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Documentation of Historic Structures at "FATLANDS FARM" and "WALNUT HILL"
(Parcels 101-68 and 101-61 of Valley Forge National Historical Park):

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Summary of documentary evidence on structures found at "FATLANDS FARM"
also known as Valley Forge National Historical Park Tract 101-68

Three structures were identified and studied, as follows:

- 1) Stone corral (constructed of fieldstone, about 3½' to 4' high, about 250' to 300' square) -- rebuilt by Peter J. Camiel, ca. 1950, perhaps from walls and attached stone corral of barn constructed by Samuel Wetherill, Jr., ca. 1825, or William Wetherill, ca. 1845. Existing primary source records do not document this structure.
- 2) Large garage (constructed with stone facade on one side, stucco over cinderblock (?) on other three) -- rebuilt by Peter J. Camiel, ca. 1950, perhaps from an earlier, unidentified structure. Existing primary source records do not document this structure.
- 3) Springhouse (built into a bank and constructed of two different types of stone) -- may be 18th century springhouse rebuilt by Peter J. Camiel, ca. 1950. 18th century springhouse is well documented by primary sources, but its location relative to other structures on the estate is unknown.

Reference may be made to the full report which follows.

Prepared and submitted by:

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10 September 1985

Historical Documentation of "FATLANDS FARM," particularly that portion known as Valley Forge National Historical Park Tract 101-68

"Fatlands Farm" had been a country estate for more than two hundred years when the greater portion of it was acquired in March 1983 by the United States of America for inclusion in the Valley Forge National Historical Park.¹ "Fatlands" was owned and occupied by Philadelphian James Vaux during the Revolutionary War and there is ample primary source documentation of the activities of British and American troops on the farm during the fall, winter and spring of 1777/8.² Most of what is known about "Fatlands," however, is derived from oral tradition and 20th century secondary sources.³ This is apparently true, for example, even in regard to the claimed visits of Generals George Washington and Sir William Howe to the mansion house on the property.⁴ The subsequent history of "Fatlands" is rich with folklore of its well-known owners and visitors and its prominent buildings. Sorting the kernels of truth from the bushels of historical chaff will be a major, long-term project. Though the scope of the present report is limited to the grounds and historic structures of the purchase of 1983 (which did not include the mansion house itself), the author has begun the process of compiling primary source documentation on the entire estate.

James Vaux had acquired "Fatlands Farm" from James Morgan on 18 June 1772.⁵ The farm consisted of 302 acres, 75 perches (160 square perches to an acre) with "messuage" or dwelling house and outbuildings. Morgan had assembled the total acreage from three separate purchases, one in 1746, one in 1748/9 and one in 1766. He had mortgaged the properties heavily and realized only 23 £ from the sale to Vaux.

In his efforts to sell "Fatlands," Morgan advertised the farm in

the Pennsylvania Gazette in 1771.⁶ The advertisement provides the earliest known description of the property's historic structures. While the buildings are not described in detail, they are listed as "a good stone dwelling house, spring house and brew-houses, with a large frame barn ... "

Karen E. Lee, in her article entitled "A History of Fatland and Mill Grove," states that Thomas Morgan, father of James, "built a home on the Fatland tract ... in 1738"; that James Morgan "inherited his father's estate and one hundred acres of land in 1746"; and that after Vaux purchased the property in 1772, "(t)he mansion house, after being enlarged and remodeled in 1774, was often used by Vaux for the entertainment of many visitors."⁷

A literal reading of the deed of 1772, however, contradicts Lee's statements. The 302 acre tract was composed in part of a unit of 100 acres which Morgan had purchased from his father, Thomas, in 1746, but this parcel of land contained no buildings or other improvements. The dwelling house of 1772 is described as located on that portion of the 302 acres which had been sold to Morgan in 1766 as a unit of 116½ acres by the Pennsylvania Land Company in London. The deed of 1772, of course, only recited the sales of 1746, 1748/9 and 1766. Though the scope of the present study did not permit it, further research should be undertaken to examine the deeds of 1746, 1748/9 and 1766 and to chart the boundaries of those three parcels within the parameters of the 302 "Fatlands" tract. The results of such research would be essential to settling the question surrounding the mansion house occupied by Vaux in 1777/8. Was it the Morgan family home, constructed in 1738 and enlarged in 1774, or did Vaux, a man of great wealth, build "new" in the first years after his purchase of 1772?

There can be little doubt that Vaux transformed "Fatlands Farm" into a country showplace. The Pennsylvania State Tax Returns for the 1780's and 1790's reveal an estate with servants and the unusual luxury of a "riding chair."⁸ Unfortunately the tax assessments do not provide a detailed description or even a list of the structures on the property. Not until the U.S. Direct Tax of 1798 and a newspaper advertisement of 1803 are there descriptions as full as that of 1771. By that time Vaux had sold the property in 1794 to John Echlin Allen⁹ and Allen had, in turn, re-sold¹⁰ "the same premises" in 1801 to James Sergeant Ewing.

The U.S. Direct Tax of 1798 records John E. Allen as both owner and occupant of "Fatlands Farm," with the following acreage and improvements:¹¹

Valued at \$1,200	}	1 house -- stone, two stories, eighteen windows, measuring
		40' x 33'
		1 kitchen -- stone, one story, measuring 24' x 18'
		1 smokehouse -- stone, one story, measuring 15' x 18'

Valued at \$6,621	}	1 barn -- stone, measuring 50' x 35'
		301 acres of land

While this gives some description of the primary buildings on the property, several structures were apparently not ratable for tax purposes. Compare the 1798 U.S. tax assessment with the following advertisement which appeared¹² in the Norristown Herald in August 1803:

A PLANTATION -- TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC VENDUE

On the Premises; on Thursday the 13th of October
at 10 o'clock A.M.

Situated in Montgomery county on the river Schuylkill, 19 miles from Philadelphia, 5 from Norristown and 5 from the 14 mile stone on the Lancaster Turnpike road. It contains 302½ acres, about 130 of which are very good Wood-land. The remainder is arable, naturally of an excellent quality, favourably exposed to South, and now in a high state of cultivation. The Dwelling-house is 45 by 35 feet, built of stone, in good repair with piazzas on each side, and commanding an extensive view of almost the whole Farm. The other buildings are, a Smith's house and shop, an Ice House, Spring house,

Poultry house, Smoke house, and an excellent large stone barn, with stables sufficient to contain forty head of horses and cows. There are pumps of very good water at the House and Barn. The Orchard contains 160 Apple-trees of excellent fruit in their prime. The other Fruit trees, amount to about the same number. A good Grist and Saw-mill join the premises near the house. --- This Farm, being bounded on oneside by the Perkiomen creek, and by another by the Schuylkill, where there is a Shad fishery, and about 16 acres of Meadow part of which is watered; is, in point of situation, fertility and healthiness, not exceeded by any other in the State of Pennsylvania.

At the same time will be Sold the Farming Utensils and stock; containing of Work Horses, Oxen, Sheep, full Bred Mares with Colts from Arra Kooker Messenger, Shark, &c. Cows, Calves and a Bull of Bakewells English improved breed, Chinese and other Hogs about 80 ton of excellent Timothy and Clover Hay, and about 20 head of Fat Cattle.

For farther particulars apply to Jacob S. Otto, No. 139 Arch Street, Philadelphia; to Henry Pawling, Esq., near the premises; or to James S. Ewing on the premises.

August 23d, 1803.

The advertiser, James Sergeant Ewing (1770 -- 1823), was the son of Reverend John Ewing, D.D., Provost of the University of Pennsylvania. The Ewing family enjoyed "Fatlands" as a summer home and it was there that Provost Ewing died on 8 September 1802.¹³ It is not known if his death was related to the subsequent sale of "Fatlands" by James Sergeant Ewing.

The advertised auction was successful, for on 11 October 1803 Ewing sold "Fatlands" to William Bakewell, formerly of New Haven, Connecticut.¹⁴ A year later the "Bakewell farm," as it came to be called, was visited by an English Quaker, Robert Sutcliff. His extensive travels in the United States and Canada were published in England in 1811¹⁵ and America in 1812¹⁶ and contain a lengthy account of his impression of William Bakewell's estate:¹⁷

The next day, accompanied by my brother J.S. and T.W., I paid a visit to a relation at his estate above Norristown, being about 20 miles from Philadelphia. This plantation consists of 300 acres of good land, 200 of which are cleared and 100 covered with wood. ... On the estate is a well finished square stone house, about 15 yards in length, with a wide boarded floor piazza, both in back and front. ... Besides the dwelling-house there is an excellent kitchen, and offices adjoining, with a large barn and stables sufficient to accommodate 40 horses and cows; all well built of stone.

The estate extends the whole breadth betwixt the Schuylkill and Perkiomen. On the former river there is a Shad Fishery which is of considerable value; ... The house is so situated that it commands one of the finest prospects in Pennsylvania, and, being on a rising ground, is dry and healthy. ...

This plantation was formerly in the possession of a friend from London, of the name of Vaux, who built the house and made the improvements upon it. When he resided there with his family during the American War, being in full view of the great American encampment at Valley Forge, and on the opposite side of the River Schuylkill, he had frequently the company of General Howe and the other British Commanders.

One day it happened that he had Howe to breakfast and Washington to tea; and being a friend who wished well to all men, he made no distinction between the contending parties, he left his house open to all. ...

(underlines added)

Bakewell did not prosper, however, and began to sell off portions of the estate. Lee quotes from an advertisement in the 7 August 1813 issue of the Norristown Herald, "(t)he plant of William Bakewell, 5 miles from Norristown, contains upwards of 200 acres, one third very good woodland; house 45 by 35 ft., stone, with piazzas on each side, a two-story kitchen and wash house adjoining, a large stone barn with stables for 40 head of horses and cattle, two tenements, a threshing mill ... , stone hay house 56 feet long, a stone building for sheep 90 feet long, with two wings of 30 feet each, and an ice house. On the Schuylkill is

a shad fishery. ... Is admirably calculated for keeping of sheep, having kept between two hundred and three hundred for ten years without having lost any by dogs. ..."¹⁸

Though Bakewell's 1813 advertisement called for a sale on or before 24 September of that year, the estate was not sold. Bakewell did continue, however, to sell off small parcels of the farm.¹⁹ Bakewell died in 1821 and a year later that portion of "Fatlands" which he retained at his death -- the mansion house, farm buildings and just 196 and 3/4 acres --²⁰ was sold by his executrix to Samuel Wetherill, Jr. of Philadelphia. The estate became part of Wetherill's large holdings in Upper and Lower Providence Townships -- some 940 acres total -- and in order to distinguish it from other nearby property was called "Bakewell farm" by the Wetherill family.

The purchase of "Fatlands" by the Wetherills signals the end of detailed newspaper advertisements of the property. From 1822 until the death of Samuel Wetherill, Jr.'s great-grandson, Henry E. Wetherill, M.D., in 1946, there is very little primary source documentation of the historic structures on the site. This is particularly unfortunate because the Wetherills made extensive changes, perhaps even demolishing the mansion house, outbuildings and barn and erecting all new structures. Much of the documentation which does exist is, by necessity, repeated in the report on "Walnut Hill Farm."

Samuel Wetherill, Jr. died in 1829. His will was signed on 25 April 1829 and probated on 2 October 1829.²¹ His heirs numbered six: his widow, Rachel, and five grown children, Rebecca Gumbes (Mrs. Wm. H.), John Price Wetherill, Charles Wetherill, William Wetherill and Samuel Price Wetherill. Samuel Wetherill, Jr. bequeathed his Philadelphia house ("the message in

which I now reside") and also "my Farm called the Bakewell Farm in Montgomery County together with the appurtenances" to his widow. He further directed that "all the rest, residue and remainder of all my Estate whatsoever and wheresoever I give, devise and bequeath to my five children ... to hold ... in equal parts as Tenants in Common ... " As a result of this and other clauses of the will, Samuel Wetherill's estate remained intact and was administered by the executors during the lifetime of his widow. No inventory of household goods, furniture or other personal property was taken. The executors prepared long, detailed accounts of the estate finances and filed them with the Philadelphia Register of Wills. None of these papers, however, furnish any information on the "Fatlands" or "Bakewell Farm" property.

Rachel (Price) Wetherill died in 1844. Her will was signed on 18 December 1843 and probated on 13 February 1844.²² She bequeathed all her property to her five children, each to receive an equal one-fifth part. The estate was inventoried and an extensive account was filed by the executors. There are two inventories of personal property. The first is an incredible 48-page itemization of the contents of the Philadelphia Wetherill house. This is supplemented by a five page inventory of "Bakewell Farm" household goods and personal effects. This inventory could prove extremely important in the interpretation of the mansion house when the Valley Forge National Historical Park eventually occupies it.

Rachel Price Wetherill's estate account includes references to other possible documentary resources. An entry dated "March 1844" lists as an asset "3 policies of perpetual insurance on property." The account summary, dated 18 January 1845, lists as assets the following:

Insurance on dwelling, 419 Market Street	\$180.00
" " Barn, Montgomery County	70.00
" " Property in City of Burlington, N.J. .	90.00
" " House (\$90), Barn (\$40) at Clover Hill	130.00

Unfortunately the name of the insurance company(ies) is not provided. The 419 Market Street residence was her late husband's and her home. The "Barn" in Montgomery County seems likely to have been a structure built new by her late husband during his lifetime or by herself at "Fatlands." The "House" and "Barn" at "Clover Hill" are unknown to the present writer.

The inventory and account of Rachel (Price) Wetherill together suggest another significant development. The inventory of household goods and personal effects at "Bakewell Farm" affixed an estimated value to each item. The total came to \$194.74. The account listed as assets two items as follows:

"March 1844 -- Amount of appraisement of Personal property on Bakewell farm	\$194.74"
"June 1844 --- Amount of sales of personal property in Montgomery County	\$218.76
Less the amount of appraisement	<u>194.74</u>
	24.02"

The conclusion drawn from this must be that there was an auction of the contents of the mansion house at "Fatlands" and that the house was cleared. This has important implications for the following discussion.

The real estate of Samuel and Rachel (Price) Wetherill was formally divided among their children in late 1844 or early 1845. Partition of the land apparently required court approval, followed by the execution and recording of a deed attesting to the court's action. On 7 November 1844, James Wells, Sheriff of Montgomery County, sold "Bakewell farm" (i.e. 196 and 3/4 acres) to William Wetherill, M.D., son of Samuel and Rachel.

Oral tradition, cited by Lee in her article and found elsewhere also, claims that William Wetherill, M.D. demolished the mansion house at "Fatlands"

and had erected a new, even grander mansion on the foundations of the old structure. This tradition is supported by a datestone in the west wall of the Greek Revival mansion now occupied by Peter J. Camiel. It reads: ²⁵

J. Vaux

1776

Rebuilt

Wm. Wetherill

1845

The observation, noted above, that the Vaux house was apparently cleared by auction after the death of Rachel (Price) Wetherill also lends credence to the tradition. When the Valley Forge National Historical Park purchases and occupies the mansion house itself, a careful study of the building fabric should answer the questions raised by the oral tradition and the datestone.

The additional claim, however, that the Greek Revival mansion of 1845 was designed for William Wetherill, M.D. by the architect John Haviland is apparently false. ²⁶ The Haviland Papers - twenty-six manuscript volumes of daybooks, letters, journals and essay books -- have been deposited at the Special Collections department of the Van Pelt Library at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1965 Matthew E. Baigell completed his Ph.D. dissertation in the History of Art at the University. His dissertation topic, "John Haviland," was based on the Haviland Papers and includes a comprehensive list of 124 designs and buildings executed by Haviland during his thirty-four year career. There is no mention of any work -- design or execution -- done for any member of the Wetherill family in Montgomery County. ²⁷ This would seem to be definitive in rejecting the claim of a Haviland connection to "Fatlands."

William Wetherill, M.D. made "Fatlands" his primary residence. Given the fact that he substantially altered or entirely rebuilt the mansion house on the place, it would seem likely that he undertook major changes on the farm as well. If so, such alterations are not readily available in primary source documents. The same is true in regard to subsequent family owners, culminating in Henry E. Wetherill, M.D., an eccentric bachelor who left "Fatlands" in dramatically deteriorated condition at his death in 1946. Between 1845 and 1945 very little seems well documented at "Fatlands." Though the historic structures remaining today may all have their origin in the period of Wetherill family ownership, it is easier to attribute them to structures of like function found in the descriptions of the Vaux/Allen/Ewing/Bakewell farm.

William Wetherill, M.D. (1804 -- 1872) did not practice medicine, but helped direct the family businesses with his older brother, John Price Wetherill (1794 -- 1853).²⁹ In the late 1840's he struggled through well-publicized domestic turmoil and apparently separated permanently from his wife and children.³⁰ His will was signed on 3 April 1868 and probated on 3 May 1872.³¹ Without naming them, the will directed that all his property be equally divided among his children. The probate records do not include an estate inventory or account. Records of the Orphans' Court of Montgomery County, which probably give at least some account of the division of his real estate among his children, were not available at the time this report was prepared.³²

"Fatlands" was eventually awarded by court order to John Macomb Wetherill (1828 -- 1895).³³ This occurred in 1887, fifteen years after the death of William Wetherill, M.D. Whether this lengthy delay was due to intra-family feuding or other reasons is not clear.³⁴ In any case John

Macomb Wetherill was a resident of Pottsville, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania and apparently did not make "Fatlands" his home. He died in Pottsville in 1895.³⁵ His will was signed on 17 February 1892 (with a codicil signed 15 August 1894)³⁶ and was probated on 22 May 1895. The will made various provisions for nine brothers and sisters by name and other siblings not specifically named. No provision was made which identified "Fatlands" as a legacy intended for an individual or individuals. The probate papers do not include an inventory of personal effects at "Fatlands" and do not include an account which mentions "Fatlands" in any way. The result was the common inheritance of the estate by approximately a dozen siblings of John Macomb Wetherill and their heirs, a number which soon reached several dozen family members.

It is not clear which member or members of the Wetherill family occupied "Fatlands" (if, in fact, it was occupied on a regular basis at all) between 1895 and 1927. The scope of this report did not permit careful investigation of the U.S. Census returns for 1900 and 1910, which, by process of elimination, should reveal family members at the "Fatlands" address in those years. The Wetherill most actively associated with managing family affairs in the area, however, during this period was William Henry Wetherill (1838 -- 1927), younger brother of John Macomb Wetherill.³⁷ He had inherited the "Mill Grove" estate on the Perkiomen Creek, apparently in 1892.³⁸ It was he who managed the "Meadow Grove" farm and then sold it in 1919 to local real estate developers.³⁹ It would appear that he also had control of "Fatlands" from about 1895 until his death in 1927.⁴⁰

Perhaps for some time before 1927 and certainly after that date,⁴¹ "Fatlands" was home to Henry Emerson Wetherill, M.D. (1871 -- 1946).⁴² This man was trained as a surgeon and botanist, but spent his life as an

explorer and inventor. A few of his medical tools proved useful, but as he grew older his inventions became increasingly bizarre. He apparently built some summer cottages on the estate and advertised for the building of more:

Bungalow Sites, Apartments, and Rooms for Rent

Dr. H.E. Wetherill, Protectory Station, Pennsylvania R.R., R.D. #1, Phoenixville, PA.

Along the Schuylkill river by Valley Forge and on the wooded banks of the Perkiomen creek are spots now taken for Summer homes. Some are for all the year. The plan is working well as a moderate priced outing for the family or club is available; and at small expense. Bungalows have been built, suitable for refined people, for \$300 including everything. Near the station, road markets, fishing, sailing, etc. Out in the primeval forest at Fatland, nearby, good water and bathing. Pick out the site for your outings, have it staked, leased and next time you come out you can move into YOUR OWN HOME. Carpenters on the place for hire or you can build yourself. Only neat artistic cabins and good intelligent neighbors are allowed on this life estate. \$50 an acre is charged in advance, a year and lease is given up to five years for the ground if paid in advance. This is between the improvements at Port Indian and Perkiomen Junction, on the Reading R.R. and is ideal for campers or those wishing a home at low cost and upkeep.

FATLAND MANSION has been fixed up and electricity installed and rooms are for rent, Summer or Winter, to desirable persons, at \$10 a month per room in advance. If persons or visitors are undesirable rents terminate. This is an ideal location and supplies come to the door; although but 7 minutes to the station, it is ideal for quiet, elegance and a nice place for convalescents; or a fine country boarding house. The rooms are unfurnished but have nice fire places for the cool days, and housekeeping is allowed in the various apartments. Stables on the place. Trolley at Jeffersonville.

The taxes are high. The owner has more houses and land than he can use, so as also to have agreeable company -- there is land to rent and rooms, and sometimes houses.

315 acres. Parts rented and farmed, cows for milk. Commuting is practical with Philadelphia, and the Old Gulph Road is best for automobiles to the city in an hour's run. Just north of Devon on the Main Line R.R., Norristown is 6 miles east. Audubon Inn nearby sits a good table. Laundry, butcher and country produce are at hand; -- have a garden if you wish. It is a fine big estate and I cannot use it all, but others can enjoy it and partly pay the expenses in rents; that I may continue my medical and scientific researches and practice.

Dr. Henry Emerson Wetherill's Specialties
R.D. 1, Phoenixville, PA. U.S.A.

While H.E. Wetherill sought to exploit his "Fatlands" holdings for a greater income, the Valley Forge Park Commission was anxious not to permit the commercial development of the north bank of the Schuylkill River. In 1937 the Park Commission initiated condemnation proceedings in order to acquire thirty-eight acres of "Fatlands," the entire Schuylkill riverfront of the property. In October 1942 a Montgomery County jury made an award in the case, but not until an appeal was settled⁴⁵ in May 1943 did the land transfer to the Park.

Within the Wetherill family pressure grew to sell "Fatlands." In April 1941 several dozen family members, the heirs of John Macomb Wetherill, deeded their interests in the estate to the Real Estate Trust Company⁴⁶ of Philadelphia. "Fatlands" had been reconstituted as 309.9 acres. This was soon to be reduced by the Valley Forge Park Commission's action, but represented for the time a return to the proportions of James Vaux's purchase of 1772. The boundaries of 1941 are useful to the historian for this comparison.

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In late 1945 "Fatlands" was advertised for sale:

260 Acres: Old Colonial Estate

THE PROPERTY consists of a well preserved stone Colonial (1776) mansion house of 15 rooms, four

other stone house^s and two stone barns.

ABUNDANCE of broad meadow land, extensive water frontage (1235') on the Perkiomen Creek. Thirty acres of timber land. A stream flows through the property.

In December 1945 the Real Estate Trust Company of Philadelphia sold "Fatlands" to John J. Shinnors, Jr. for \$26,000. ⁴⁸ H.E. Wetherill was still alive at that time and by all accounts, still living in the mansion. Though he died in March, 1946, also at the mansion, it is unclear what ⁴⁹ arrangements he had with J.J. Shinnors after the sale of 1945. In any case "Fatlands" had gradually fallen into near-total disrepair. The recent county history, Montgomery County: The Second Hundred Years, provides ⁵⁰ this comment:

One of the most successful Lower Providence farms in the late 1800s was Dr. [Henry Emerson] Wetherill's, which dated back to pre-Revolutionary days and was known as Fatland. (Dr. Wetherill, incidentally, accompanied Admiral Robert E. Peary to the North Pole in the early 1900's.) Gradually the entire farm became overrun by trees and underbrush. The roof of a huge barn fell in and its sides toppled, turning the remains of an old threshing machine and a huge treadle into a mass of cast-iron wheels and rotted wooden parts.

Shinnors was a local realtor who sought to sub-divide the property for re-sale. In 1946 advertisements appeared in local newspapers describing ⁵¹ "Fatlands" as follows:

WETHERILL MANSION (Also Known as "Fatland Farms")

Historic mansion house containing 20 spacious rooms, high ceilinged halls, 12 great Grecian columns and wide, broad piazzas on both front and rear.

The property has been ... last occupied by the late Dr. Henry E. Wetherill.

Also included in the Wetherill Estate is a 10-room stone house (known as "Locust Wood"), tenant house, carriage house and stable.

Shinnors found a buyer in Peter J. Camiel, a Philadelphian, who

52
purchased 216.1 acres of "Fatlands" in December 1946. Camiel found
it necessary to demolish and clear some of the farm buildings, re-build
others and to restore the mansion house itself. When he finished in
1950, he installed a datestone to commemorate his work. It is similar
53
in appearance to the previous datestone. Thirty years later, during
the negotiations with the National Park Service for the inclusion of
"Fatlands" in Valley Forge National Historical Park, Camiel provided as
many details as he could remember in an interview concerning the historic
54
structures on the estate. These comments have proven useful in the
discussion which follows.

The purchase of 145.03 acres of "Fatlands" in March 1983 by
the United States of America for the Valley Forge National Historical
55
Park did not include the mansion house and fifteen acres of land
immediately surrounding it. The purchase did include all the farm which
had not been sold off since 1946 for residential development. Though
the 18th and 19th century descriptions of "Fatlands" cited above name
many farm buildings, only three structures remain today. All three were
built or re-built by Peter Camiel and may not, therefore, correspond to
any of the structures known to have existed in the late 18th or early 19th
century. The present writer inspected these structures on Monday,
12 August 1985 and notes taken at that time are introduced here.

The three structures are a stone corral, a large garage (used for
storing farm equipment or vehicles) and a springhouse. The first is
constructed of local fieldstone, about 3½' to 4' high (capped with a
concrete wash), and about 250' to 300' square. It is free standing,
with open sections in the walls at the middle of three sides of the
rectangle and the land inside the walls is cultivated with modern farm

machinery. Camiel remembers re-building the walls from ruins, portions of the walls being taller than they are now. The stone is very similar in appearance to that used in the stone barn at the "Walnut Hill" farm of the Wetherill/Janeway families. This structure is not documented in any of the primary sources cited above. Nor is it shown in any property atlases or fire insurance surveys which can be found. Despite this lack of evidence, it is the opinion of the present writer that this structure represents the remains of a huge stone barn built by the Wetherills, ca. 1822 -- ca. 1845, with an attached stone corral similar in configuration to that found at "Walnut Hill" farm. This was probably the barn described in Montgomery County: The Second Hundred Years, cited above. Camiel retained the walls of the stone corral and expanded it to include the base of the walls of the barn, using the excess stone from the barn to fill in disintegrated areas where needed. It must be stressed, however, that this is just an educated guess which must be tested against the memories of Peter Camiel and others.

The large garage is a modern structure with a stone facade on that side with the doors and stuccoed walls on the other three sides. It was used to house large vehicles and/or machinery. The stone is the same as that of the corral described above. Again Camiel remembers re-building this structure from ruins. In this case, however, it is not possible for the present writer to offer even a conjecture as to the function of the historic structure which may have stood on this site. This building is not documented by primary sources consulted in this study.

The springhouse is about 12' x 20' (an estimate only) and built into a bank. It is constructed of stone, some of which does not match the rest. As before, Camiel remembers this building in ruins at the time of his

purchase and had it re-built. It is unfortunate that the 1798 U.S. Direct Tax does not detail this property's springhouse, but rather its smokehouse. Each of the newspaper advertisements between 1771 and 1803 mentions a springhouse and the descriptions of 1804 and 1813 no doubt fail to mention this structure because it seemed so commonplace in comparison to the other improvements on the property. Though the re-construction of this building by Camiel is not architecturally sympathetic, it seems likely to the present writer that this is the historic springhouse on the property. As in the case of the stone corral, however, it must be stressed that this is just an educated guess. The precise location of the 18th century springhouse has not been documented by primary sources consulted in this study.

Endnotes

- 1) Montgomery County Deed Book 4704.885 (24 March 1983; Peter J. Camiel and Nina Camiel, his wife, to the United States of America; \$897,600.00 purchase price for 145.03 acres); copy of deed in the Administrative Offices of the Valley Forge National Historical Park.
- 2) See the primary sources cited by Jacqueline Thibaut at pp. 151 (n. 40) and 152 (n. 42) of "The Valley Forge Report, Volume III: In the True Rustic Order." Thibaut buttresses these citations by references to the contemporary diaries of Elizabeth Drinker (at p. 150) and Ann Warder (at p. 152). A copy of Thibaut's report is available at the Administrative Offices of the Valley Forge National Historical Park.
- 3) Most of the narrative of Thibaut's short description of "Fatlands" is based on Karen E. Lee, "A History of Fatland and Mill Grove," Bulletin of the Historical Society of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania 19 (Spring, 1974): 127--154; and on W.H. Reed, "Audubon and Its History, Tradition and Reminiscences," Historical Sketches, A Collection of Papers Prepared for the Historical Society of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania 4 (1910): 199--200. Neither Lee nor Reed based his work on a thorough review of primary source documentation. Both articles should be used with extreme caution.
- 4) Thibaut quotes Reed's "Audubon" (p. 201) on this question, as does Lee. Reed, in turn, quotes a grandson of James Vaux. The grandson was repeating family oral tradition. Perhaps some primary source documentation will be found in the future to confirm the oral tradition.
- 5) Philadelphia County Deed Book I.12.54 (18 June 1772; James Morgan, "iron-master," of Durham Township, Bucks County, and Sarah, his wife, to James Vaux, "gentleman," of the City of Philadelphia; 23 £ purchase price, plus assumption of three mortgages totaling 1,300 £, for 302 acres, 75 perches).
- 6) Issue of 28 February 1771.
- 7) Lee, "History," pp. 128-9.
- 8) Pennsylvania State Tax Returns, Assessors Ledgers for 1785, 1786, 1787, 1788, 1789, 1791 and 1793 (Ledgers for 1791 and 1793 missing). Note that by some error an entry for John E. Allen has been sewn into the 1787 book, when in fact it must belong in the Ledger for a year after 1794. Montgomery County Historical Society. Norristown, Pa. That Vaux was responsible for the grand proportions of this estate is proven by the comments of Robert Sutcliff, written in 1804 and published in 1811 and 1812. See n. 17, below.
- 9) Montgomery County Deed Book 7.899 (10 September 1794; James Vaux, of Philadelphia, and Susanna, his wife, to John Echlin Allen, of Providence Township, Montgomery County; 3,950 £ purchase price for "the same premises" as Vaux purchased in 1772, i.e. 302 acres, 75 perches).

Endnotes (continued)

- 10) Montgomery County Deed Book 15.152 (15 October 1801; John Echlin Allen, of Philadelphia, "gentleman," to James Sergeant Ewing, of Montgomery County, "physician;" 4,537 \pm , 10 S purchase price for "the same premises" as Allen purchased in 1794, i.e. 302 acres, 75 perches).
- 11) U.S. Direct Tax for 1798, Schedule A (p. 97) and Schedule B (at p. 283) for Providence Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Page numbers are those stamped by machine at the top of each frame of microfilm. Available at the Montgomery County Historical Society.
The valuation of the mansion house and outbuildings -- \$1,200 -- was the highest in Providence Township; that of the farm buildings and land -- \$6,621 -- was the third highest.
- 12) In the issue of Vol. 3, No. 47 (26 August 1803). Available at the Montgomery County Historical Society.
- 13) See the "Alumni Record" biographical file on James Sergeant Ewing (A.B. 1787, A.M. 1790, Medical Department 1791, 1791-2, non-graduate), University Archives, University of Pennsylvania; see also, Lucy E. Lee Ewing, Dr. John Ewing and Some of His Noted Connections (Philadelphia: The John C. Winston Company, 1924 and 1930), p. 11.
- 14) Montgomery County Deed Book 17.184 (11 October 1803; James Sergeant Ewing, late of Montgomery County, now of Trenton, New Jersey, and Catherine, his wife, to William Bakewell, of New Haven, Connecticut; 6,000 \pm purchase price for "the same premises" as Ewing purchased in 1801, i.e. 302 acres, 75 perches).
- 15) Robert Sutcliff, Travels in Some Parts of North America, in the Years 1804, 1805, & 1806 (York, England: Printed by C. Peacock, at the Courant-Office, for W. Alexander, 1811).
- 16) The American edition was identical in content: Robert Sutcliff, Travels in Some Parts of North America, in the Years 1804, 1805, & 1806 (Philadelphia: Published by B. & T. Kite, 1812).
- 17) Copies of both the English edition and the American edition are available at the Special Collections department of Van Pelt Library, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. See pp. 30-2 for the lengthy quotation presented here.
- 18) Lee, "History," pp. 134-5; copies of the Norristown Herald for 1813 are available at the Montgomery County Historical Society.
- 19) See, for example, Bakewell's sale to Henry Kohlhauer in 1812 (Montgomery County Deed Book 28.238) or Bakewell's sale to Jacob Francis, also in 1812 (Montgomery County Deed Book 29.458).
- 20) Montgomery County Deed Book 38.502 (20 August 1822; Sarah Bakewell, of Louisville, Kentucky, "spinster" and "Acting Executrix" of William Bakewell, deceased, to Samuel Wetherill, Jr.; \$11,717.04 purchase price for 196 and 3/4 acres and 28 perches).

Endnotes (continued)

- 21) Philadelphia Register of Wills, #113, 1829.
- 22) Philadelphia Register of Wills, #36, 1844.
- 23) Montgomery County Deed Book 65.102.
- 24) Lee, "History," p. 136; see also "Vaux Hill and Fatland Farm: The Vaux-Bakewell-Wetherill Property," a scrapbook compiled by Herbert Harley. Found in the "Wetherill Papers Box -- #1," Montgomery County Historical Society.
- 25) A photocopy of a photograph of the datestone is in the "Fatlands" deed file in the office of the Superintendent at the Administrative Offices of Valley Forge National Historical Park. Photocopy attached.
For unknown reasons Lee, in her "History," misreads the datestone and gives the date for Wetherill's rebuilding as 1843. This is clearly an error, as the "Fatlands" property was still owned and occupied by Rachel (Price) Wetherill in 1843. In any case, see the enclosed photocopy of the datestone. See Lee, "History," p. 136.
- 26) Made by Lee, in her "History," p. 136; picked up by Thibaut and repeated in "The Valley Forge Report: Volume III," p. 153. The present author could find no earlier claim to Haviland for "Fatlands" than that of Lee. Haviland's name does not appear in any of the newspaper accounts and personal reminiscences of "Fatlands" which may be found at the Montgomery County Historical Society. Lee does not footnote her source.
- 27) Matthew Eli Baigell, "John Haviland," (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Pennsylvania, 1965). Available at the Fine Arts Library.
It is interesting to note, however, that Haviland was known to the Wetherills -- and used by them also. Item #42 on Baigell's list of buildings is "Messrs. Wetherill and Seitzinger Houses, Pt, Carbon (Schuylkill County), Pa., 1830-31. Erected, not known if still standing." See pp. 168, 303.
- 28) As proven by his residence there in 1850 (see U.S. Census returns for that year in Bulletin of the Historical Society of Montgomery County 15 (No. 3), p. 75) and by his will of 1868, which states "I, William Wetherill, M.D., of the County of Montgomery ..."
- 29) See the "Alumni Record" biographical file on William Wetherill (M.D. 1825) at the University Archives, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia for birth and death dates of W.W., as well as for a summary of his career. See also the complete business records of the "Store and White Lead Works founded by Samuel Wetherill in the late 18th century (and continuing to 1899)" among the holdings of the Special Collections department of the Van Pelt Library at the University of Pennsylvania. A catalogue of the papers was prepared by Miriam Hussey and published as "The Wetherill Papers" (Philadelphia: The Wharton School of Finance and Commerce of the University of Pennsylvania, 1942).

Endnotes (continued)

- 30) Edward W. Hocker, formerly of the Montgomery County Historical Society, prepared typescript summaries of his research on this topic which may be found in the "Wetherill Papers Box -- #1," at the Library of the Society. These quote from a "pamphlet" at the "Historical Society of Pennsylvania" entitled "Memorial of Isabelle Wetherill to the Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania" and from the "Journal of the (Pennsylvania) State Senate." These summaries state that serious domestic difficulties began in 1847, after the Wetherills had had fifteen (!) children; that a separation and settlement was agreed to about 1849 with the wife and children to receive \$5,000 per annum; that in January 1850 William Wetherill, M.D. petitioned the state legislature to grant a divorce, which was opposed by the wife; no divorce was granted. Photocopies of the Hocker summaries appended to this report.
- 31) Philadelphia Register of Wills, #319, 1872.
- 32) Montgomery County Department of Records was in the process of relocating its offices during the summer of 1985. Records of the Register of Wills were available for search, but not the records of Orphans' Court. At a future date, study should be made of William Wetherill, OC 20894 (1872) file at the Department of Records.
- 33) Montgomery County Deed Book 322.177 (1887, day and month unknown; Henry C. Kline, Sheriff of Montgomery County, to John Macomb Wetherill).
- 34) In the cases of Samuel Wetherill, Jr. (d. 1829) and John Price Wetherill (d. 1853), real estate was not divided among the children until the widow had died (15 years and 24 years later, respectively). As the date of death of Isabelle (Macomb) Wetherill has not been found, it is unclear if that is the case here. Given the terrible family strains imposed by the separation of the father and mother, it is entirely likely that the children disagreed among themselves as to the division of the father's real estate. This could well have led to lengthy litigation. Further research could possibly shed more light on this question.
- 35) On 16 May 1895. See copy of will at Montgomery County Department of Records. RW 19512.
- 36) Ibid.
- 37) See newspaper obituary entitled "Wm. H. Wetherill Dies After Stroke" at the "Wetherill Papers Box -- #1," Montgomery County Historical Society. Photocopy attached. See also, Montgomery County Department of Records. RW 42745 (1927).
- 38) Date of 1892 taken from Lee, "History," p. 147; her source, however, is secondary and should be checked.
- 39) See John B. Dodd, "Classified Structure Field Inventory Report: Meadow Grove Spring House," on file at the Administration Building, Valley Forge National Historical Park, Worksheet 1B, where he cites Montgomery County Deed Book 801.30 (1 October 1919).

Endnotes (continued)

- 40) This seems especially likely when seen in light of subsequent events. One son of William H., Herbert J. Wetherill, took over "Mill Grove" after 1927; another, Dr. Henry E. Wetherill, took over "Fatlands;" In 1935 the Franklin Survey Company's Atlas of Montgomery County (Vol. B) (Philadelphia: 1935), Plate 13 labels the "Mill Grove" property as owned by Herbert J. Wetherill and the "Fatlands" as owned by Dr. Henry E. Wetherill. See also, the Montgomery County Department of Records. William H. Wetherill. RW 42745 (1927).
- 41) The "Alumni Record" biographical file on Henry Emerson Wetherill (M.D. 1893) includes correspondence, official University forms, and several obituaries clipped from newspapers. The obituaries state that Wetherill had "lived alone on the estate ("Fatlands") for nearly a half century" (Philadelphia Inquirer, 9 March 1946; New York Times, 9 March 1946), but the University forms give his address as 3734 Walnut Street, Philadelphia in 1896. A publication entitled "With Drops of Blood" by HEW and dated 1910, gives the address as 3734 Walnut Street, but from 1923 all correspondence is headed "Fatlands Farms, Audubon, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania."
- 42) For birth and death dates and other pertinent biographical information, see the "Alumni Record" file at the University Archives, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.
- 43) A pamphlet entitled "My Little Book," dated 1923, includes pages describing a quick printing fountain pen called a "typen," a musical instrument called a "trombone flute," a hand-operated calculator called "kalqlex," a folding field or opera glass called "C-R-O-G," a folding eye shade called "perimetric I-shade," a general utility scissors called "cizr-curjon," and others. Copy in the "Alumni Record" file.
- 44) From an undated pamphlet found in the "Alumni Record" file. Photocopy attached.
- 45) As reported in "Award of \$3,800 for Historic 38-Acre Wetherill Tract at Fatland," in the Norristown Times Herald (28 October 1942). Copy at the Montgomery County Historical Society, Scrapbook Collection B8:3, p. 171. Photocopy attached. See also "\$4,750 Awarded to Wetherill," in the Norristown Times Herald (20 May 1943). Copy at the Montgomery County Historical Society. Photocopy attached.
- 46) Montgomery County Deed Book 1449.17 (8 April 1941; Henry E. Wetherill, et al, by Deed of Trust, to the Real Estate Trust Company of Philadelphia; \$1.00 purchase price for 309.9 acres).
- 47) From an undated broadside at the Montgomery County Historical Society. Date of 1945 assigned to the broadside based on internal evidence: Schuylkill River frontage shown as acquired by the Valley Forge Park Commission and no longer part of the estate; asking price of \$25,000 very close to price paid in December 1945, but well below price paid in December 1946. Photocopy attached.
- 48) Montgomery County Deed Book 1710.119 (22 December 1945; Real Estate Trust Company of Philadelphia, under Henry E. Wetherill, et al, Deed of Trust,

Endnotes (continued)

- to John J. Shiners, Jr.; \$26,000 purchase price for 309.9 acres with exceptions).
- 49) The obituaries of H.E. Wetherill printed in the Philadelphia Inquirer (9 March 1946), the New York Times (9 March 1946), the Philadelphia Record (9 March 1946) and the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin (9 March 1946) all state that Wetherill was found dead in his bedroom at "Fatlands," on 8 March 1946, after not appearing for several days. His body was found by Frank Ivins, a tenant farmer on the estate. The Montgomery County coroner estimated that Wetherill had been dead for about three days when his body was found and that he had died of natural causes. See the "Alumni Record" file.
- 50) Jean Barth Toll and Michael J. Schwager, eds., Montgomery County: The Second Hundred Years, 2 vols. (Norristown, Pennsylvania: The Montgomery County Federation of Historical Societies, 1983), 1:389.
- 51) From an undated newspaper clipping at the Montgomery County Historical Society. Date of 1946 annotated in hand on margin of clipping. Advertisement refers to the recent death of Dr. H.E. Wetherill and the \$50,000 asking price is close to the \$42,500 purchase price paid by Peter J. Camiel in December 1946. Photocopy attached.
- 52) Montgomery County Deed Book 1793.120 (7 December 1946; John J. Shiners, Jr., and Isabel M., his wife, of Eaglesville, Pennsylvania to Peter J. Camiel and Nina, his wife, of Philadelphia; purchase price of \$42,500 for 216.1 acres and unspecified improvements).
- 53) See attached photocopy. Taken from the files of the Superintendent at the Administrative Offices of Valley Forge National Historical Park. See n. 25 above.
- 54) Notes taken during interview available in the files of the office of Joan Marshall-Dutcher, Research Historian, Valley Forge National Historical Park.
- 55) Montgomery County Deed Book 4704.885 (see n. 1 above). This is the parcel of land known as Valley Forge National Historical Park Tract 101-68. It includes most of the farm of 1772 exclusive of the Schuylkill River frontage (about 38 acres) and all the land north of Pawling Road (an unknown acreage).

Brief of Title to "FATLANDS FARM," also known as Valley Forge National
Historical Park Tract 101-68

24 March 1983

for \$897,600.00

145.03 acres and improvements

Recorded in Montgomery County
Deed Book 4704.885

Described as part of a larger tract of land which the grantors
purchased in 1946. This part does not include the "Fatlands"
mansion house and fifteen acres immediately surrounding it.
Other exceptions noted.

Peter J. Camiel
and Nina, h/w

to

United States of America

7 December 1946

for \$42,500.00

216.1 acres and improvements

Recorded in Montgomery County
Deed Book 1793.120

Described as part of a larger tract of land which the grantors
purchased in 1945, but inclusive of "Fatlands" mansion house,
farm buildings and other improvements. Exceptions noted.

John J. Shimmers, Jr.
and Isabel M., h/w

to

Peter J. Camiel

22 December 1945

for \$26,000

309.9 acres and improvements

Recorded in Montgomery County
Deed Book 1710.119

Described as the same premises which the grantor purchased in 1941,
by Deed of Trust from Henry E. Wetherill, et al. Exceptions noted,
including thirty-eight acre parcel condemned and purchased by the
Valley Forge Park Commission of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
Actual acreage of premises something less than 309.9; advertised
for sale at 260 acres, photocopy attached.

Real Estate Trust
Company of Philadelphia,
Trustee under a Deed of
Trust of Henry E. Wetherill,
et al

to

John J. Shimmers, Jr.

Brief of Title to "FATLANDS FARM" (continued)

8 April 1941

for \$1.00

309.9 acres and improvements

Recorded in Montgomery County
Deed Book 1449.17

Henry E. Wetherill, et al
(heirs of John Macomb
Wetherill, deceased), by
Deed of Trust

to

Real Estate Trust Company
of Philadelphia

Described as part of several tracts of land awarded to John Macomb Wetherill by Montgomery County Sheriff in partition of estate of William Wetherill, M.D. (died 1872).

John Macomb Wetherill died on 16 May 1895. His will (Montgomery County Department of Records, RW 19512) directed that his estate be divided among his brothers and sisters and their heirs, share and share alike.

1887 (month and day unknown)

for \$1.00

Eight parcels of land with
improvements, totaling
321 acres, more or less

Recorded in Montgomery County
Deed Book 332.177

Henry C. Kline, Esquire,
Sheriff (by Deed Poll)

to

John M. Wetherill, one
of the children of
William Wetherill, M.D.,
deceased

Described as estate of William Wetherill, M.D. (1804 -- 1872), consisting of land inherited by William Wetherill, M.D. from his father, Samuel Wetherill, Jr. and land purchased by William Wetherill, M.D. in his own lifetime.

William Wetherill, M.D. died on 28 April 1872. His will (Philadelphia Register of Wills #319, 1872) directed that his estate be divided equally among his children.

One of the parcels of land is described as the "Bakewell Farm," consisting of mansion house, farm buildings, other improvements and 196 acres of land.

7 November 1844

for \$1.00

196 and 3/4 acres and improvements

Recorded in Montgomery County
Deed Book 65.102

James Wells, Esquire
Sheriff

to

William Wetherill, M.D.,
one of the children of
Samuel Wetherill, deceased

Brief of Title to "FATLANDS FARM" (continued)7 November 1844 (continued)

Described as part of the estate of Samuel Wetherill, Jr. (1764 -- 1829). His will bequeathed his Philadelphia residence ("the messuage in which I now reside") and his country residence ("and also my Farm called the Bakewell Farm in Montgomery County") to his wife, Rachel Wetherill. She continued to occupy both during her widowhood. All his other property, both real and personal, was bequeathed to his five children, share and share alike. Rachel Wetherill agreed to bequeath her estate in the same manner (Philadelphia Register of Wills, #36, 1844). As a result no partition of the real estate of Samuel Wetherill (Jr.) took place until after the death of his widow.

In 1844 the Estate of Samuel Wetherill (Jr.) was ordered divided. William Wetherill, M.D. was awarded the "Bakewell Farm" tract of 196 and 3/4 acres, being the same premises which Samuel Wetherill (Jr.) had purchased in 1822 from the executrix of William Bakewell, deceased, as below.

20 August 1822

for \$11,717.04

196 and 3/4 acres with
improvementsRecorded in Montgomery County
Deed Book 38.502Sarah Bakewell, of
Louisville, Kentucky,
"spinster" and "Acting
Executrix" of William
Bakewell, deceased

to

Samuel Wetherill, Jr.

Described as part of a larger tract of land which William Bakewell purchased in 1803. William Bakewell died in 1821.

11 October 1803

for 6,000 L

302 acres, 75 perches

Recorded in Montgomery County
Deed Book 17.184James Sergeant Ewing,
late of Montgomery County,
now of Trenton, New Jersey,
and Catherine, h/w

to

William Bakewell,
of New Haven, Connecticut

Described as same premises which the grantor purchased in 1801.

15 October 1801

for 4,537 L

John Echlin Allen,
of Philadelphia,

to

Brief of Title to "FATLANDS FARM" (continued)

15 October 1801 (continued)

302 acres, 75 perches

Recorded in Montgomery County
Deed Book 15.152

James Sergeant Ewing,
of Montgomery County

Described as the same premises which the grantor purchased in 1794.

10 September 1794

for 3,950 L

302 acres, 75 perches

Recorded in Montgomery County
Deed Book 7.899

James Vaux, of Philadelphia,
"gentleman, and Susanna, h/w

to

John Echlin Allen

Described as the same premises which the grantor purchased in 1772.

18 June 1772

for 23 L (and assumption
of three mortgages totaling
1,300 L)

302 acres, 75 perches

Recorded in Philadelphia County
Deed Book I.12.54

James Morgan, of Durham
Township, Bucks County,
"ironmaster," and
Sarah, h/w

to

James Vaux, of Philadelphia,
"gentleman"

Described as premises consisting of three parcels of land, as follows:

- 1) 100 acres purchased by the grantor from Thomas Morgan, "yeoman," of New Providence Township, (then) Philadelphia County on 9 May 1746 (Recorded in Philadelphia County Deed Book H.5.116).
- 2) 82 acres purchased by the grantor from Thomas Lewis, "yeoman," of New Providence Township, (then) Philadelphia County, and Catherine, h/w, on 18 March 1748/9 (citation not given)
- 3) 116½ acres purchased by the grantor from the Trustees of the Pennsylvania Land Company in London on 24 November 1766; this parcel of land included a "messuage or dwelling house." (citation not given)

A recent survey having been taken, these three parcels of land were shown to actually total 302 acres, 75 perches.

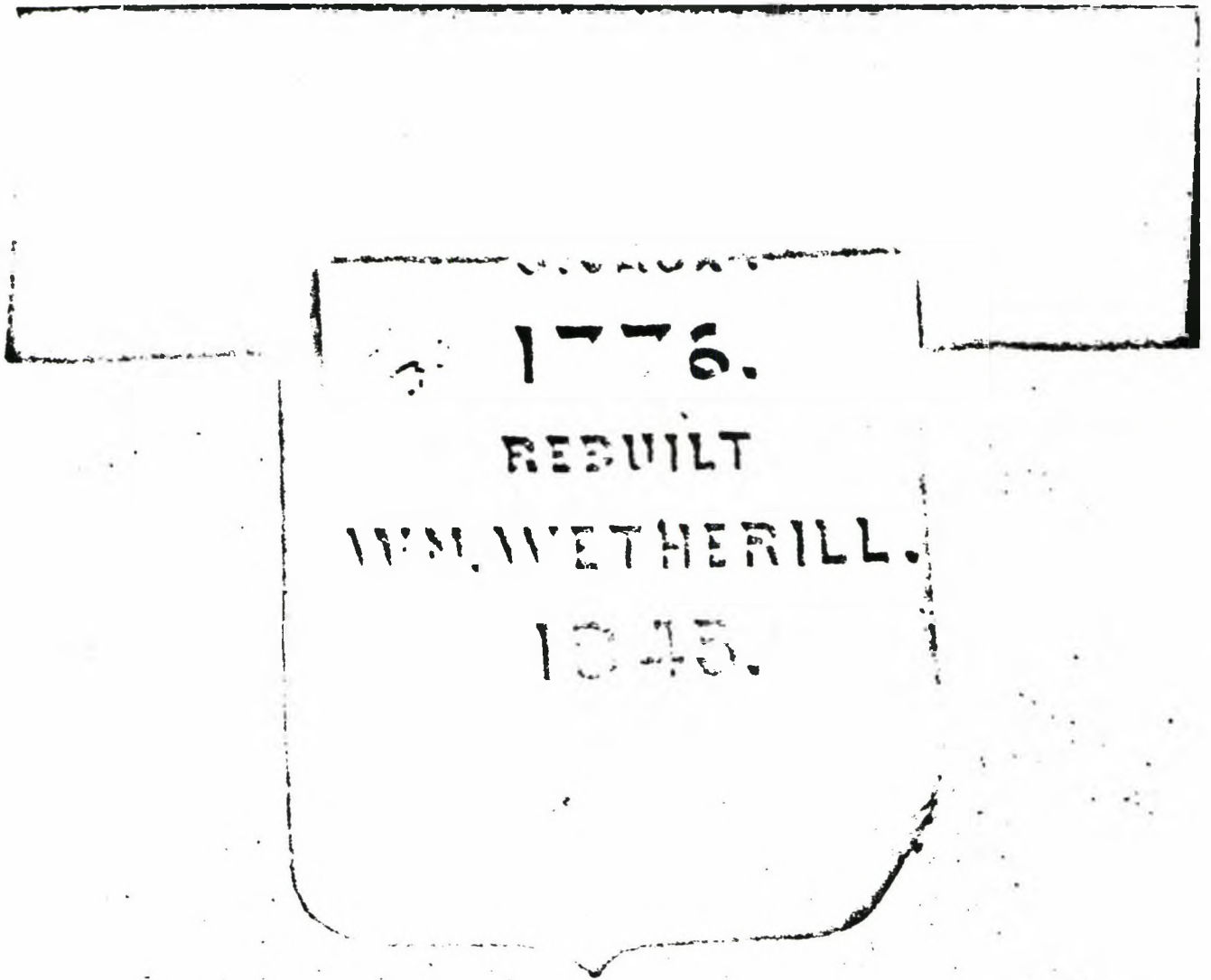
Brief of Title to "FATLANDS FARM" (concluded)

18 June 1772 (concluded)

The premises sold were encumbered by three mortgages, as follows:

- 1) A mortgage of 300 L made by the grantor on 14 December 1761
(Recorded in Philadelphia County Mortgage Book X.6.295).
- 2) A mortgage of 200 L made by the grantor on 27 May 1767
(Recorded in Philadelphia County Mortgage Book X.12.55).
- 3) A mortgage of 800 L made by the grantor on 22 April 1771
(Recorded in Philadelphia County Mortgage Book X.15.406).

Chain of title not pursued prior to 1772.



PETER J. CAMIEL

RESTORED 1950

Attachment #2: Edward W. Hocker summaries of Wetherill divorce case

Pamphlet, Hist. Soc. of Pa.
Memorial of Isabelle Wetherill, to Senate and House of Representatives
of Pa.

Sets forth that "her husband has again seen fit to lay before you a petition praying for a divorce." Alleges negligence, misconduct, want of fidelity. She received no notice of the petition and asks for a hearing. Declares the charges cannot be proved. Is mother of 15 children of whom 12 are now alive. Testimony in previous application for divorce was taken last winter. Horace Binney counsel. ~~xxxxxx~~. Settlement was effected for \$5000 a year for wife and children. Present application made contrary to advice of Binney and others. Wife given custody of children. She denies husband's assertion that she has now agreed to a divorce. "Evil spell which now strangles and crushes my unfortunate husband" since 1847. Counsel advised that for the sake of the children she should not submit her evidence. Signed Garrick Mallery, St. George T. Campbell. April 4, 1850.

Attachment #2: Edward W. Hocker summaries of Wetherill divorce case

Wetherill Divorce--

Journal of State Senate, 1850--

March 20~~1850~~ Jan. 9, 1850--Mr. Jones presented the petition of Wm. Wetherill for anulment of marriage

Jan. 11--Mr. Jones presented petition of Isabell Wetherill remonstrating against William Wetherill's petition of annulment.

Jan. 12--Mr. Jones presented a document in relation of William Wetherill's petition.

Feb. 8--Mr. Crabb presented a copy of certain correspondence between counsel for Wm. Wetherill and counsel for his wife.

Feb. 19--Mr. Streeter, from committee on judiciary, reported bill No. 389, "to annul the marriage contract between Wm. Wetherill and Isabella Wetherill his wife." Bill read first time.

Feb. 20--Senate as committee of the whole considers bill. Committee rose. Chairman reported bill without amendment.

Feb. 21--Bill on second reading. Mr. King moves to strike out "late Macomb of the state of New Jersey." Agreed. Vote--Yeas, 15; nays, 16. Determined in negative.

Feb. 23--Mr. Crabb introduces bill "An act to annul the marriage contract between William Wetherill, M.D., of Montgomery County, and Isabella his wife."

March 20--Mr. Kuhlberg presents the remonstrance of citizens of Phila. against granting legislative divorces.

April 6--Mr. Jones presents two remonstrances from citizens of Montg. Co. against Wetherill divorce bill.

April 9--Mr. Brooke presents remonstrance of counsel for Mrs. Wetherill against divorce bill, Laid on table.

April 25--Question of order raised: Having been negatived in the Senate, is it in order to reintroduce the Wetherill divorce bill. and consider it. Vote: Yeas, 11; nays, 12, including speaker. Setermined in negative. Question recussing, vote: Yeas, 16, with speaker; nays, 15. Carried. Title considered: amended to cut out "M.D., of Montgomery County."

April 29--Mr. Jones presents remonstrances from citizens of Montg. Co. against Wetherill divorce bill. Laid on table.

April 29--Resolution adopted requesting House to return Wetherill divorce bill to Senate. Carried.

May 15--Mr. Frailey asked and obtained leave to withdraw petition and documents of Wm. Wetherill for divorce.

Wetherill divorce bill not listed among acts passed in 1850.

WM. H. WETHERILL DIES AFTER STROKE

Head of White Lead Manufacturing Firm Had Not Recovered Fully from 2 Recent Falls

HE WAS 89 YEARS OLD

William Henry Wetherill, head of the oldest white lead manufacturing firm in this country and a member of one of Pennsylvania's oldest families, died yesterday afternoon in the University Hospital a few hours after he suffered a stroke. He was eighty-nine.



W. H. Wetherill

Mr. Wetherill had never recovered fully from injuries suffered in a fall at his office in the plant of Wetherill & Brother, 126 S. 13th st., last November 27. He underwent a minor operation a few days ago and apparently had rallied.

Despite his advanced age he insisted on going to his office daily, and it was while alone that he fell on the stairs. Ignoring the pain, he went to his home, 3734 Walnut st., and refused to call a physician. A few days later he fell and broke his hip while making his way about the house with the aid of two canes, necessitating his removal to the hospital.

The firm of Wetherill & Brother, of which Mr. Wetherill was president and treasurer, was founded by his great-grandfather, Samuel Wetherill, who defied church and family and joined Washington's army. This act inspired Dr. S. Weir Mitchell to make him the hero of "Hugh Wynne, Free Quaker."

Samuel Wetherill was the leader of the band of Free Quakers who erected the old meeting house on Arch st., on the walls of which may still be seen the inscription: "Erected A. D. 1783, of the Empire 8."

Mr. Wetherill succeeded his father, Dr. William Wetherill, as president of the firm of Wetherill & Brother a few years after he returned from the Civil War, in which he served as a private. He was fond of outdoor sports and for many years was president of the Philadelphia Skating Club.

He also devoted much of his time to his 100-acre farm in the Perkiomen Valley, which was bought by his grandfather 123 years ago. When America entered the World War he directed the raising of a crop of potatoes and onions every times larger than the usual yield.

Several churches and charitable organizations are given substantial bequests. A \$10,000 endowment fund is granted to St. Mary's Protestant Episcopal Church, West Philadelphia, the income to be used for keeping the altar in good condition.

The same amount is left for an endowment fund to the trustees of Union Church, adjoining the Mill Grove Farm, Audubon, Pa., which Mr. Wetherill owned. St. Paul's Church, Oaks, Montgomery county, is given \$1,000 for an endowment fund, and the Religious Society of Free Quakers, this city, is given \$3,000 for an endowment fund.

One thousand dollars is bequeathed to the Home of the Merciful Saviour and \$2,000 to the Home Missionary Society of Philadelphia. Four nephews, Brenton, John L., Alexander and Samuel Wetherill, are to share equally in Meadow Grove Farm, Lower Providence, Montgomery county.

After making bequests of \$100 and upwards to servants and a number of friends, Mr. Wetherill wrote the bequest to Miss McFarland, "who has cared for my late wife, for me and members of the family for many years."

The residue is left to his sons, Herbert J., Abel P. Wetherill, the Rev. Dr. Francis M. Wetherill, and Webster King Wetherill; a sister, Mrs. Rebecca W. Hupman; daughters-in-law, Mrs. Mary H. Wetherill, Mrs. Sara B. Wetherill and Mrs. Georgia V. Wetherill; and grandsons, Reeves Wetherill and Proctor Wetherill.

NOT long before that nonagenarian, William H. Wetherill, who died last week, was fatally stricken. I asked him about Betsy Ross.

Mr. Wetherill's father and Betsy Ross were the last to attend a meeting of Free Quakers in the old meeting house on Arch street, erected in 1783.

"When they departed," said Mr. Wetherill, "my father locked the door, and he told me that was the last regular religious service ever held there."

"Did Betsy Ross make the first American flag?" I asked this man, whose father knew her well.

"She undoubtedly did," replied the old chemical manufacturer. "Nobody ever doubted it in her day, and for long afterwards. Only recently have the skeptics raised the question."

I should rely implicitly upon the evidence handed down directly from father to son in a case like this. It is surely worth more than the cynical ravings of near-historians of our own time.

Attachment #4: Dr. W.E. Wetherill's advertisement published in pamphlet form concerning the "Fatlands" estate

Bungalow Sites, Apartments, and Rooms For Rent

Dr. H. E. Wetherill

Protectory Station, Penna. R. R.

R. D. 1, Phoenixville, Pa., U. S. A.

Along the Schuylkill river by Valley Forge and on the wooded banks of the Perkiomen creek are spots now taken for Summer homes.

Some are for all the year.

The plan is working well as a moderate priced outing for the family or club is available; and at small expense. Bungalows have been built, suitable for refined people, for \$300 including everything.

Near the station, road markets, fishing, sailing, etc.

Out in the primeval forest at Fatland, nearby, good water and bathing.

Attachment #4: Dr. H.E. Wetherill's advertisement published in pamphlet form concerning the "Fatlands" estate; pp. 2 and 3

Pick out the site for your out-ings, have it staked, leased and next time you come out you can move into **YOUR OWN HOME.**

Carpenters on the place for hire or you can build yourself.

Only neat artistic cabins and good intelligent neighbors are allowed on this life estate.

\$50 an acre is charged in advance, a year and lease is given up to five years for the ground if paid in advance.

This is between the improvements at Port Indian and Perkiomen Junction, on the Reading R. R, and is ideal for campers or those wishing a home at low cost and upkeep.

FATLAND MANSION

has been fixed up and electricity installed and rooms are for rent, Summer or Winter, to desirable persons, at \$10 a month per room in advance!

If persons or visitors are undesirable rents terminate.

This is an ideal location and supplies come to the door; although but 7 minutes to the station, it is ideal for quiet, elegance and a nice place for convalescents; or a fine country boarding house.

The rooms are unfurnished but have nice fire places for the cool days, and housekeeping is allowed in the various apartments.

Stables on the place. Trolley at Jeffersonville.

Attachment #4: Dr. H.E. Wetherill's advertisement published in pamphlet form concerning the "Fatlands" estate; p. 4.

The taxes are high. The owner has more houses and land than he can use, so as also to have agreeable company—there is land to rent and rooms, and sometimes houses. 315 acres. Parts rented and farmed, cows for milk.

Commuting is practical with Philadelphia, and the Old Gulph Road is best for automobiles to the city in an hour's run. Just north of Devon on the Main Line R. R., Norristown 6 miles east.

Audubon Inn nearby sets a good table. Laundry, butcher and country produce are at hand;—have a garden if you wish.

It is a fine big estate and I cannot use it all, but others can enjoy it and partly pay the expenses in rents; that I may continue my medical and scientific researches and practice.

Dr. Henry Emerson Wetherill's Specialties
R. D. 1, Phoenixville, Pa., U. S. A.

Attachment #5: Acquisition of Schuylkill River frontage of "Fatlands" by the Valley Forge Park Commission

PRISTOWN TIMES HERALD, THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1943.

\$4,750 AWARDED TO WETHERILL

Settlement of an appeal from an award of a jury of view was effected today when a verdict for \$4,750 in favor of Henry E. Weth-

erill, and others, against the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, was taken before Judge William F. Dannehower at a session of Civil Court.

The verdict is \$950 more than that awarded Wetherill by a Montgomery County Jury of View composed of Attorney Thomas F. Doran, Charles J. Hansell and H.

H. Smith.

The Wetherill tract, composed of 37 acres, was condemned by the Valley Forge Park Commission for park extension purposes. It is bounded by St. Joseph's Protectorate for Boys, the Pennsylvania Railroad, land of H. Espenship and the Schuylkill River.

After hearings, the Jury of View

made an award of \$3,800 payable to the Real Estate Trust Company, Philadelphia, trustee for Wetherill and others.

The case was listed for trial in March and continued. It appeared first on this week's list and when it was called for trial announcement was made that it had been settled. Later the verdict for

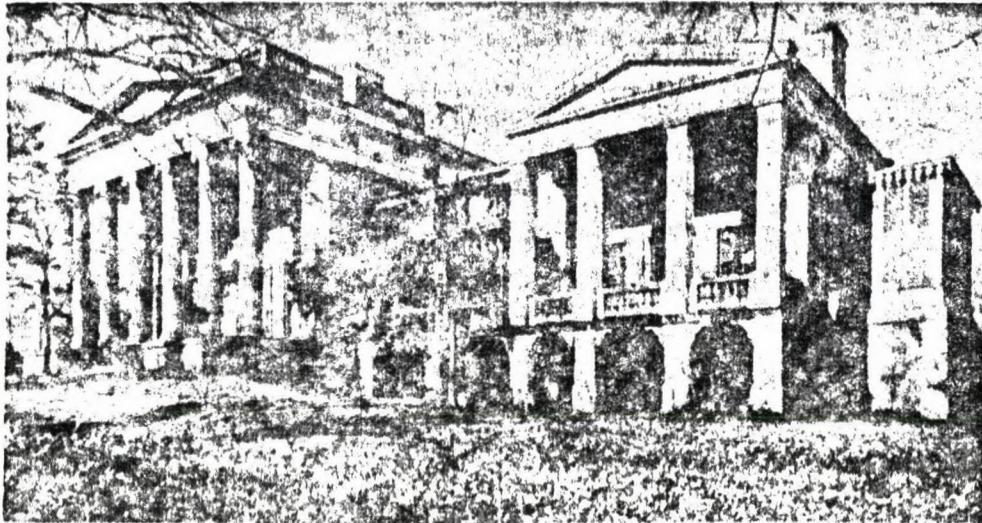
\$4,750 was taken. Attorney Therman P. Britt represented the claimants and Deputy Attorney General Paul P. Wisler, the Commonwealth.

When something is stolen among the Fijians the priest gazes into a crystal, and the thief's image appears there.

FOR SALE

260 ACRES OLD COLONIAL ESTATE

SACRIFICE



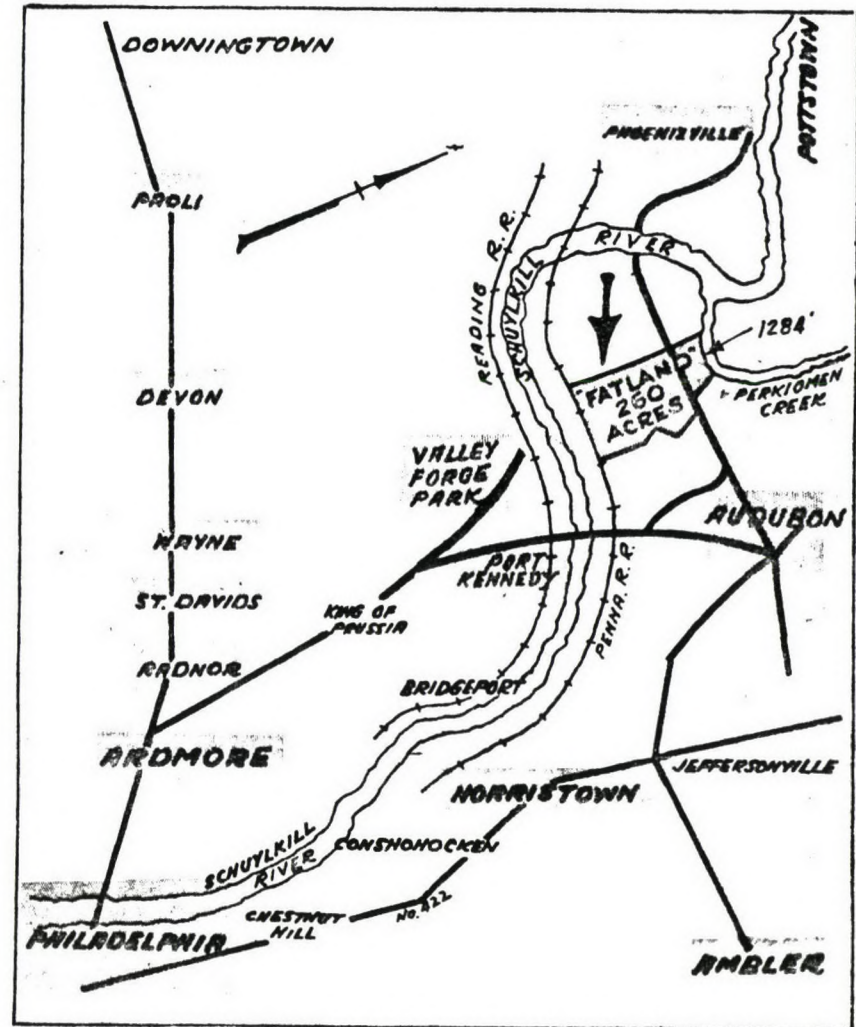
LOCATED - DIRECTLY OPPOSITE VALLEY FORGE (22 MILES FROM PHILADELPHIA) - EAST OF THE JUNCTION OF THE PERKIOMEN CREEK & THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER, IN LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP, MONTGOMERY CO., PENNA. ONE MILE TO PORT KENNEDY STATION OF THE READING R. R. - CONVENIENT TO THE PENNA. R. R. SCHUYLKILL DIVISION.

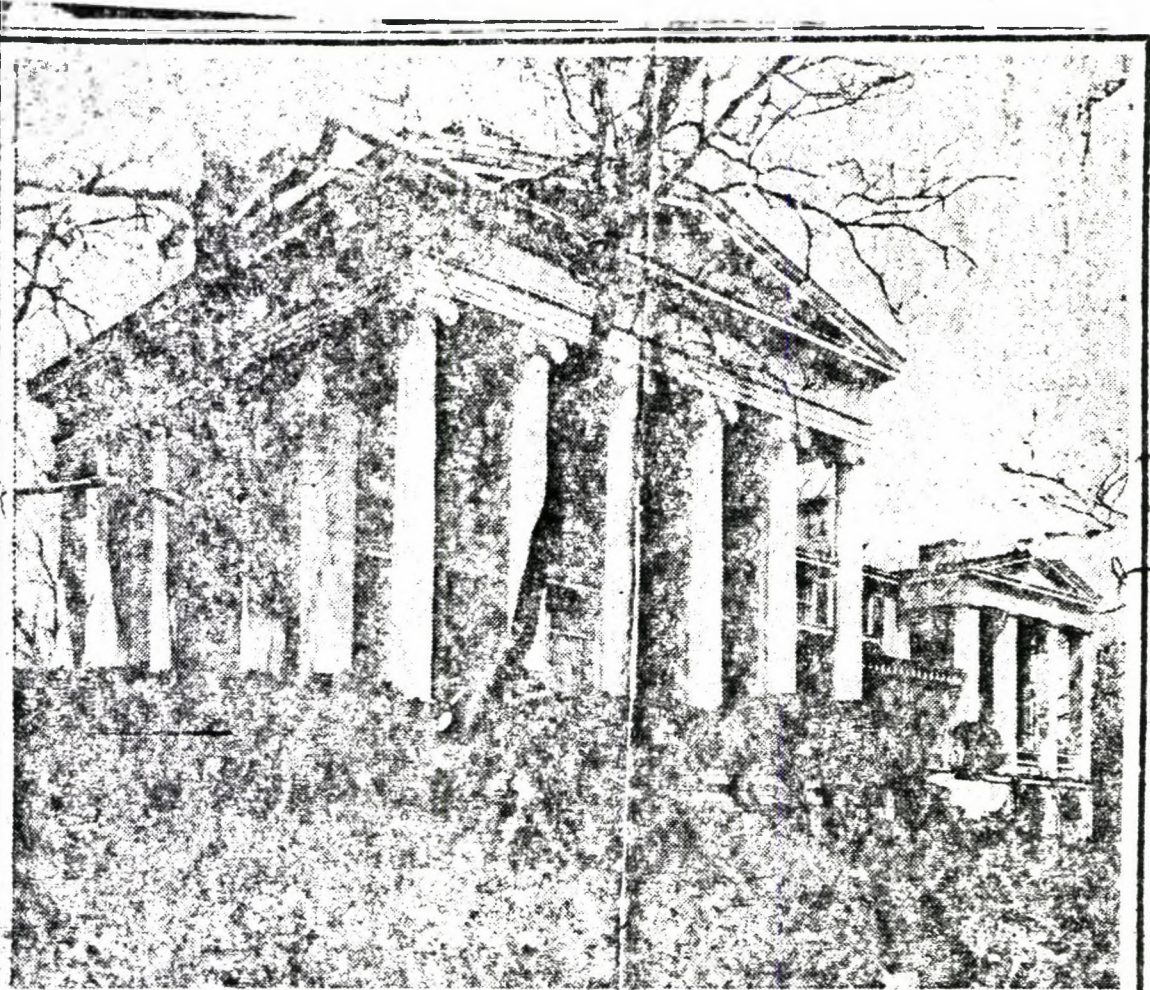
THE PROPERTY CONSISTS OF A WELL PRESERVED STONE COLONIAL (1776) MANSION HOUSE OF 15 ROOMS, FOUR OTHER STONE HOUSES AND TWO STONE BARNs.

ABUNDANCE OF BROAD MEADOW LAND, EXTENSIVE WATER FRONT - AGE (1235') ON THE PERKIOMEN CREEK. THIRTY ACRES OF TIMBER LAND. A STREAM FLOWS THROUGH THE PROPERTY.

THIS DESIRABLE PROPERTY ENJOYS A HIGH ELEVATION & LONG RANGE VIEW OVER THE SCHUYLKILL VALLEY

Price \$25,000.





1946

WETHERILL MANSION

(Also Known as "Fatland Farms")

AUDUBON, PENNA.

Historic mansion house containing 20 spacious rooms, high ceilinged halls, 12 great Grecian columns and wide, broad piazzas on both front and rear.

Located on 200 acres within the triangle formed by the junction of the Perkiomen Creek and the Schuylkill River, overlooking Valley Forge Park at "Sullivan's Crossing". Here, in 1777, General Washington, Commander of the American Army, and General Howe, leader of the British, were entertained within a 24-hour period by James Vaux, the owner, who was noted for his endeavors to improve farming methods. Next owner was Dr. James Sergeant Ewing, provost of the University of Penna. who died at Fatlands in 1832. Bought a year later by William Bakewell, whose daughter Lucy married John James Audubon, famed for his studies of bird life and whose "Mill Grove Farm" adjoined Fatlands. Rebuilt by Dr. William Wetherill in 1855 the mansion became far known for its grandeur and the hospitality of its owner. The property has been in the Wetherill family ever since and was last occupied by the late Dr. Henry E. Wetherill.

Also included in the Wetherill Estate is a 10-room stone house (known as "Locust Wood"), tenant house, carriage house and stable.

OFFERED AT \$50,000

Not bound by restrictions and suitable for gentleman's estate, historical sanctuary, educational institution, sub-division, commercial exploitation or industrial site. For full details consult—

JOHN M. YERGER

- Realtor -

55 East Penn St., Norristown

Phone 5400

Summary of documentary evidence on structures found at 'WALNUT HILL FARM'
also known as Valley Forge National Historical Park Tract 101-61

Six structures were identified and studied, as follows:

- 1) Wetherill/Janeway Mansion (perhaps incorporating earlier Pawling Farm House/Commissary General's Quarters) -- documentary evidence supports the oral tradition that this structure is composed of two parts: a stone, Georgian farm house occupied by Henry Pawling (II) in 1777/8 which was converted to the rear wing of a brick, stone and stucco Greek Revival mansion added by John Price Wetherill. The traditional date of construction for the Pawling farm house -- 1743 -- was not confirmed, though the essential evidence for that date -- the house's datestone -- is available to research by an historical architect. The traditional date of construction for the Wetherill addition -- 1836 -- was not confirmed and available evidence would point toward a date of ca. 1845. This structure was heavily damaged by fire in October, 1967 and has not since been reoccupied.
- 2) Gatehouse/Springhouse (a converted structure) -- this structure may be the "springhouse" cited in the 1798 U.S. Direct Tax, subsequently reconstructed and enlarged by Samuel Wetherill, Jr., ca. 1826, and perhaps again altered by John Price Wetherill, ca. 1845. Other existing primary source records do not document this building. Since 1967 this structure has been occupied as a residence by the Boulware family.
- 3) Privy (in the open field adjacent to the Wetherill/Janeway Mansion) -- this scored-stucco over field stone structure appears to have a construction history similar to the Gatehouse/Springhouse insofar as it matches the ca. 1826 and ca. 1845 architectural details. It is not documented by the 1798 U.S. Direct Tax, however, and no other existing primary source records contain descriptions of or references to it.
- 4) Stone Barn (with attached stone corral and wood sheds) -- a portion of this structure may be the "stone barn" cited in the 1798 U.S. Direct Tax, but its existence prior to 1826 can not be otherwise documented. A datestone in the peak of the east gable of the barn states that it was built in two parts: the first by Samuel Wetherill in 1826; the second by John Price Wetherill in 1845. The carpenter and mason cited by the datestone were both active in the Lower Providence Township area in 1826 and 1845. Other existing primary source records do not document this structure.
- 5) Tenant farmer's house (with attached fieldstone bake oven) -- a portion of this structure may be one of the dwelling houses of less than \$100 value cited in the 1798 U.S. Direct Tax, but the Gothic Revival architectural style points rather to a ca. 1850/1870 date of construction. No tenant farmer on the property can be identified prior to 1883 and other existing primary source records do not document this structure.

Summary of documentary evidence (concluded)

- 6) Privy (brick, adjacent to tenant farmer's house) -- this structure has been altered and is no longer used for its original purpose. It is built of modern brick and may therefore date to the late 19th or early 20th century. This structure is not documented by existing primary source records.

Reference may be made to the full report which follows.

Prepared and submitted by:

Mark Frazier Lloyd

Mark Frazier Lloyd

The University of Pennsylvania

26 August 1985

Historical Documentation of "WALNUT HILL FARM," particularly that portion known as Valley Forge National Historical Park Tract 101-61

Research by Jacqueline Thibaut and others has documented the location of the Commissary Department of the American Army at the Henry Pawling farm on the north side of the Schuylkill River during the winter of 1778.¹ Oral tradition has claimed that the Henry Pawling farm house, which served as the headquarters of the Commissary Department, has been preserved as the rear wing of the Wetherill/Janeway mansion, built ca. 1835 for John Price Wetherill.² In December 1984 the United States of America extended the boundaries of the Valley Forge National Historical Park by the purchase of fifty-seven acres of land which includes the Wetherill/Janeway mansion and five other structures.³ The present study was undertaken to document the historic structures on that tract of land and in so doing to test the oral tradition.

Henry Pawling of 1778 was the second of three generations of Pawlings to own this land. His father, Henry Pawling (I), had purchased five hundred acres on 15 September 1719 from one Edward Farmer.⁴ This land was bounded by the Schuylkill River and the Perkiomen Creek on the south, west and north and by a similar large tract of land which came to be known as "Fatlands Farm" to the east. On the death of the father, ca. 1740, Henry Pawling (II) took possession of the entire farm and bought out the interests of his brothers and sisters.⁵ Over the course of his lifetime Henry Pawling (II) apparently increased the size of his holdings for when he sub-divided his land among three sons, he broke up a farm which totaled 680 contiguous acres. A map of this property is attached as Appendix #1.

Henry Pawling (II) began the distribution of his farm among his sons in 1785. In that year he sold 166 acres to his eldest son John for "love and affection" and five shillings.⁶ Seven years later he sold John an additional 48 acres contiguous to the first parcel.⁷ The Pennsylvania State Tax Returns show that John Pawling was assessed for 150 acres from 1785 through 1787; 160 acres from 1788 through 1791; and 207 acres in 1793.⁸ At the time of John Pawling's death in 1815, his farm totaled 233 acres. This is the acreage sold by his executors to Samuel Wetherill, Jr. in 1825.⁹ The John Pawling farm is labeled A in the map found at Appendix #1.

Two issues concerning the John Pawling farm deserve the historian's attention. The deed of 1825, selling the property out of the Pawling family, contains the following clause:

Reserving nevertheless one square perch of land round the grave of Henry Pawling on said premises near the River Schuylkill with the privilege to enclose and repair the enclosure round said Grave forever.

It is not clear whether this is the grave of Henry Pawling (I) or Henry Pawling (II) or possibly both. The U.S. Direct Tax of 1798 assessed John Pawling for the following property and improvements:¹⁰

Valued at \$550	}	{	1 house -- stone, two stories, ten windows, measuring 30' x 20'
		}	1 springhouse -- stone, one story, measuring 15' x 12'
Valued at \$4,776	}	{	1 barn -- stone, measuring 40' x 33'
		}	199 acres of land

The presence of the family burial ground in this parcel of the Henry Pawling (II) farm raises a serious question about the house and other improvements on this property. Was the house of John Pawling in 1798 the house of his father in 1778? Or, put another way, was John Pawling's house the location of the Commissary Department of the

American Army at Valley Forge?

John B. Dodd studied the historic structures on the John Pawling farm for the Valley Forge National Historical Park in 1979.¹¹ He found that the 233 acre farm had remained intact until 1919, when the Wetherill family sold it to local real estate developers. In the 1920's streets were laid out and building lots advertised for sale. Dodd conducted interviews with long-time local residents who remembered a stone farm house and accompanying barn. The house was destroyed by fire and removed ca. 1910. The barn was demolished shortly after 1945. Based on descriptions of the house provided by the interviews, Dodd was willing to "suggest a late 18th or early 19th C. date" for the construction of the house. He did not know that the John Pawling farm had been split off from the larger Pawling holdings in 1785 and 1792. If he had, he may have concluded that the house remembered by late 20th century residents of the area was in fact built by John Pawling after his purchase of the land. There is good evidence to show that this is the case. The site of the John Pawling house as determined by Dodd is shown on the map found at Appendix #1.

The will of Henry Pawling (II) was signed on 18 November 1791 (a codicil added on 29 August 1792) and probated on 3 November 1792.¹²

In this document Henry Pawling (II) confirms his sales of land to his eldest son, John, and sets forth several other legacies. To his third son, Nathan, he bequeathed 100 acres adjoining the land already "given by Deed." To his second son, Henry (III), he bequeathed "all the rest of my land including the Mansion House in which I now live, being between two hundred and three hundred acres." Three younger sons received cash legacies. One daughter received land outside (Lower) Providence Township and the others received cash legacies.

The language of Henry Pawling's bequest to his son Henry (III) is prima facie evidence that the house occupied by the Commissary Department in 1778 was neither on the land subsequently owned by John Pawling nor on the land subsequently owned by Nathan Pawling. The Nathan Pawling parcel, however, did stand on the Schuylkill River at the "Fatlands-ford" (just above Sullivan's Bridge) and historic structures on this site may have played an important role in the storage and transport of supplies across the Schuylkill.

The Pennsylvania State Tax Returns show that Nathan Pawling was assessed for 187 acres in 1793.¹³ Two years later he died¹⁴ and in 1798¹⁵ his widow sold the property to her brother-in-law, Henry Pawling (III). The land was immediately let to a tenant farmer named George Widner. The U.S. Direct Tax of 1798 assessed George Widner as occupant, Henry Pawling (III) as owner for the following property and improvements:¹⁶

Valued } { 1 house -- stone, one story, four windows, measuring 20' x 18'
at \$300 } { 1 kitchen -- log, one story, measuring 15' x 12'
 } { 1 springhouse -- stone, one story, measuring 12' x 15'

Valued } { 1 barn -- log, no dimensions given
at \$3,760 } { 188 acres of land

One year later Henry Pawling (III) is advertising this property¹⁷ for sale in The Norristown Gazette:

TO BE SOLD --

A valuable Plantation, situate on the river Schuylkill, adjoining Fatland-ford, in Providence township, Montgomery County; 22 miles from Philadelphia and 6 from Norristown; containing 154 acres, between 60 and 70 of which is good woodland, 20 of watered and bottom meadow, the residue conveniently divided into fields -- The soil is equal if not superior to any in the country, and esteemed by farmers to be of the first quality for wheat -- There are on the premises a convenient Stone Dwelling house, with two rooms on a floor, a commodious Kitchen, a Stone Springhouse over a good spring of water, and a Log Barn -- There are few situations better adapted for a farmer, the quality of the land, and the commodiousness of the

situation, render it an object worthy of there (sic) attention -- The terms of sale will be made easy, and may be known from the subscriber adjoining the premises, or from Levi Pawling in Norristown.

HENRY PAWLING

In 1801 Henry Pawling found a purchaser: 184 acres of the 187 were sold to Jacob Pennebacker (Pennypacker) and the land passed out of the Pawling family altogether.¹⁸ The 184 acres remained intact through sales in 1825, 1867, 1877 and 1881.¹⁹ In 1895 it was purchased for the Philadelphia Protectory for Boys.²⁰ That institution and its successor, St. Gabriel's, remains the owner of this land today, though the land has been cut through by the new County Line Expressway. It is not known whether any of the historic structures documented by the U.S. Direct Tax of 1798 survive. The Nathan Pawling farm is labeled D in the map found at Appendix #1.

Henry Pawling (III)'s portion of his father's estate was said to total "between two hundred and three hundred acres." The Pennsylvania State Tax Returns show that Henry Pawling (III) was assessed for 200 acres in 1793 and 208 acres in 1803. In 1813 he was assessed for 100 acres and his son, William, for an additional 100.²¹ The U.S. Direct Tax of 1798 assessed Henry Pawling (III) for the following property and improvements:²²

- Valued at \$900 } { 1 house -- stone, two stories, nineteen windows, measuring 45' x 32'
- } { 1 springhouse -- stone, one story, measuring 15' x 15'
- Valued at \$4,836 } { 1 barn -- stone, measuring 40' x 33'
- } { 2 dwelling houses -- "not exceeding \$100 in value" (tenant houses)
- } { 199 acres of land

The assessment on the house and springhouse was the fourth largest in the township and on the barn, tenant houses and land, the fifth largest. It

should be noted that though both John Pawling and Henry Pawling (III) owned more than 200 acres of land, the tax assessor entered their holdings as an identical 199 acres each. The Henry Pawling (III) farm comprised both B and C in the map shown at Appendix #1.

The will of Henry Pawling (III) was signed on 25 July 1817 and probated on 21 March 1823.²³ It is a four page document, supplemented by a four page inventory of personal estate. Henry Pawling (III) describes his land as "supposed to contain 250 acres" and instructs his executors to sell it at the highest prices obtainable, the proceeds to be divided among several children. When the surveys were completed the land was found to total 257 acres. In 1826 Levi Pawling and James Milnor, the executors of the estate, sold a parcel of 157½ acres to Samuel Wetherill, Jr.²⁴ That tract is represented by B in the map shown at Appendix #1. In 1830 the executors sold a parcel of 99¼ acres to William Pawling, son of Henry Pawling (III).²⁵ This smaller tract is represented by C in the map at Appendix #1.

The search for the home of Henry Pawling (II) in 1778 is greatly aided by the deed transferring land to Samuel Wetherill, Jr. Ownership of the land is recited, including a clause describing the "mansion house and plantation" of Henry Pawling (II). The "mansion house" was contained in the land bequeathed to Henry Pawling (III) and is also contained in the parcel of land to be conveyed to Samuel Wetherill, Jr.

The sale of land by the executors of Henry Pawling (III) to William Pawling seems to have confirmed a long standing agreement. It was noted above that as early as 1813 the Pennsylvania State Tax Returns contained entries assessing Henry Pawling (III) for 100 acres and his son William for an additional 100. Montgomery County land records show that

William Pawling did not own any real estate in the county until his purchase of 1830. The State Tax was apparently assessed upon occupants of the land, not necessarily owners, and William Pawling occupied his 100-acre farm for at least seventeen years before he purchased it.

Samuel Wetherill, Jr. (1764-1829) was a Philadelphian whose chemical manufacturing business was notably successful.²⁶ His first purchase of land in Lower Providence Township took place in 1813 when he acquired a portion of the "Mill Grove" estate.²⁷ The deed describes the property as follows:

... Messuage or tenement (and) two water corn or grist mills under one roof with two pair of stones and saw mill plantation and tract of land situate on the south east side of Perkioming Creek in New Providence Township (containing) 113 acres, 74 (square) perches (of land) ...

Another source states that Wetherill's interest in the property was sparked by the presence of a lead mine.²⁸ Whatever the cause or causes, Wetherill liked what he saw in Lower Providence Township. By the summer of 1826 he had bought up 715½ acres of land in Lower Providence and another 225½ acres just across the Perkiomen Creek in Upper Providence Township.²⁹ It was a country estate of historically significant proportions, land which would remain largely in Wetherill family hands for the next 125 years.

Samuel Wetherill, Jr. died in 1829. His will was signed on 25 April 1829 and probated on 2 October 1829.³⁰ His heirs numbered six: his widow, Rachel, and five grown children, Rebecca Gumbes (Mrs. Wm. H.), John Price Wetherill, Charles Wetherill, William Wetherill and Samuel Price Wetherill. Samuel Wetherill, Jr. bequeathed his Philadelphia house ("the messuage in which I now reside") and also "my Farm called the Bakewell Farm in Montgomery County together with the appurtenances" to his widow. He further directed that "all the rest, residue and remainder of all my Estate

whatsoever and wheresoever I give, devise and bequeath to my five children ... to hold ... in equal parts as Tenants in Common ... " As a result of this and other clauses of the will, Samuel Wetherill's estate remained intact and was administered by the executors during the lifetime of his widow. No inventory of household goods, furniture or other personal property was taken. The executors prepared long, detailed accounts of the estate finances and filed them with the Philadelphia Register of Wills. None of these papers, however, furnish any information on the Lower Providence Township properties.

Rachel (Price) Wetherill died in 1844. Her will was signed on 18 December 1843 and probated on 13 February 1844. ³¹ She bequeathed all her property to her five children, each to receive an equal one-fifth part. The estate was inventoried and an extensive account was filed by the executors. There are two inventories of personal property. The first is an incredible 48-page itemization of the contents of the Philadelphia Wetherill house. This is supplemented by a five page inventory of "Bakewell Farm" household goods and personal effects. This latter will be discussed more fully in the section of this report which discusses "Fatlands Farm." There is no inventory of any other property.

Rachel Price Wetherill's estate account includes references to other possible documentary resources. An entry dated "March 1844" lists as an asset "3 policies of perpetual insurance on property." The account summary, dated 18 January 1845, lists as assets the following:

Insurance on dwelling, 419 Market Street	\$180.00
" " Barn, Montgomery County	70.00
" " Property in City of Burlington, N.J. ..	90.00
" " House (\$90), Barn (\$40) at Clover Hill	130.00

Unfortunately the name of the insurance company(ies) is not provided. The 419 Market Street residence was her late husband's and her home. The

"Barn" in Montgomery County seems likely to have been a structure built new by her late husband during his lifetime or by herself at "Fatlands." The "House" and "Barn" at "Clover Hill" are tantalizing. Could this be what is known today as "Walnut Hill"? Perhaps, but probably not. It appears that Rachel (Price) Wetherill did not, at any time, hold title to "Walnut Hill." It seems unlikely, therefore, that her estate would have held insurance on the property.³²

The real estate of Samuel and Rachel (Price) Wetherill was formally divided among their children in late 1844 or early 1845. Partition of the land apparently required court approval, followed by the execution and recording of a deed attesting to the court's action.³³ As part of his share of his parent's estate, John Price Wetherill was apparently awarded the 157½ acre parcel of land purchased by his father in 1826 from the executors of the estate of Henry Pawling (III). The word 'apparently' is used with caution for no record could be found of the award of the land to John Price Wetherill.³⁴ Nevertheless it is clear that he was the acknowledged owner of record no later than 1845 as shall be outlined below.

William Pawling owned his small farm for just thirteen years. In 1843 he died, leaving a widow and three minor children.³⁵ Two years later the administrators of his estate and his widow jointly sold the 99½ acre parcel to John Price Wetherill.³⁶ The deed describes Wetherill as the adjoining land owner, this being the earliest reference found to John Price Wetherill's ownership of the farm purchased by his father. Only twenty-two years after Henry Pawling (III) died, his 257 acre farm was re-consolidated by John Price Wetherill.

Like his father, John Price Wetherill enjoyed his country house in Lower Providence Township for just a few years. He died in 1853,

at the age of 59.³⁷ His will was signed on 21 July 1853 and probated on 29 July 1853.³⁸ His will names only his wife, Maria (Kane) Wetherill, and two sons, Samuel Wetherill and John Price Wetherill, Jr. As soon to be shown, however, his heirs also included at least four daughters: Elizabeth K.K. Wetherill, Maria L. (Wetherill) Janeway, Rachel Wetherill and Rebecca Price (Wetherill) Wetherill. He willed "all my furniture, household goods and my personal property generally in and about my dwelling house in Dock Street and my country place at Perkiomen, to my wife, to be her's absolutely." Though an inventory of his personal estate apparently was taken,³⁹ it is not now on file at the Philadelphia Register of Wills. The account of the estate was filed in 1856. It listed, among other assets, "Stock in farm in Montgomery County -- \$4,317.58." There are no other references in his will or probate papers to "Walnut Hill."

Maria (Kane) Wetherill appears to have maintained the two residences during her lifetime. She did not die until 1877; it was not until then that the real estate of John Price Wetherill was formally divided among their children. Her will was signed on 13 April 1876 and probated on 10 September 1877.⁴⁰ The will names two daughters, Elizabeth K.K. Wetherill and Rachel Wetherill, and one son, John Price Wetherill, Jr. Though the others are not named, the will directs that the estate is to be divided equally among "all" the children. The value of the estate was appraised, but no inventory or account was filed with the probate papers.

The real estate of John Price and Maria (Kane) Wetherill was formally divided by partition proceedings in Philadelphia Common Pleas Court.⁴¹ By order of the Court in June, 1878, Maria L. (Wetherill) Janeway was awarded the entire 157½ acre "Walnut Hill" farm.⁴² Rebecca Price (Wetherill) Wetherill (who had married her first cousin, Henry Mayer

Wetherill)⁴³ was awarded the 99¼ acre farm which John Price Wetherill had purchased from the administrators of William Pawling.⁴⁴ Though the land had been re-surveyed as part of the court proceedings, the boundaries of the two parcels were almost identical to those used by the executors of Henry Pawling (III) in the sales of 1826 and 1830.⁴⁵ The map found at Appendix #1 continued to be applicable. Maria L. (Wetherill) Janeway inherited the property labeled B and Rebecca Price (Wetherill) Wetherill inherited the property labeled C.

Parcels B and C, joined in a single farm by Henry Pawling (III) and later by John Price Wetherill, have not been re-joined since 1878. In 1894 Rebecca Price (Wetherill) Wetherill sold C to Daniel J. Gallagher.⁴⁶ Gallagher, however, defaulted on the mortgage payments and the land was sold at Sheriff's Sale in 1902 to the adjoining land owner, the Philadelphia Protectory for Boys.⁴⁷ In this manner parcels C and D were consolidated and have remained so to the present time (with the exception mentioned above, that the land has been cut through by the County Line Expressway).

Maria L. (Wetherill) Janeway was married to Reverend John Livingston Janeway, a prominent Presbyterian clergyman.⁴⁸ They and their six children made "Walnut Hill" farm their home. Maria L. (Wetherill) Janeway died, however, in 1890. Her will was signed on 16 September 1890 and probated on 30 September 1890.⁴⁹ The will contained the following clause:

I direct my said Trustees to allow my house and grounds adjacent, known as "Walnut Hill," exclusive of the farm, to remain as the same now is and to allow my husband to have the free use and enjoyment of the same for his natural life in common with my said two daughters, Maria K. and Rachel W., who together in common with him their said father are to have the like free use and enjoyment of the said "Walnut Hill" for their natural life or until either of them shall marry.

Reverend John Livingston Janeway lived on at "Walnut Hill" until his death in 1906 at the age of 91.⁵⁰ Daughter Rachel W. Janeway married Thomas L.J. Hodge shortly after her mother's death.⁵¹ A note in the Montgomery County Historical Society quotes Hodge as saying that he lived at "Walnut Hill" for seventeen years.⁵² Daughter Maria K. Janeway did not marry and died in 1934, presumably at "Walnut Hill."⁵³ No Janeway family member lived at "Walnut Hill" for at least several years prior to its sale in 1949.⁵⁴

The account of the estate of Maria L. (Wetherill) Janeway gives only a few clues to documenting the "Walnut Hill" property. Note is made of the lease of the farm to Isaac Houck in 1883. This is the first reference to a tenant farmer at "Walnut Hill," though the tenant farmer's house would indicate the presence of a tenant farmer or caretaker from perhaps as early as the 1850's. Houck continues as tenant farmer during the early 1890's. The account also includes references to two insurance policies, one held with the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Montgomery County and the other with the Union Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Norristown city directories show that the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Montgomery County was dissolved by the policy holders about 1930. The Union Mutual was merged into the Frankford Union Mutual Fire Insurance Company in 1962/3, but the latter drops out of city directories in 1968. Further investigation was not undertaken and the fire insurance policies, which could very well give detailed descriptions of "Walnut Hill," have not been shown to be extant. There is no other documentary evidence on "Walnut Hill" contained in the probate papers of Maria L. (Wetherill) Janeway.

In 1937 the Valley Forge Park Commission of the Commonwealth of

Pennsylvania initiated the first step in the acquisition of "Walnut Hill" for Valley Forge Park. As part of its program to extend Valley Forge Park to the North side of the Schuylkill River, the Commission voted to condemn forty-two river-front acres of "Walnut Hill."⁵⁵ After several years of litigation, the Janeway heirs received \$5,125 for the forty-two acres and the land passed into the Valley Forge Park in 1944.⁵⁶ This parcel is labeled A in the map at Appendix #2.

The rest of "Walnut Hill's" 157½ acres was soon put up for sale. In 1949 the Janeway heirs sold the mansion house, gatehouse/spring house, barn, tenant farmer's house and other outbuildings along with fifty-seven acres of land to Lyle F. and Mary C. Boulware.⁵⁷ The price was \$15,000. The parcel was bounded on the south by the river-front acreage acquired by Valley Forge Park, on the north by Pawling Road, and on the east and west by the historical property lines of the 157½ tract. The Boulware parcel is labeled B in the map at Appendix #2. The portion of the tract north of Pawling Road was subdivided for housing developments. Its history subsequent to 1949 has not been pursued. It is labeled C in the map at Appendix #2.

The Boulware family rehabilitated the mansion house. They repeated the oral tradition they had received from the Janeways for a newspaper reporter in 1955.⁵⁸ The oldest section of the house was "a small stone farm house built by Henry Pawling in 1743." During the Revolutionary War encampment at Valley Forge "the Pawling house was used as commissary headquarters by Washington's food buyer, Colonel Ephraim Blaine." The Pawling farm was purchased in 1826 by Samuel Wetherill who built the stone barn in 1826. The Greek Revival mansion was built in 1836 by John Price Wetherill. He had "intended to build a separate house at the edge of the plateau overlooking the Schuylkill, but his wife was afraid to live

in a place so far away from the other buildings, so the present house, with its nine round columns and stately ballroom, was added to the side of the original farmhouse." In an interview with John B. Dodd in 1979, Lyle Boulware added that it was his understanding that the gatehouse/spring house, like the stone barn, was built in 1826.

The Boulware family, however, suffered the tragic misfortune of losing the mansion house to fire. The Norristown Times Herald, for 21 October 1967, published a close-up photograph of the burning house (no doubt taken from a helicopter) with the following caption:

VIEW OF BLAZE -- Shown is an aerial view of the fire that heavily damaged a pre-revolutionary mansion in an isolated section of Lower Providence Township Friday afternoon. The large dwelling was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Lyle F. Boulware. Mr. Boulware is a Philadelphia architect. The mansion was built original in 1743 and is located on Pawlings Road, about eight miles west of Norristown.

The Boulwares did not rebuild the mansion house, but converted the gatehouse/spring house for their own residential use. The "Walnut Hill" mansion has stood in ruins since that time, though the back part of the house, that which is said to have been the 1743 Pawling house, is largely intact. The Boulwares did not subdivide their fifty-seven acre parcel, but sold the same acreage to the National Park Service in 1984 which they had purchased from the Janeway heirs in 1949.

Despite the lack of detailed descriptions of the "Walnut Hill" farm during the mid and late 19th century, even a cursory examination of the historic structures on the site reveals that all date in part or in entirety to the 1826 -- 1877 period. Some documentary evidence was observed by the writer during his visit to the site on Monday, 12 August 1985 which merits further discussion here. The gatehouse/

spring house, the "Walnut Hill" mansion itself and its attendant privy are all cast in the same Greek Revival style, indicating that all were built or rebuilt at the same time. The scored-stucco treatment of the exterior walls of all three is the chief unifying element. All three also sport (or did sport in the case of the fire-damaged mansion) roofs of sheets of tin or terneplate. In the case of the privy it was noted that the tin roof had been placed over an earlier wood shingle roof. The stone barn, though not in the Greek Revival style, also has a tin roof. In at least one area the sheet metal has been torn away to reveal wood shingles underneath.

The Janeway family tradition states that the mansion house was built in 1836.⁶¹ This can not be confirmed. There is solid evidence that Samuel Wetherill invested in substantial improvements in 1826 and that John Price Wetherill did the same in 1845. In the eastern gable end of the stone barn is a datestone which reads:

Erected by

Samuel Wetherill 1826

Addition by

John P. Wetherill 1845

Solomon Kriebble, Carpenter
John Place, Mason

The north wall of the barn (viewed from the enclosed cartway) reveals a vertical seam in the stone. The exposed south wall (viewed from the stone corral) does not reveal a seam; the stone was dovetailed on this wall to hide the appearance of an addition. A 20th century lean-to shed, probably erected for storing farm equipment or vehicles, stands along the southern line of the stone wall of the corral.

It is not clear to the present writer which end of the barn is that

of 1826 and which is that of 1845, though the March, 1985 report of the Williamsport Preservation Training Center Staff identifies the western end as the addition.⁶² Solomon Kriebble appears in the U.S. Federal Census for 1850 in Gwynedd Township, 76 years old, "carpenter."⁶³

John Place appears in the same census in Upper Providence Township, 72 years old, "farmer." His son, Joshua Place, is also found in Upper Providence Township, 35 years old, "stone mason."⁶⁴ Was John Place a retired "stone mason," having turned over the trade and his business to the son? Did John Price Wetherill employ a 71 year old carpenter and a 67 year old stone mason to build the huge addition of 1845? Or were these two tradesmen the principal contractors employed by Samuel Wetherill in 1826, when they would have been 52 and 48 respectively? The latter seems more likely.

How much construction did Samuel Wetherill have done in 1826? He purchased a farm which, according to the 1798 U.S. Direct Tax, included a two-story stone house, a one-story springhouse, a large stone barn (40' x 33'), and two tenant houses. John B. Dodd argues that the springhouse at "Meadow Grove" was built with the same craftsmanship and at the same time as the springhouse and barn at "Walnut Hill."⁶⁵ He concludes that all three were built ca. 1826. He marshals ample evidence to demonstrate his case. The argument is weakened, however, by failing to account for the presence of the 1798 structures. Dodd does not introduce the 1798 U.S. Direct Tax in his discussion. The John Pawling/"Meadow Grove" farm included a one-story, stone springhouse measuring 15' x 12.' Dodd identifies a 15' x 30.5' section of the present structure as the "original section" of the "Meadow Grove" springhouse. Did Samuel Wetherill incorporate the 15' x 12' structure into a larger 15' x 30.5' springhouse? And at

"Walnut Hill" did Samuel Wetherill incorporate the 1798 structures -- the one-story, stone springhouse (15' x 15') and the stone barn (40' x 33') -- in expanded stone structures of 1826? These questions must be addressed by an historical architect. If Samuel Wetherill built new, however, then the present writer is at a loss to account for the 1798 structures.

How much construction did John Price Wetherill have done? The Janeway family tradition claims that the Henry Pawling (II) stone farmhouse of 1743 was conserved as the rear wing of a grand Greek Revival mansion built by John Price Wetherill in 1834 or 1836. Documentary evidence, presented in detail above, confirms the presence of the Pawling farmhouse on this site. A photograph taken for The Sunday Bulletin article on the house in 1955 shows a datestone in the peak of the gable on the north end of the rear wing.⁶⁶ This important document was obscured at the time of the writing of this report by a heavy growth of vines, but if revealed it may add considerable weight to the tradition that this rear wing is the Pawling house of 1743.

The present writer was not able to find any documentary evidence which confirmed the 1834 or 1836 date for the mansion. Some documentary evidence would argue against these dates. Samuel Wetherill, Jr. and his wife, Rachel, made the "Fatlands" farm their summer home. There is no evidence that they made alterations to the Pawling farmhouse before his death in 1829. Samuel's widow lived until 1844, continuing to summer at "Fatlands." Samuel's real estate was not divided among his children until after Rachel's death. It is, in fact, in 1845 that John Price Wetherill purchased the William Pawling farm adjacent to "Walnut Hill" and had a major addition constructed to the stone barn at "Walnut Hill." Though further research may refine the picture, it would appear that John Price

Wetherill did not actually own "Walnut Hill" until the 1845 division of his father's real estate. If so, it seems quite unlikely that he would have built the mansion house in 1834 or 1836.

It can be argued then that John Price Wetherill had the Greek Revival mansion, the three-story addition to the barn, and the stone corral built in 1845 and further, that the gatehouse/springhouse, mansion house (including the 1743 (?) rear wing) and privy were treated with identical scored-stucco exterior walls and tin or terneplate roofs. These four historic structures suggest three stages of development: the 18th century farmstead of Henry Pawling (II) and Henry Pawling (III) as documented in the 1798 U.S. Direct Tax; the major improvements of Samuel Wetherill, Jr. in 1826 (which may include similar work at "Meadow Grove"); and the full-blown country estate of John Price Wetherill of ca. 1845.

The tenant farmer's house and its brick privy do not fit in the same scheme. There is no documentary evidence of a tenant farmer prior to the mention of Isaac Houck's 1883 lease in Maria L. (Wetherill) Janeway's estate account. The present writer has found no description whatsoever of the two structures, not even as late as the 1935 property atlas for Lower Providence Township.⁶⁷ The tenant farmer's house is built in the Gothic Revival style, indicating a date of construction between 1850 and 1870. The house is notable, however, for an abandoned, exterior bake oven and truncated chimney at the rear wall of the rear wing. It is constructed of local fieldstone and may be the remnant of a much older structure on the same site. This observation, in turn, suggests a link with the two tenant houses mentioned, but not described, in the 1798 U.S. Direct Tax. The brick privy, no longer used for that purpose, probably dates to the same period as the Gothic Revival construction (reconstruction ?) of the house.

Endnotes

- 1) Jacqueline Thibaut, "The Valley Forge Report, Volume III: In the True Rustic Order," pp. 153-6, at p. 154 and n. 46.
- 2) See the article entitled "Stately Wetherill Home at Valley Forge Excellently Restored by the Boulwares" in The Sunday Bulletin for 1 May 1955, quoting Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Boulware and their son, Peter.
- 3) Montgomery County Deed Book 4755.2177; copy of deed in the Administrative Offices of Valley Forge National Historical Park.
- 4) Recited in Montgomery County Deed Book 6.39 (Henry Pawling, yeoman, of Providence Township to John Pawling, his son, yeoman, of the same place; deed dated 1785, day and month missing).
- 5) Recited in Montgomery County Deed Book 6.39, as above. See also "Pawling Family File" at the Montgomery County Historical Society, Norristown, Pennsylvania.
- 6) Montgomery County Deed Book 6.39, as above.
- 7) Montgomery County Deed Book 8.40 (Henry Pawling to John Pawling, 27 August 1792, for "love and affection" and 80 ¢)
- 8) Originals of both the Pennsylvania State Tax Returns and the Montgomery County Tax Returns, consisting of the Assessor's Ledgers for each year (some years missing), are at the Montgomery County Historical Society.
- 9) Montgomery County Deed Book 41.349 (John M. Pawling, of Lower Providence Township, and Nathan Pennypacker, of Charlestown, Chester County, Executors of the Estate of John Pawling, deceased, of Lower Providence Township, to Samuel Wetherill, Jr.; 8 November 1825; \$12,349)
- 10) U.S. Direct Tax of 1798, Schedule A (at p. 108) and Schedule B (at p. 292) for Providence Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Page numbers are those stamped by machine at the top of each frame of microfilm. Available at the Montgomery County Historical Society.
- 11) John B. Dodd, "Classified Structure Field Inventory Report: Meadow Grove Spring House," on file at the Administration Building, Valley Forge National Historical Park. See pp. 4-5 and Worksheet pp. 1-1H. This report is extremely useful for the primary source research conducted on that portion of the Pawling holdings which comprised the John Pawling farm. It should be noted, however, that Dodd accepts the secondary sources in his discussion of the adjacent parcel of land, the "Walnut Hill" farm of Henry Pawling (III) and later, the Wetherill family. Research conducted in the present study supersedes much of that secondary source material.
- 12) Montgomery County Department of Records. RW 4976. Will, codicil to will and inventory of the personal estate of Henry Pawling (II).

Endnotes (continued)

- 13) Assessors Ledgers for 1793. Entry for Nathan Pawling, Providence Township, Montgomery County. Pennsylvania State Tax Returns. Originals at Montgomery County Historical Society.
- 14) Robert Schoch Pawling, Pawling Family (Lewisburg, Pennsylvania: Privately published, 1905) pp. 36-7. See also "Pawling Family File" at the Montgomery County Historical Society.
- 15) Montgomery County Deed Book 12.93 (17 August 1798).
- 16) U.S. Direct Tax of 1798, Schedule A (at p. 114) and Schedule B (at p. 298) for Providence Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.
- 17) The Norristown Gazette, 13 December 1799 (Vol. 1, No. 27), p.3. This advertisement was apparently run for a period of several weeks or more: Jacqueline Thibaut, in "The Valley Forge Report, Volume III: In the True Rustic Order," notes the appearance of the ad on 27 December 1799 in the same newspaper. Copy of the 13 December 1799 issue is attached to this report.
 Thibaut unintentionally confuses her reader, however, by suggesting that the parcel of land advertised for sale in 1799 was "a portion" of the 213 acres in Providence Township for which Henry Pawling (II) was assessed in 1786 for the Pennsylvania State Tax. By a full survey of Henry Pawling (II)'s sale of land to his sons and by a careful reconstruction of the land he divided among his sons by will, it is now clear that in 1786 Henry Pawling (II) still owned more than 500 acres in Providence Township, despite having sold 166 acres to his son John the year before. It is not clear why he was assessed for just 213 acres in 1786, unless he was assessed for only that land which he occupied himself. If so, the 154 acres advertised here were not part of the farm occupied by Henry Pawling (II) in 1786, for that farm was to be inherited by son Henry Pawling (III) and not son Nathan. The issue is further clouded by the irregular appearance of Henry Pawling (II) on the Pennsylvania State Tax in the late 1780's. He appears in 1786 and in 1787, but not in 1785 and 1788. Beginning in 1789 his appearance becomes regular, on an annual basis, though assessors ledgers for the years 1790 and 1792 are missing. See Thibaut, as above, pp. 155-6.
- 18) Montgomery County Deed Book 16.464 (1 June 1801).
- 19) Montgomery County Deed Book references as follows:
 - a) 40.549 (1 April 1825; Nathan Pennypacker, Administrator of Jacob Pennepacker, deceased, to John R. Umstead; same acreage and boundaries of land as Pawling to Pennebacker in 1801).
 - b) 151.199 (6 April 1867; Henry W. Umstead, M.D., Extr. of John R. Umstead, deceased, to Abraham Grater; same land as 1825).
 - c) 237.133 (19 April 1877; Abraham Grater to John Jamison; same land as 1867).
 - d) 262.155 (13 October 1881; John Jamison to Enoch J. Davis; same land as 1877).

Endnotes (continued)

- 20) Montgomery County Deed Book references as follows:
- a) 406.420 (19 November 1895; George W. Moore, and Martha J., h/w, et al, heirs of Enoch J. Davis, deceased, to Patrick John Ryan, Archbishop of Philadelphia (acting for the Philadelphia Protectory for Boys); same land as 1881).
 - b) 499.112 (11 March 1903; Patrick John Ryan, Archbishop of Philadelphia to the Philadelphia Protectory for Boys; same land as 1895).
- 21) Assessors Ledgers for 1793, 1803 and 1813. Entry for Henry Pawling, Providence Township, Montgomery County for 1793 and 1803. Entry for Henry Pawling, Lower Providence Township, Montgomery County for 1813. Entry for William Pawling, Lower Providence Township, Montgomery County for 1813. Providence Township was split into Upper and Lower Providence Townships in 1805 and the Pennsylvania State Tax Returns reflect that subdivision.
- 22) U.S. Direct Tax of 1798, Schedule A (at p. 108) and Schedule B (at p. 292) for Providence Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.
- 23) Montgomery County Department of Records. RW 4978. Will and inventory of the personal estate of Henry Pawling (III). The inventory is notable for its itemization of household goods of some expense, such as an eight-day clock, a large cherry, dining table, ten white Windsor chairs, a high-post bed, etc. This inventory would be of considerable help in interpreting a reconstructed Henry Pawling house.
- 24) Montgomery County Deed Book 41.587 (1 April 1826). Reader/printer copy attached.
- 25) Montgomery County Deed Book 63.43 (18 January 1830).
- 26) The complete business records of the "Store and White Lead Works founded by Samuel Wetherill in the late 18th century (and continuing to 1899)" are among the holdings of the Special Collections room of the Van Pelt Library at the University of Pennsylvania. This extremely large collection was exhaustively catalogued more than forty years ago. See Miriam Hussey, catal., "The Wetherill Papers" (Philadelphia: The Wharton School of Finance and Commerce of the University of Pennsylvania, 1942). Unfortunately this archive does not include the personal papers of any of the Wetherill family members.
- 27) Montgomery County Deed Book 28.645 (5 February 1813; Frederick Beates, "scrivener," of Philadelphia, to Samuel Wetherill, Jr., "Druggist," of Philadelphia; for \$7,000 plus a mortgage of an unspecified amount).
- 28) Quoted by Karen E. Lee in "A History of Fatland and Mill Grove" from a newspaper article entitled "How Stephen Girard Invested \$500 in a Perkiomen Lead Mine" in Scrapbook A-8-15, p. 141, Montgomery County Historical Society.
- 29) Montgomery County Deed Book references as follows:
- a) 28.645 (5 February 1813; 113 acres; see n. 27 above).

Endnotes (continued)

29) (continued)

- b) 32.34 (13 January 1815; Henry Kohlhauer to SW, Jr.; 5¼ acres, abutting SW, Jr.'s other land on the Perkiomen Creek).
- c) 37.324 (7 May 1821; Isaiah Wells, administrator of the estate of Jacob Francis of Lower Providence Township, deceased, to SW, Jr.; 10 acres on the Perkiomen Creek).
- d) 38.502 (20 August 1822; Sarah Bakewell, of Louisville, Kentucky, "spinster" and "Acting Executrix" of William Bakewell, deceased, to SW, Jr.; 196½ acres -- this is "Fatlands Farm").
- e) 40.533 (30 March 1825; John Vanderslice, "gentleman," of Upper Providence Township, to SW, Jr.; 225½ acres in Upper Providence Township).
- f) 41.349 (8 November 1825; John M. Pawling, of Lower Providence Township, and Nathan Pennypacker, of Charlestown, Chester County, Pennsylvania, Executors of John Pawling of Lower Providence Township, deceased, to SW, Jr.; 233 acres; see n. 9 above).
- g) 41.587 (1 April 1826; Levi Pawling and James Milnor, Executors of Henry Pawling (III), to SW, Jr.; 157½ acres; see n. 24, above).

30) Philadelphia Register of Wills, #113, 1829.

31) Philadelphia Register of Wills, #36, 1844.

32) Despite the unlikelihood of these estate notes leading to relevant documentary evidence, further research should be undertaken to exhaust the possibility. The chief difficulty is the failure of the probate papers to name the insurance company which issued the policies. On the other hand there were only a very few perpetual fire insurance companies in Philadelphia. A check could be made with the archivist at the Mutual Assurance Company of Philadelphia (Green Tree) and the Philadelphia Contributionship (Hand-in-Hand).

33) This was certainly the case with "Fatlands Farm," which was sold by the Sheriff of Montgomery County to Dr. William Wetherill on 7 November 1844, following court action on partition of the estate. See Montgomery County Deed Book 65.102. This was also the case in 1877, after the death of John Price Wetherill and his wife, Maria (Kane) Wetherill. See Montgomery County Deed Book 2034.559, at p. 560. There may have been extenuating circumstances in both those instances, however. See n. 34, below.

34) Though Samuel Wetherill, Jr. made no specific bequest of "Walnut Hill" farm to John Price Wetherill, the son became the owner without being named as a grantee for the property in any deed recorded in Montgomery County. This also appears to have been the case at "Mill Grove," where Samuel Price Wetherill was resident at the time of his death in 1839 (Montgomery County Department of Records, RW 7387).

35) Recited in Montgomery County Deed Book 66.178 (19 April 1845). See n. 36, below.

36) Montgomery County Deed Book 66.178 (19 April 1845; John Shearer and

Endnotes (continued)

- 36) (continued) and John R. Umstead, Administrators of the Estate of William Pawling, of Lower Providence Township, deceased, and Rebecca Pawling, widow of William Pawling, to JPW; including "a certain house or tenement").
- 37) Birthdate for John Price Wetherill taken from family chart in John B. Dodd, "Meadow Grove Spring House," Worksheet 1J.
- 38) Philadelphia Register of Wills, #214, 1853.
- 39) Among the first lines in the account of the estate is an entry for the value of the inventory of the personal estate of John Price Wetherill. The entry reads "Inventory, as filed" or something to that effect (entry not copied at time of review of probate records).
- 40) Philadelphia Register of Wills, #680, 1877.
- 41) Court of Common Pleas, #1, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania. December Term, 1877, No. 500, in equity in suit entitled "Wetherill vs. Wetherill." In the Office of the Prothonotary, Philadelphia City Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 42) Recited in Montgomery County Deed Book 2034.559, at p. 560. See also Franklin Survey Company, Atlas of Montgomery County (Vol. B) (Philadelphia: 1935), Plate 13: Lower Providence Township. Note parcel of land labeled "Augustine S. Janeway, et al, Trustees.
- 43) "Alumni Record" file on Henry Mayer Wetherill (College class of 1848, non-graduate), University Archives, University of Pennsylvania.
- 44) Recited in Montgomery County Deed Book 398.28 (14 July 1894; Henry M. Wetherill and Rebecca P., h/w, to Daniel J. Gallagher; 99¼ acres).
- 45) This conclusion can be reached by a careful reading and comparison of Montgomery County Deeds 41.587 (1 April 1826) and 2034.559 (24 October 1949) concerning the 157½ acre parcel; and Deeds 63.43 (18 January 1830), 66.178 (19 April 1845) and 398.28 (14 July 1894) for the 99¼ acre parcel.
- 46) Montgomery County Deed Book 398.28.
- 47) Montgomery County Sheriff's Sale Q.247 (filed at the Montgomery County Prothonotary's Office).
- 48) Montgomery County Deed Book 2034.559, at p. 560. See biographical notice on John Livingston Janeway in Rev. John Howard Raven, comp., Catalogue of the Officers and Alumni of Rutgers College in New Brunswick, New Jersey: 1766 to 1916 (Trenton, N.J.: State Gazette Publishing Co., 1916). John Livingston Janeway was born in Philadelphia on 21 April 1815; received an A.B. degree from Rutgers College in 1835; graduated New Brunswick Seminary in 1840; served

Endnotes (continued)

- 48) (continued) as Chaplain, 13th Regiment, New Jersey Volunteers, 1862-1863 in the Civil War; received an honorary D.D. from Lafayette College in 1866; died on 21 November 1906. The date of his marriage to Maria L. Wetherill is not given in this summary.
- 49) Montgomery County Department of Records. RW 3278. The will, inventory of estate and account together form a lengthy file.
- 50) See Raven, comp., Catalogue of ... Rutgers College, p. 87, for death date; note home address is given as "Valley Forge."
- 51) Thomas L.J. Hodge was one of three witnesses to the will of Maria L. (Wetherill) Janeway. The account of her estate notes his marriage to Rachel W. Janeway. See also Montgomery County Deed Book 2034.559, at p. 560, which names Rachel W. Hodge as one of the six children of Maria L. (Wetherill) Janeway.
- 52) Taken from a note typed on a scrap of paper by Edward W. Hocker at the Montgomery County Historical Society. Found in the "Janeway" or "Walnut Hill" clippings file at the Society. Photocopy attached.
- 53) Her death date is taken from Montgomery County Deed Book 2034.559, at p. 560. As Maria K. Janeway did not marry and therefore had the full use of "Walnut Hill" all her life, it seems likely that she made the mansion her home until her death. Public records, such as a death certificate or probate proceedings, which would state her place of residence at the time of death, were not, however, searched.
- 54) As reported in "Stately Wetherill Home at Valley Forge Excellently Restored by the Boulwares," in The Sunday Bulletin (1 May 1955). Copy at the Montgomery County Historical Society, "Wetherill Papers Box, No. 1." Photocopy attached.
- 55) As reported in "Land Long Held by Wetherill Family Taken for Valley Forge Park," in the Norristown Times Herald (16 August 1944). Copy at the Montgomery County Historical Society, Scrapbook Collection B8:2, p. 154. Photocopy attached.
- 56) As reported in "\$6,225 Award for 40-Acre Janeway Land," in the Norristown Times Herald (undated, but in the year 1944). Copy at the Montgomery County Historical Society. Photocopy attached.
- 57) Montgomery County Deed Book 2034.559. Copy attached.
- 58) See note #54, above.
- 59) John B. Dodd, "Meadow Grove Spring House," Worksheet 1H.
- 60) Montgomery County Historical Society, Scrapbook Collection B8:7, p. 210.
- 61) The 1836 date is cited by the Boulwares in the "Stately Wetherill Home" article in The Sunday Bulletin. An 1834 date, however, was used

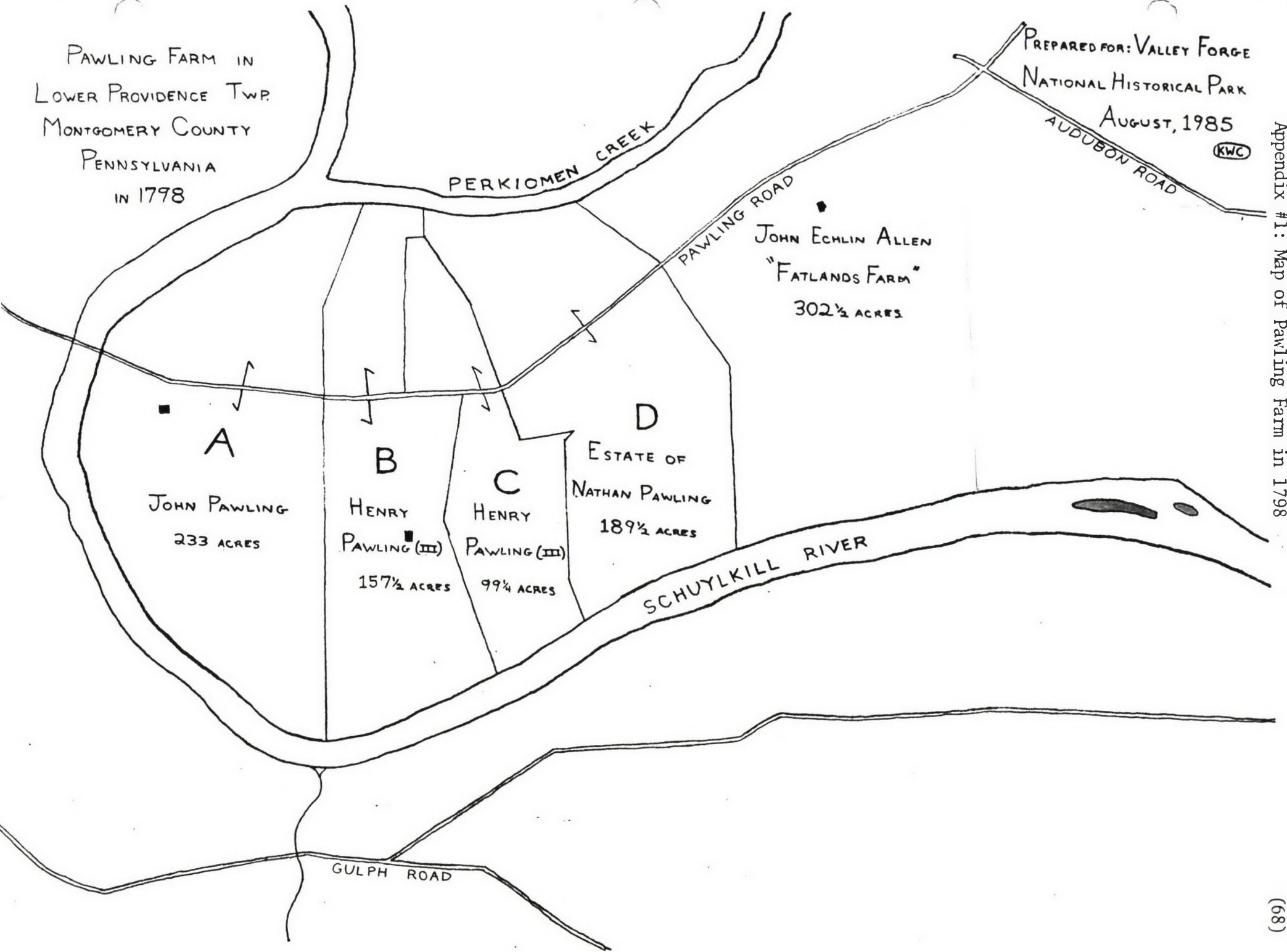
Endnotes (continued)

- 61) (continued) by Thomas L.J. Hodge according to the scrap of information described in note #52, above.
- 62) "Boulware Barn Stabilization Plan and Existing Conditions," prepared by the Williamsport Preservation Training Center Staff (WPTC Staff) in March 1985 for the Valley Forge National Historical Park. Copy on file at the Administrative Offices, Valley Forge National Historical Park. The WPTC team apparently misread the datestone or "Builders Plaque" in the gable at the east end of the barn. The information presented in their report is incorrect in regard to the date of the addition and the last names of both tradesmen. The correct reading of the stone is given in the present writer's report. The WPTC team gives no reason for assigning the earlier date to the eastern end of the barn. An historical architect should explore the question and not simply accept the WPTC conclusion.
- 63) As transcribed and published in the Bulletin of the Montgomery County Historical Society (Bull. of the MCHS), Vol. 16, p. 55.
- 64) As transcribed and published in the Bull. of the MCHS, Vol. 14, pp. 142 and 152.
- 65) John B. Dodd, "Meadow Grove Spring House," Worksheet 1G.
- 66) See attached photocopy.
- 67) Franklin Survey Company, Atlas of Montgomery County (Vol. B) (Philadelphia: 1935), Plate 13: Lower Providence Township. Parcel of land labeled "Augustine S. Janeway, et al, Trustees." Photocopy attached. Only two structures are shown on this survey, neither clearly corresponding to any of the six historic structures discussed in this report.

PAWLING FARM IN
LOWER PROVIDENCE TWP.
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
IN 1798

PREPARED FOR: VALLEY FORGE
NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
AUGUST, 1985
(KWC)

Appendix #1: Map of Pawling Farm in 1798



A = 42 ACRES ACQUIRED BY VALLEY FORGE PARK COMMISSION, 1937-1944

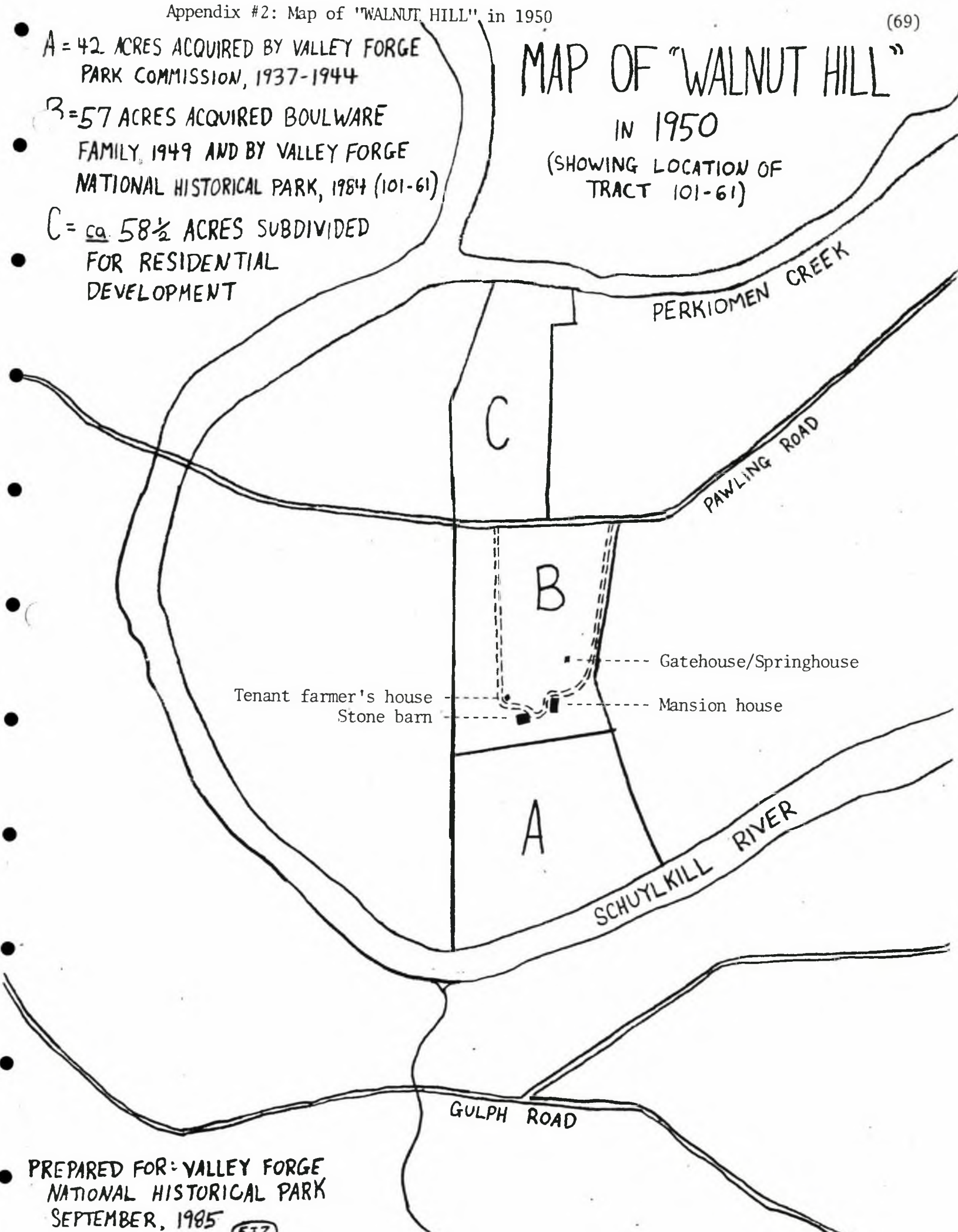
B = 57 ACRES ACQUIRED BOULWARE FAMILY, 1949 AND BY VALLEY FORGE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, 1984 (101-61)

C = ca. 58 1/2 ACRES SUBDIVIDED FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

MAP OF "WALNUT HILL"

IN 1950

(SHOWING LOCATION OF TRACT 101-61)



PREPARED FOR: VALLEY FORGE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
SEPTEMBER, 1985 (512)

Brief of Title to "WALNUT HILL FARM," also known as Valley Forge National
Historical Park Tract 101-61

20 December 1984

for \$435,000.00

57.00 acres and improvements

Recorded in Montgomery County
Deed Book 4755.2177

Described as the same premises which the grantors purchased in 1949,
i.e. no change in the acreage or the boundaries of the land.

Lyle F. Boulware
and Mary C., h/w

to

United States of America

24 October 1949

for \$15,000.00

57 acres and improvements

Recorded in Montgomery County
Deed Book 2034.559

Described as part of the same premises which John Price Wetherill,
who died in July, 1853, owned at the time of his death.

John L. Janeway, et al,
Heirs of Maria L.
Janeway, deceased

to

Lyle F. Boulware
and Mary C., h/w

This tract of land has descended in the Wetherill family as follows:

- 1) John Price Wetherill, in his will (Philadelphia Register of Wills #214, 1853), bequeathed his personal property at "my country place at Perkiomen" to his wife, Maria Kane Wetherill, "to be her's absolutely." She continued to occupy "Walnut Hill" during her widowhood.
- 2) Maria Kane Wetherill, in her will (Philadelphia Register of Wills #680, 1877), directed that all her children share and share alike in her estate.
- 3) In partition proceedings instituted in the Court of Common Pleas No. 1 of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, as of December Term, 1877, No. 500, in equity in suit entitled Wetherill vs. Wetherill, by order of said Court, dated 4 June 1878, a tract of 157½ acres was awarded to Maria L. Janeway, daughter of John Price Wetherill and Maria Kane Wetherill.

Brief of Title to "WALNUT HILL FARM" (continued)

- 4) Maria L. Janeway, in her will (Montgomery County, Department of Records, RW 3278, dated 16 September 1890, proved 30 September 1890), directed that her estate be placed in trust for her six children and that upon the death of the last of her six children, the estate be divided among her grandchildren.
- 5) The six children of Maria L. Janeway died at subsequent times as follows:
 - Jacob G. Janeway died 10 February 1923;
 - Price W. Janeway died 5 March 1924;
 - Elizabeth J. Burgen died 2 June 1923;
 - John L. Janeway, Jr. died 25 March 1896;
 - Maria K. Janeway died 28 March 1934;
 - Rachel W. Hodge died 2 September 1896.
- 6) Now those great-grandchildren of John Price Wetherill who were descended through his daughter Maria L. Janeway, nine in number (seven of whom survive at the time of this transaction), have agreed to sell this part of the 157½ acres to Lyle F. Boulware and Mary C. Boulware, his wife.

This summary is drawn almost entirely from Deed 2034.559. What that document does not further explain is that the tract of 157½ acres had been inherited by John Price Wetherill from his father, Samuel Wetherill, Jr. This further history may be explained as follows:

Samuel Wetherill (Jr.) died in 1829. In his will (Philadelphia Register of Wills #113, 1829) Samuel Wetherill (Jr.) bequeathed his Philadelphia residence ("the messuage in which I now reside") and his country residence ("and also my Farm called the Bakewell Farm in Montgomery County") to his wife, Rachel Wetherill. She continued to occupy both during her widowhood. All his other property, both real and personal, was bequeathed to his five children, share and share alike. Rachel Wetherill agreed to bequeath her estate in the same manner (Philadelphia Register of Wills, #36, 1844). As a result no partition of the real estate of Samuel Wetherill (Jr.) took place until after the death of his widow.

In 1844 the Estate of Samuel Wetherill (Jr.) was ordered divided. The citation of court action has not been found (but see Montgomery County Deed Book 65.102). John Price Wetherill was awarded a tract of 157½ acres, being the same premises which Samuel Wetherill (Jr.) had purchased in 1826 from the executors of Henry Pawling (III), as below.

1 April 1826

for \$7,875.31

157 acres, 81 perches
and improvements

Recorded in Montgomery County
Deed Book 41.587

Levi Pawling and
James Milnor, Extrs.
of Henry Pawling (III),
deceased

to

Samuel Wetherill, Jr.

Brief of Title to "WALNUT HILL FARM" (concluded)

This tract of land had been in the Pawling family for three generations. It was part of a 500 acre tract of land which had descended in and sub-divided by the Pawling family as follows:

1) Edward Farmer and Rachel, his wife, sold 500 acres to Henry Pawling (I) on 15 September 1719. Deed citation not found.

2) Henry Pawling (I) died intestate, ca. 1740, leaving six children (there is a discrepancy here, the number of children may have been seven). The siblings of Henry Pawling (II) release their rights to the land to him.

3) Henry Pawling (II), by his will (Montgomery County Department of Records, RW 4976, dated 18 November 1791, codicil dated 29 August 1792, probated on or before 25 October 1792), directed that portions of the 500 acre tract be granted to sons John and Nathan and that "all the rest of my land including the Mansion House in which I now live, being between two hundred and three hundred acres" be granted to son Henry (III).

4) Henry Pawling (III), by his will (Montgomery County Department of Records, RW 4978, dated 25 July 1817, probated 21 March 1823), directed that his executors "sell for the best price that could be obtained ... his plantation and tract of land."

This deed (41.587) describes the land as "that part (of the lands owned by Henry Pawling (III)) on which the said Henry Pawling resided at the time of Making his last will and Testament ... "

(1)

of the one part was Samuel Withers of the City of Philadelphia
 the other of the other part Henry Pauling the said
 was to be devised in the simple of and in sundry and one
 parts in the Township of Lower Merion and County of Delaware and
 being solemnly sworn made his last will and Testament in writing
 wherein bearing date the eighteenth day of November Anno Domini
 one thousand seven hundred and ninety one. wherein he gave
 and devised to his son Henry the tract named Henry Pauling his
 thousand eight hundred and thirty seven acres and plantation therein contained
 containing between two and three hundred acres and also without
 devoting the same in and by said last will and Testament was his
 last truly proved and remaining in the Register Office at Merion
 in the County aforesaid (relation thereto being had may appear
 by force and virtue whereof or of other sufficient conveyances and
 assurances in the law duly executed the said Henry Pauling (the son)
 became in his life time lawfully seized in his (deemed) as of fee of
 and in the said plantation and appurtenances thereof
 (whereas the said Henry Pauling (the son) in and by his last will
 and Testament duly executed dated the twenty sixth day of July
 Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and ninety one and
 proved and registered in the office for the Register and probate
 of wills and Testaments at Merion in the County aforesaid on the
 twenty first day of March Anno Domini one thousand eight hun-
 dred and ninety three did authorize and empower his above named
 executor to sell for the best price that that could be obtained either
 at public or private sale as they should think proper his plantation
 and tract of land as well that part in the tenure of his son Williams
 as that wherein he then resided supposed to contain two hundred
 and fifty acres with the improvements and buildings thereon
 And whereas the plantation and tract of land herein after de-
 scribed is part of the above mentioned land being that part
 which the said Henry Pauling resided at the time of making his
 last will and Testament aforesaid and which he did sell and
 whereas in pursuance of the authority to them given after due
 and public notice of the time and place of sale the said Henry Pauling
 and James Wilson Executors as aforesaid did expose
 to public sale the above mentioned portion of the plantation
 of the said Henry Pauling as the same is by conveyance aforesaid
 (hereinafter described) and sold the same to the said Samuel Withers
 for the sum of fifty dollars And whereas this Indenture
 doth witness that the said Henry Pauling and James Wilson
 Executors as aforesaid for and in consideration of the sum of
 seven hundred and eighty five dollars and thirty
 one cents unto them in hand well and truly paid by the said
Samuel Withers at and before the making and delivery hereof
 the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge and that of their
 own free will do acquit and forever discharge the said Samuel Withers
 his Executors and Administrators by these presents here-
 granted conveyance sold aliened conveyed released and confirmed
 and by them person or by virtue and force of the Authority

X

(2)

Attachment #2: Deed of Augustine S. Janeway, et al, heirs of John Price Wetherill, to Lyle F. and Mary C. Boulware

No. 200-1022-10 done
Recorded and in the Public Office of the Recorder of Deeds of the County of Philadelphia, Pa.

559

This Indenture MADE THE Twenty-fourth

day of October *in the year of our Lord one thousand nine*

hundred and forty-nine (1949) **Witnesseth** JOHN L. JANEWAY, widower of Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, JEANIE R. SHEPARD and GORDON SHEPARD, her husband, of St. Paul, Minnesota, SYBIL JANEWAY TOWNSEND and CHARLES TOWNSEND, her husband of Altmont, New York, RACHEL KITSON and KENNETH KITSON, her husband, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, HELEN H. GRIFFEN and HENRY R. GRIFFEN, her husband of Ridgewood, New Jersey, LAWRENCE W. JANEWAY and KATHERINE JANEWAY, his wife of Birmingham, Alabama, JOHNNIE FOSTER JANEWAY, widow of Jacksonville, Florida and CHRISTINE HAWKINS, singlewoman, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania by their attorney-in-fact AUGUSTINE S. JANEWAY, parties of the first part and AUGUSTINE S. JANEWAY and HELEN G. JANEWAY, his wife individually, parties of the second part, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, GRANTORS

AND

LYLE F. BOULWARE and MARY C., his wife of Long Island, New York, parties of the third part, GRANTEES

Witnesseth, That the said parties of the first and second parts

for and in consideration of

the sum of Fifteen thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00)

lawful money of the United States of America, unto them well and truly paid by the said Grantees

at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released and confirmed, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff, release and confirm unto the said Grantees, their heirs

and Assigns, as tenants by the entireties.

ALL THAT CERTAIN tract of land with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate in the Township of Lower Providence, County of Montgomery and State of Pennsylvania, bounded and described according to a survey thereof made September, 1949 by J. L. Janeway, R. P. E., as follows, to wit:

BEGINNING at a point on the center line of Pawlings Road, said road being officially designated as Pennsylvania State Rural Highway, Second Class, No. 46064 and having a right of way of thirty-three feet, the said point being a corner common to lands of Heirs of Maria L. Janeway and Philadelphia Protectory for Boys; thence by lands of the said Philadelphia Protectory for Boys South ten and one-half degrees West One thousand Three hundred Eighty-four feet to a corner stone; thence by the same South Seventeen and one-half degrees East Four hundred Eighty-six and Even tenth feet to corner of lands of State of Pennsylvania, Department of Forests and Streams and marked by a concrete monument; thence by lands of the said State of

50

560

Pennsylvania South Eighty-two degrees West One thousand Four hundred Forty and Thirty-four one-hundredths feet to a similar monument; thence by the same North Two degrees Thirty minutes East One thousand Eighty-five feet to a similar monument; thence by lands of Valley Forge Manor (formerly Samuel Wetherill) to a point on the center line of the said Pawlings Road, North Three degrees East Nine hundred Twenty-eight and Eight tenths feet; the said point being a corner common to lands of Valley Forge Manor and Grant Fullerton and being on the East line of Wetherill Road; thence by lands of Grant Fullerton by a curved line running in an Easterly direction along the center line of Pawlings Road, Eight hundred Forty-seven feet to a point, being corner of lands of Grant Fullerton and the said Philadelphia Protectory for Boys; thence further along said center line of Pawlings Road and by lands of Philadelphia Protectory for Boys North Eighty-eight and one-half degrees East Five hundred Eighty-six feet to the place of beginning. CONTAINING Fifty-seven acres of land more or less.

BEING part of the same premises which John Price Wetherill, who died in July, 1653, was seized in his demise.

AND in partition proceedings instituted in the Court of Common Pleas No. 1 of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, as of December Term, 1877, No. 500, in equity in suit entitled Wetherill vs. Wetherill, by order of said Court, dated June 4, 1878 said premises were awarded to Maria L. Janeway, formerly Maria L. Wetherill widow of John L. Janeway.

AND pursuant to said order of said court, Thomas A. Porter, Esq., Master in the said partition proceedings did grant and convey said premises unto the said Maria L. Janeway.

AND THE SAID Maria L. Janeway being so thereof seized departed this life on September 18, 1890 having first made and published her last will and testament in writing dated September 16, 1890, duly proved and filed of record in the Register of Wills Office at Norristown, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, wherein she gave, devised and bequeathed unto Price W. Janeway and Augustus J. Rudderow, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns all her estate, real, personal and mixed in trust for certain uses and purposes and upon the decease of all of her six children she ordered and directed that her estate be divided and that one of the shares to be set apart for each of her grandchildren then living and one of said shares to the issue as tenants in common of each of her grandchildren who shall then be dead.

AND THE SAID Maria L. Janeway left to survive her six children to wit: Jacob G. Janeway, Price W. Janeway, Elizabeth J. Burgen, John L. Janeway, Jr., Maria K. Janeway and Rachel W. Hodge.

AND THE SAID six children are now deceased, the last survivor of them, Maria K. Janeway having died on March 26, 1934.

AND THE SAID John L. Janeway died March 25, 1896 leaving to survive him two sons, John L. Janeway and Augustine S. Janeway and a daughter Sybil J. Newhall, who died May 24, 1933 leaving to survive her two daughters, to wit: Sybil K. Newhall, now the wife of Charles Townsend and Jeanne R. Shepard.

AND THE SAID Rachel W. Hodge died September 2, 1896 leaving to survive her a son, Leiper Hodge, who died in the year 1920 leaving surviving him no child or children nor issue of any deceased child or children.

AND THE SAID Jacob G. Janeway died February 10, 1923 leaving to survive him two sons to wit: Lawrence W. Janeway and Joseph B. Janeway.

AND THE SAID Elizabeth J. Burgen died June 2, 1923 leaving to survive her no child or children nor issue of any deceased child or children.

AND THE SAID Price W. Janeway, died March 5, 1924 leaving to survive him a son Price W. Janeway, Jr. and two daughters to wit: Helen R. Griffen and Rachel Kitson.

AND THE SAID Maria K. Janeway died March 26, 1934 leaving to survive her no child or children nor issue of any deceased child or children.

AND THE SAID Joseph B. Janeway being so thereof seized departed this life on January 26, 1948 having first made and published his last will and testament in writing dated July 31, 1947 and duly admitted to probate and record January 30, 1948 in the County Judge's Court, Duval County,

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Florida, an exemplified copy of said will having been filed in the Register of Wills Office at Norristown, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, wherein he gave, devised and bequeathed all of the rest and residue of his estate, real, personal and mixed, of whatever kind and nature soever and wheresoever situate found and being in esse and futuro, to his wife, Johnnie Foster Janeway, and directed that all his real estate be sold as soon as possible after his decease.

AND THE SAID Johnnie Foster Janeway has elected to take the undivided interest in said real estate in kind in lieu of the proceeds thereof.

AND THE SAID Price W. Janeway, Jr. being so thereof seized departed this life on February 28, 1949 having first made and published his last will and testament in writing dated April 5, 1948 duly proved March 10, 1949 and filed of record in the Register of Wills Office at Media, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, wherein he gave the residue of all of his estate to Christine Hawkins.

AND by Letters of Attorney dated June 4th, June 7th, June 8th, June 9th, June 13th, and June 14th, 1949, the said John L. Janeway, widower et al constituted and appointed Augustine S. Janeway their lawful attorney to make, execute and deliver to the grantees herein a deed of conveyance for the hereinbefore described premises.

No. 595—HAMBURG
Printed and sold by Van & Lubben Co., 22 N. 2nd St. and 79 Water St.

562

Together with all and singular the buildings

Streets, Alleys, Passages, Ways, Waters, Water-courses, Rights, Liberties, Privileges, Hereditaments and Appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining, and the Reversions and Remainders, Rents, Issues and Profits thereof; and all the Estate right, title, interest, property, claim and demand whatsoever of the said parties of the first and second parts

in law, equity, or otherwise howsoever, of, in and to the same and every part thereof,

To have and to hold the said buildings and lot of ground

Hereditaments and

Premises hereby granted, or mentioned and intended so to be, with the Appurtenances

unto the said

Grantees, their heirs

and Assigns, to and for the only proper use and behoof of the said

Grantees, their heirs

and Assigns for ever, as tenants by the entireties.

No. 200-WARRANT C
Printed and sold by Van & Lubben Co., 11 N. 2nd St. and 1st Ward St.

563

And the said parties of the first and second parts, their Heirs, Executors and Administrators. Do by these presents covenant, grant and agree to and with the said Grantees, their heirs

and Assigns,

that they the said parties of the first and second parts, their

Heirs, all and singular the Hereditaments and Premises hereinbefore described and granted, or mentioned and intended so to be, with the appurtenances, unto the said Grantees, their heirs

and Assigns,

against them the said parties of the first and second parts, their

Heirs, and against all and every other Person or Persons whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof, by front or under him, her, them, or any of them, shall and will

WARRANT and forever DEFEND.

In Witness Whereof, the said Parties to these Presents have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and seals. Dated the day and year first hereinbefore written.

Witnessed and Delivered
IN THE PRESENCE OF US

Mary A. Hammond

John L. Janeway, Jeane R. Shepard
John L. Janeway, Jeane R. Shepard,

Gerdon Shepard, Bybil Janeway Townsend
Gerdon Shepard, Bybil Janeway Townsend

Charles Townsend, Rachel Kitson
Charles Townsend, Rachel Kitson,

Kenneth Kitson, Helen H. Griffen
Kenneth Kitson, Helen H. Griffen,

Henry R. Griffen, Lawrence W. Janeway
Henry R. Griffen, Lawrence W. Janeway,

Katherine Janeway, Johnie Foster Janeway
Katherine Janeway, Johnie Foster Janeway,

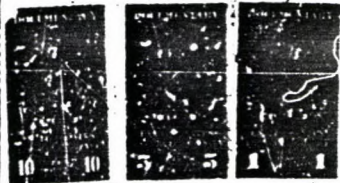
Christine Hawkins - (Seal)
Christine Hawkins

By their Attorney-in-fact

Augustyne S. Janeway (Seal)
Augustyne S. Janeway

Augustyne S. Janeway (Seal)
Augustyne S. Janeway

John S. Janeway (Seal)
John S. Janeway



19-20 (REV. 1) ACKNOWLEDGMENT
Printed and sold by The S. S. Kneass Company, Philadelphia

564

State of Pennsylvania:
County of Montgomery :

On this, the twenty-fourth day of October, 1949, before me, a Notary Public in and for the County and State aforesaid, residing at Norristown, Pa., the undersigned officer, personally appeared AUGUSTINE S. JANEWAY, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed as attorney in fact for JOHN L. JANEWAY, widower, JEANNE R. SHEPARD and GORDON SHEPARD, her husband, SYBIL JANEWAY TOWNSEND and CHARLES TOWNSEND, her husband, RACHEL KITSON and KENNETH KITSON, her husband, HELEN H. GRIFFEN and HENRY B. GRIFFEN, her husband, LAWRENCE W. JANEWAY and KATHERINE JANEWAY, his wife, JOHNNIE FOSTER JANEWAY, widow and CHRISTINE HAWKINS, singlewoman and acknowledged that he executed the same as the act of his principal for the purposes therein contained.

In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and official seal.

Mary A. Hammond
Notary Public
My Commission expires
Jan. 29, 1951

State of Pennsylvania:
County of Montgomery :

ON THE 24th day of October Anno Domini 1949 before me,

the subscriber, a Notary Public, in and for the County and State aforesaid residing at Norristown

personally appeared the above named AUGUSTINE S. JANEWAY and HELEN G. JANEWAY, his wife

and in due form of law acknowledged the above or foregoing INDENTURE, to be their and each of their act and deed, and desired the same might be recorded as such.

WITNESS my hand and notarial seal the day and year aforesaid.

Mary A. Hammond
Notary Public
My Commission expires
Jan 29, 1951

WITNESS my hand and seal the day and year aforesaid.

1232 Broad St.
Philadelphia, Pa.
Mary A. Hammond
Agent

RECORDED in the Office for Recording of Deeds in and for County of Montgomery in Deed Book No. 2034 page 155 of

WITNESS my hand and seal of Office this 2nd day of November A. D. 19 49.

John E. Marshall Recorder
Per Dep. Recorder

MCU - 2 1949

25
50
6.50

575

Deed.

JOHN L. JANEWAY, widower, et al by their
Attorney-in-fact AUGUSTINE S. JANEWAY
and AUGUSTINE S. JANEWAY and HELEN G.
JANEWAY, his wife

to

1133

LYLE F. BOULWARE

May C

725

Printed and sold by Van & Lubner Co., 11 N. 12th St. and 729 Walnut St., Phila.

Premises - Pawlings Road, Lower Providence
Township, Montgomery County, Penna.

MTC

26546

80X

ed and routed the enemy yesterday morning near Mülhorn, and was already at six in the morning master of Mollis. Fresh accounts of the further proceedings of the united Anglo-Russian, are expected every moment.

BREGENZ, Sept. 27.

On the 23d, in the morning, Gen. Hutze was informed, that the French had crossed the Linth; but as he did not fear a serious attack, nor conceived the danger to be so great as it really was, he mounted his horse, accompanied by some hussars, Col. Plunket, the lieut. colonel of the hussars of the frontiers, and some adjutants, at 6 in the morning, and proceeded to the advanced posts between Schanis and Kaltenbrunn to reconnoitre; suddenly they saw themselves surrounded by the enemy, who fired upon them with small arms. A corporal, who was present, and who was so fortunate to cut his way through, says, that he had seen Gen. Hotze fall from his horse, and that he was found dead in a ditch the day following; that Col. Plunket, and the col. of the frontier hussars, had also been killed. The enemy afterward made a violent attack, carried the bridge at Grunau, where they took post. At nine o'clock, three battalions of Russians, under the command of the prince of Wintemberg, arrived from Rapperschwyl, who stormed the bridge from Grunau to Uznach, without firing a shot. But the enemy, reinforced by fresh troops, renewed the attack, and forced the Russians, by a heavy grape-shot fire, to quit that post again; on which occasion, besides the privates, a colonel, a lieut. colonel, and 12 officers were killed, and a Russian general wounded. Should no succors arrive from Zurich, Gen. Hotze's column will be forced to retreat to the Rhine.

Afternoon—The unfortunate death of Gen. Hotze seems actually to have been followed by a general retreat. Field-marshal-lieut. de Gruber is arrived here this moment with the war-chancery and treasury. The militia in Vorarlberg has been ordered to assemble, and to march immediately, to occupy the frontiers on the Rhine.

See in the evening—The Russians have also been defeated near Zurich, and forced to retreat. Zurich is again occupied by the French. This afternoon the head-quarters of our troops were still at St. Gall, and troops at the distance of a mile and a half. As they are not in sufficient force, it is feared they will be obliged to retreat across the Rhine.

HAGUE, October 5.

The tranquillity which continued for 12 days, has at length been interrupted, on the 2d inst. by one of the most violent attacks, which the English made on our left wing and centre. The battle lasted the whole day, and both parties fought with the greatest obstina-

cy. Night put a stop to the carnage; but on the 3d it was renewed with increased violence, till at last our left wing and centre were forced to give way to the enemy's superiority. We were obliged to give up all our positions before Alkmaar, and even that town, to the enemy: Gen. Brune's head quarters were removed to Beverwyk. Our army was forced to take another position; our advanced posts, however, still occupy Baam, Coltricum and Dimmen.

During the action, the fine village of Koedyk, about a mile and an half from Alkmaar was burnt down. Some prisoners have been conveyed to Haarlem and Amsterdam; at the former place about 40 or 50 vessels with wounded have arrived. The French general la Maison, and the chief of brigade Mercier, are amongst the latter.

Yesterday the president of the third chamber informed the assembly, that no particulars of the action of the 2d had been received, but Gen. Brune's head-quarters had been removed to Beverwyk.

The villages of Generucien and Zwartsluis were also occupied by the English sailors, who took possession of them in the name of the prince of Orange, and hoisted the Orange flag; but they have been driven from thence and mostly made prisoners.

Our army continues to receive reinforcements, and more are still expected. Three thousand French troops marched yesterday through Haarlem, for the army. Bodies of armed citizens are joining it daily, and when all shall have arrived, we hope that fortune, which deserted us in the last battle, will favor us again.

TO BE SOLD,

A VALUABLE Plantation, situate on the river Schuylkill, adjoining Fatlandford, in Providence township, Montgomery county; 22 miles from Philadelphia and 6 from Norristown; containing 154 acres, between 60 or 70 of which is good wood-land, 20 of watered and bottom meadow, the residue conveniently divided into fields—The soil is equal if not superior to any in the country, and esteemed by farmers to be of the first quality for wheat—There are on the premises a convenient Stone Dwelling house, with two rooms on a floor, a commodious Kitchen, a Stone Spring-house over a good spring of water, and a Log Barn—There are few situations better adapted for a farmer, the quality of the land, and the commodiousness of the situation, render it an object worthy of there attention—The terms of sale will be made easy, and may be known from the subscriber adjoining the premises, or from Levi Pawling in Norristown.

HENRY PAWLING.

Dec. 4, 1799.

NORRISTOWN.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13.

☞ The *Crossman* is postponed for want of room, but will appear in our next.

On the 4th inst. both Houses of the Legislature of this State formed a quorum—John Wood, Esq. was elected Speaker of the Senate, and Mr. Haac Weaver for the House of Representatives—The Governor addressed both Houses on the 8th.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 2.

We mentioned in our last paper, that advices were received in this city, of the French fleet having been seen off the Irish coast. We have since been favoured with the following extract of the letter which contained the news:

"The French Fleet has sailed from Brest, and has been off the Northern coast. Its object is said to be a descent upon Ireland; I hope the report is without foundation; but have my fears on the subject; and these fears are increased by the circumstance, that five *expresses* arrived this day at Belfast on their way to Dublin, charged, (as it is said) with news to government of the first importance—but what that news is has not yet transpired.

Seven of the Northern counties are again declared in a state of Rebellion."

The letter, from which the above is an extract is dated "Belfast, the tenth day of October;" and we are assured there is a second letter in town which corroborates the intelligence.

☞ Wanted to hire, a Man who understands Farming in all its branches.—Enquire of the Printer.

One Dollar Reward.

STRAYED away on the 12th ult. from the Subscriber's Plantation, living in Plymouth township, near the Black Horse, a Flock of Turkeys, of first and second growth; whoever will secure the said Flock so that the Subscriber may get them again, or will bring them to his Plantation, shall have the above reward and reasonable charges.
Dec. 9th. BENJ. WAGER.

The Creditors of the Subscribers are requested to take notice, that they have made application to the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, for the county of Montgomery, to receive the benefit of the Act of Assembly for the relief of Insolvent Debtors, and the Court have been pleased to appoint Saturday, the 14th day of December next, to hear us and our creditors.

JOSHUA DUNGIN,
FRANCIS DAYMON,
DAVID LOWRY,
JOSEPH MILLER.

Attachment #4: Edward W. Hocker note on family tradition concerning date of construction for "Walnut Hill" mansion house

Thomas L. Hodge, 1936:
 John Price Wetherill built Janeway
 house, Fatland, in 1834, for daughter who
 married ---- Janeway. T.L.Hodge married ----
 Janeway and lived at Janeway house, "Walnut
 Hills," for 17 years.

1906 when Abington became a first class township. The board on organization made him its vice president and he was active in bringing about notable improvements in the management of township affairs. Krueger died suddenly in 1914.

All three of the powerful financiers who gained control of Philadelphia's transit interests in the later years of the 19th century and brought about consolidation of the numerous individual car lines were residents of Montgomery County and all three lived in Cheltenham Township. They were William H. Kemble, whose home was on Church Road near Willow Grove Avenue; Peter A. B. Widener and William L. Elkins, who lived near the modern Elkins Park.

Kemble and Widener were the skilled manipulators of the big transit deals, not only in Philadelphia, but also in New York and Chicago. Kemble looked after the politics involved in the deals and saw to it that no obstacles were imposed to the granting of desired concessions. He had previously been state treasurer. He was credited with having originated the slogan, "Straphangers pay the dividends." He died in 1891.

All three of these men began commercial life as small storekeepers. Kemble for a time conducted a general store at Shannonsville, now Audubon, and he married in that region.

Kemble named his Church Road estate Maylawn, in honor of his wife. After his death it became the home of J. Fred Zimmerman, theatrical manager. On the op-

eration ministers chosen from amongst the congregation were retained to assist the regular pastor. So Dr. Geiger was occasionally called upon to preach, lead prayer meetings or conduct funeral services.

One of his most important achievements was the establishment of a Sunday School in the First Church. The innovation was vigorously opposed by the older members, but eventually it was adopted.

His grocery business was highly profitable and in 1877 Dr. Geiger retired from the firm with a large fortune. For a long time he had been a director of the Frankford and Southwark Passenger Railway Company, operating street cars on Fifth and Sixth Streets. He was made president of the company in 1883, and held the office until his death, in 1885.

The pacifist attitude of the Brethren forced Dr. Geiger to give up his membership in the church in 1863. When the Southern army invaded Pennsylvania in the Summer of that year he decided to join the emergency troops. He sent his church a letter resigning his membership. It was accepted. He never sought restoration as a member.

His widow, who lived until 1916, was a generous contributor to the work of the Brethren. She had a Sunday School building erected for the First Church and helped to found another church in Philadelphia which was named for her.

Jacob Schwenk, Mrs. Geiger's father, was a great-grandfather of Ralph Beaver Strassburger, NORRIS.

LAND LONG HELD BY WETHERILL FAMILY TAKEN FOR VALLEY FORGE PARK 8-16-44

In carrying out its program of extending Valley Forge Park on the North side of the Schuylkill, the Park Commission has acquired part of the once extensive Wetherill family holdings along the river, in Lower Providence Township. The most recent such acquisition consists of 42 acres from the Janeway estate, known as Walnut Hill.

On the Janeway property, though not taken for the park, is one of the most beautiful houses, architecturally considered, in the entire county. Travelers through that locality rarely see the house. It is hidden from the road that runs from Audubon to Pawling's Bridge, being approached by a long and winding driveway. Glances of the house may be had from the Valley Forge region.

The house has a two-story porch facing the river. There are Grecian columns built of brick following the style of notable

mansions of the South, though it is not often seen here, except in porticos of some old churches, like Trinity Lutheran, on DeKalb Street. There is a similar portico with pillars at what is commonly known as the Wetherill Mansion, Northeast of Walnut Hill in the direction of Audubon. The two houses, both built by the Wetherill family, are similar in type of architecture, though the Wetherill Mansion, originally called Fatland, is larger.

In each house the great front door opens on a capacious reception hall extending through the house.

News reports of the award of \$6,225 for the taking of the 42

acres in sumptuous style. His son, Dr. Harry Emerson Wetherill, is the present occupant of the Wetherill Mansion.

John Price Wetherill 1794-1853, was a member of Philadelphia City Councils for a quarter of a century, and also captain of the Second City Troop. He built the Walnut Hill house in 1834. Possibly, like the Wetherill Mansion, it was erected on foundations of an earlier house that had stood there

MANY SMALL OLD-TIME RAILROADS IN THE READING SYSTEM

From time to time since state and federal reforming the railroads, early in the present complicated make-up of the Reading Company subject of consideration by these agencies. They are still at it, for only a few days ago the news reported that the Interstate Commerce Commission authorized the merger of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, the Reading Company and Pottsville and Fogelsville Railroad Company.

The most interesting thing about this bit of news is that it recalls a fine old Pennsylvania German railroad anecdote.

The Catasauqua and Fogelsville Railroad had the letters "C. & F." painted on its cars. One day a stranger noted these letters. He could not identify the railroad. So he asked a bystander: "What do those letters mean?"

"Don't you know?" was the response. "Why, C. & F. means Kutztown and Philadelphia Railroad."

In the early days of railroading many short railroads were built by corporations organized along their routes. That was the case with the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Company that built the first road into Norristown, in 1834. The North Penn. was a more ambitious undertaking, extending from Philadelphia to the Lehigh Valley. It, too, was an independent corporation.

In the 1870's, when Franklin B. Gowen was president of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, that company began gobbling up most of these little railroads, taking them under 999-year leases. Twenty-eight companies were thus acquired, including the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown, the North Penn., the Plymouth and the Colebrookdale Railroad.

In 1881 the Reading leased the Norristown Junction Railroad, also for 999 years. It had been chartered that year by officials of the Reading Company, to build a railroad to connect the tracks of the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Road, on Washington Street, with those of the Stony Creek Road, beyond Marshall Street. The corporation was maintained until some years ago

Wetherill tracks. It was called Meadow. A firm of real estate bought the tract. Lots of one to two dwellings and named North Valley. Upon the death of Wetherill, in 1927, the estate passed into the hands of Herbert J. Wetherill, Jr.

when it was dissolved. Another class of subsidiaries consisted of those whose control was buying a majority. This class included the Northeast from Glenside to Chester Valley, the Stony Creek and the United States. In 1932, ordering the Reading Railroad and the Reading Company, the railroads by another court action about a surrender of stock it controlled. subordinate companies Norristown and Connecting Railroad Company the Reading had in the present century above Swede Street.

The original Philadelphia Reading Railroad 1838 was at this time subsidiary of the main company, called the Reading Company, and the court ordered the P. and R. in 1929 another little railroad were put out of their Interstate Commerce granted the Reading authority to take over companies which it was operating but which their corporate exist these were the Pennsylvania Northeast Pennsylvania Chester Valley, the New York Stony Creek roads.

Since then passenger service on these old-time lines, in Stony Creek, Chester



C. O. Pratt, who was building up a reputation as a labor leader, engineered the strike that began in February, 1910. Persistent efforts were made to run cars with non-union men in charge. This led to fighting.

Charles O. Kruger had done good work in improving the city's transit service. Unlike certain other Philadelphia transit magnates, he did not merely live in Montgomery County. He identified himself with civic affairs and made his influence felt locally in Abington.

He removed to Abington in 1900, and six years later built a large house on York Road in that township. He helped to found Abington Memorial Hospital and was vice president of its board of trustees. He was a director of the Jenkintown National Bank and president of the Cheltenham and Willow Grove Turnpike Company, which controlled York Road and which had become a subsidiary of the Rapid Transit Company. The latter company found it desirable to gain control of the turnpike in order to build its trolley line to Willow Grove.

Charles O. Kruger was elected a member of the Abington Township Board of Commissioners in 1906 when Abington became a first class township. The board organization made him its vice president, and he was active in bringing about notable improvements in the management of township affairs. Kruger died suddenly in 1914.

All three of the powerful financiers who gained control of Philadelphia's transit interests in the later years of the 19th century and brought about consolidation of the numerous individual car lines were residents of Montgomery County and all three lived in Cheltenham Township. They were William H. Kemble, whose home was on Church Road near Willow Grove Avenue; Peter A. Widener and William L. Elkins, who lived near the modern Elkins Park.

Kemble and Widener were the skilled manipulators of the big transit deals, not only in Philadelphia, but also in New York and

opposite side of Church Road, Kemble built a big house for his son, Clay Kemble. This place was called Sunset. It is now occupied by Westminster Theological Seminary, which was established several years ago by the Fundamentalist wing of the Presbyterians.

One of the most unusual of the old-time Philadelphia street car presidents prior to consolidation of the car lines was a minister of the Dunkers who once practiced medicine at Harleysville and whose wife was a native of Schwenkville.

Dr. Henry A. Geiger, who was born in Philadelphia, in 1848 bought the practice and real estate of Dr. Charles Fronsfield, who had long been a highly successful physician in Harleysville. Soon afterward Dr. Geiger married Mary G., daughter of Jacob and Mary G. (Landis) Schwenk, of Schwenkville. In 1852 Dr. Geiger sold his practice to Dr. Rein Keeler and removed to Philadelphia. There he engaged in the wholesale grocery business with his brother-in-law, John G. Schwenk, and Samuel Horning.

Dr. Geiger was active in the First Church of the Brethren, Philadelphia, and in 1854 he was elected to the ministry. The Philadelphia congregation was among the first of the denomination to sanction a trained and salaried ministry, though the old-time ministers chosen from amongst the congregation were retained to assist the regular pastor. So Dr. Geiger was occasionally called upon to preach, lead prayer meetings or conduct funeral services.

One of his most important achievements was the establishment of a Sunday School in the First Church. The innovation was vigorously opposed by the older members, but eventually it was adopted.

His grocery business was highly profitable, and in 1877 Dr. Geiger retired from the firm with a large fortune. For a long time he had been a director of the Frankford and Southwark Passenger Railway Company, operating street cars on Fifth and Sixth Streets. He was made president of the company in 1883, and held the office until his death, in 1888.

The pacifist attitude of the Brethren forced Dr. Geiger to give up his membership in the

acres said the house was built in 1790. However, information acquired from members of the Janeway family fixes the date at 1834. The Grecian pillars are more representative of 1834 than of 1790.

Early in the 19th century Samuel Wetherill, Jr., Philadelphia Free Quaker and paint manufacturer, bought the lead mine on the Perkiomen West of Audubon, and also several hundred acres of farm land, comprising Mill Grove, where John James Audubon had once lived, and Fatlands, on the East side of the road to Pawling's Bridge, where James Vaux lived in Revolutionary times, he being succeeded by William Bakewell. Young Audubon married William Bakewell's daughter Lucy.

Fatlands was one of the notable farms of Eastern Pennsylvania, comprising very fertile land that had been properly cultivated according to the best farming methods of the times. The Wetherill farms covered nearly all the rich triangle between the Schuylkill and the Perkiomen.

Samuel Wetherill, Jr., died in 1829, and three of his sons succeeded to the paint business. The leader in the firm seems to have been John Price Wetherill. A younger son was Dr. William Wetherill, who in 1845 built the so-called Wetherill Mansion on the foundations of the old Bakewell house. He delighted to entertain here in sumptuous style. His son, Dr. Harry Emerson Wetherill, is the present occupant of the Wetherill Mansion.

John Price Wetherill, 1794-1853, was a member of Philadelphia City Councils for a quarter of a century, and also captain of the Second City Troop. He built the Walnut Hill house in 1834. Possibly, like the Wetherill Mansion, it was erected on foundations of an earlier house that had stood there

since 1790. Then upon the marriage of a daughter, John Price Wetherill gave Walnut Hill to her. She was Maria Lawrence Wetherill, and she became the wife of Rev. John Livingston Janeway, a Presbyterian clergyman of Philadelphia. The estate then comprised 157 acres.

The Janeways made their home at Walnut Hill and their name has ever since been attached to the place. Rev. John L. Janeway was a regimental chaplain in the Civil War.

Mrs. Janeway survived her husband and lived at Walnut Hill until her death, in 1890. Since then her heirs have dwelt there.

Part of the Fatlands tract held by heirs of Dr. William Wetherill has also been taken for Valley Forge Park. This consists of 37 acres along the Schuylkill. A jury of view awarded the heirs \$3800. There was an appeal to court from this award in 1943, and an agreement was effected to pay the heirs \$4750.

While much land hereabouts is still held by the Wetherill family, the late William Henry Wetherill, whose Summer home was at Mill Grove, in 1911 sold 233 acres that the family had owned for about a century. This was a tract of farm land touching the Schuylkill and opposite Valley Forge. This farm, like the various other Wetherill tracts, had a name. It was called Meadow Grove Farm.

A firm of real estate developers bought the tract, cut it up into lots of one to ten acres, built dwellings and named the settlement North Valley Forge.

Upon the death of William H. Wetherill, in 1927, the Mill Grove estate passed into the possession of Herbert J. Wetherill, of Mount Airy.

NORRIS.

MANY SMALL OLD-TIME RAILROADS ABSORBED IN THE READING SYSTEM

From time to time since state and federal agencies began reforming the railroads, early in the present century, the complicated make-up of the Reading Company has been a subject of consideration by these agencies. Evidently they are still at it, for only a few days ago the news columns reported that the Interstate Commerce Commission had authorized the merger of the Philadelphia and Reading Terminal Railroad Company, the Reading Company and the Catawau-

**\$6,225 AWARD
FOR 40-ACRE
JANEWAY LAND**

An award of \$6,225 is made today by a Montgomery County Jury of View for a 40-acre portion of the Janeway property, Lower Providence Township, condemned by the Valley Forge Park Commission for Valley Forge Park extension purposes.

The Janeway property has a total of 157 acres and is known as Walnut Hill, originally being the property of Maria L. Janeway who died in 1890. It now is owned by the nine petitioners, seven of whom have one-eighth interests and two others one-sixteenth interests each. They are Joseph B. Janeway, Lawrence W. Janeway, Rachel J. Kitson, Helen J. Griffen, Price W. Janeway, Jr., Sybil K. Townsend, Jeanne R. Sheppard, Augustine S. and John L. Janeway.

The acreage contains a large stone mansion erected in 1790 and various other buildings. It has a river frontage of 2,000 feet and lies between the Protectory and Valley Forge Manor.

Jury of View Members
The jury of view, consisting of Attorney Thomas F. Doran.

Continued on Page Two

\$6,225 AWARD

Continued from Page 1

Charles J. Hansell and H. H. Smith, in their report, point out that Colonel Augustine Janeway gave as his estimate of the value of the whole property in 1937 of \$75,000, giving as his reason for the high estimate its historical value and its value for land development in lots. He estimated the condemnation by the Valley Forge Park Commission caused the loss of \$20,000.

Originally, in 1937, the Park Commission passed a resolution condemning 40 acres but on March 3, 1943 the Commission passed a second resolution reducing the condemned area from 42 to 23.2 acres. The change in the condemnation was due to a misunderstanding between the Secretary of the Park Commission and attorneys representing the land owners. Attorneys for the land owners insisted as it is their right under the law to proceed under the original condemnation of 42 acres.

Court Made Ruling

The jury found that the Park Commission was without legal power to reduce the acreage as originally condemned. This point was decided in the Montgomery County Courts approximately five years ago when Judge Corson held in the case of John R. K. Scott vs. the Commonwealth that the State could not withdraw condemnation proceedings.

The jury made its award on the basis of 42 acres instead of the belatedly requested 23 acres.

At hearings before the Jury of View estimates of realtors as witnesses for the landowners and experts for the Park Commission, were "as far apart as the poles", the jury found.

Henry W. Mathieu testified the damage by the taking of 42 acres was \$11,000. Joseph N. Fronfield, Wayne, fixed the damage at \$8,000 and John M. Yerger, Norristown, placed the figure at \$10,000. All were called by counsel for the landowners.

The Commonwealth called Lylburn Steele, W. Earl Markley and Andrew W. Coffman, who fixed the damage between \$3,600 and \$3,875.

The jury directed the \$6,225 award be distributed as follows: John M. Yerger, witness fee, \$150; Henry W. Mathieu, witness fee, \$150; Joseph M. Fronfield witness fee, \$100; Attorneys John Highland and Harry I. Heistand, counsel fee, \$700; Augustine S. Janeway, succeeding trustee under the will of Maria L. Janeway, \$5,125.

The award today in the Janeway case completed damage claims under the present park extension program. There is one case pending but this has been disposed of by the jury of view. It is that of Frank Quigg, Port Kennedy. In this there was an appeal from the jury of view's award. Subsequently a trial was held in court and a motion for a new trial is now pending decision.

'Walnut Hill' Takes Visitors Back in Time 200 Years

Stately Wetherill Home at Valley Forge
Excellent Restored by the Boulwares

By Barbara Barnes

There is music and dancing again at Walnut Hill. Laughter echoes from the high ceilings with their decorative cornices. The floors are waxed again as they were when ladies swept over them in hoop skirts.

And from Valley Forge, on the opposite bank of the Schuylkill, you could easily imagine the elegant Georgian mansion still occupied by Mr. and Mrs. John Price Wetherill who built it in 1836.

It is occupied in reality, however, by Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Boulware and their son Peter. Boulware is an architect who specializes in modern. His wife was born and raised in the heart of a city.

A more unlikely pair of owners to take on the restoring of an old house and 60 acres of farmland it would seem hard to find.

Yet in five years the former New Yorkers have recreated the original atmosphere down to the last door latch.

"It was quite a task," Mrs. Boulware admitted last week when we talked to her in the light, cheerful drawing room. She is a slender woman with a talent for friendliness that goes well with the gracious background of Walnut Hill.

Even the elements complicated the work of the newcomers at times, she said. Soon after they moved in a pipeline explosion shattered their windows while a Thanksgiving turkey was half-cooked in the oven.

The same night the roof suddenly leaked like a sieve. The family rushed around putting buckets under streams of water, feeling they had perhaps taken on more than they could handle.

In the morning the tin roof was found to have been lifted right off the house by the wind.

But hurricane Hazel was the real killer. It whipped open shutters, blew in the French doors of the ballroom and smashed windows all over the house.

"I was alone when it struck," Mrs. Boulware recalled. "The wind made such a noise I didn't realize it had toppled over the largest of our old Walnut trees and a dozen other fine trees."

She pointed, still sadly, to the spot where the walnut had once stood. "The place was named after the walnut trees," she said. "They were given to Samuel Wetherill in the 1820's by Stephen Girard, then the country's richest citizen."

The oldest section of the house goes back considerably further than that date, however, ac-

cording to Mrs. Boulware. It was originally a small stone farmhouse built by Henry Pawling in 1743.

During the Revolution the Pawling house was used as commissary headquarters by Washington's food buyer, Colonel Ephraim Blaine. The main downstairs room is now the Walnut Hill dining room and is still referred to as the "Pawling room."

The estate continued in the Pawling family until it was bought by Samuel Wetherill in whose family it remained for 123 years. Samuel's son John intended to build a separate house at the edge of the plateau overlooking the Schuylkill, but his wife was afraid to live in a place so far away from other buildings, so the present house, with its nine round columns and stately ballroom, was added to the side of the original farmhouse.

The stone barn, built in 1826, is thought to be one of the largest in Montgomery County today.

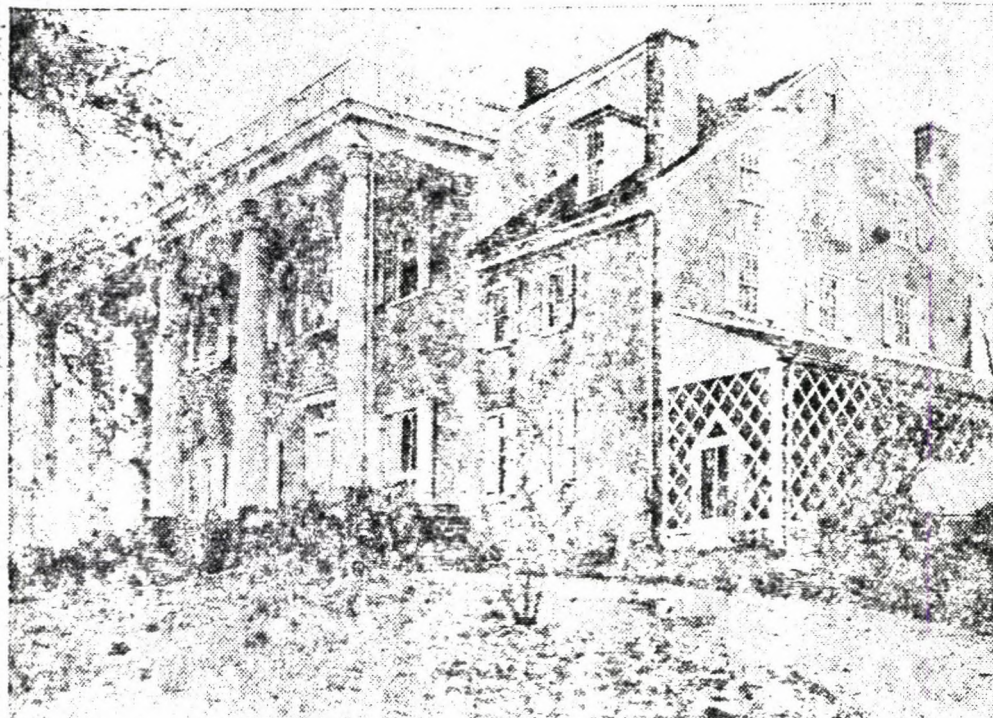
It took the Boulwares two and a half years of searching to discover their dream home. Mr. Boulware's architectural business had been transferred to Philadelphia, and his wife ran down every real estate lead she heard of in an effort to find the kind of place they both wanted.

Walnut Hill was first seen in a photograph at the home of a friend, Colonel August Janeway, who is a Wetherill descendant. "Yes, it's for sale," said Janeway. "But it's not what you're looking for. It has no central heat, plumbing or electricity."

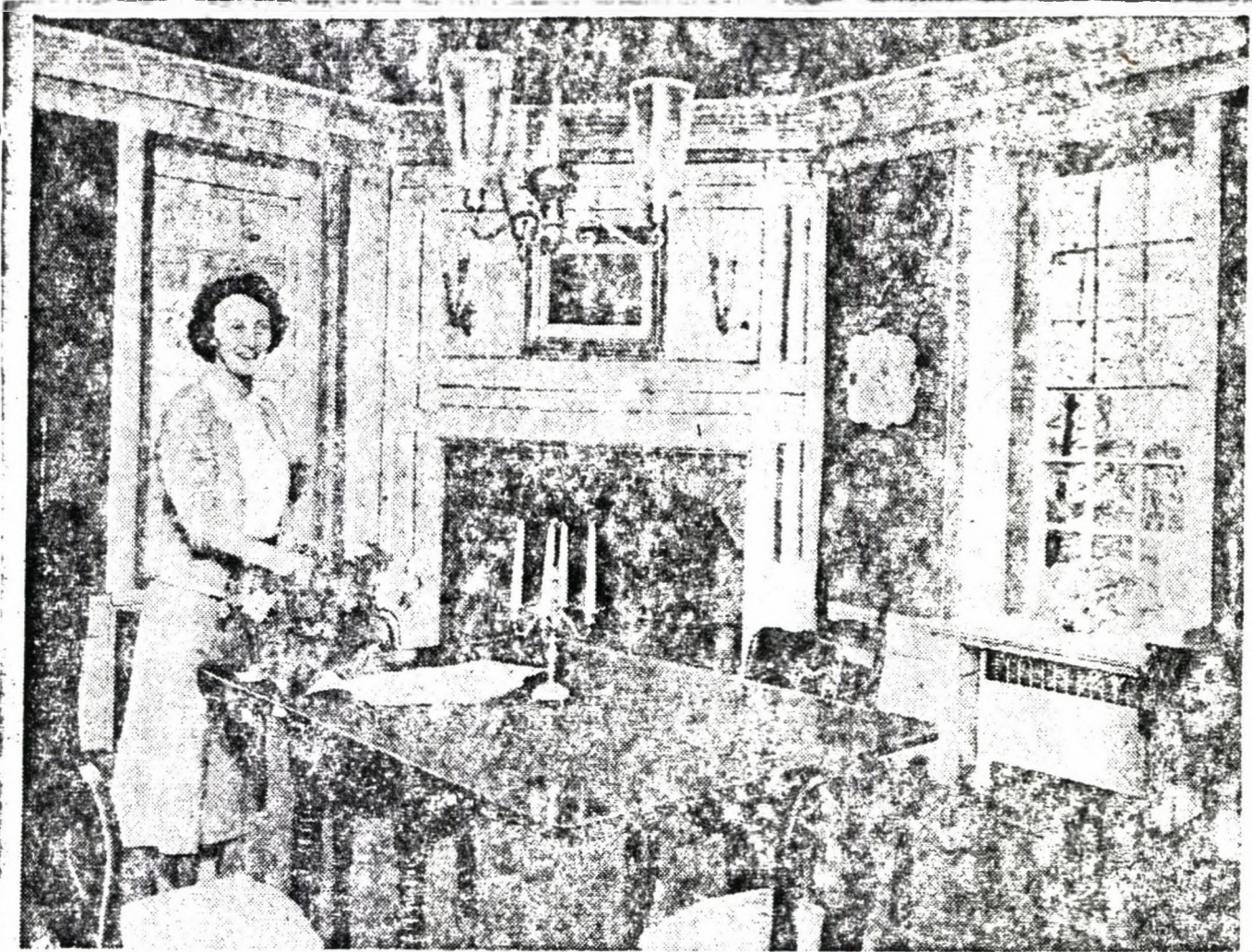
When the Boulwares first visited the house, cows were grazing all around it. Most of the shutters were closed, and vines had woven a cocoon around the graceful columns and the two-story portico.

The architect and his wife blessed the cocoon, however. In the half century it had been forming the house had been largely unoccupied. While many other old homes had been spoiled by renovations, this one had come through practically untouched.

All the lovely old woodwork needed was scrubbing and a coat of paint. The floors were simply



WALNUT HILL is silhouetted against the sky as you approach it from long winding driveway. Oldest part of house is at right. Georgian section at left overlooks the Schuylkill river and Valley Forge on opposite bank. Large walnut tree lost in hurricane stood across drive from nearest pillar.



GETTING READY for tomorrow's House and Garden tour, Mrs. Lyle Boulware arranges flowers in dining room which was once main room of Pawling farmhouse built in 1743. Small house was used as commissary headquarters during Revolution. Ceiling beams of this room were once exposed. Plaster and decorative cornices were added at a later date.

waxed. The boards still show the marks of hand planes with which they were finished a hundred years ago.

One of the most ticklish restoration jobs was the straightening of a column. It was pulled back into line by turnbuckles while the Boulwares held their breath. The antique brick construction was so sound there wasn't a crack.

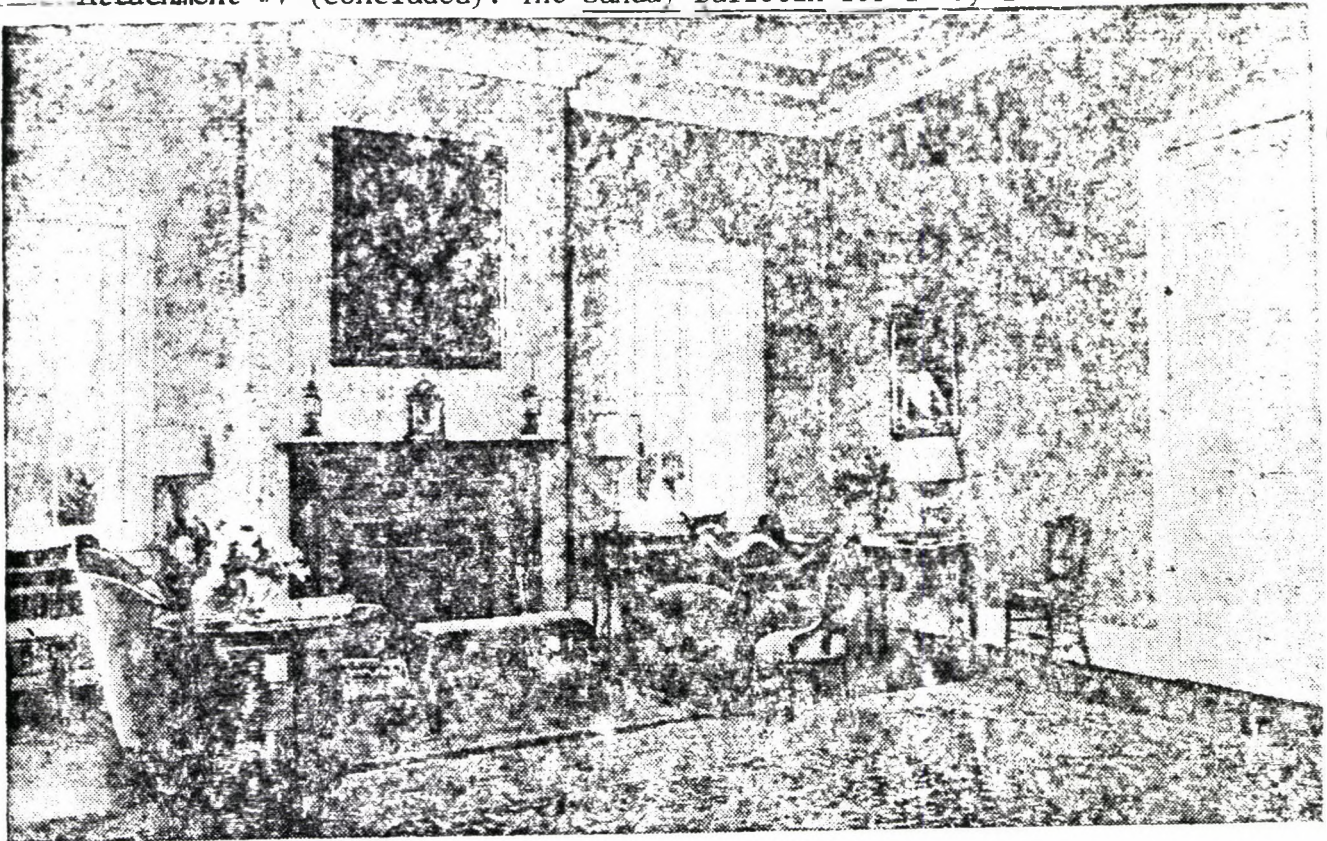
THE adding of modern conveniences was of course the most extensive task. The clearing of the grounds was quite a job, too.

Mr. Boulware had always wanted a farm. He was born on one in Illinois. So his herd of 35 registered Jersey cows is a great pleasure today. His city-bred wife takes a surprising interest

in the animals, although a farmer assumes the main responsibility.

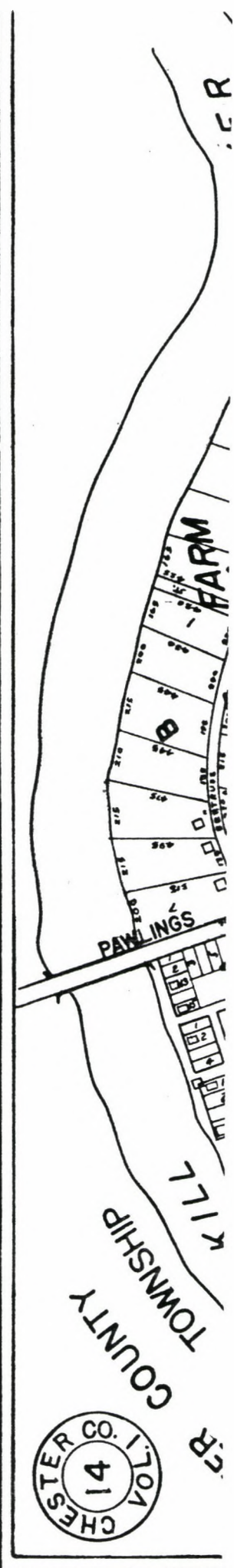
But the house is the Boulwares' real triumph. The outside trim is now repainted white. Inside walls are soft shades of green, blue and gray. Furniture, inherited from both sides of the family, looks as if it had always gone with the place, for much of it is the same period. It is well proportioned for the spacious rooms with their nine large fireplaces.

There is still a lot to do. Mrs. Boulware hopes to have flower gardens some day. Closets would be nice instead of wardrobes. But to the casual observer Walnut Hill appears very serene and authentic. Barring hurricanes, it should go happily on for another century or two.



BALLROOM with its high ornamented ceiling and marble mantel is one of the most elegant rooms in the county. It has four French doors, two huge windows. On two sides is a porch from which Valley Forge Park can be seen distinctly. Furniture, mostly family heirlooms, belonged to the Boulwares before they came to Philadelphia.

VOLUME "B" MONTGOMERY COUNTY



Attachment #8: Photocopy of a portion of Plate 13
of Franklin Survey Company, Atlas
of Montgomery County (Volume B)
(Philadelphia: 1935)

Documentation of Historic Structures at "FATLANDS FARM" and "WALNUT HILL"

(Parcels 101-68 and 101-61 of Valley Forge National Historical Park):

NOTES ON THE SOURCES

The primary sources used to document "Fatlands Farm" and "Walnut Hill" in the preceding reports were found at a number of different repositories and are available under differing conditions. A discussion of each category of records should be helpful in future efforts to study further various aspects of these National Park Service properties.

1) Deeds and mortgages -- these are available at the Montgomery County Courthouse Annex in Norristown for the period 1785 to the present. They are preserved on microfilm and are serviced in that form. As Montgomery County broke away from Philadelphia County in 1784, all deeds of that year and earlier are found only at Philadelphia City Hall (on microfilm) and in the Philadelphia City Archives (in deed books of long-hand copies). Both the Montgomery County facilities and the Philadelphia County facilities were employed in constructing the chain of title to "Fatlands Farm" and "Walnut Hill." Some problems arise when a parcel of land is bought, sold or otherwise transferred by court order. Partitions of land by order of an Orphans' Court or by Sheriff's Sale force the researcher to inquire at a Clerk of Court office or the Prothonotary's Office, where requests for 18th or 19th century records are often treated with disdain.

In the case of "Walnut Hill," more research could be undertaken profitably in Philadelphia studying the acquisition of land in Providence Township between 1715 and 1785 by Henry Pawling (I) and Henry Pawling (II). The preceding report, however, does represent a comprehensive search for relevant land transactions from 1785 to 1950, detailing the gradual break-up of the Pawling farm and demonstrating the precise location of the Henry Pawling (II) farmhouse of 1777/8. The only gap in the evidence is the court order or sheriff's sale of ca. 1845 conveying to John Price Wetherill the 157½ acre "Walnut Hill" tract purchased by his father in 1826.

In the case of "Fatlands Farm," additional research could be useful in dissecting the Morgan/Vaux transaction of 1772. A careful reconstruction of the Morgan purchases and the boundaries of each parcel of land could help locate the Morgan dwelling house. Additional research could also be useful in detailing William Bakewell's sales of "Fatlands Farm" land between 1803 and his death in 1821, sales which reduced "Fatlands" from 302 acres to the "Bakewell Farm" of 196 and 3/4 acres. This would help define the historical parameters of the National Park Service's purchase of 1983. The preceding report does trace the ownership of the "core" 200 acres of "Fatlands Farm" and is therefore the essential story of what is now part of Valley Forge National Park.

2) Tax records -- contemporary copies of both the Pennsylvania state tax and the Montgomery County local tax returns are available at the Historical Society of Montgomery County on Dekalb Street in Norristown. These date from 1785 through the early part of the 20th century. Contemporary copies of the state tax and the Philadelphia County local tax returns for a few scattered years between 1770 and 1785 are available at the Philadelphia City Archives.

Notes on the Sources (continued)

2) Tax records (continued) -- Though these tax lists document the owners and occupants of land, they are often misleading and should be used with caution. The distinction between owner and occupant is often missing and the acreage of an individual farm is often incorrectly stated (perhaps by intentional deception on the part of the taxpayer, perhaps by some agreed-upon formula for discounting certain unused or unproductive lands, a formula now unknown to the modern student). Many entries assess an individual for land only, when other records prove the existence of a house and one or more outbuildings. The entries seem primarily concerned with listing livestock, slaves/servants, luxuries (such as carriages or "riding chairs"), and occupation (for the occupation tax). Most significantly the state and local tax lists do not describe the improvements on a given farm in enough detail to assist in identifying historic structures. These primary sources should be used only with great caution in any attempt to date the construction of a building.

The 1798 U.S. Direct Tax, on the other hand, is much more helpful, particularly schedules "A" and "B." A microfilm copy of the tax returns for Montgomery County is available at the Historical Society of Montgomery County. Reference should always be made to the page numbers stamped by a mechanical device at the top of each frame of microfilm and not to the handwritten numbers which repeat from schedule to schedule and from township to township. Care must be made to distinguish owners from occupants and to interpret abbreviations by the assessors. DO NOT USE the typed transcriptions of this tax prepared by volunteers at the Historical Society. These are singularly unreliable! Take the time to wade through the microfilm itself. The preceding report represents an exhaustive study of this primary source as it documents the "Fatlands Farm" and Pawling farm properties.

3) Wills, inventories and estate accounts -- these are available in Philadelphia in the basement of City Hall Annex and in Norristown at the Department of Records, just now settling into new quarters in the "original" Sears building at Johnson Highway and Markley Street in Norristown. Henry Pawling (II) and Henry Pawling (III) died after the establishment of Montgomery County and their probate papers are in Norristown. These documents include inventories of household furniture and personal effects which would prove significant in interpreting a restored Pawling farm house. In the case of "Walnut Hill," no other probate records seemed useful, with the possible exception of those of Maria L. (Wetherill) Janeway. The wills, inventories and estate accounts of Samuel Wetherill, Jr., Rachel (Price) Wetherill, John Price Wetherill and Maria (Kane) Wetherill were probated in Philadelphia and shed no light whatsoever on "Walnut Hill." The probate papers of the husband and children of Maria L. (Wetherill) Janeway, all 20th century documents, were not examined. Further research may prove useful only in the instance of Henry Pawling (I), whose probate must have been in Philadelphia, though no search was conducted.

In the case of "Fatlands Farm," the first four owners -- Morgan, Vaux, Allen and Ewing -- sold the property well before their death. The probate papers of William Bakewell should have been filed at Norristown, but through simple oversight no search was conducted. The inventory of

Notes on the Sources (continued)

3) Wills, inventories and estate accounts (continued) -- Rachel (Price) Wetherill's household furniture and decorative arts at "Fatlands Farm" does not specify those objects room by room, but nevertheless should be consulted should further research of the "Fatlands" mansion house be undertaken. The probate papers of William Wetherill, M.D. are not useful, nor are those of his grandson, Dr. Henry E. Wetherill. The former are in Philadelphia, the latter in Norristown. The probate papers of William H. Wetherill, son of William and father of Henry E., are in Philadelphia and were not examined, again through oversight.

The Orphans' Court papers of Montgomery County were not available at the time of this study, as they had not yet been unpacked in the move of the Department of Records. Further research should, however, include the Orphans' Court files of William Wetherill M.D. (OC 20894); Maria L. (Wetherill) Janeway (OC 9515); Henry E. Wetherill, M.D. (OC 52005) and Herbert J. Wetherill (OC 57536). These may contain essential documentation on the value of various Wetherill-owned parcels of land in Lower Providence Township, including detailed accounts of buildings and other improvements.

4) Insurance surveys -- only the estate account of Rachel (Price) Wetherill makes any reference to perpetual fire insurance policies, the most likely source of detailed information on the historic structures. Many Philadelphia-area insurance companies were writing perpetual fire insurance in the 19th century. Most are long since out of business and their records destroyed. Unfortunately the estate account of R(P)W does not name the company which had issued the policies listed. A check with the archivist of the Philadelphia Contributionship and the Mutual Assurance companies, the most prominent perpetual insurers of that time, revealed that the Contributionship did not insure outside a ten mile limit of Philadelphia until 1836 and the Mutual Assurance did not do so until the 1920's. The archivist of the CIGNA Corporation reported that INA did not issue perpetual fire insurance until 1844, the same year as R(P)W's death. A complete check of the INA records failed to find a Wetherill-related perpetual fire insurance policy issued in Lower Providence Township until 1955. The records of the Philadelphia Contributionship could not be searched within the time frame of this study. The only other known collection of perpetual fire insurance policies in Philadelphia is the Franklin Fire collection at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. It, unfortunately, is not indexed and is in very poor condition.

5) 19th and 20th century property atlases and maps -- four property atlases were studied, all at the Historical Society of Montgomery County. They are as follows:

1848 -- "Map of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, From Original Surveys: Under the Direction of Wm. E. Morris, C.E." This map is not sufficiently detailed to be useful in this study. It shows two "Wetherill" houses on Pawling Road in Lower Providence Township, but without boundaries to the various parcels of land and without structure configuration for the buildings.

Notes on the Sources (continued)5) 19th and 20th century property atlases and maps (continued) --

1871 -- "Atlas of the County of Montgomery and the State of Pennsylvania, Compiled and published by G.M. Hopkins & Co., Philadelphia, 1871." This atlas presents Lower Providence Township in better detail than the map of 1848, described above, but it still contains no property boundaries and no detail of building configuration. At least seven buildings, apparently all dwelling houses, are marked "Wetherill," but there is no representation of outbuildings or farm structures. It is this last problem which renders this atlas useless for the present study.

1877 -- "Combination Atlas Map of Montgomery County, Compiled, Drawn and Published ... by J.D. Scott, Philadelphia, PA., 1877." This atlas/map has no better detail than the atlas of 1871 for the purposes of this study.

1935 -- Franklin Survey Company, "Atlas of Montgomery County (Volume B) (Philadelphia: By the Company, 1935), Plate 13: Lower Providence Township. This atlas is the first and only survey to show property boundaries and for that reason proved extremely helpful. A photocopy has been enclosed as Attachment #8 to the "Walnut Hill" portion of the estate. It is remarkable to note that the property boundaries of 1935 are the same as those of the early and mid 19th century. This atlas is not reliable, however, in regard to the size, number, and location of dwelling houses, outbuildings and farm structures on the property. This may be demonstrated by comparing the enclosed photocopy to the known location of the historic structures at "Walnut Hill."

6) Additional pertinent documents -- research was conducted at the Montgomery County Historical Society, the Library and Archives of the University of Pennsylvania and by telephone inquiry, at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. There are no personal papers of any member of the Wetherill family at any repository surveyed. There are large collections of the Wetherill "White Lead Works" business papers at the Special Collections department of the Van Pelt Library of the University of Pennsylvania and the Manuscript Department of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. No search was conducted for personal papers of the Pawling family or of any of the 18th and early 19th century owners of "Fatlands Farm" (Morgan/Vaux/Allen/Ewing/Bakewell). Additional research could be pressed forward in this area.

Mrs. Florence R.J. Young, of the Montgomery County Historical Society, was extremely helpful in servicing the extensive pamphlet, scrapbook and clippings files of that institution. Several of the most useful newspaper clippings have been photocopied and attached to the report. Without Mrs. Young's help, much of this secondary source material would have remained

Notes on the Sources (continued)

6) Additional pertinent documents -- inaccessible. The standard history of Montgomery County -- Theodore W. Bean, ed., History of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania 2 Vols. (Philadelphia: Everts & Peck, 1884) -- did not supply any useful information in its sections on Providence and Lower Providence townships. This is surprising, especially in regard to the Wetherills. They were a very prominent, wealthy family, whose estates were among the most grand in Montgomery County in the 19th century. It can only be assumed that the Wetherills did not wish to participate in Bean's work. The recent update of Bean's History is Jean Barth Toll and Michael J. Schwager, eds., Montgomery County: The Second Hundred Years 2 vols. (Norristown: The Montgomery County Federation of Historical Societies, 1983). Its section on Lower Providence Township does not "remember" the Wetherills in much detail and describes the rapid urbanization of the township in the post-1945 period, rather than try to study the last century evenly.