

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
 OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION Box 1026
 PA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION Harrisburg, PA 17120

7. Local survey organization
 West Whiteland Historical Commission

1. County Chester
 5. present name Schiffer's

8. property owners name and address
 Peter & Nancy Schiffer
 1469 Morstein Road
 West Chester, PA 19380

9. tax parcel number / other number
 41-4-26

10. U.T.M. zone 18 Easting 414315140
 Map# 36 41431012140 Northing 2.8A
 usgs sheet: Downingtown

12. classification
 site () structure () object ()
 building (x)
 In N.R. district yes () no ()

13. date(s) (how determined)
 1825 addition
 14. period
 1700-1799

15. style, design or folk type
 Colonial/2/3
 Georgian

19. original use
 Residence/Commercial
 20. present use
 Commercial

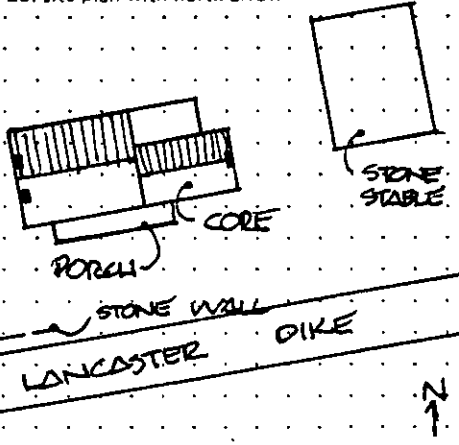
16. architect or engineer

17. contractor or builder

18. primary building mat./construction
 Stone/Stucco

21. condition Average
 22. integrity Above Average

23. site plan with north arrow



2. municipality West Whiteland
 6. other name (historic name if any)
 West Whiteland Inn

24. photo notation

PG: George Chandler
 PV: SW Elevation
 PD: 2/1980

25. file/location

CCHS: #09-46, #20A

26. brief description (note unusual features, integrity, etc.)
 18th century

The growth of this structure from its original two-room plan to a sizable house with center hall follows a pattern well-established in the region. Beginning as a three-bay, two-story, single-pile stone house with brick gable end chimneys, it was enlarged considerably by a c. 1825 two-and-one-half story double-pile stone addition containing a side hall and two rooms downstairs with separate fireplaces. Whereas the core contains arched fireplace supports in its full cellar, those in the wing are rectangular. The original cooking fireplace is on the west gable end and has a winding stairway from cellar to attic adjacent. A summer kitchen extends off the rear of the core and features a cooking fireplace, bake oven, brick floor, and exposed beaded joists.

In contrast to the plain and practical appearance of the core, the major wing shows a certain elegance with its wide hall, open stairway, paneled reveals, fluted architrave and rosette corner blocks, and tall ceilings. An enclosed front porch across the core

(continue on back if necessary)

27. history, significance and/or background
 Commerce:

This building played an interesting role in the commercial history of West Whiteland Township. It was built as a dwelling house for use by tenant farmers on the 540-acre Jehu Roberts farm. By 1826, its location along the Lancaster Turnpike was regarded by John Roberts (who had inherited half of the farm) as an ideal spot for a house of public entertainment. In that year, he and a David Malin petitioned for a tavern license, noting that the dwelling was situated mid-way between the Ship Inn and Downing

(continue on back if necessary)

28. sources of information

CCHS: Tavern Papers 1826-1837; A.P. Reid T.S.#139B, West Whiteland Clipping File-Lands VR 6-19-1838
 RE 10-23-1839, L 1876

29. prepared by:
 L. Goldstein WWHC
 M. Wolf BC

30. date 12/1981 revision(s)

(continue on back if necessary)

3. street address or specific location
 609 W. Lincoln Highway
 Exton, PA 19341

4. survey code 029-09-41-226

26. (cont.)

and wing obscures from public view its lovely main entrance with semi-circular fanlight and paneled reveal. Both sections are currently roofed in tin (the original material having been wood shake) and show box cornices.

A rectangular converted stable (two-story, stuccoed stone) also is on the premises.

27. (cont.)

Town, a distance of five miles. Although this first petition was rejected, another was filed the following year by Roberts and lessee Joseph Hall. Anxious to obtain the license, the petition mentions that the dwelling house "has been lately much enlarged," referring no doubt to the addition described in Section 7. This petition was allowed and annually renewed until 1837 under the name "West Whiteland Inn."

The following year Jacob Fisher, who had replaced Hall as tavern keeper, removed to the former "Sheaf of Wheat Inn", a few miles east on the Lancaster Turnpike, taking with him the name of his business, "West Whiteland Inn." The original tavern ceased to operate, no further petitions were filed, and its existence seems to have faded from memory. Fisher's appropriation of the name "West Whiteland Inn" has since caused some confusion among historians who have failed to distinguish between the two taverns of the same name. Somewhat ironically, of the two it is the forgotten "West Whiteland Inn" which has survived. Less than half of the Township's 19th century commercial establishments remain and only one, the Ship, is still used as an inn. The history of the West Whiteland Inn illustrates the impact the Lancaster Turnpike had on the area's buildings and businesses. This building is one of several which were built for or adapted to commercial use after the completion of the Lancaster Turnpike in 1794.

Architecture: Each of the two major sections of West Whiteland Inn is of architectural interest. The core, which dates from the 18th century, probably originally served as a tenant farm house for the John Roberts farm. It retains many early features and falls within the group of hall/parlor dwellings. The rear kitchen is nicely preserved. The 1825 addition uses a side hall plan which was much in evidence in the Township during that period. It was constructed to entice the weary Turnpike traveller and offered all the amenities of the time. The side hall plan proved to be remarkably adaptable. Used alone it provided a comfortable house with a separate hall. When added to an existing structure, it frequently made possible a fashionable center hall. In the case of West Whiteland Inn, the 1825 addition provided two entrances on the Turnpike side, a recurring feature of 18th and 19th century commercial architecture.

EVALUATION

EVALUATOR(S)

West Whiteland Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania
Multiple Resource Nomination

Survey Code 029-09-41-226 Page 3
Schiffer's Map #36

Summary Statement of Significance:

The Schiffer building is eligible under criterion C as an example of the re-building of eighteenth century domestic structures that took place in the early nineteenth century. Originally built as a hall-parlor plan house, it was enlarged in 1825 with a side hall plan addition. It is also eligible under criterion A for its association with the Lancaster Turnpike. While not built for the turnpike, it was enlarged and used as a tavern as a direct result of its location next the the road. A stone stable also occupies the site and is located just the the southeast.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

West Whiteland Township, Chester County, PA MRA
Continuation sheet Item number

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Page

Survey Code 029-09-41-226
West Whiteland Inn

Page 4
Map #36

The nominated acreage consists of all land currently associated with the resource. Included in the acreage is a large, 2 story, rectangular, stuccoed stone stable built circa 1835 with a small frame addition added in 1969. The stable has been converted into a workshop/office but contributes to the overall setting and significance of the resource.

HERBERT P. SCHIFFER, of the Township of East West Whiteland Township,
of Pennsylvania, hereinafter called Grantee, of Chester County, PA
Multiple Resource Nomination
Survey Code 029-09-41-226
Schiffer's Map #36

Witnesseth, That the said Grantor _____

for and in consideration of the sum of TWENTY THOUSAND

and lawful money of the United States of America, unto - it - well and truly paid by the said

Grantee _____ at and before the sealing and delivery
of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, - hath - granted, bargained,
sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released and confirmed, and by these presents - doth grant, bargain,
sell, alien, enfeoff, release and confirm unto the said Grantee, his
and assigns, _____

ALL THAT CERTAIN lot or piece of ground situate in the Township of West Whiteland,
County of Chester, State of Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows, to wit:

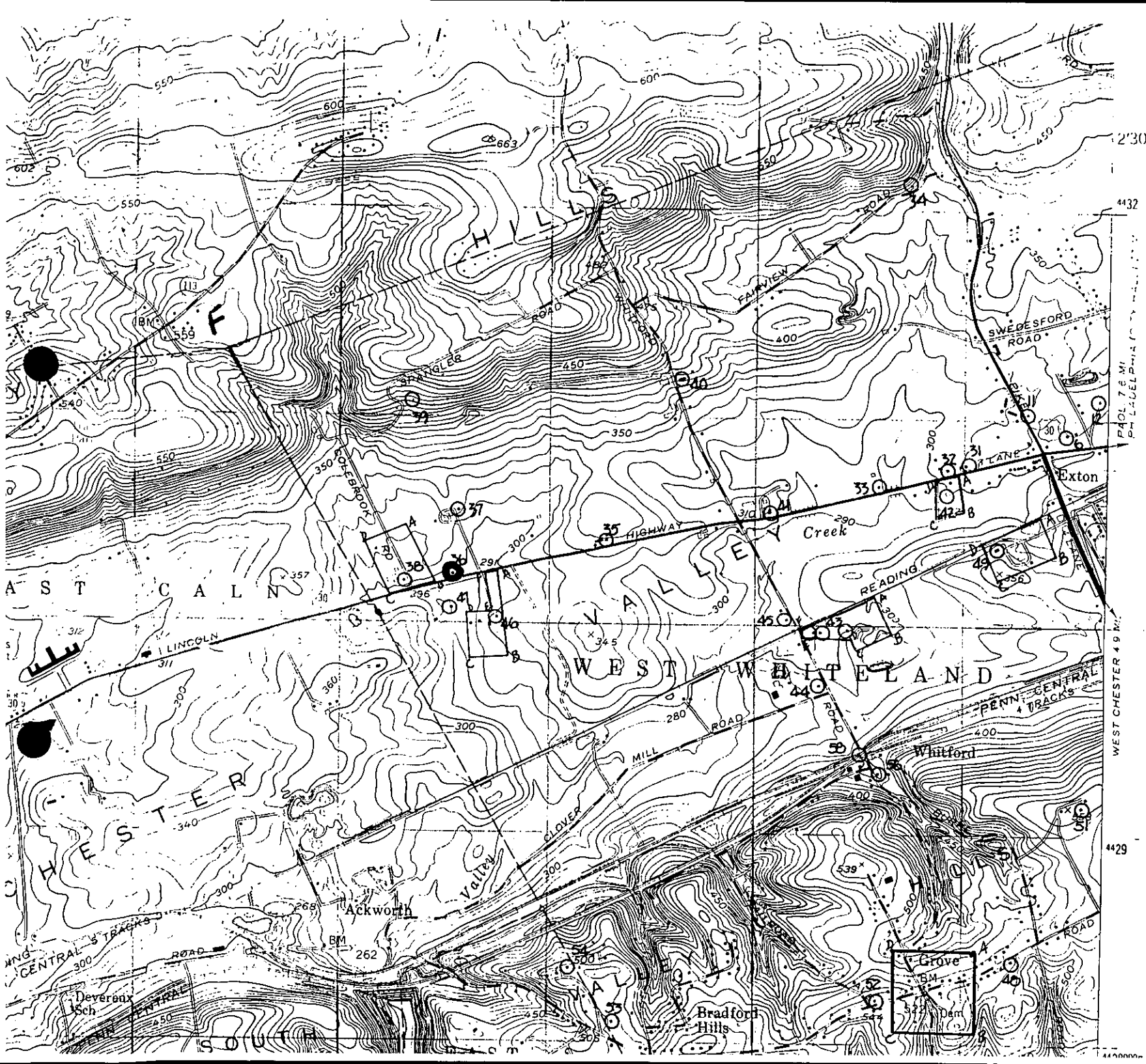
BEGINNING at a point in the title line in the bed of the Philadelphia and Lancaster
Turnpike (Lincoln Highway), said point is at the distance of five hundred seventy-
seven and fifty-two one-hundredths (577.52) feet measured North 83 degrees 11 minutes
East along the title line in the bed of the Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike from
its intersection with the middle of a Public Road thirty-three (33) feet wide known
as Township Route #444 leading Northwestwardly to Route #113; thence from the be-
ginning point passing over a stone at the distance of thirty (30) feet North 06 degrees
49 minutes West the total distance of three hundred and thirty (330) feet to a stone;
thence North 83 degrees 11 minutes East three hundred fifty-four and twenty-two one-
hundredths (354.22) feet to a point; thence South 14 degrees 10 minutes East,
three hundred thirty-two and seventy-four one-hundredths (332.74) feet to a point in
the title line in the bed of the Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike aforesaid; thence
along the title line in the bed of same South 83 degrees 11 minutes West, three hundred
ninety-six and seventy-nine one-hundredths (396.79) feet to the place of beginning.
CONTAINING two and eight hundred forty-five one-thousandths (2.845) acres of land,
be the same more or less.

BEING part of the same premises which Josephine N. Hopkins, etvir by Indenture bear-
ing date the 28th day of April, A.D. 1955 and recorded in the Office for the Recording
of Deeds in and for the County of Chester in Deed Book L-27 volume 658 page 77,
granted and conveyed unto The Second Whitford Development Corporation (Penna. Corp.),
its Successors and Assigns, Grantors herein, in fee.

UNDER AND SUBJECT NEVERTHELESS to the following covenants and conditions which shall
run with the land: _____

1. Any subdivision of the above described premises shall be limited to a single
division thereof whereby the part created and the part retained shall each have an
area of at least one acre and a frontage of at least one hundred fifty (150) feet on

7/17/19



	4	43	610
	44	30	050
F	4	43	730
	44	30	060
F	4	43	700
	44	30	240
	47	4	43 530
	44	30	080
	48	4	46 230
	44	28	400
	49		
A	4	46	370
	44	30	530
B	4	46	440
	44	30	340
C	4	46	160
	44	30	230
D	4	46	090
	44	30	400
	51	4	46 560
	44	29	140
	52	4	45 590
	44	38	210
	53	4	44 310
	44	28	100
	54	4	44 100
	44	28	360
	56	4	45 600
	44	29	300
	58	4	45 510
	44	29	380
	Grove District		
A	4	46	060
	44	28	440
B	4	46	070
	44	28	050
C	4	45	670