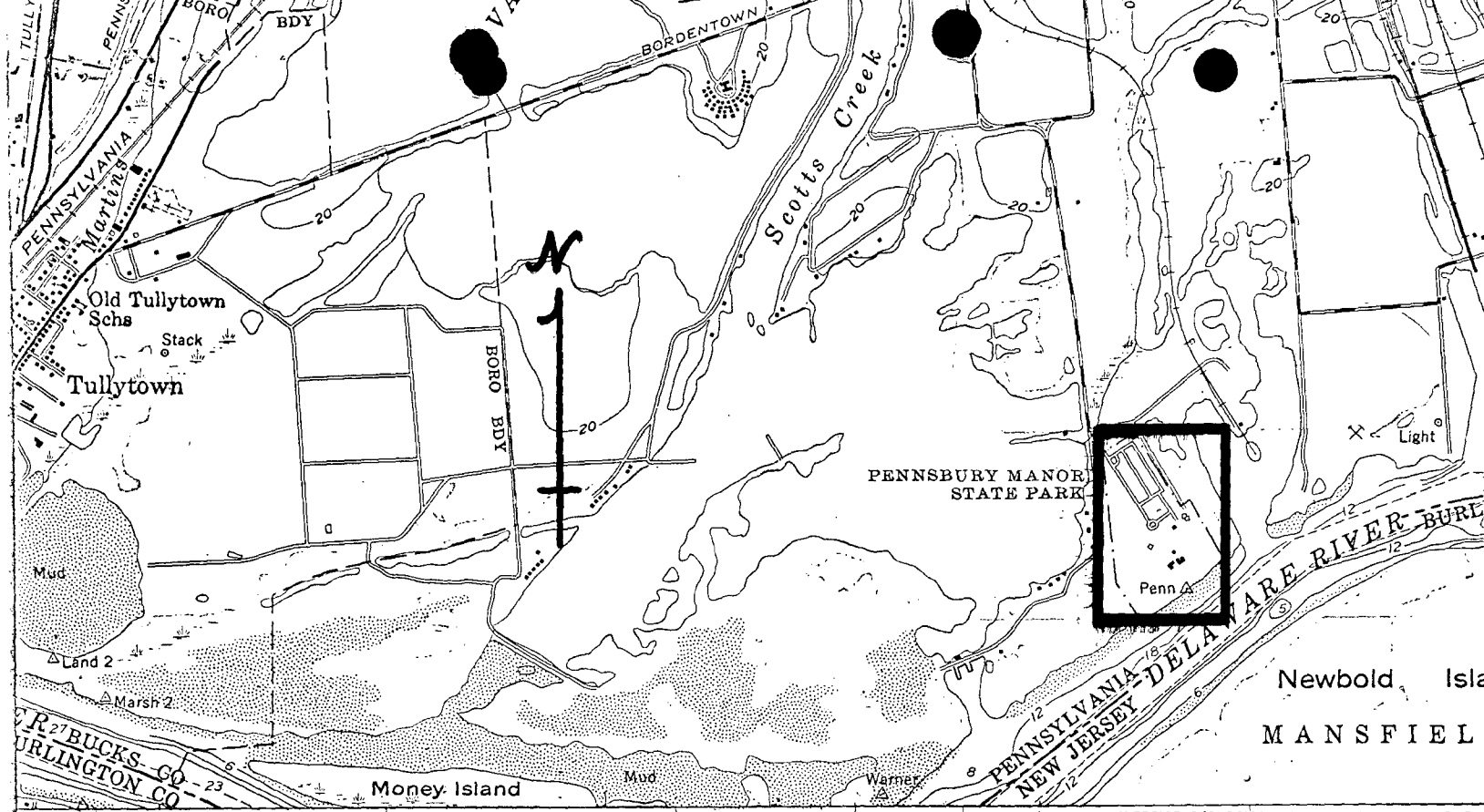
DATE: OCT 28 1969

ATTEST:

William J. Montague
Keeper of The National Register

Date: August 7, 1969

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

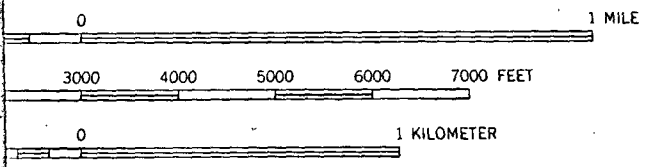


(BRISTOL)

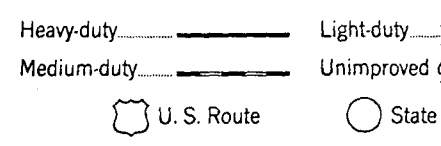
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INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. MP 4597 52100

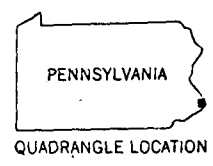
SCALE 1:24000



ROAD CLASSIFICATION



VERTICAL INTERVAL 20 FEET
 ELEVATIONS ARE MEAN SEA LEVEL
 DISTANCES IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
 DOTTED LINE IS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
 RANGE OF TIDE IS 6.3 FEET



TRENTON WEST,
 NE/4 BURLINGTON 15' QU.
 N 4007.5—W 7445

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
 ADDITIONAL MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Pennsbury Manor
 Bucks County
 Pennsylvania

1955

latitude:

longitude:

NW	40°	08'	13"
NE	40°	08'	13"
SE	40°	07'	50"
SW	40°	07'	50"

74°	46'	12"
74°	45'	58"
74°	45'	58"
74°	46'	12"