

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

7. Local survey organization  
 East Fallowfield Township

8. Property owners name and address  
 Reid, Charles Jr. and Judith Smith  
 Box 310  
 R.D. #5  
 Coatesville, Pa. 19320

9. tax parcel number / other number  
 47-7-58

10. U.T.M. [18] [4, 28, 84, 0]  
 [4, 42, 17, 1, 0]  
 U.T.M. zone easting northing

11. status (other surveys, lists etc.)  
 Chester County Historic Site Survey

18. original use farm  
 20. present use farm  
 21. condition excellent  
 22. integrity average

12. classification  
 site ( ) structure ( ) object ( )  
 building (X)  
 in N.R. district yes ( ) no ( )

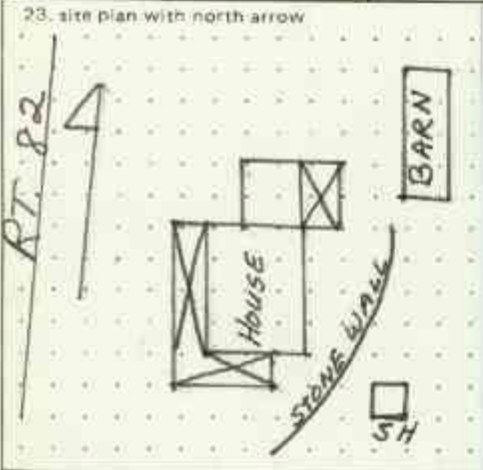
13. date(s) (how determined)  
 1793, research  
 14. P780-1820

15. style, design or folk type  
 Federal

16. architect or engineer

17. contractor or builder

18. primary building mat./construction  
 stone



24. photo notation  
 PC: M.S. Young  
 PD: 1980  
 PV: West Elevation

25. file/location  
 Historic Research Assoc.

26. brief description (note unusual features, integrity, environment, threats and associated buildings)

Two story, four bay, rectangular structure with a wood shingled gable roof. Other components of the house, include plain box cornice, flush lipped chimneys at both gable ends, narrow surrounds, double balanced main entrances, stucco over stone facades, extended sills, one over one light windows, small window in fireplace, transom lights, wrap-around veranda with support posts that have Queen Anne Revival brackets. A springhouse and barn also exist on the property. The barn has a fieldstone foundation, frame facades, relieving arch apertures and is rectangular in shape.

Though it is impossible to date the outbuildings; they appear to date from the 19th century and contribute to the architectural and agricultural significance of the farmstead.

27. history, significance and/or background  
Politics - Social/Humanitarian  
 In 1845 Solomon Lukens, fifth owner of the John Wentz House purchased the property from John Walton. He was married to Susan Wilson daughter of John and Hannah Wilson. The couple temporarily left the farm in 1849 to "the establishment of the Friends at Tumesassah, adjoining the reservation of the Seneca Indians on the Allegheny River, Cataragus,

28. sources of information  
 1. Johnston, George, editor. The Poets and Poetry of Chester County.

29. prepared by  
 Historic Research Associates

30. date 1981 revision(s)

1. County CHESTER  
 2. Municipality EAST FALLOWFIELD TWP.  
 3. Street address or specific location ROUTE 82  
 4. Survey code I-12  
 5. Applicant name JOHN WENTZ HOUSE  
 6. Other name (Historic name if any)



27. Significance continued:

County, New York, with a view of promoting concern of the yearly meeting of friends for the civilization of the Indians". Susan Lukens was recognized as an eminent writer and poet of the nineteenth century. Her book, Gleanings at Seventy-five, published in 1873 is a collection of articles and poems written by the author at various periods of her life. This volume includes her most famous poem, "Painter of Seville".

However, Susan Lukens' most significant contribution to her community was made in her association with the abolitionist movement in Ercildoun. Susan used her talents by writing articles for publication in the anti-slavery publications of the period.

Despite the fact that the Society of Friends did not take an active roll in the abolitionist movement we see in Susan Lukens, as in other Ercildoun Quakers, direct and active contribution to the abolitionist cause.

28. Sources of information continued:

2. Lukens, Susan. Gleanings at Seventy-five. Philadelphia: Porter and Coats, 1873.
3. West Chester, Chester County Courthouse, Recorder of Deeds.
4. West Chester, Chester County Historical Society, Microfilm Collection, Tax Records.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

STARTING at a point where Route 82 intersects with Route 182, then along the east side of Route 82 for about one thousand five hundred ninety (1,590) feet, then northeast for eight hundred twenty-five (825) feet, then southeast three hundred (300) feet to the place of beginning.

CONTAINING 2.1 acres.

Chester County Historic Site Survey Code Number: 029-07-47-28

Miscellaneous information:

1. Deed recorded in the Chester County Courthouse, West Chester, Recorder of Deeds. Deed Book W37, page 608.
2. Plotted on the following maps,
  - a. 1860 - S. Lukens
  - b. 1873 - S. Lukens
  - c. 1883 - Susan Pierce

EVALUATION

EVALUATOR(S)  
Jane L.S. Davidson  
Historic Research Assoc.

In the evolution of agriculture in East Fallowfield there are two distinct growth periods; one beginning in 1770 and ending about 1820 and the other flourishing in the post Civil War period. The first period emphasized the construction of utilitarian buildings, while the post Civil War expansion concentrated on land use changes.

In the first agricultural phase the success of the agrarian economy resulted in the erection of more substantial farmsteads. At no other time in East Fallowfield's history is there evidence of such a prolific construction period in agrarian buildings.

Despite the growth of the agricultural economy and the increase in construction, the interpretation of both the Georgian and Federal styles continued to be vernacular.

The significance of this property is its association with a local collection of farmsteads that have in common a vernacular form of architecture and a relationship to a specific agricultural era, 1770-1820.

Although the John Wentz House gained brief notoriety as the residence of a locally prominent poet, its major significance is its presence as a well preserved example of the agrarian community.