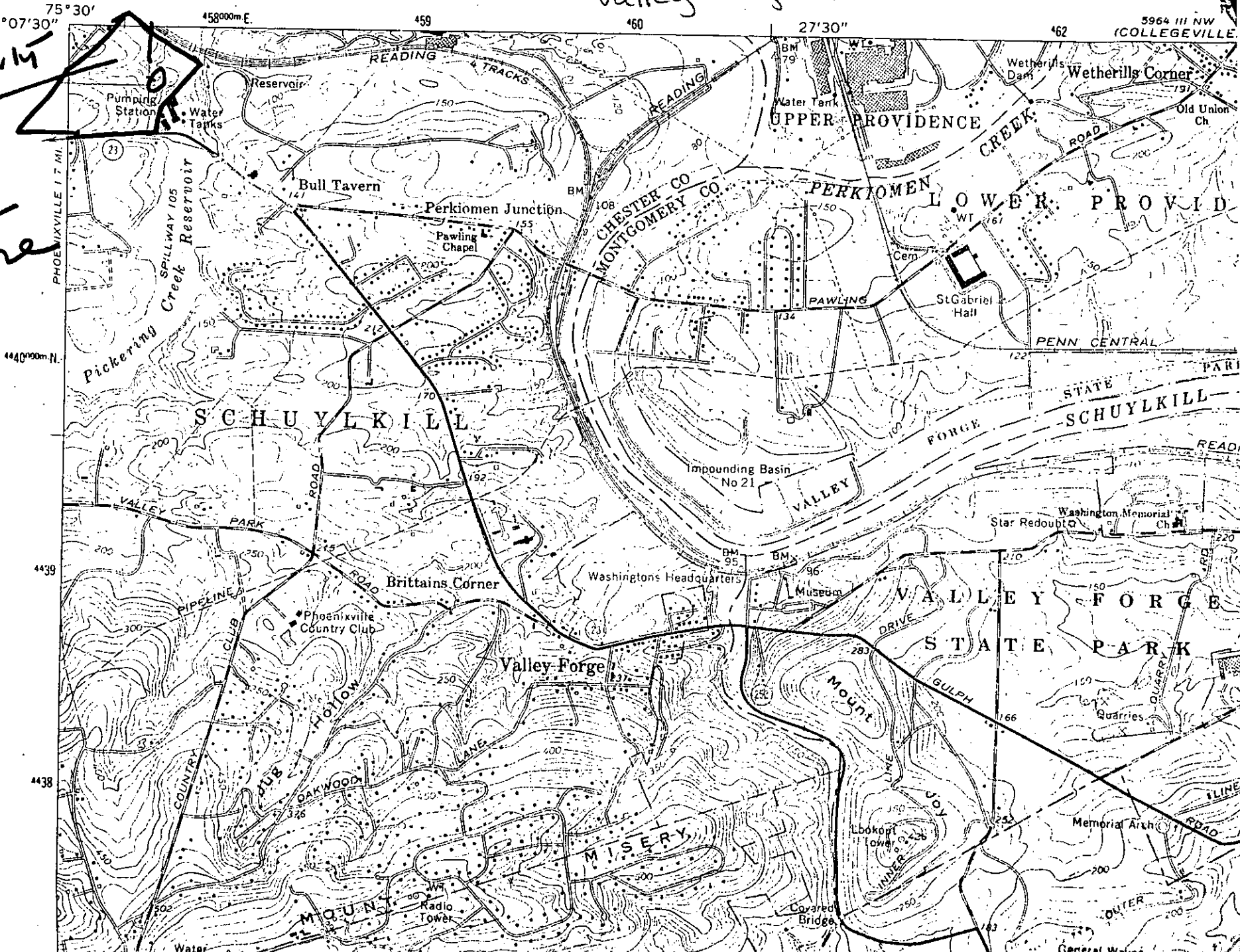


UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Moore Hall  
Valley Forge Quad.

*Property*  
*Barn on left*  
*beside*  
*Hare*



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Moore Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Valley Forge Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Schuylkill Township

STATE: Pennsylvania      CODE: 42      COUNTY: Chester      CODE: 029

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 type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
William F. and Eloise L. Rhinehart

STREET AND NUMBER:  
"Moore Hall," Valley Forge Road

CITY OR TOWN: Schuylkill Township      STATE: Pennsylvania      CODE: 42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Chester County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
High and Market Streets

CITY OR TOWN: West Chester      STATE: Pennsylvania      CODE: 42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1959       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Chester County Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:  
225 N. High Street

CITY OR TOWN: Chester      STATE: Pennsylvania      CODE: 42

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

## 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

Moore Hall was built in the mid-eighteenth century and restored in the late 1930's to fit an 1819 description.

The fieldstone house is two-and-one-half stories in height, five bays across, and three bays deep at the gable ends. In plan it consists of a deep center hall flanked by two rooms on each side, with a kitchen wing to the west and a sunporch (added during the restoration) to the east.

The windows on both the first and second floors are six-on-six lights. At the attic level on both south (front) and north (rear) elevations are two arched dormers of six-on-six lights. At the attic level of both gable ends are two six-on-six light windows. All first floor windows are framed by panelled shutters. The second floor windows of the front and side elevations also have panelled exterior shutters. The practice of placing panelled shutters only on the first floor with louvered shutters on the second is followed only on the north elevation.

The doors on the south and west elevations of the house's main section are panelled with rectangular transoms above, characteristic of early Georgian architecture. The door hood on the west elevation is not original, but is typical of the house's period and area. The freestanding portico on the south elevation, composed of a broken triangular pediment, two Ionic columns, and two Ionic pilasters, is not original, as it does not appear in an 1894 published drawing of the south elevation. Such a freestanding portico is of a type more common later in the eighteenth century than the date of Moore Hall's construction and may even have been added in the twentieth century renovation.

The front elevation is of coursed fieldstone while the less formal rear and side elevations are of random fieldstone. The greater formality of the front elevation is further emphasized by the alternation of round and elongated stones within each course and by the gradation of stone sizes from larger at the foundation to smaller at the eaves. This gradation tends to augment the house's already strong sense of formal proportion.

On the north (rear) elevation a grade level porch with pent roof and Doric columns spans the central section. To the east of the central portion is a single story frame sunporch added in the late 1930's. To the west is the kitchen wing of random fieldstone with large corner quoins. The eastern half of the kitchen wing is one story in height topped by a shed roof and massive fieldstone chimney. The western half is two stories in height with gambrel roof. The northern elevation of the kitchen wing has, on the first floor, two eight-on-eight light windows and one horizontal window of three sections, each section composed of six lights. At the

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7. Description

Moore Hall

attic level of the gambrel section is one dormer of six-on-six lights with a triangular pediment. The eastern elevation of the kitchen wing has, at the first level, a door and a horizontal window of two sections, each of six lights. The gable end of the gambrel roof has one window of two-on-two lights.

An 1890 photograph of the north elevation shows a kitchen wing of only one story, with the same massive chimney, present now in slightly altered form. In 1900, the second story of the kitchen wing was added. The roof of the kitchen wing was further altered in the restoration work of the late 1930's. None of the windows in the kitchen dates from the house's construction in the ~~early~~ <sup>mid-</sup> eighteenth century.

The western gable end of the house's main section is three bays across. The door at the center of the first level is flanked on each side by one six-on-six light window with panelled shutters. Each window is topped by an arched recess in the fieldstone wall, similar to those in the southern elevation. At the second level are three six-on-six light windows with panelled shutters. A heavy cornice with end returns separates the second level from the attic level along the full width of the gable end. At the attic level are two six-on-six light windows with louvered shutters.

To the west of the main section is the two-story kitchen wing. The west elevation of the kitchen wing is the blank end of the gambrel roof. The kitchen wing's south elevation has a door and two windows with panelled shutters at the first level. At the second level is one dormer with triangular pediment. A flat-roofed porch spans the south elevation of the kitchen wing at the first level. The east end of the porch is attached to the main section of the house and the west end is supported by two Doric columns.

The interior detailing is very fine and largely original. Each of the major rooms contains a chair rail, floors of wide board construction, and doorways with eared architraves. Halfway back within the generous hall are two Doric reeded columns and a stairway providing access to the second floor. The stairway is composed of shallow stairs with scrolled risers. The southwest room contains a carved marble fireplace flanked by arched doorways with shell motif keyblocks. The east room is the only room altered in a major way. It has been converted from two smaller rooms, each containing a fireplace, into a large room with a single fireplace.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian;       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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/Phi-        | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | losophy                                       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Science              | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture            | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | itarian                                       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater              | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation       | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Moore Hall was built in the mid-eighteenth century by a prominent and prosperous Englishman, William Moore. He constructed the house on land given to him in 1729 by his father, John, Collector of the port of Philadelphia. When Moore received the property, it was already greatly improved and included the area's first grist and saw mill. Moore immediately erected a frame house for himself and quarters for his slaves. Subsequently he built, for his residence, a stone house of such size and elegance that it came to be known as Moore Hall.

Moore was a prominent and colorful figure in the history of colonial America. He served as Colonel of the Chester County Regiment in the French and Indian War and as a member of the Provincial Assembly. He was elected to the Assembly in 1733 and was re-elected every fall until 1740. During his tenure in the Assembly, he habitually supported the Governor, a Crown appointee, in his frequent disputes with the Assembly.

In 1741, the Governor appointed Moore to the position of Justice of the Peace and President Judge of the Chester County Court, where he served for more than forty years. Numerous petitions were sent from Chester County to the Assembly in 1756-7 complaining of Moore's tyranny and injustice in office. The Assembly requested his removal. In response, Moore published a statement in Franklin's Gazette, calling the action of the Assembly "scandalous." The Assembly ordered him imprisoned for publication of the article. He was seized at Moore Hall in January, 1758 and jailed in Philadelphia. Brought before the Assembly, he refused to recant his statement and remained in prison until the Assembly adjourned for that year. The Governor, after a series of disputes with the Assembly over the matter, announced in August of 1758 that Moore had made a full and adequate defense. In addition to his vindication by the Governor, Moore appealed successfully to the Crown, which in February of 1760 announced its displeasure with the Assembly for having assumed powers not granted to it.

At the outbreak of the American Revolution Moore was an ardent and outspoken Tory. On June 6, 1775, a committee headed by Anthony Wayne visited Moore Hall to force Moore to retract statements which he had

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8. Statement of Significance

Moore Hall

made condemning the Revolutionary effort in general, and the Wayne family in particular. The judge outwitted them by signing an ambiguously worded apology full of subtle sarcasm.

Despite Moore's Tory sympathies, Moore Hall was used extensively by the Continental Army during its encampment at Valley Forge during the winter of 1777-78. It served as headquarters for Colonel Clement Biddle and his staff. Consequently, it was frequently visited by Generals Washington, Howe, Greene, and Wayne.

While investigating the condition of troops at Valley Forge and considering the deposition of General Washington, a Committee of Congress met at Moore Hall. The committee remained there for three months during which time it was decided that Washington was the best available man to serve as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army.

In addition to its association with American leaders during and after the Revolution, Moore Hall is historically significant as the home of Governor Samuel Whitaker Pennypacker of Pennsylvania. A 1902 newspaper clipping states that Moore Hall served as summer residence for Governor Pennypacker for many years.

Moore Hall is of innate architectural value as an especially fine Georgian house, recently restored. It exhibits a highly developed sense of formal proportion and finesse in detailing that is rare in the period and area. Moore Hall is valuable as an architectural reflection of the efforts of William Moore, a wealthy colonial American of British sympathies, to mirror the style of contemporary English country life.

*and besides it has all these beautiful windows.*

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(see continuation sheet)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "	40	07	22
NE	° ' "	° ' "	75	29	43
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1-2 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Eleanor Winsor, Consultant and Harvey Freedenberg, Student Aide**

ORGANIZATION: **Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission** DATE: **August, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Box 1026**

CITY OR TOWN: **Harrisburg** STATE: **Pennsylvania** CODE: **42**

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 *Valley Shuman*  
**Executive Director**

Title \_\_\_\_\_  
**Pa. Hist. & Museum Comm.**

Date 9/19/74

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

**Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**Keeper of The National Register**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Photo map #2

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