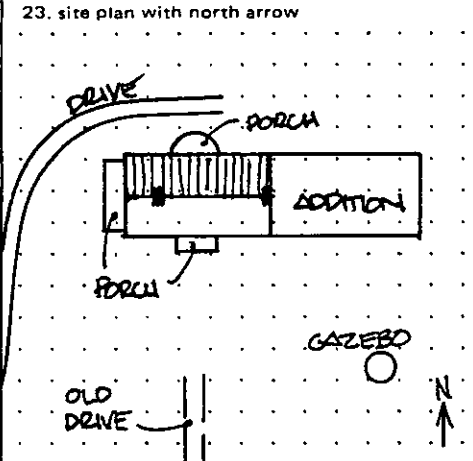


PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION Box 1026 PA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION Harrisburg, PA 17120		7. Local survey organization West Whiteland Historical Commission		5. present name Whitford Garne	1. County Chester
8. property owners name and address Ronald McClellan 201 West Boot Road West Chester, PA 19380		9. tax parcel number / other number 41-5Q-1.2			
12. classification site () structure () object () building (X) In N.R. district yes () no ()		10. U.T.M. Zone <u>18</u> Easting <u>44165610</u> Map# <u>51</u> Northing <u>44291410</u> usgs sheet: <u>Downingtown 1.268</u>		6. other name (historic name if any) Whitford Garne	2. municipality West Whiteland Twp.
13. date(s) (how determined) 1905 Datestone 14. period 1900-1919		11. status (other surveys, lists etc.) CCHSS			
15. architect or engineer Albert W. Dilkes		15. style, design or folk type Georgian Revival		3. street address or specific location 201 W. Boot Road	4. survey code 029-09-41-155
17. contractor or builder		16. primary building mat./construction Stone			
19. original use Residence		20. present use Residence-non-farm		23. site plan with north arrow 	
21. condition Average		22. integrity Above average			
24. photo notation PG: John Ronayne PV: NW elevation PD: 11/1981		25. file/location CCHS, WWHC #09-72, #21			
26. brief description (note unusual features, integrity, environment, uses and associated settings) Although Whitford Garne currently is situated within a planned residential development, enough of its original setting remains to suggest something of its former grandeur. The stone, Georgian Revival mansion is fronted on the south by a formal lawn, complete with gazebo, boxwood garden, and goldfish pond. Built in 1905 for George Thomas, III, a wealthy member of the Township's most prominent family, and designed by Philadelphia architect Albert W. Dilkes, Whitford Garne is a Georgian Revival "par excellence." Its materials and workmanship are of the highest quality, and its design falls completely within the parameters of the style. The house is comfortably large. It is two-and-one-half stories, five bays wide, two rooms deep, and has a service wing in the northeast corner. The center hall is 12 feet wide and features a dentilled arch and formal stairway. This stairway consists of two flights and a landing with a Palladian window and seat. It does not extend beyond the second floor. An enclosed back stairway for the servants runs from the cellar to the					
(continue on back if necessary)					
27. history, significance and/or background <u>Thomas Family</u> Whitford Garne (1905) is the youngest member of the Thomas Family Group. It was built by George W. Thomas III, a direct descendant of West Whiteland's first settler, Richard Thomas. The land on which the mansion was built was acquired by the Thomas family in the late 18th century, sold off in 1842, and reacquired by George Thomas III in 1905, just after the death of his father, J. Preston Thomas. That he					
(continue on back if necessary)					
28. sources of information Phila. Real Estate Record & Bldrs Guide 3-29-1905, 4-12-1905 CCHS: West Whiteland Clipping File: Lands L 3-8-1906, L 6-1907, A.P. Reid. T.S. #3105				29. prepared by: M.L. Wolf, Brandywine Cons. 12/1981	
(continue on back if necessary)				30. date revision(s)	



#26 cont.

finished attic. The dining room is to the east of the hall and shows traditional paneled wainscotting and a corner fireplace. A butler's pantry is adjacent. The two large rooms to the west of the hall feature typical Period Revival back-to-back interior fireplaces and French doors leading to a balconied open porch. There is a second balcony above the rounded front portico. According to a 1905 newspaper clipping, the mansion was... "heated by hot air, (had) open plumbing, ...electricity, tiled baths and every modern convenience and appointment." (PREBG 2-29-1905) Despite its adaptation as a nursing home many years ago, Whitford Garne is largely preserved. Its exterior, a victim of neglect, nevertheless is architecturally intact. Restoration has commenced and, already the formerly shabby trim is taking on a gleaming, classical white.

#27 cont.

named the estate after the ancestral home in Wales illustrates the strong reverence for the past held by members of the Thomas family. Unlike his ancestors, however, George Thomas, III was not a gentleman farmer; he worked for Lukens Steel in Coatesville. After his tragic death in 1937, Thomas family influence and landholdings in West Whiteland gradually declined.

Architecture

Whitford Garne is the Township's finest example of pure Georgian Revival styling. It is traditional in every respect, well-constructed, and virtually unaltered. Its designer, Albert W. Dilkes, was not a professionally educated architect. He seems to have worked for a time in the office of Addison Hutton. Dilkes, in 1896, designed the addition to the Charles Thomas Home, the core of which was by Hutton. Albert W. Dilkes holds the distinction of having designed the ill-fated Thompson Building in Coatesville, declared eligible for the National Register in 1980, but nevertheless demolished in 1981. To date, Whitford Garne is the only other work of Albert W. Dilkes documented in Chester County.

EVALUATION

EVALUATOR(S)

West Whiteland Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania
Multiple Resource Nomination

Survey Code 029-09-41-155
Whitford Garne

Page 3
Map #51

Summary Statement of Significance:

Whitford Garne is eligible under criterion B for its association with the Thomas family. It is also eligible under criterion C as an example of Georgian-Revival architecture.

Additional Photographs:



PG: DIANE SNYDER

PV: SOUTH VIEW

PD: FEB. 1983

LOCATION: WWHC #09-74-16A

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 029-09-41-155
Whitford Garne

Page 4
Map #51

The nominated acreage includes all land currently associated with the property and includes the formal lawn and boxwood garden. There are no other structures located on the site.

West Whiteland Township,
Chester County, PA
Multiple Resource Nomination
Thomas Thematic Group
Survey Code 029-09-41-155
Whitford Garne Map #51
NATIONAL REGISTER

No. 156-B CORPORATION DEED.

Printed for and Sold by John C. Clark Co., 1228 Walnut St., Phila.

This Indenture made the 5th

day of *January*
hundred and *eighty-one* (1981)

In the year of our Lord one thousand nine

Between **EXTON WOODS, A PA**

LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

(hereinafter called the Grantor), of the one part, and

RONALD E. MC CLELLAN

(hereinafter called the Grantee), of the other part,

Witnesseth,

That the said Grantor

for and in consideration of the sum of

PIFETY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$50,000.00)

lawful

money of the United States of America, unto it well and truly paid by the said Grantee, at or before the sealing and delivery, hereof, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, has granted, bargained and sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released and confirmed, and by these presents does grant, bargain and sell, alien, enfeoff, release and confirm unto the said Grantee, his heirs and assigns,

ALL THAT CERTAIN lot or piece of ground, Situate in the Township of West Whiteland, County of Chester and State of Pennsylvania, bounded and described according to a plan of Indian King PRD made by Yerkes Associates, Inc., dated 1-26-77 and last revised 1-21-80 as follows, to wit:

BEGINNING at a point on the Southeast side of West Belvidere Circle a corner of the common area of Phase II of Indian King, said point being located South 68 degrees, 21 minutes, 50 seconds West 137.11 feet measured the said side of West Belvidere Circle from its intersection with the Phase line for Phase III of Indian King; thence extending from said point of beginning, leaving the said side of West Belvidere Circle and along the said Common area South 12 degrees, 20 minutes 46 seconds East 124.25 feet, thence extending still along the said common area the two following courses and distances; (1) South 68 degrees 21 minutes, 50 seconds West 147.00 feet to a point and (2) North 21 degrees, 38 minutes, 10 seconds West 309.85 feet to a point on the Southeast side of West Belvidere Circle, thence extending along the same the two following courses and distances; (1) on the arc of a circle curving to the right having a radius of 125.02 feet the arc distance of 50.73 feet to a point of tangent and (2) North 68 degrees, 21 minutes 50 seconds East 150.00 feet to the first mentioned point and place of beginning, containing 1.268 acres.

