

# Strategic Landscapes Preservation Plan: Rearguard Defense & Strategic Retreat

## Preserving the Brandywine Battlefield

Delaware County, PA



Prepared by  
Delaware County  
Planning Department  
&  
JMA, CCRG Company

Funded by  
The American Battlefield  
Protection Program  
(ABPP Grant Number  
GA-2287-13-007)



August 2015



The 7th Pennsylvania  
Regiments  
Brandywine Flag



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# Executive Summary

On September 11, 1777, British General William Howe and his professional army engaged General George Washington and his citizen soldiers along the banks of the Brandywine River about 30 miles southwest of Philadelphia. Part of a larger strategy known as the Philadelphia Campaign, the Battle of Brandywine was one of the earliest and largest battles of the American Revolution, encompassing some 30,000 British and American soldiers. The battle lasted from sunup to sundown, instantly changing the character of a quiet farming community that consisted predominately of Quakers. Although the Battle of Brandywine was a loss for the Americans, they proved that they had the resiliency to withstand the British, increasing French support of the American cause.

In 2011, working with the Brandywine Battlefield Task Force, Chester County received an American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) grant for the completion of a Preservation Plan for the entire 35,000 acre Brandywine Battlefield. This Plan, *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan: Revolution in the Peaceful Valley*, includes chapters on Land Conservation, Historic Resources, Public Access, Interpretation, and Implementation. The Plan identifies 13 strategic landscapes to be the focus of further studies and initiatives.

The Delaware County Planning Department (DCPD) secured a grant in 2013 from the ABPP to further investigate the importance of two local actions in the larger Battle of Brandywine that took place in Delaware County on September 11, 1777. The *Strategic Retreat* is located in the area from Concord Meetinghouse up to Thornton while the *Rearguard Defense* is near Dilworthtown. These Strategic Landscapes were chosen for study as they represent integral areas of the final portions of the Battle of Brandywine.

The Strategic Preservation Plans for these two Strategic Landscapes are non-invasive studies designed to engage communities in conversations about the importance of the area's role during the battle and build consensus on ways these strategic areas can be preserved, promoted, and interpreted. The purpose of the Strategic Landscapes Plan was to conduct additional historic research to better understand specific portions of the battle and to provide focused guidance on how to promote and protect the battlefield in these areas. The Plan includes historical research, mapping, non-invasive archeological analysis, and planning and interpretation strategies. This document is meant to be a tool to be used by the general public and municipalities in future planning initiatives, as well as investigating how this battlefield can initiate economic development efforts while reinforcing historical organizations' existing educational outreach.

The planning process included an extensive public participation element, including working with a steering committee, convening public meetings, keeping in touch with municipal representatives, involving landowners, and general outreach. Three Working Groups worked closely with DCPD, meeting throughout the project. Because landowners and business owners have a special interest and viewpoint, one Working Group was dedicated to them. To assist with the interpretation portion, another Working Group was formed that consisted of professionals from historic sites and anyone else with knowledge or interest. Delaware County and Chester County continued to meet with the Historic Resource Subcommittee of the Brandywine Battlefield Task Force that was formed during the 2013 Preservation Plan.

A detailed description of the two Strategic Landscapes, including their historic significance, integrity, and threats, is provided in Chapter Two of this document. The boundaries were based upon troop movement, history of the land, and topographic features, including hills and valleys. These boundaries are not limited to just where troops fought and walked, but also include some of the surrounding land which gave a context to the troop movement. This context probably influenced where troops did march. The additional historic research led to a better understanding of the troop movement. During previous research, it was identified that Major General Nathanael Greene's troops formed an arc to the east of present-day Route 202 in Thornbury Township; however, upon further analysis it was concluded that the troops formed to the west of Route 202.

While these Strategic Landscapes have seen development, there are still open landscapes and viewsheds that retain the rural atmosphere that would have been experienced by the soldiers. These remaining areas are possibly threatened by the major growth and development happening in the western portion of Delaware County, including large commercial developments along Route 202 and Baltimore Pike and large residential developments.

DCPD hired the Cultural Resource Management firm JMA, a CCRG Company, (JMA) to conduct an Archeological Design Analysis. This analysis was research-based and did not require physical access to private lands or ground disturbance. The project's goal was to verify and build upon previous planning efforts, including document-based as well as ground disturbance studies. The project team reached out to property owners to discover information on archeological findings as well as physically walking significant portions of the land. The findings of the Archeological Design Analysis is explored by JMA in Chapter Three of this document, including analysis of the defining features of the battlefield, assessment of potential archeological remains, and new insights into the battlefield.

As outlined in Chapter Four, research was conducted on individual historic resources throughout the two Strategic Landscapes. The chapter provides a picture of the various historic resources within these Landscapes. Many of these historic resources have been documented, but as they represent three different municipalities they were documented in different time periods, contained different levels of detail, and have been stored in different places. Our goal was to

establish, at least for a select group of battlefield resources, a review of all data previously collected and to centralize it in one file, format it in a consistent manner, and update it to reflect new information. Eight priority resources were chosen and updated Historic Resource Survey Forms were completed for all eight resources. These forms can be found in Appendix D.

With the better understanding of the history, historic significance, and existing conditions of the Landscapes, DCPD explored different strategies on how to best preserve, promote, and protect these areas. Chapter Five provides a detailed analysis of the current planning strategies that the three townships already have in place that could help preserve the Strategic Landscapes. The Chapter also explores potential strategies that could further promote good stewardship of the battlefield. After discussing with the municipalities and the public, DCPD determined that the municipalities are not currently considering major revisions to their ordinances that would affect historic resources. Many of the major landowners were involved in efforts in the 1990s to protect open space in the battlefield and are completely aware of the tools, like easements. Therefore, DCPD did not focus the efforts of this project on those tools but instead focused on encouraging public recognition and stewardship of battlefield protection. The chapter explores a wide range of ideas, including using current planning strategies for battlefield protection and some non-traditional planning concepts. These concepts include:

- Public Education
- Building Conservation
- Voluntary Design Guidelines
- Archeology Education
- Certified Local Government
- Cluster developments
- Transfer of Development Rights
- Existing tools to promote Agriculture
- Funding Opportunities

While not a typical topic in the planning field, interpretation is included in Chapter Six because the most basic way of protecting battlefields is for the public to recognize the importance of the history of the battle and of the battlefield. The *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan* identified an Interpretation Network that would allow visitors to experience the historic landscapes and resources within the battlefield while at the same time respecting the privacy of its residents. This Strategic Preservation Plan takes the concept further, looking at the details of how this can be accomplished.

The Interpretation Working Group built upon the sites identified in the *Plan*, including incorporating sites that were not included in previous efforts. The Brandywine Battlefield Park, while outside of the Strategic Landscapes boundaries, was incorporated in this effort because it should be a vital portion of any interpretation effort. DCPD took all the ideas, facts, and concerns that were discussed by the group and created an Interpretive Network of different themes that would be communicated in a simple, self-contained manner. Sample brochures,

found in Appendix B, were created to provide an example of how these themes could be presented. The chapter includes an interpretation plan for the Rearguard Defense and Strategic Retreat grouped by the following themes:

- General Understanding of the Battle of Brandywine: The Battle as a Pivotal Event in the American Revolution
- Living to Fight Another Day: Strategic Retreating as a Tactical Maneuver
- Saving the American Army from Disaster: the Rearguard Defense
- Treating the Injured: Exploring Delaware County's Role
- From Encampment to Retreat: The Tremendous Impact on Delaware County Communities
- Remembering those that Sacrificed: Rearguard Defense & Strategic Retreat
- War in a Peaceful Valley: The Quaker Community and the Battle of Brandywine

DCPD includes an Action Plan in the final chapters that focuses on short-term recommendations that could be accomplished with little cost. The *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan* looked at the large picture of planning into the future. Since the Strategic Landscapes Plan allows us to focus more intently on a very particular portion of the bigger landscape, DCPD felt it was important to focus the recommendations on more immediate actions. Mid/Long-term recommendations are also included but are not expanded upon.





# Introduction & Background

The Delaware County Planning Department (DCPD) secured a grant in 2013 from the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) to further investigate the importance of two local actions in the larger Battle of Brandywine on September 11, 1777; namely the *Strategic Retreat* near the Concord Meetinghouse and along Thornton Road in Concord and Thornbury townships and the *Rearguard Defense* near Dilworthtown in Chadds Ford. These Landscapes were chosen for study as they represent integral areas of the final portions of the Battle of Brandywine. This project was undertaken in conjunction with four parallel plans currently underway in Chester County.

## Historical Background

### *The Brandywine Valley*



*The Battlefield is located about 30 miles west of “Old City” Philadelphia which was the city’s center during the 18th century.*

The Battle of Brandywine was one of the earliest and largest battles of the American Revolution, one that encompassed some 30,000 British and American soldiers. The battle lasted from sunup to sundown on September 11, 1777, instantly changing the character of a quiet farming community that contained a large Quaker population. Although the Battle of Brandywine was a loss for the Americans, it proved that they had the resiliency to withstand the British, resulting in an increase in French support of the American cause.

Surrounding the Brandywine River in Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania is an area, known as the Brandywine Valley, of hundreds of acres of rolling hills that was home to large estates and farmsteads. The Religious Society of Friends, commonly known as Quakers, broke away from the Church of England in 1652. Quakers were often persecuted in England for their religious beliefs, causing many to flee to the colonies. One of the most well-known Quakers in the colonies was

William Penn, the proprietor of Pennsylvania. Charles II granted Penn land in the colonies in return for a debt that the King owed Penn’s father. William Penn named the land Pennsylvania after his father. Penn intended Pennsylvania to be a place of religious toleration for Quakers and all others.

Several of the beliefs of the Colonial Quakers set them apart from the larger culture of the colonies, including their plain dress, opposition to slavery, and their belief of pacifism. While individually some Quakers did support the cause for independence, as a whole Quakers refused to participate in anything

to do with the war and even expelled individuals from their Meetings for advocating the struggle. Because the Quakers as a community did not actively support either side, both armies distrusted Quakers and saw them as an enemy. However, while they did not take part in the Battle of Brandywine, some Quakers did care for the wounded following the battle. The sudden invasion by the two armies had a lasting impact on the quiet Quaker community in the Brandywine Valley.

## *The Philadelphia Campaign of 1777*

Following the Declaration of Independence by the thirteen colonies, the Continental Army fought the British in several major engagements in and around New York. The Americans lost battles at Long Island, Harlem Heights, and White Plains. In an effort to secure a victory before the contracts of the soldiers in his army expired, Washington led them across the Delaware on Christmas day for a victory against the British at Trenton. This victory along with one at Princeton forced Howe to retreat to New York City for the winter.

British Maj. Gen. John Burgoyne's plan for the Campaign centered on New York, but General Howe had plans of his own. General Howe launched his campaign to capture the American capital of Philadelphia in July 1777, when his army of some 15,000 men loaded 260 ships with the intention of sailing toward Philadelphia. Howe decided not to sail directly up the Delaware River but to go the long way around on the Chesapeake Bay, landing near Elkton, Maryland.

Washington, who was camped in Wilmington, DE, sent troops to harass Howe's men at several locations, including Cooch's Bridge. Washington then posted his army in strategic positions along the Brandywine Creek near Chads's Ford (the historic name of the ford).

## *Battle of Brandywine*



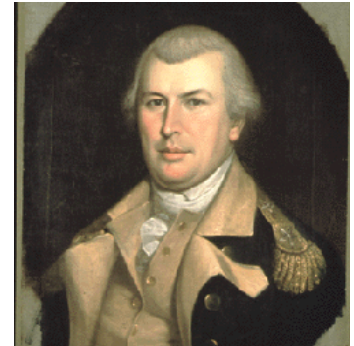
<sup>1</sup> Gen. Sir William Howe (19th century), H. B. Hall

On September 11, 1777, Howe once again employed a flanking maneuver against Washington, sending Lt. Gen. Wilhelm, Baron von Knyphausen with 5,000 men towards Chads's Ford while he and Maj. Gen. Cornwallis took 7,500 men north and east to attack the exposed American right flank from behind. Knyphausen pushed against Lt. Col. John Maxwell's forces along the Great Road forcing them back across the River. The two armies exchanged some artillery fire, giving Howe opportunity to come around behind.

Washington received differing accounts of the British locations. Col. Moses Hazen sent word that the British were marching to fords further north on the Brandywine River, which was confirmed by Lt. Col. James Ross. Washington realized this provided the opportunity to employ a counterattack to destroy the smaller forces across the Brandywine River, which Washington began to

initiate when Maj. Joseph Spear reported that he had just been in that portion of the county and saw nothing of the British. Upon this information, Washington pulled back his attack across the Brandywine River near Baltimore Pike believing he would be facing the entire British army. Finally at the last moment, Washington received enough intelligence to assure him Howe was performing a flanking maneuver and coming upon his right. Stephen and Stirling's divisions and later Major General John Sullivan's were sent to Birmingham Hill to defend the right flank. There was some confusion by the Americans in making a line of defense. Sullivan went too far west and north of Stirling and Stephen's position. While trying to correct their positions, Sullivan's troops were attacked by the British, forcing them to retreat. The British were then able to flank the left side of Stirling's troops.

Once Washington realized the status of the battle on his right flank was critical, he left the area near the village of modern-day Chadds Ford to supervise Sullivan. By the time Washington and Nathanael Greene arrived, the line was broken and the forces were retreating. Greene was ordered to form a rearguard defensive line to stop the advancing British troops, allowing for the Americans to more easily retreat. Greene had his troops and some of the retreating troops form a line parallel to Wilmington Road, near Harvey Road, with a 90 degree bend at the end while another group formed an arc further west. Extensive firing commenced once the British came upon the defensive. Greene was untimely forced to retreat, but not before a last stand that prevented further devastation of the American troops.



"Portrait of Revolutionary War General Nathanael Greene, (1783), Charles Willson Peale

While Washington was with the right flank, Knyphausen pushed across the River forcing the American left to fall back. Washington's Army in the Chadds Ford village area conducted a retreat east along US Route 1 while many of the troops that fought at Birmingham Hill retreated along Thornton Road, through Thornton, and then east on US Route 1 towards Chester.

## *Following Brandywine*

After Brandywine, British and American forces engaged two additional times. At what is known as the Battle of the Clouds, Washington was unexpectedly hit by 13,000 British and 5,000 Hessians; however, the battle was cut short due to a torrential rainstorm that ruined much of Washington's gunpowder supplies. Several days later, Anthony Wayne was secretly sent to attack the British near the Paoli Tavern in Malvern, but the British learned of the plans and surprised Wayne's camp in a pre-dawn bayonet attack, which came to be known as the "Paoli Massacre."

Following Paoli, Howe marched to Valley Forge Village and feigned an attack by marching upstream. He then reversed his army and marched straight to Philadelphia and captured the city on September 26, 1777, almost unopposed.

# Previous Planning Efforts

Delaware County has been involved in planning efforts for the Brandywine Battlefield for over 50 years, beginning in 1961 when the battlefield was designated a National Historic Landmark, the highest level of national historical designation that can be bestowed upon a resource. The Landmark designation includes six municipalities and two counties. The majority of the National Historic Landmark is private property. The boundaries of the battlefield were later certified on May 25, 1977. In the 1980s, those involved with the battlefield at the municipal level identified a need for additional information about the battlefield and the resources within it. This led to the development of the *Brandywine Battlefield National Historic Landmark Cultural Resources Management Study* in 1989. This two volume report included a detailed history, an analysis of above ground and below ground cultural resources, and recommendations for preserving these resources. A summary of that report, *Brandywine Battlefield: The National Historic Landmark Revisited*, was published in 1992.



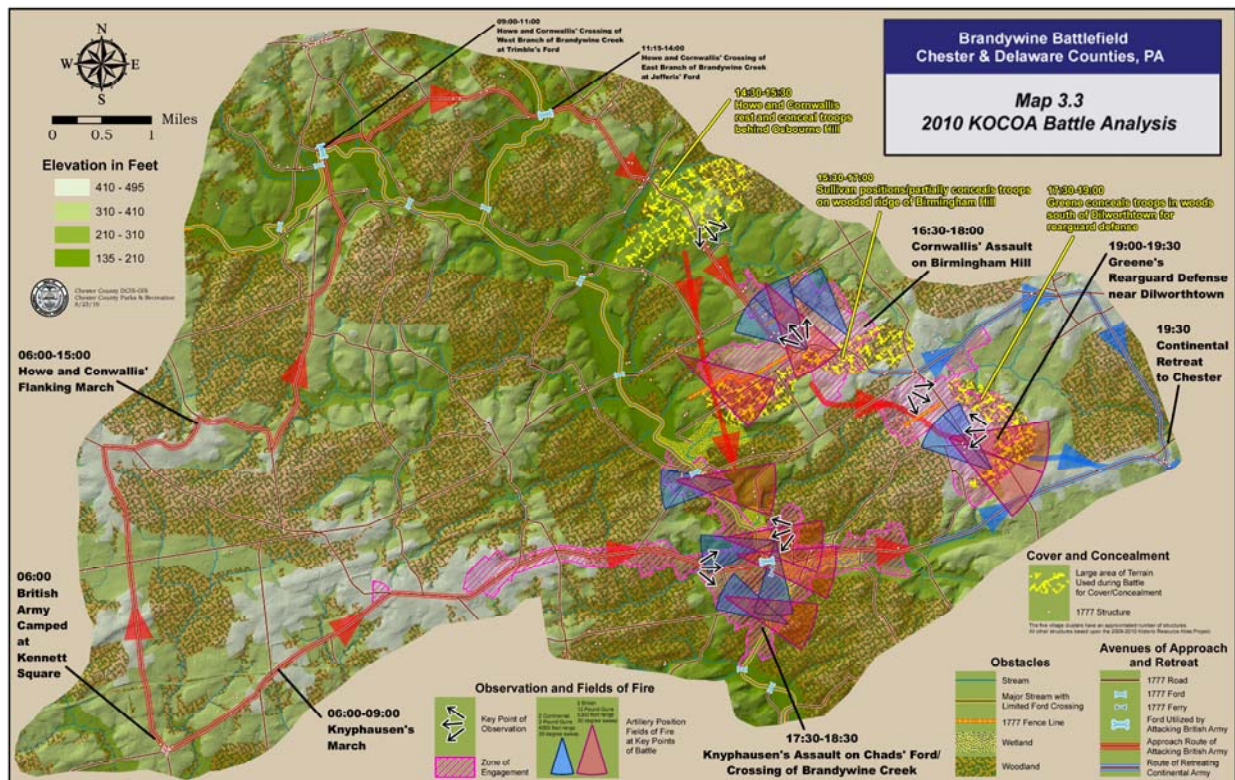
By the 1990's suburban development was starting to severely threaten land within the Landmark. Recognizing the need for better planning efforts, the Brandywine Battlefield Task Force (BBTF) was formed. This organization is a volunteer group of municipal, state, and federal representatives who aim to preserve the national landmark planning area, educate the public, and develop interpretation of the battle and its historic and physical setting. The Task Force has undertaken a number of activities over the years to promote the battlefield. These activities include bus tours and brochures as well as *Battlefield Protection Strategies: A Guide for Brandywine Battlefield Communities* and *Battlefield Sign Guidelines* in 2000. The BBTF coordinated efforts with the Brandywine Conservancy, a non-profit land trust whose mission is to conserve the natural and cultural resources of the Brandywine River watershed. Through their combined efforts along

with efforts of the Natural Lands Trust, approximately 550 acres had been protected by 1999, which includes the 51-acre Sandy Hollow Park owned by Birmingham Township. Between 2000 and 2007, approximately 500 additional acres were protected.

The original National Historic Landmark boundaries focused mostly on the three main engagement areas; however, today the National Park Service uses a broader definition of a battlefield to include a larger context encompassing troop movement and minor skirmishes leading up to and following the main engagement. The boundary of a battlefield can also include the surrounding setting of the battle because the setting provides an understanding of what participants experienced, and may have influenced the battle itself. Therefore, a battlefield boundary does not necessarily indicate that soldiers fought on every square foot within the boundary but can also include associated areas representing the social and cultural influences on the battle.



Beginning in 2007, Chester County, with the assistance of the Brandywine Battlefield Task Force and Delaware County, undertook a Study to re-examine the battlefield site to consider this broader definition of battlefields using a military terrain analysis. The National Park Service and the American Battlefield Protection Program use a process developed by the US military known by the acronym KOCOA for evaluating the military significance of battlefield terrains. KOCOA stands for “Key Terrain, Observation and Fields of Fire, Cover and Concealment, Obstacles, Avenues of Approach.” This analysis was depicted on several maps and was used to identify threatened parcels of land, map historic resources, and create a GIS-based animated map of troop movement.



In 2011, Chester County received a grant for the completion of a Preservation Plan for the entire 35,000 acres of the Brandywine Battlefield. This Plan, *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan: Revolution in the Peaceful Valley*, includes chapters on Land Conservation, Historic Resources, Public Access, Interpretation, and Implementation. DCPD provided support and technical assistance to Chester County for the Preservation Plan.



# Strategic Landscapes Preservation Plan in Delaware County

Strategic Landscapes Preservation Plans were recommended in the *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan* as key next steps. These Plans take a context approach to battlefield study. Creating Strategic Landscape Preservation Plans is a tool to highlight key episodes in the battle and link them to actual landscapes in which they occurred. Studying the natural terrain, features, and the historic built fabric still extant today greatly aids in increased understanding of the holistic battle experience and helps answer questions such as:

- How did the terrain affect each army's strategies?
- Where did troops travel before and after their skirmish?
- What paths did the troops take?

Supported by recommendations of the *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan*, DCPD was able to secure additional funding from the ABPP to create a Strategic Landscape Preservation Plan for both the *Strategic Retreat* and the *Rearguard Defense*, as depicted in the following maps. These Strategic Preservation Plans are non-invasive studies designed to engage communities in conversations about the importance of the area's role during the battle and build consensus on ways these strategic areas can be preserved, promoted, and interpreted.

This Strategic Landscapes Preservation Plan includes additional historical research specifically on the rearguard defense and American retreat. Further historic resource documentation was also conducted on sites that were identified in the *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan* but needed additional information. Delaware County's Strategic Landscapes Preservation Plan also includes an Archeological Design Analysis component conducted by the Cultural Resource Management firm JMA, a CCRG Company (JMA). The intention of the Archeology Design Analysis was research-based and did not require ground disturbance or physical access to private land. The goal was to verify and build upon previous planning efforts.

The planning process included an extensive public participation element, including working with a steering committee, convening public and working group meetings, keeping in touch with municipal representatives, involving landowners, and general outreach. An Interpretation Working Group consisting of representatives from historic sites, historical societies, and the public aided DCPD in expanding upon the Interpretation chapter of the current Plan, to create recommendations targeted to the *Strategic Retreat* and the *Rearguard Defense*. DCPD formed a second Working Group for landowners, who have a special interest in and knowledge of the area. DCPD worked with both groups to create community-based planning strategies for the two Strategic Landscapes.

This document is meant to be a tool to be used by the general public and municipalities in future planning initiatives, as well as to demonstrate how this battlefield can initiate economic development efforts through heritage tourism and help promote existing educational outreach of local historical organizations.

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<sup>i</sup> Emmet Collection of Manuscripts, New York Public Library, wikipedia.org, accessed October, 2012. Public Domain.

<sup>ii</sup> Independence National Historic Park, wikipedia.org, accessed October, 2012. Public Domain.



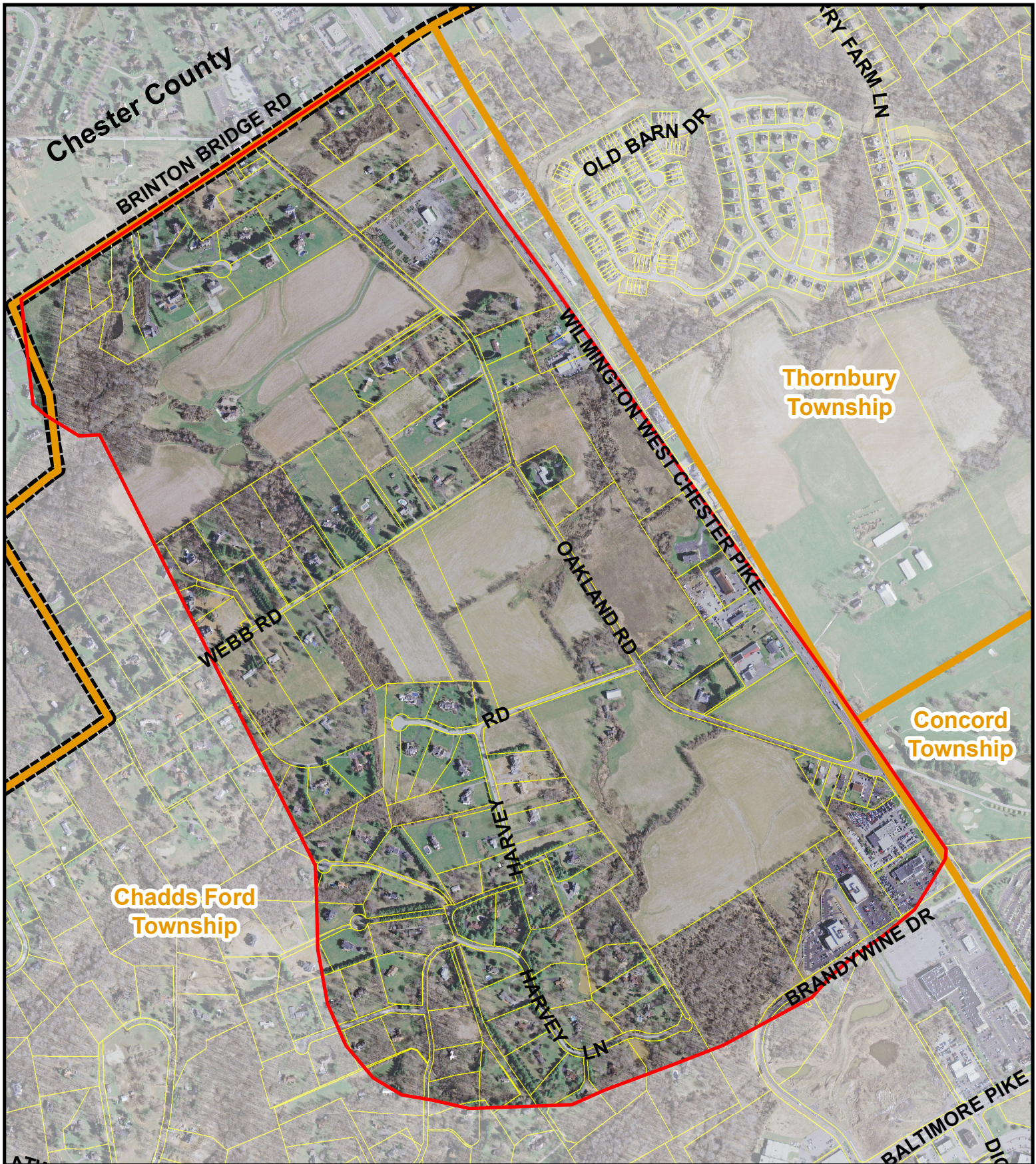
# Rearguard Defense

N 0 500 1,000 Feet  
Prepared by Delaware County  
Planning Department



- Rearguard Defense
- Parcels
- Municipal Boundaries
- County Boundary

Disclaimer  
This map is for analytical purposes only. The reliability of this map depends on the accuracy of the underlying data sources which have not been verified.





# Strategic Retreat



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Feet

Prepared by Delaware County  
Planning Department



Strategic Retreat



Parcels



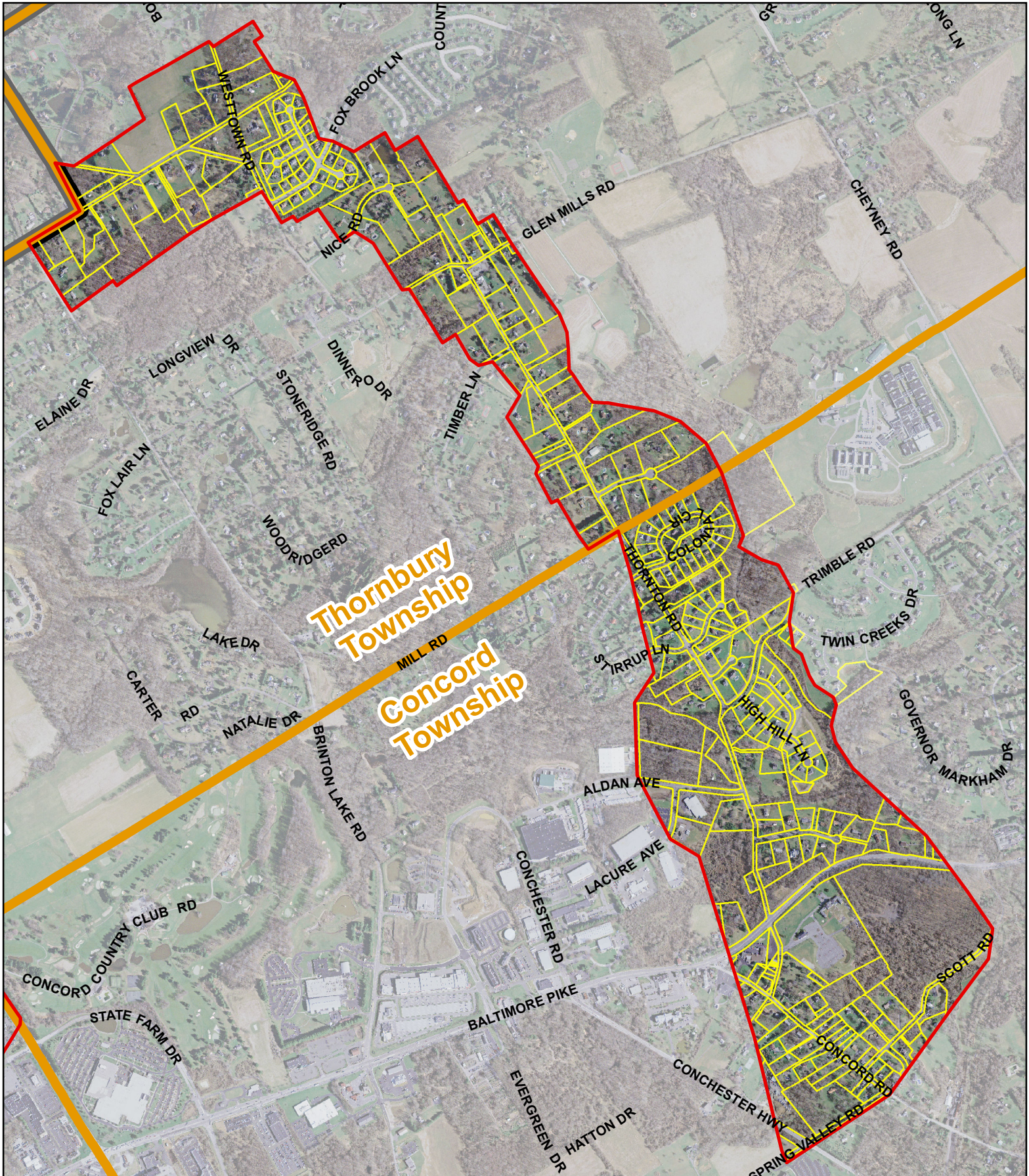
Municipal Boundaries



County Boundary

## Disclaimer

This map is for analytical purposes only. The reliability of this map depends on the accuracy of the underlying data sources which have not been verified.







# Historic Significance & Existing Conditions

The *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan: Revolution in the Peaceful Valley* identified 13 strategic landscapes to be the focus of further studies and initiatives. These 13 areas, referred to as strategic landscapes, are areas where significant events of the battle occurred and where additional research is needed to better understand the battle. The shapes of the strategic landscapes were based upon records of troop movement, the history of the land, and topographic features, including hills and valleys. These boundaries are not limited to just where troops fought and walked but also include some of the surrounding land, thereby providing context to the troop movement. Also, strategic landscapes boundaries included clusters of historic resources, which for the purpose of the *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan* are defined as built resources that stood at the time of the battle. The boundaries of the strategic landscapes were meant to be studied further which would lead to a better understanding of the areas and potential changes to the boundaries.



Viewshed still existing in the battlefield

The Rearguard Defense and Strategic Retreat were specifically identified because they represent key areas of the final portions of the Battle of Brandywine. The Rearguard Defense is the area where the Americans performed a final push against the British, allowing the remainder of the American army to retreat more easily. The Strategic Retreat reflects the Americans' retreat along Thornton Road and Route 1, which enabled them to rally again to face the British another day. An important purpose of this study is to not only do more detailed research on these two vital strategies that ultimately affected the outcome of the Revolution, but to educate the public to clarify that the "retreat" was not a failure but a legitimate battle strategy that paid off.

## Rearguard Defense

The final boundary of the Rearguard Defense is based upon the current understanding of troop location as well as the surrounding landscape to provide context to the encounter. The Rearguard Defense is located in Chadds Ford Township. The eastern boundary approximately follows Route 202 from Brandywine Drive to Brinton Bridge Road. The northern boundary runs along Brinton Bridge

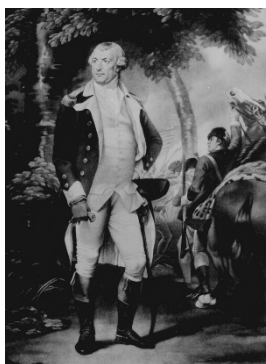


Road from Route 202 to New Street Road. The western boundary does not follow any road but is approximately 3500 feet west of Route 202. The southern boundary extends along Brandywine Drive.

This boundary is slightly different than the one identified in the 2013 *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan*. The boundary from the 2013 *Plan* included a large piece of property east of Route 202 near the Oakland Road intersection. Upon further analysis during this project, it was determined that troops were not positioned that far to the east during Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene's formation for the Rearguard Defense. Therefore, the boundaries for the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape were adjusted to omit the portion that did not play as significant of a role.

## Statement of Significance

Besides confirming the location of troops during this last push by the Americans, this area was also chosen as a Strategic Landscape in order to highlight the significance of this encounter to the overall battle and Campaign of 1777.



Maj. Gen.  
Greene\*

Maj. Gen. Greene and other American officers gathered in this area around 5:30 PM to plan the final phase of the battle. Greene was ordered to cover the retreat. Greene and his men did a major push against the British that finally halted their advance from around 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Having come from Birmingham Hill, exhausted British and Hessian troops were taken by great surprise at the discovery of Greene's troops forming in two strong lines. They maintained their ground until dark, allowing time for the remainder of the American army to perform a more orderly retreat.

Past planning efforts have differed slightly on who should receive credit for the rearguard stance. While Brig. Gen. George Weedon's brigade was vital in the effort, most recent publications concerning the battle give the overall credit to

Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene. Greene was ordered to cover the retreat, the difficulty of which would have required the experience of a veteran soldier.<sup>ii</sup> Greene himself questioned Washington for not acknowledging that he saved the army from disaster. Washington commented that he did not want to be criticized for praising his fellow Virginian troops too much.<sup>iii</sup>

Besides Greene's own account, other accounts recognize that had Greene failed to stop the British in this field, it would have meant disaster for the American troops. Gen. Sullivan stated that "...had it not been for this [i.e. the Rearguard Defense] the Retreat must have been attended with great Loss."<sup>iv</sup> While the overall battle was a loss for the Americans, it is important to note the strong stance that occurred at the final portion of the battle.

## Updated Troop Location

During the previous planning efforts, it was identified that the troops formed an arc to the east of Route 202, in Thornbury Township. The exact location of that arc was identified as needing additional study, which was one of the reasons that the area was designated a Strategic Landscape. The Delaware



# Rearguard Defense Troop Movement

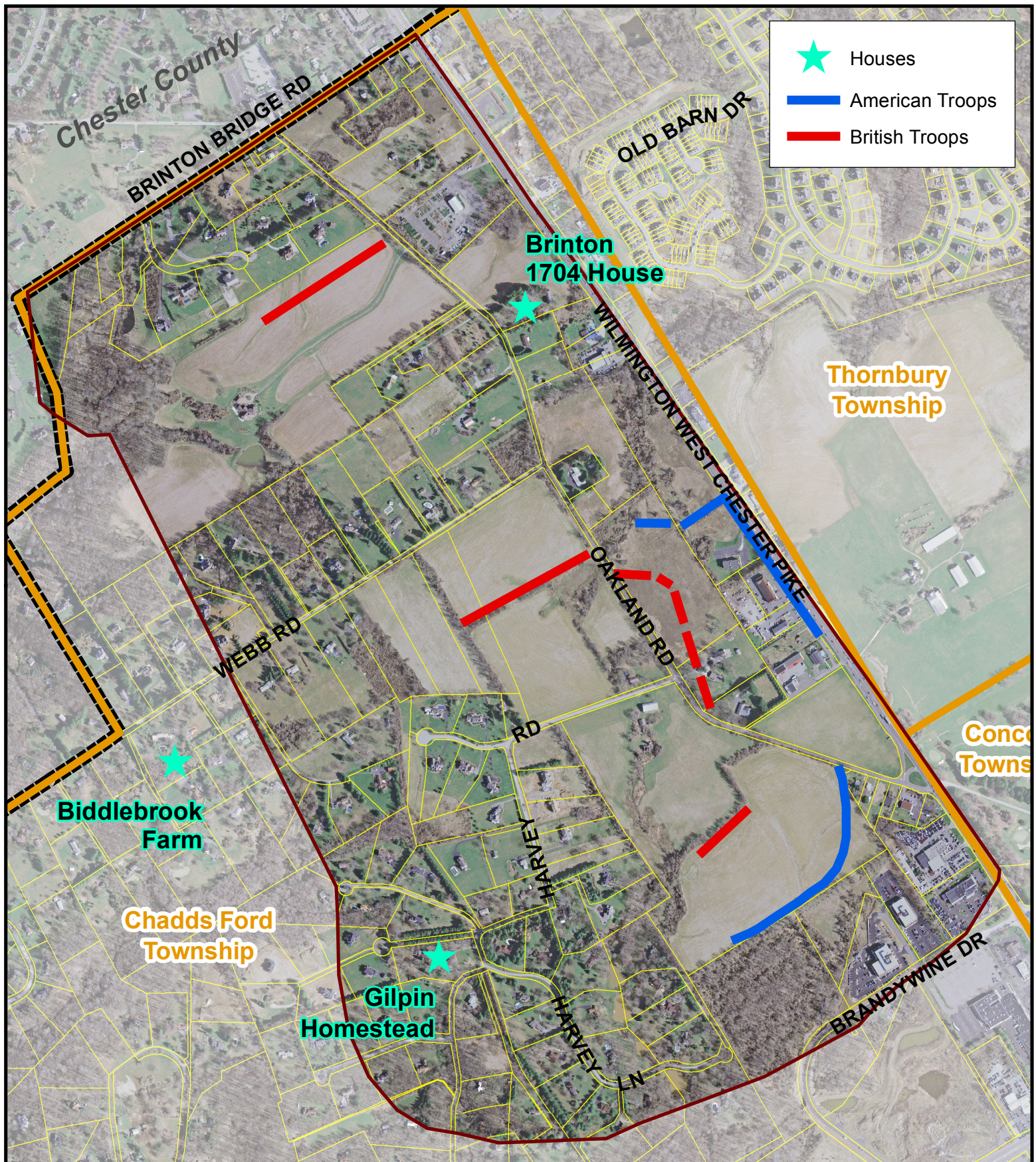


0 500 1,000 Feet  
Prepared by Delaware County  
Planning Department



- Rearguard Defense
- Parcels
- Municipal Boundaries
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Disclaimer  
This map is for analytical purposes only. The reliability of this map depends on the accuracy of the underlying data sources which have not been verified.

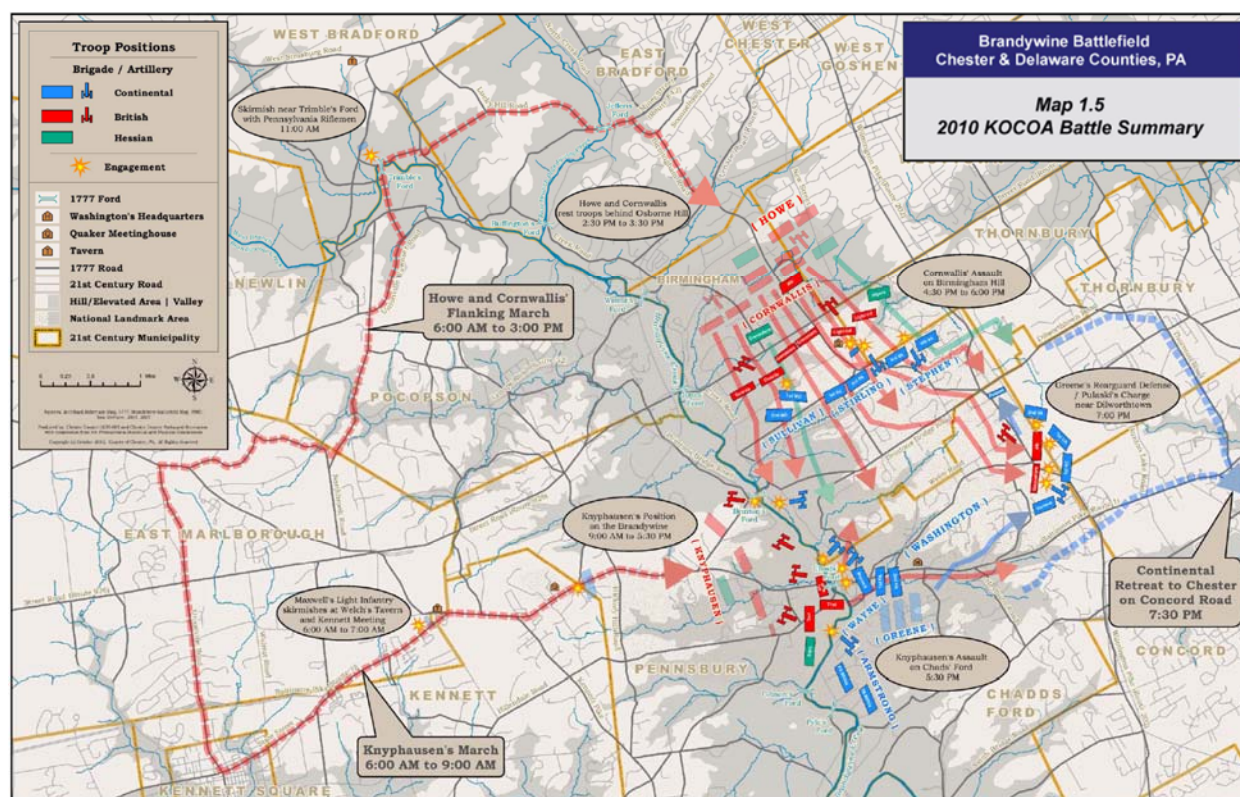




County Planning Department and JMA conducted additional research on the troop locations. This research compared several of the main sources used for the 2011 Animated Map and the 2013 *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan*. These sources included historic maps of the battle by Archibald Robertson, J. Montessor, William Faden, J. André and F. Werner. Secondary sources referenced were books by Thomas McGuire, Samuel Smith, and Michael Harris.

New information since 2010 has helped refine some of the previously held notions of where battle actions occurred. The recent study relied heavily upon the newly discovered map by Archibald Robertson that was drawn following the battle because of its detailed account of the final portion of the battle. In addition, Thomas McGuire and Michael Harris' books were also used extensively because of their use of the new information that has been discovered.

DCPD and JMA reviewed current topographic maps as well as historic landscapes. JMA researched information on where and what type of artifacts have been discovered in the area over the last few decades. (Refer to Chapter 3 for a detailed explanation.)



Through this additional research, it was determined that the location of the Rearguard Defense identified on the Animated Map and the 2013 *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan* (depicted above) needed to be corrected. Analysis concluded that Major General Greene's troops formed to the west of present-day Route 202. As depicted in the Rearguard Defense Troop Movement Map, this formation was not just one arc, as seen in previous planning efforts, but two different formations. One was a vertical line parallel to Oakland Road with a 90 degree curve at the top. Another line formed southwest of the vertical line in a concave arc. After careful analysis, it was determined that the



American vertical line ran almost to the location of present-day Route 202 starting north of Harvey Road. The American concave arc began near the intersection of Harvey Road and Route 202.

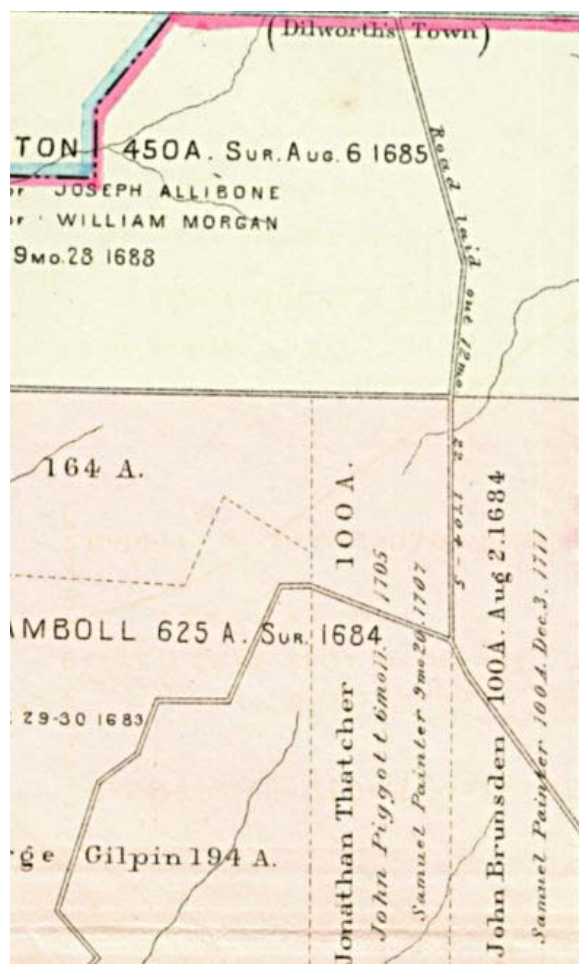
## Changing Landscapes

Prior to World War II, the Brandywine Valley was highly agricultural with little change in the landscape, which is evident from reviewing historic atlases. Between 1848 and 1913, the battlefield land remained virtually unchanged, the large lots simply changing owners over the years. The boundaries of these lots coincide with land grants dating to the 1600s. In the 1840s, the largest landowners included the Dilworths at the southwest corner of Brintons Bridge Road and modern Oakland Road; the Brintons on the southeast corner of Brintons Bridge Road and Oakland Road; and Gideon Williamson on the northwest and southwest corner of Oakland Road and Harvey Road (now known as the Craig farm). Other landowners in the area included the Darlings and Harveys. By 1870, F. C. Brinton acquired the land at the southwest corner of Oakland and Brintons Bridge. Henry Fossit acquired the land of Darlington. In 1892, J. Kirkpatrick was the owner of the land on the southwest of Oakland and Brinton Bridge. Gideon Williamson's land had passed to J.P. Williamson.

Even by 1934, the land remained relatively unchanged.<sup>v</sup> The Kirkpatricks still owned the property southwest of Oakland from Brintons Bridge to Dilworthtown Road.

The property owned by Williamson was acquired by the Craig family. During the public meetings for this project, a local resident related to the Craig family spoke about growing up on this property in the 1950s through 1970s. The property was a farm with a portion near Harvey Road being used as an apple orchard, which is also visible on the 1958 aerial. Greenhouses were located on the southern portion of the property, where Harvey Road bends and heads south.

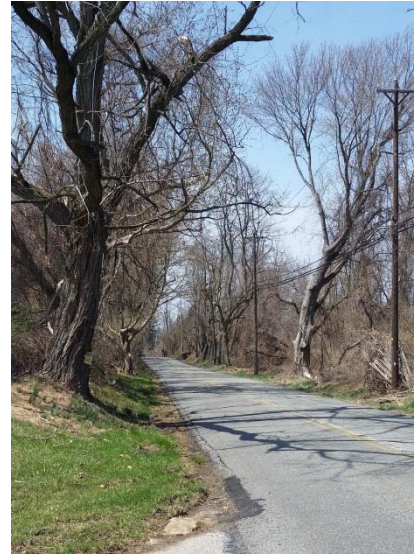
By 1970, development began north of Dilworthtown, just beyond the boundaries of the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape boundaries.<sup>vi</sup> Webb Road saw single-family homes develop in the 1950s. Beginning in the 1970s, some heavy single-family residential development occurred on Harvey Road, west of the Craig farm. Culs-de-sac were also extended from Harvey Road itself, such as Glennoll Drive in the late 1970s and the c. 2000s development along Dansfield Lane. Brintons Bridge Road has a history of commercial development near the five point intersection; however, major residential development did not occur off of that road until the construction of Bellefair Lane in the 1990s.



*Rearguard Defense: 1882 Atlas of early Land Grants and Patents.*

## Integrity

Despite the development pressure, the majority of the Rearguard Defense area has been retained as open space. Oakland Road, while seen as an urban collector road - distributing trips from the arterials through the area to the ultimate destination - still retains a rural feel. Development has occurred near the road but so far has been set in a manner that it is not highly obtrusive. This is contrasted to the adjacent road to the east, Route 202, which is the edge of the Rearguard boundaries. This principal arterial, four-lane, state road contains more commercial development, ranging from office centers to retail stores and gas stations. While the road has seen large developments, it still retains several large, open lots. In addition, the developments contain vegetation buffers along the road edge and



Viewshed of Oakland Road

throughout the developments.



Viewshed along Harvey Road

The Craig farm at Harvey Road, off Oakland Road, is still an active farm although the orchard is no longer there. The farmhouse and outbuildings still stand. A small piece of property on the east side above Webb Road is unofficially protected by the Brinton Association of America, who preserves the building and property as a historic site.

## Threats



Development along Route 202

Currently, a large piece of property on the west side of Oakland Road is in the process of being developed as a clustered Planned Residential Development (PRD) of mostly single-family houses. A commercial development is proposed for the east side of Oakland Road, extending to Route 202. Based on its current density, Route 202 has been designated by Chadds Ford as an area appropriate for continued development.

Slightly to the west of Route 202 and Dilworthtown Road is a significant historic five

point intersection. There is concern that heavy development along Oakland Road or Brintons Bridge Road could threaten this historic intersection if increased traffic would cause the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to want to straighten the road at that intersection to allow for faster traffic flow, however, there are no such plans in the works currently. Understanding the potential developmental threats to the historic landscape can assist planners and officials in determining how to best balance needed development and cultural resource protection.

# Strategic Retreat

The Strategic Retreat is located in Concord Township and Thornbury Township. The original boundary identified in the *Preservation Plan* was limited to only Concord Township, around Thornton Road and Baltimore Pike. After further analysis during the current project, it was determined that the previous boundary did not encompass the key areas of the retreat. The Americans retreated along Dilworthtown Road and Thornton Road. Therefore, the Strategic Landscape boundary was extended to include Thornbury Township. The Strategic Landscapes boundaries were not necessarily meant to include the entire military movement. Instead, the boundary extension for the Strategic Retreat captured Thornbury's role in the retreat, focusing on including those historic resources in Thornbury Township that are located along the path of the retreat. The revised boundary is along Thornton Road from just south of Baltimore Pike to north of Glen Mills Road to Dilworthtown Road. The boundary extends west on Dilworthtown Road.

## Statement of Significance



Thornton Village

This area was chosen as a Strategic Landscape to highlight the significance of the retreat in the Battle of Brandywine and the overall Philadelphia Campaign of 1777. While Maj. Gen. Greene was preparing for rearguard push, American troops began retreating along Dilworthtown Road and Thornton Road in Thornbury and Concord townships. From 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., troops in large numbers funneled past stores and houses along Dilworthtown Road and Thornton Village and then turned south to follow Thornton

Road to historic Concordville at US Route 1. Field hospitals were set up along the retreat path, including Yellow House in Thornbury and Concord Meetinghouse.

While retreating is often viewed as a failure, Washington is known for using retreats as a tactical maneuver. Also called Fabian warfare, his use of retreat is credited for the survival of the American army during the first few years of the Revolution. This strategy avoids decisive battles, thus disrupting supplies and prolonging the war. Particularly for the American Revolution, this style was useful because of the distance of the Colonies from Britain, which made it difficult for the British to send in reinforcing troops and provisions. While Washington conducted a more direct, European-style fight at Brandywine, the eventual retreat allowed the army to regroup to continue fighting. The strategic nature of the retreat sets Brandywine apart from other American losses, including the Battle of Long Island and Kip's Bay landing where the Americans' retreat was an unorganized flight. <sup>vii</sup>

The retreat also made a significant impact on the two communities. The small roads and community centers were engulfed by swarms of exhausted troops. Buildings were turned into hospitals to care for the wounded passing through. Troops stopped at homes along the retreat path for water and food. All



of this activity had a profound effect on residents. Years later, Phebe Mendenhall Thomas, who was a child during the battle, remembered the soldiers coming into her family's yard and the family feeding them bread and cheese because of their hunger. Phebe Mendenhall also remembered her father not wanting a wounded Captain to stay at their house in fear that the English would find them, but the soldier stayed anyway. In the morning, fearing for his family's safety, Phebe's father took the injured man to a tavern near Chester. <sup>viii</sup>

## Changing Landscapes

Most of the Strategic Retreat area consisted of large parcels of farmland in the 1700s and 1800s, except for the villages of Thorntonville (later called Thornton) and Concordville. In the late 1700s and early 1800s, the area grew slightly, particularly around Thorntonville with the addition of approximately five houses and a blacksmith shop.<sup>ix</sup> By 1848, the prominent land-owning families included the Brintons, Pyles, Mendenhalls, Trimbles, and Sharplesses. By the 1870s, some of the larger lots around Dilworthtown Road had been subdivided into smaller lots, but the area still remained mostly open with just smaller lots and a few additional homes. Some additional buildings were also constructed around Thornton. Concordville saw a larger increase in buildings, including the Maplewood Institute and buildings south of Baltimore Pike. Between the 1870s and 1890s, very little change occurred in the areas other than changes of ownership, particularly for the smaller lots. Some of the larger lots were still

retained by the early families, like the Brintons, Pyles, and Trimbles. Between 1892 and 1913, there were a few additional homes, particularly south of Glen Mills Road. Concordville also continued to grow slightly. By the 1930s, only around five additional buildings were built in the area plus a firehouse and commercial garage in Concordville. The majority of the land remained open and used for agriculture.<sup>x</sup> The landscape remained almost completely unchanged between the 1950s and 1970s.<sup>xi</sup>

The area has seen major development pressure with population growth in the last four decades. Both Concord and Thornbury have grown by over 100 percent from 1980 to 2010. Concord was Delaware County's fastest growing municipality from 2000-2010. This population growth has led to the conversion of agricultural, vacant, and wooded lands to residential communities. Cul-de-sac



Strategic Retreat, Thornton: 1882 Atlas of early Land Grants and Patents.

developments are found throughout the Strategic Landscape and its surrounding area. Beginning in the 1970s, small residential culs-de-sac were platted, including Lovalee Lane, Colonial Drive, and Nice Drive. In Thornbury Township, off of Westtown Road, is a large residential development to the east that was constructed in the 1990s with a small development to the west that was built in the 2000s. Several large residential developments have occurred in Concord Township in the 1990s as well, particularly a large residential development called Mendenhall at Twin Creeks to the east of Thornton Road, near Trimble Road. Large retail and commercial box stores have been developed in Concordville just to the west of the Strategic Landscape.

**Figure 2.1: U.S. Census Population Figures for Delaware County Municipalities 1980 to 2010**

Municipality	Population				Population Change			% Population Change		
	1980	1990	2000	2010	1980-2000	2000-2010	1980-2010	1980-2000	2000-2010	1980-2010
Chadds Ford	2,057	3,118	3,170	3,640	1,113	470	1,583	54.1%	14.8%	77.0%
Concord	6,437	6,933	9,933	17,231	4,802	7,298	10,794	74.6%	73.5%	167.7%
Thornbury	3,653	4,728	7,093	8,028	2,134	935	4,375	58.4%	13.2%	119.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## Integrity



Viewshed of Thornton Road

The Strategic Retreat is centered mostly around Thornton Road, a major collector road. While much of the residential development described above is located off of this road, the road itself still retains a rural feel due to topography, tall trees, and major vegetation adjacent to the road that buffers it from the set-back residences. Any additional development closer to the road could threaten the remaining open viewshed. Dilworthtown Road is a minor arterial that is more oriented towards the Township. Much of

the road is developed but there are two larger lots within the Strategic Landscape still open. Though larger compared to those surrounding them, the lots do not appear large enough to be of interest to conservation groups.

## Threats

The largest road within the Strategic Retreat is Baltimore Pike (Route 1), a principal arterial, which carries high volumes of traffic through the southern portion of the Strategic Retreat. This road has seen major development in the form of big retail chains, hotels, and large business complexes along it through much of western Delaware County. The large development adjacent to the boundaries of this Strategic Landscape is planned for continued expansion. While development has occurred and is still occurring in the vicinity, planners and officials can guide the development to occur in a manner that respects the history of the area.

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- <sup>i</sup> \* "Pictures of the Revolutionary War," National Archives and Records Administration, accessed June 2015, <http://www.archives.gov/research/military/american-revolution/pictures/images/revolutionary-war-080.jpg>.
- <sup>ii</sup> William Gilmore Simms, *The Life of Nathanael Greene*, 52-53.
- <sup>iii</sup> Mowady, *September 11, 1777*, 187.
- <sup>iv</sup> McGuire, *The Philadelphia Campaign*, 257.
- <sup>v</sup> "Penn Pilot: Historic Aerial Photographs of Pennsylvania," 1937 Aerials, Penn State, accessed January 1, 2015, <http://www.pennpilot.psu.edu/>. and 1934 Franklin
- <sup>vi</sup> "Penn Pilot," 1958 and 1971 Aerials.
- <sup>vii</sup> Harris, *Brandywine: A Military History*, 366.
- <sup>viii</sup> McGuire, *The Philadelphia Campaign*, 263-266.
- <sup>ix</sup> Thornton Historic District National Register Nomination
- <sup>x</sup> Franklin Survey Co, 1934. And "Penn Pilot," 1937 Aerial.
- <sup>xi</sup> "Penn Pilot," 1958 and 1971 Aerials.





# Archeological Design Analysis Produced by JMA

The Archeological Design Analysis for the Rearguard Defense and Strategic Retreat Route segments of the Brandywine Battlefield was research-based and did not require physical access to private lands or ground disturbance, although the project team was able to physically walk over a significant portion of the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape and drove the Retreat Route Strategic Landscape. The project's goal was to verify and build upon previous planning efforts, including document-based as well as ground disturbance studies, and to complete an archeological design study and geomorphic land study for the Rearguard Defense area and the Retreat Route Strategic Landscapes.

## Historical Overview

The following historical overview and time sequence is adapted from the *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan* (CCPC 2013: chapter 1).

The late summer of 1777 in the upper Delmarva Peninsula witnessed the start of the military campaign that resulted in the capture of Philadelphia by Crown Forces on 25 September 1777. Two years of warfare had preceded the Philadelphia Campaign, with much of the principal military action on land occurring in New England, New York, and New Jersey. Crown Forces setbacks occurred in December 1776 (First Battle of Trenton) and in early January 1777 (Battle of Princeton). These reversals resulted in the Crown Forces wintering in New York City and in the vicinity of New Brunswick and Perth Amboy, New Jersey, while American forces took up winter quarters around Morristown, New Jersey.

During the months of May and June in 1777, the inability of General Sir William Howe to force a decisive battle or outmaneuver General George Washington in New Jersey led to the movement by sea of the balance of Crown Forces from Staten Island to Elk Neck in Maryland. Numbering approximately 15,000 men, the Crown Forces were transported by the British fleet up the Chesapeake Bay and landed at the Head of Elk on 25 August. Their intent was to advance overland to capture Philadelphia, the capital of the fledgling United States (Black 1998:124).

In a series of hard-fought engagements, American and Crown Forces battled each other across the landscape and on the waters of Northeastern Maryland and the Lower Delaware Valley. In a series of engagements – Cooch's Bridge (3 September), Brandywine (11 September), the Battle of the Clouds (16

September), and Paoli (20-21 September) – Crown Forces maneuvered and fought their way to the colonial capital of Philadelphia, which was taken on 25 September (McGuire 2006). By far the largest of these engagements – both in terms of land area covered and numbers of troops involved – was the Battle of Brandywine.

On 11 September 1777, Sir William Howe's army launched a two-pronged attack on the American position along Brandywine Creek. One column commanded by Hessian General Kynphausen departed Kennett Square along the Great Nottingham Road (current US Route 1), and attacked General George Washington's troops stationed at Chadd's Ford. A second column, commanded by Howe and Lord Charles Cornwallis, followed a more circuitous route, travelling north from Kennett Square, and then turning east and fording the Brandywine Creek near what is now a bridge at old Jefferis Ford. The column arrived at an area near Birmingham Road in Birmingham Township and from there they attacked Washington's northern flank from right rear. American formations responded to this maneuver by forming a series of defensive lines, but were out-maneuvered. The final action of the day occurred along the Old Wilmington Road south of Dilworthtown when Major General Nathanael Greene positioned his brigade and the remnants of other Continental formations in a semi-circular line that was able to blunt the Crown Forces' advance. As evening approached and daylight waned, Washington's Army retreated east along modern US Route 1. His forces reformed near the City of Chester in what is now Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

## Time Sequence

- 5:45 pm: Gen. Washington, Brig. Gen. Henry Knox, Count Pulaski, and headquarters staff withdraw northeast toward Dilworthtown. Washington stops near the 1704 House (Parcel 04-02-014:000 at 21 Oakland Road (Brinton 1704 House), A National Historic Landmark), and orders a defensive line to be formed to protect the retreating American troops. He gives command of his personal bodyguard to Pulaski, and orders them to attack Earl Cornwallis's Division so as to slow their advance.
- 6:15 pm: Elements of Stirling's Division (1st NJ Brigade) retreat southeast from Wylie Road and Firethorn Drive to Webb Road near Oakland Road. The rest of Stirling's Division (3rd PA Brigade) continue to exchange heavy fire with elements of Cornwallis's Division (the British Light Infantry Battalion and the Hessian Field Jaeger Corps), along Birmingham Road west of South New Street. Greene's Division continue to move northeast from near Oakland Road and Harvey Road to US 202, east of its intersection with Oakland Road.
- 6:30 pm: After the last of Stirling's Division (3rd PA Brigade) retreat from Meetinghouse Road, Pulaski leads Washington's personal bodyguard on a brief attack on the now tired Crown Forces near Brintons Bridge Road and Oakland Road. This action slows the British advance, allowing American Troops in the area to regroup. The American Troops left fighting on the Northern Front withdraw or retreat. Sullivan's Division, followed by some of Stephen's Division (3rd VA Brigade) and some of Stirling's Division (3rd PA Brigade) retreat east along Dilworthtown Road from Birmingham Road then turn south on Thornton Road to near Cross-Fire Road.

- 6:45 pm: The rest of Stirling's Division (Scott's 4th VA Brigade) and American artillery withdraw, reorganize, and form a line along Webb Road from Biddle Brook Lane to Oakland Road. They attack a brigade of Cornwallis's Division (the British 4th Brigade), and fire is exchanged.
- 7:00 pm: Elements of Cornwallis's Division (the British 4th Brigade and the some of the British 2nd Grenadier Brigade) move south along Oakland Road from Brintons Bridge Road to Webb Road. Remnants of Stirling's Division (Scott's 4th VA Brigade) and American artillery withdraw to an area south of Harvey Road and Oakland Road.
- 7:15 pm: While the sunlight is fading, Maj. Gen. Greene takes command of remnants of Stirling's Division (Scott's 4th VA Brigade), and some American artillery. Then he joins them with his own troops (Weedon's 2nd VA Brigade and the 1st NC Brigade), who had already organized into a line. These various formations are now Greene's Troops. They form a concave line of defense that extends from west of Oakland Road northwest to Old Barn Drive.
- 7:15 pm: The last of Cornwallis's Division still engaged in active combat (the British 4th Brigade and the some of the British 2nd Grenadier Brigade) pursue the retreating American Troops. Cornwallis's Division moves to Oakland Road and Webb Road directly in front of Greene's Troops. Heavy fire is exchanged. Cornwallis's Troops suffer heavy casualties and their advance is halted.
- 7:30 pm: After Cornwallis's Troops are stopped, Greene's Troops withdraw to the east, scattering independently of each other. In the darkness, Greene's Troops who were scattered reform into a column and conduct an orderly retreat from US 202 and Oakland Road, south to US 1 and State Farm Road. From there they join the rest of Washington's Army retreating east along US 202 toward Concord Meetinghouse. The rest of Washington's Army forms a column and conducts an organized retreat east along US 1 toward the Concord Meetinghouse, with the exception of Maxwell's Troops, who remain along US 1, east of US 202 as a rear guard.

## Previous Archeological Investigations

A number of formal archeological investigations have been undertaken on portions of the Brandywine Battlefield and focused specifically on discovering particular elements of the Battle. Other professional archeological studies have been completed as part of cultural resource management studies required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. In addition, some amateur metal detection and collecting has also occurred but this has not been systematic or regularly reported. No formal archeological survey was completed of either of the two Strategic Landscapes that are the subject of this grant, but landowner testimony reports that large numbers of musket balls – estimated to be 150 – have been recovered from the lands immediately surrounding the Painter-Craig farmhouse at the intersection of Oakland and Harvey Roads (Robert Craig, personal communication, 2014).



On the Battlefield, the formal surveys were limited in the scope of area they covered. Included among these are geophysical and archeological testing done in search of a mass burial site at the Spackman property (Historic resource 66.01: Parcel 66-3-2 at 1255/1256 Thornbury Road and Parcel 66-3-1 at 1252 Thornbury Road, Davis/Darlington Farm (Shaffer and Bevan 2006)), formal metal detection under the supervision of an archeologist at the Odell farm (Sivilich 2002), and limited archeological survey and metal detection for the trail at Sandy Hollow (Lawrence and Weinberg 2008; Sivilich 2008).

Local collectors, notable among them Christian Sanderson, have recovered artifacts associated with the Battle for a long period of time. Other collectors have also retrieved artifacts from the Battlefield, and these have gone unreported and remain in private hands. Supposedly, assemblages of Battle-related artifacts have been found in locations near the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape, specifically when the greenhouses associated with the Gilpin House on Harvey Road were removed (Historic Resource 04.04: Parcel 04-09-039:000 at 198 Harvey Road, Howe's Headquarters; Gilpin Homestead, circa 1754).

While not technically archeological, at least one farmhouse in the Rearguard Action area reputedly displays some damage from musket balls in the west wall paneling of Biddlebrook Farm (04.02: Parcel 04-05-028:000 at 478 Webb Road, Biddlebrook Farm, circa 1750-74, a fieldstone and stucco over stone house built in two sections (Webster et al. 1989 Appendix C, Part II, 045-BI-48)).

The 1989 *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan* (Webster et al. 1989:43-58) devoted a chapter to the archeological potential of the Battlefield. The authors identified several categories of potential archeological resources that could be the result of a military action: arms and ordnance; personal weapons and possessions; headquarters, rear echelon support, and camp sites; medical facilities; burials; and prehistoric and other historic resources (Webster et al. 1989:48-50). The archeological potentials were focused principally on the portable material culture of soldiers – knapsacks, weaponry, uniforms, accoutrements, etc. – and were less concerned with the actual lead shot, iron balls, and general detritus of military action. Their conclusion was that little would remain of the portable material culture.

## Defining Features

“Understanding the historic terrain of a battlefield as it was at the time of the action is critical to the understanding of any battle” (Foard 2009:136). Battles are temporary, albeit seminal, events fought on cultural landscapes that had a variety of cultural features – transportation routes, agricultural development, settlement patterns, population change – already in place before the battle, and that continued to exert influences on the field after the battle. Field patterns and farmsteads are changed and give way to subdivisions; roads are altered, vacated, rerouted or widened; and woodlands are reduced or removed from the landscape.

# Defining Features of the Brandywine Battlefield Study Area

● Defining Feature

## Troop Locations

— American

— British

--- Defining Feature

□ Battlefield Study Area

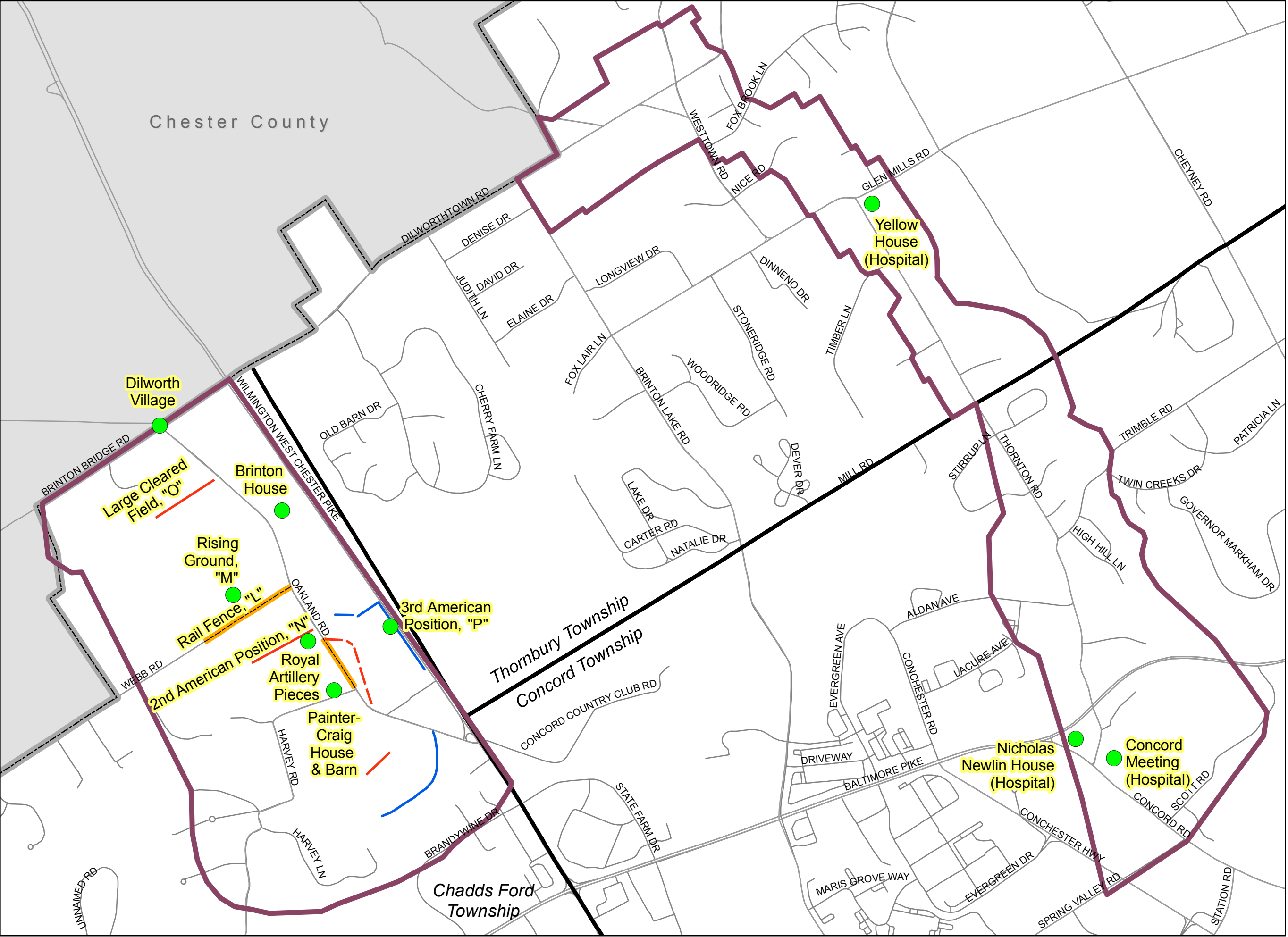
□ Municipal Boundaries

□ Delaware County

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▲ Prepared by  
Delaware County  
Planning Department

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Disclaimer  
This map is for analytical  
purposes only. The  
reliability of this map  
depends on the accuracy  
of the underlying data  
sources which have not  
been verified.



Military-historical research is integral to the battlefield interpretive process developed by the American Battlefield Protection Program, in which surveyors apply the precepts of KOCOA military terrain analysis. The KOCOA acronym stands for the analytical concepts of Key Terrain/Decisive Terrain, Observation and Fields of Fire, Cover and Concealment, Obstacles, and Avenues of Approach and Withdrawal. KOCOA elements at Brandywine Battlefield were defined using a variety of sources including historical documentation, previous battlefield surveys, maps, and the extant natural landscape. The interpretation of these features was conducted using the quantitative capabilities of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in conjunction with the knowledge of team historians and other experts.

With reference to a given battle location, analysis of these aspects of military movement, position, and combat as they apply to that land area combines documentary research and field survey, and enables identification of the battlefield's **Defining Features** and thus its appropriate boundary. The research examines and analyzes primary sources for the battle such as participants' letters, journals, and memoirs, as well as early post-battle accounts based on direct experience of the terrain, to discern locational references for KOCOA elements. The KOCOA process, and the supporting research, is directly applicable to archeological investigation at battle locations, providing documentation for the military actions that took place at those locations (Lowe 2000).

The KOCOA analysis is applied to all ABPP projects (Lowe 2000). As stated above, the acronym KOCOA stands for: Key Terrain, Observation and Fields of Fire, Cover and Concealment, Obstacles, and Avenues of Approach. Terrain features, be they manmade such as roads or buildings or natural such as ridges or forests, mean different things to different people. A painter looks at forests, hills, waterways or meadows for their artistic value. A farmer considers them with a view toward producing foodstuffs or generating income. A soldier looks at them for their military value, how he could integrate them into offensive or defensive positions and how they fit into his plans for offensive or defensive action. This is not only important for understanding why a commander would (or would not) position infantry or artillery or cavalry at a certain place on the terrain at a certain point during the engagement (and why faulty positioning would occasionally have disastrous consequences), but also helps to interpret the authenticity of battlefield maps. Furthermore, evaluation of terrain from a military point of view can help to provide reasonable explanations to "fill in" gaps in our knowledge of events caused by a scarcity of primary sources, e.g., in the case of troop movements. "Military usage" of terrain would demand that forces be re-deployed under cover of ridges or through low-lying ravines outside the view of the enemy. Similarly, depending on the task assigned to a force during any stage of the engagement, troops might be redeployed via a causeway or road if speed is of the essence, or through a forest or circuitously if the element of surprise is paramount. Taking these and similar military aspects into consideration, the terrain becomes an integral part of the reconstruction of a battle as the stage on which the action unfolds.

To understand and interpret actions on a battlefield, a detailed familiarity with the topography and conditions on the ground as well as a critical reading of a wide range of primary sources must be combined with a military analysis of the battlefield (Andrus 2004). In addition to KOCOA analysis, we also applied the principle of Inherent Military Probability to the study of the Rearguard Strategic Landscape on the Brandywine Battlefield (Keegan 1977:33-34). As initially developed by the German



military historian Hans Delbrück and further refined by British historian Alfred H. Burne, this principle holds that well-worn and accepted accounts of a particular battle will often be found to be impossible given the constraints of terrain, timing, and other factors (Burne 2005). It is also important for the researcher to understand relevant historical military practices which were in force at the time of the engagement so that, as English archeologist Glenn Foard suggests, the principle should be more accurately termed Inherent Historical Military Probability (Foard 2009:141). The manuals available at the time of the American War of Independence provide specifics regarding the spacing between and among formations, rates of marching, and the specific methods applied to deploy companies, battalions, and other maneuvering or firing formations. These manuals provide a framework of the “limits of the possible” that governed the actions of commanders in the field, keeping in mind that variations to the manuals were always possible, and most likely probable, given opportunities arising from such factors as terrain, visibility, and other battlefield conditions.

The *Brandywine Battlefield Historic Preservation Plan: Revolution in a Peaceful Valley* (CCPC 2013) developed a preliminary KOCO analysis. The 2013 *Plan* in turn drew upon the *2010 ABPP Survey* which had evaluated historic sites, historic roadways and combat locations, as well as topography and vegetation, combining that data in the KOCO analysis. The present study refines that 2013 defining features list. The refined list of the key defining features is presented below, along with their relevance to the Battle, their KOCO analysis, and their location/status. (See Defining Features of the Brandywine Battlefield Study Area Map.)

**Table 3.1. Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape Defining Features**

	Defining Feature	KOCO Analysis	Robertson Map Designation	Text Source	Current Condition
1	Large cleared field	Observation/Field of Fire	4 <sup>th</sup> British Brigade line (O)	Pickering (cited by McGuire 2006:253)	Agricultural field
2	Rising ground in front [south] of the cleared field	Key Terrain, Observation/Field of Fire. Location of Knox’s two-gun artillery company	“two pieces of cannon” (M)	Pickering (cited by McGuire 2006:253)	Lawn associated with private home
3	Rail Fence 1 <sup>st</sup> American position	Key Terrain, Observation/Field of Fire. Location of American battle line	“rebels behind the fence” (L)	Pickering and Robertson (McGuire 2006:253)	Location of today’s Webb Road

	Defining Feature	KOCSA Analysis	Robertson Map Designation	Text Source	Current Condition
4	2 <sup>nd</sup> American position and Hedge/ Second position of 4 <sup>th</sup> British Brigade	Observation/ Field of fire, Cover and Concealment	Cannon Posted here and "Americans left the hedge" (N)	Robertson	Tree line in agricultural field
5	Royal Artillery Position	Key Terrain, Observation/ Field of Fire	Position of two Royal Artillery guns	Robertson	Agricultural Field. Topographic rise with view of 3 <sup>rd</sup> American position along Route 202
6	Third American Position, Hedges and Woods. Location of American battle line	Key Terrain, Observation/ Field of Fire	"fire commenced from the hedges and woods" (P and R) Plowed field where Virginia troops formed	Pinckney (cited by McGuire 2006:256); Robertson	Tree line bordering industrial park along Brandywine Avenue to the south and fallow field west of Route 202
7	Dilworth village	Cover and Concealment	Dilworth village		Crossroads village of Dilworthtown
8	Wilmington Road	Avenue of Approach/Retreat	Road		Today's Oakland Road
9	Harvey Road	Avenue of Approach for Greene's Division and Nash's Brigade	Farm lane		Similar to today's Harvey Road
10	Birmingham Road	Avenue of Approach	Road		Birmingham Road

1. **“Large cleared field”:** *Observation and Field of Fire.*

Colonel Timothy Pickering, Washington’s senior staff officer, noted that as the Crown Forces’ 4<sup>th</sup> British Brigade formed a battle line and advanced south from Brinton’s Bridge Road west of Dilworthtown they formed in a large cleared field (McGuire 2006:253). General Washington observed this position and movement from the southeast corner of the “large clear field” west of today’s Oakland Road opposite the William Brinton House (Harris 2014:348; McGuire 2006:253). This field is shown on the Captain Archibald Robertson Map and the location is identified as “O”. It consists today of agricultural fields but the property is slated for residential development.



Large Cleared Field

2. **Rising ground in front [south] of the cleared field:** *Key Terrain, Observation and Field of Fire.* The 4<sup>th</sup> British Brigade came under artillery fire in a large field by two field pieces placed by General Henry Knox on a slight rise in the field to the south, but the American guns retreated after coming under artillery fire from the larger 12 lb. guns of the British Royal Artillery. Knox’s two-gun artillery company sighted its guns on a piece of “rising ground,” again as noted by Pickering (McGuire 2006:253). Robertson identifies this location as “M” on his map. Today this topographic rise is still extant, though located on private land.

3. **Rail Fence:** *Key Terrain, Observation and Field of Fire.*

The Rail Fence is the first American battle line in the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape. The line was composed of the remnants of Sullivan’s disorganized divisions that had been shattered at Sandy Hollow and formed along a rail fence in the approximate location of today’s Webb Road. Robertson identifies this location as “L” and describes it as “rebels were discovered behind a fence in front” and Pickering reported that the Americans were positioned behind a rail fence (McGuire 2006:253). This American position was not held long, as the British artillery made it untenable.



Webb Road

4. **2<sup>nd</sup> American position and Hedge/ Second position of 4<sup>th</sup> British Brigade:** *Observation and Field of Fire, Cover and Concealment.* Captain Robertson identifies this location as an American position posted along a hedge, with the two piece artillery company that had withdrawn from the rising ground (Defining Feature No. 2 above). Like the rail fence position (Defining Feature No. 3), it was composed of elements of Sullivan’s divisions. Harris writes that at least one of the American units in the rail fence and hedge line positions was the 1<sup>st</sup> MD Regiment, commanded by Colonel John Stone (Harris 2014:349). The Americans withdrew from this second position when the 2<sup>nd</sup> British Grenadier Battalion advanced, and this formation subsequently occupied this position. Today, this location is represented by a tree and hedge line separating agricultural fields on the Craig Farm.



South of Webb Road



5. **Royal Artillery Position: *Key Terrain, Observation and Field of Fire.*** Captain Robertson's map depicts two artillery pieces located on a topographic rise that was apparently placed there to support the British 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade as it pivoted to the east across the Wilmington Road and encountered Greene's well-positioned rear guard brigades (see Defining Feature No. 6, below). Captain Johann Ewald of the Hessian Field Jaeger Corps wrote that two 6 lb. guns were brought into action at this location, firing on the American position with grapeshot (Ewald 1987:87). Robertson does not specifically identify the location with a letter designation, but illustrates two guns at this site. Today, this topographic rise is still extant, overlooking a small drainage. The position retains a clear view of the left side of the evening's Battleground.
6. **3<sup>rd</sup> American Position, Hedges and Woods and Plowed Field: *Key Terrain, Observation and Field of Fire.*** Major General Nathanael Greene formed a strategic battle line (the third American battle line of the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape) in the hedges and woods situated south and east of the Painter-Craig house and barn. The American lines were anchored in woods and hedges, identified by Robertson as "R". Into the fields fronting these woods, the British 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade advanced to the east (towards today's Route 202 corridor), providing support to the left flank to the British 2<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Battalion which had advanced directly south towards the Americans. Both British formations came under severe and heavy musketry from Greene's brigades (it is assumed by battlefield historians that both of Greene's brigades, commanded by Generals Weedon and Muhlenberg, were present, as well as Nash's NC Brigade) and the remnants of Sullivan's command.

There is some question as to precisely what the composition was of this third American line of battle.

Smith places Weedon and Muhlenberg's brigades south of Harvey Road, with no American troops to the east of the Wilmington Road (Smith 1976:20-21). Harris (2014:353-357) interprets the historical accounts to place Greene's Division east of the Wilmington Road, in the area now situated between Oakland Road and US Route 202, with Sullivan's remnants to the south of Harvey Road and on the extreme right flank of Greene's line. McGuire (2006:255-257) places Weedon's brigade to the south of

Harvey Road and elements of Sullivan's command drawn up east of the Wilmington Road. The various contemporary maps of the Battle (André 1777, Faden 1778, Montessor 1777, Robertson 1777, Werner 1777) locate the American battle lines, but do not further identify the American units that composed the battle lines.



3<sup>rd</sup> American Position, southeast of Oakland Road

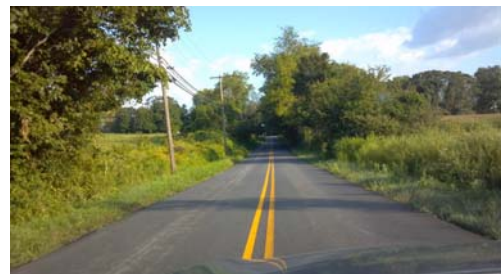
Regardless of the composition of the third American battle line, today this position is still marked to the south by a wood line bordering an agricultural field, although the wood line has been recently encroached upon by construction within an industrial park accessible by Brandywine Avenue. To the east, US Route 202 marks the eastern side of this position, with the core area of the fighting occurring west of this highway. The British positions are located in fallow and agricultural fields, and are readily discernible. Colonel Charles Pinckney of South Carolina noted that two Virginia regiments – the Second and Tenth – formed in a “plough'd field” to the right of the remains of Sullivan's command (McGuire 2006:256). Such a location would be in what Robertson identifies as location “P”. It is in these fields that the heaviest firing of the Battle of Brandywine was reported by

first-person participants in both armies. One of the regiments in the 4<sup>th</sup> British Brigade, the Sixth-Fourth Regiment of Foot, sustained the highest number of casualties (ten percent) reported in any regiment for the day of the Battle, and this is the only location where the Sixty-Fourth was engaged (McGuire 2006:259).

7. **Dilworth Village: *Cover and Concealment.*** The small cross-roads village of Dilworthtown was a nucleated settlement where five roads came together – the Wilmington Road leading south to north (today’s Oakland Road), the Brinton’s Bridge Road from the west to east, and the Birmingham Meeting Road from the north. At the time of the Battle, Dilworthtown or village was largely owned by Charles Dilworth, who had inherited the property in 1769. The crossroads hamlet included dwellings, a tavern, and a blacksmith shop. Historian Rory Muir summarizes the importance of villages and towns in the period of linear warfare: “A village was a tangible, recognizable prize men would struggle and die for with far more determination than for an open ploughed field or stretch of barren hillside. It also had considerable tactical significance, for once a village was firmly secured...it tended to become a focal point of a defensive line and the prime object of an attacker”(Muir 1998:16).

The defeat of the Continental divisions under General Sullivan from Sandy Hollow sent retreating American soldiers in both organized formations as well as disorganized groups to the south and east, and Dilworthtown was an obvious landscape feature for the Americans to rally to and attempt to reform. To prevent this, Captain Robertson reports that two regiments of the British 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade (the Thirty-third and the Forty-sixth regiments of foot) were ordered to “scour” the village of American soldiers. The depredation claims submitted by Charles Dilworth for the period 11 to 16 September 1777 reported more than 820 pounds of damage to his property at the village, by far the largest amount of damage reported by any landowner on the Battlefield. Dilworthtown is still present today, with many of its eighteenth century buildings. The village is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

8. **Wilmington Road. *Avenue of Approach/Retreat.*** The Wilmington Road extends roughly north-south and bisects the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape. In eighteenth-century warfare, roadbeds or traces served not only as important routes of movement, but also as linear terrain features clearly identifiable and discernible to participants in the smoke and confusion of battle. The road served as an avenue of retreat for American formations withdrawing from Sullivan’s combat at Sandy Hollow, and a portion of the road at the southern end of the Strategic Landscape functioned as an avenue of approach for Major General Nathanael Greene’s American Division.



Oakland Road Today

The precise route of Greene’s Division from Chads’s Ford to the Rear Action area is not known with certainty, but Smith suggests that they marched from Chad’s Ford to the “Forks Road,” (apparently the road leading to the forks of the Brandywine) then turned onto the Wilmington Road heading north towards Dilworthtown (Smith 1976:20). The road today is called Oakland Road, and the function of the earlier road is now fulfilled by US Route 202, a short distance to the east.

9. **Harvey Road:** *Avenue of Approach.* The trace of today's Harvey Road largely follows the trace depicted on the contemporary maps of the Battlefield (see the maps by André 1777, Faden 1778, Montessor 1777, Robertson 1777, Werner 1777). The road served as an avenue of approach for Greene's Division as it deployed around 6 pm for the final action of the day. The intersection of Harvey Road and the Wilmington Road is the location of the Painter-Craig farm complex. One of Sullivan's brigade majors, Captain Francois Fleury, reported that the remnants of Sullivan's command formed "near the [Wilmington] road, behind a House, to the left of Major General Greene's Division" (Smith 1976:21; Harris 2014:353). Smith suggests that a conference occurred at this intersection among Washington and Generals Sullivan and Greene, as they developed the rear guard action plan (Smith 1976:21).
10. **Birmingham Road:** *Avenue of Approach and Retreat.* The Birmingham Road served as a linear terrain feature for retreating American units for Sullivan's command withdrawing from the combat at Sandy Hollow and as a linear feature for the advancing Crown Forces formations to follow. The road today still largely follows its eighteenth-century trace.

## Archeological Analysis

One military historian has noted that "battles consist of a number of smaller combats which added up to a more or less coherent whole...Each of these combats was decided by its local circumstances: the number and quality of the troops on each side, their tactics and morale, the advantages conferred by terrain, by a score of lesser factors, and luck....the result of each combat contributed to the emerging shape of the battle as a whole" (Muir 1998:235). The study of the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape is one example of the "smaller combats" that collectively comprised the larger Battle of Brandywine. The action in this area occurred late in the day of 11 September, as the sun was beginning to set. Muir's various circumstances all contributed to the outcome of the rearguard action and to these should be added fatigue on the part of the Crown Forces (who had been marching and maneuvering since before dawn), the gathering dusk of a September evening, the arrival of comparatively fresh Continental soldiers under strong leadership, and the unfamiliarity of the ground over which the British formations attempted to advance.

Fields of conflict are temporary, albeit seminal, events, superimposed on preexisting cultural landscapes. This landscape witnessed a variety of cultural actions - transportation systems, agricultural development, settlement patterns, population change – that exerted influence on the land prior to the engagement and that continue to exert influences on the field after the Battle. Land use such as pasture and field patterns and farmsteads and husbandry buildings change as they give way to subdivisions; roads are altered, vacated, rerouted or widened, and woodlands are reduced or removed from the landscape. Despite these landscape alterations, the archeological evidence of conflict is often quite resilient and can be discovered through archeological investigation.



For many years the prevailing view of battlefields and archeological potential was dominated by the opinion put forward by Ivor Noël Hume that battle sites could offer little beyond metal artifacts and burials, certainly nothing archeologically or historically significant (Noël Hume 1968:188), and it was this narrow view of conflict archeology that influenced the archeological interpretations and recommendations of the Brandywine Battlefield Cultural Resources Management Study (Webster et al. 1989). In the last twenty years this view has changed dramatically, beginning with the work at the Little Big Horn National Park in the mid-1980s and now occurring with increasing regularity at Revolutionary War sites (cf. Babits 1998; Catts and Balicki 2007; Catts et al. 2014; Connor and Scott 1998; Espenshade et al. 2002; Fox 1993; Geier and Winter 1994; Geier and Potter 2000; Mancl et al. 2013; Martin and Veit 2005; Orr 1994; Scott et al. 1989; Scott and McFeaters 2011; Selig et al. 2013; Sivilich 1996; Sivilich and Philips 1998; Sivilich and Stone n.d.; Steele et al. 2006; Viet and Wiencek n.d.; Wiencek and Viet 2004).



Painter-Craig Farm

Within the two Strategic Landscapes, the potential exists for archeological remains that are associated with at least three military-related activities: 1) Battle Actions on 11 September 1777; 2) Post-battle Crown Forces encampment, including hospital locations and headquarters; and 3) Battlefield burials. As this study was focused on battlefield archeological potential, prehistoric and other historical archeological potential is not considered. Each of these activities has the potential to leave a distinctive archeological signature.

Combining the categories of the 1989 Cultural Resources Management Study (Webster et al. 1989) with these archeological potentials correlates as follows:

**Table 3.2. Archeological Assessment Categories, 1989 and 2015**

Current Archeological Assessment	1989 Archeological Assessment
Battle Actions	Arms and Ordnance; Personal Weapons and Possessions
Post-battle Crown Forces Encampment	Headquarters, Rear Echelon Support, and Camp Sites; Medical Facilities
Burials	Burials

## *1. Battle Actions*

The archeological study of military encampments and battlefields (collectively termed ‘conflict archeology’) is proving that the physical evidence of such fields of conflict is often remarkably resilient, still present beneath the ground, and often recovered from near surface contexts (Scott and McFeaters 2011; Steele et al. 2006). Archeologists attempt to identify patterns of human behavior through the material remains that survive. Of all the types of organizations or groups of people that can be studied, perhaps no group is more organized or more patterned than military organizations. Military formations of any size, from armies to companies, can be studied as social units operating in a closed cultural system created with strict rules (Smith 1994:15). The ways that various formations were organized for battle or for camp were highly structured and patterned, and may be observable in the archeological record (Orr 1994).

The two armies that clashed on 11 September were distinctive from each other in terms of organization, logistics, and composition. The Crown Forces were composed of British, Hessian, and Loyalist formations, while the Main American army consisted of Continental combat units from several states (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Virginia) and Canada, militia formations from Pennsylvania and Delaware, and various civilian organizations (e.g. teamsters and wagoners). Each of these armies was composed of smaller military units (smallest to largest: companies, regiments/battalions, brigades, divisions), and each were armed and organized somewhat differently. The differences in arms, accoutrements, and uniforms among the two armies should leave a distinctive archeological signature that may reveal battlefield activities or patterns.

Within the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape the archeological potential exists for battle action-related artifacts, particularly lead musket balls, iron canister, and round shot (from the 6-lb and 12-lb guns in both the American and British forces), and from the uniforms and accoutrements of the forces engaged. The reported archeological collection of more than 150 lead musket balls from the Painter-Craig farm complex suggests that this location was at the apex of the Rearguard Defense action, and this physical evidence underscores the series of contemporary maps drawn of the Battle that show the action in this part of the field. It is highly likely that more artifacts of a similar nature are still present within the location of the third American line, the 4<sup>th</sup> British Brigade line, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Battalion battle lines. Lesser amounts of similar artifacts may mark the first and second battle lines of the American troops, and the location of Knox's two-gun artillery company.



Painter-Craig House

In the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape the potential is strongest for the presence of munitions, with lesser amounts of more portable items, such as uniform buttons and accoutrements. The combat at the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape can be compared to the archeological signatures observed at other American Revolutionary War battlefields of similar size and intensity, such as Monmouth (Sivilich 2009, Sivilich and Stone n.d.), Camden (Legg et al. 2005, Smith et al. 2009), and Cowpens (Babits 1998), and to a lesser extent, Princeton (Selig et al. 2012). At these battle sites the density and distribution of recovered battlefield artifacts clearly mirror the historical record and are a strong indicator of the archeological potential for the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape.



Harvey Road

In locations where battle lines stood and fought for extended periods of time, such as the location of the third American battle line and the lines of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Battalion and the 4<sup>th</sup> British Brigade, the potential for dropped and impacted musket balls is considered to be high. Eighteenth-century linear tactics had two elements – a firing line and a target line (which one is identified as which depends on whose side of the battle you are standing). In those places where the fighting was intense, both the target and firing lines will be marked by impacted lead musket balls as well as dropped lead musket

balls. It is likely too, that in such places the other items that are part of the detritus of war – buttons, buckles, ramrod clips, finials, and metal accoutrement plates – will also be present, representing the effects of musketry on organized bodies of soldiers. On a portion of Princeton Battlefield, for example, the archeological evidence of the engagement included not only fired and dropped musket balls and buck shot, but also parts of cartridge boxes, an extracted musket ball from a Brown Bess, a ramrod holder for a Brown Bess musket, a lead flint wrap, an iron butt cone for a pole or staff, a silver coin (1/2 Real Spanish Cob, produced 1572-1733), and an iron canister shot representing the use of anti-personnel munitions from the cannons of both armies (Selig et al. 2012: Appendix V).

## *2. Post-battle Crown Forces Encampment*

The post-battle Crown Forces encampment was a temporary, short-term camp occupied for several days. The camp was also a tactical position with advanced pickets and avenues of approach, and influenced by the limitations imposed by the local terrain (cf., slope, woods, water supply). Archeological distinctions may be possible to make regarding the camp layouts (known as ‘castrametation’) and the level of military standardization (Whitehorne 2006:29).

Though temporary and transient, overnight bivouacs and short-term camps are often distinguished by the presence of lost ammunition or discarded items, such as reported from a post-battle Crown Forces camp near Monmouth, New Jersey, at the Neuberger Site (Sivilich 1996). Short-term temporary camps occupied for several days can be readily distinguished by their comparatively more robust archeological signature, since large numbers of soldiers and camp occupants leave physical evidence of their passing in the form of lost or discarded ammunition, uniform parts, and food remains, and that signature can be present for years. For example, the American camp occupied by Washington’s Army for eight days (18-26 September 1777) in New Hanover Township, Montgomery County, was still marked by physical remains nearly six decades after the event. In a reminiscence of the “camp at Pottsgrove” written at the beginning of the twentieth century, the landowner recalled that in his childhood (circa 1820s), the area occupied by the American camp was characterized by “...enough leaden musket balls and grape and canister balls and pieces of shell to fill an old straw bread basket full” and that the butchering area for livestock to supply the troops was still readily apparent (Bertolet 1903:3).

Hospital locations are likely resource locations that are associated with the post-battle encampment. Within the Rearguard Action Strategic Landscape, Crown Forces hospitals are known to have been established in/at Dilworthtown and at several other locations (Parcel 04-06-002:000 at 38 Harvey Road, *Samuel Painter Farm*; Parcel 04-14-002:000 at 672 Webb Road, *the Brandywine Glen Complex*). Like encampments, hospital sites may retain an archeological signature consisting of uniform parts, discarded medical/surgical equipment, and human remains associated with amputations (cf. GBPA 1997). Such locations are of a medium to high archeological potential, depending on the degree of subsequent post-battle ground disturbance.

General Sir William Howe is known to have established his headquarters after the Battle at the George Gilpin house (Parcel 04-09-039:000 at 198 Harvey Road) and the structures and houses at Dilworthtown were likewise put to use as temporary shelter for Crown Forces. Such locations are likely to exhibit similar artifact patterning as described above for temporary camps.



The post-battle clean up and policing of the field by the occupying Crown Forces and local civilians is known and understood, but poorly documented. Indeed, few battlefields have documentation on “how” the aftermath of a battle was undertaken. Pioneers buried the dead, but other parties of soldiers and civilians recovered broken and discarded equipment, castoff uniforms, knapsacks, and other portable material culture. How these groups operated and how systematic the “scavenging” was is not clear. Therefore, the presence of larger items related to the Battle is considered to be low, since these items would/should have been recovered soon after the fighting ended.

In the Strategic Retreat Route Strategic Landscape three principal hospital sites are known, and each of these could be considered to be defining features of the route (Parcel 13-20-039:000 at 821 Concord Road, *Concord Friends Meetinghouse*; Parcel 13-12-061:000 at 855 Concord Road, *Nicholas Newlin House*; and Parcel 44-28-093:000 at 378 Glen Mills Road, *Yellow House*, circa 1750-55). Each was a large, easily identifiable structure on the eighteenth-century landscape. It is important to note that these places served as hospitals for the American wounded - likely the wounded who were seriously injured and unable to be moved far from the Battlefield. The locations of these hospitals are useful indicators of the approximate route of retreat of the American forces away from the Battlefield and towards their rendezvous or rally point of Chester. (See Defining Features of the Brandywine Battlefield Study Area Map.)



Concord Meetinghouse

The Strategic Retreat Route Strategic Landscape is more likely to be identified through historical research than through archeological findings. The rapid departure of American troops – individually, in groups, and/or in organized military formations – may not have left behind a significant archeological signature. While dropped or discarded weapons and accoutrements may have marked the avenue or retreat immediately following the Battle, these items would have been recovered or removed by the Crown Forces or local civilians.

### 3. *Burials*

Casualties at the Battle of Brandywine have been variously reported but are generally accepted to have been heavy. The 1989 Cultural Resources Management Study estimates approximately 2,000 men as casualties, with no more than 350 of those potential burials accounted for (Webster et al. 1989:50). In the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape, casualties were considered to be heavy during the final hour of battle, particularly among the British regiments engaged, notably the 64<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot (McGuire 2006:259). Burial parties were employed following the Battle for several days. Crown Forces burial details likely gathered dead bodies, excavated pits or trenches, and buried these in groups (McGuire 2006:268). Given the extensive amount of land encompassed by the Brandywine Battlefield, these burial sites are likely found in a number of locations on the Battlefield. Battlefield burials are known to be present at Birmingham Meeting House, Kennett Meeting House, and "at a few smaller grave sites scattered in or near the battlefield" (Webster et al. 1989:50).

Battlefield burials have reputedly been found on one of the properties within the study area, so the potential exists for additional burial sites in the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape (Webster et al. 1989). The supposed burial on the Painter-Craig farm has not been verified, either in the written records or through the recollections of the current landowner, who has resided on the farm since circa 1942.

Within the Retreat Route Strategic Landscape, the locations of hospitals mentioned above are also likely to be the sites of potential Battle-related burials.

## Insights and Interpretations

The study of the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape reveals this section of the Brandywine Battlefield to retain a high degree of integrity. The Painter-Craig farm complex and the agricultural fields surrounding this property are remarkably intact, and can still convey the sense of the Battle's landscape and terrain. The correlation of GIS with the historical contemporary maps shows that the topography depicted by mapmakers John André, Archibald Robertson, John Montessor, and Fredrich Werner is relatively accurate and little changed since 1777.

The study also finds that the eastern boundary of the Strategic Landscape should be adjusted to the west side of US Route 202. The GIS mapping of the Robertson map clearly shows that no Battle-related action occurred on the east side of this modern highway, but was instead confined to the areas west of the road and south towards US Route 1. This understanding is now reflected in this study's Rearguard Defense Map.



# Historic Resources & Defining Features

## Historic Resources

In order to better understand the landscape at the time of the battle, the *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan: Revolution in the Peaceful Valley* identified historic resources that existed at the time of the battle. The information and documentation available on these historic resources varied with some resources having detailed information available in a National Register application to resources that the only information available was a basic circa construction date. (See Figure 4.1 and Historic Resources Inventory of the Brandywine Battlefield Study Area Map)

Figure 4.1: Strategic Landscapes During Battle			
ID	Parcel Address	Traditional Name, Circa Date	Nat. Reg.
<b>Rearguard Defense</b>			
<b>Chadds Ford Township</b>			
04.01	106 Bellefair Lane	Wonderland Farm, 1770	Not Listed
04.10	38 Harvey Rd.	Samuel Painter Farm, 1730	Not Listed
04.14	21 Oakland Rd.	Brinton 1704 House, 1704	Landmark
04.16	165 Harvey Rd.	No Name, 1755-99	Not Listed
04.17	310 Brintons Bridge Rd.	No Name, 1750	Listed
04.18	360 Brintons Bridge Rd.	No Name, 1770-1779	Not Listed
<b>Strategic Retreat</b>			
<b>Concord Township</b>			
13.01	821 Concord Rd.	Concord Friends Meetinghouse & Nicholas Newlin Tenant House, 1750	In Listed District
13.02	126 Thornton Rd.	Concord Mills Storage House, 1720	Not Listed
13.03	160 Thornton Rd.	M. Thompson Cottage, early 1700s	Listed
13.04	180 Thornton Rd.	John Pierce House, High Hill Farm	Listed
13.05	125 Thornton Rd.	No Name, 1729	Not Listed
13.06	166 Trimble Rd.	Mendenhall-Trimble House, 1713	Not Listed
13.07	815 Concord Rd.	Samuel Trimble Hat Shop, 1767	In Listed District
13.08	183 Trimble Rd.	Joseph Edward House, 1695	Not Listed
13.09	855 Concord Rd.	Nicholas Newlin House, 1720	In Listed District



Figure 4.1 cont.: Strategic Landscapes During Battle			
ID	Parcel Address	Traditional Name, Circa Date	Nat. Reg.
<b>Thornbury Township</b>			
44.02	32 Westtown Rd.	No Name, 1737	Not Listed
44.04	373 Glen Mills Rd.	Isaac Pyle House, 1777	In Listed District
44.05	378 Glen Mills Rd.	The Yellow House, 1750-1755	In Listed District

## Landscape/Viewshed



Thornton Road

The natural landscape plays a vital role in how troop movement and battle activities develop in every battle. The ease of traversing the natural terrain figures into where troops walk, camp, and hide in strategic locations for battle. The density of trees, shrubbery, and even grassy areas make for desirable camouflage. Many of the viewsheds that were present during the Battle of the Brandywine still exist in these two Strategic Landscapes and are worthwhile to preserve, as they give us insight into how the two armies determined their battle plans and their movement.

The Rearguard Defense and Strategic Retreat contain many scenic views and landscapes that provide a backdrop to the existing historic resources. Many of these views are along the corridors of three roads that were important in the final portion of the battle. Thus they are essential to interpreting the history of the battle and the viewsheds they have retained.



Oakland Road

- **Oakland Road:** This corridor is where Maj. Gen. Greene coordinated the rearguard defense. Oakland Road still has a rural feel that reflects what troops experienced in 1777 due to its retention of the road's path, similar width, open viewsheds, and vegetation in the form of trees and shrubs along the road. Development has occurred near the road but so far has been situated in a manner that it is not highly obtrusive. Additionally, the historic Samuel Painter farm remains at Oakland Road's intersection with Harvey Road.
- **Thornton Road:** While this road saw major residential development over the last 40 years, it is still buffered by tall trees and major vegetation. The road could be a historic viewshed due to its retention of the historic topography which is similar to what the troops would have experienced.

# Historic Resources Inventory of the Brandywine Battlefield Study Area



Historic Resources



Battlefield Study Area



Delaware County



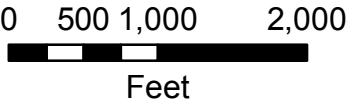
Municipal Boundaries



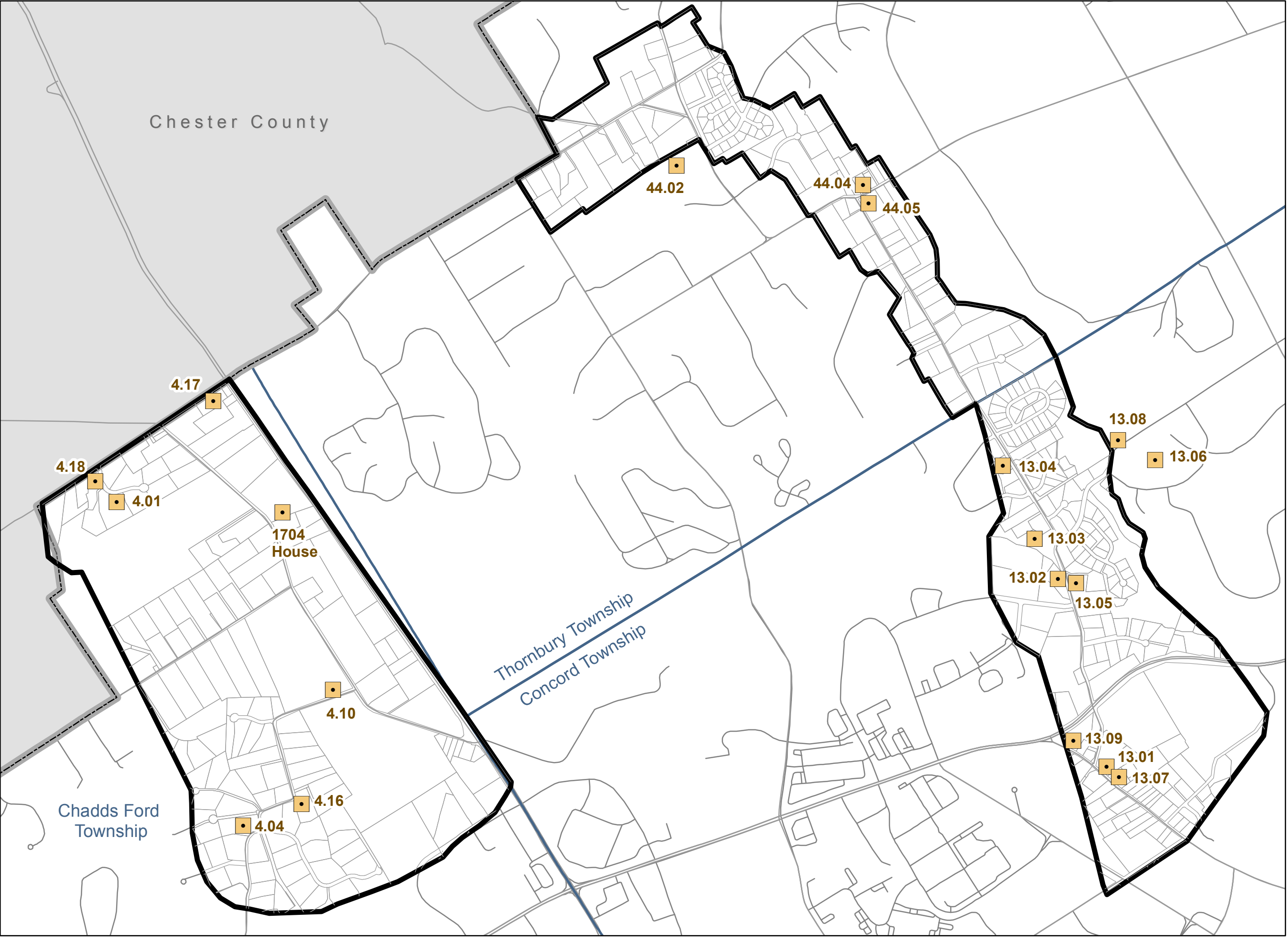
Parcels



Prepared by  
Delaware County  
Planning Department



Disclaimer  
This map is for analytical purposes only. The reliability of this map depends on the accuracy of the underlying data sources which have not been verified.



- Dilworthtown Road: The property on Dilworthtown Road at the corner of Concord Road is one of the few remaining larger lots of unprotected open space within the Strategic Retreat portion of the Brandywine Battlefield. The property still retains the rural atmosphere that would have been experienced by the soldiers as they retreated through Thornbury Township. Interpretive efforts at the site could tell the story of the importance of the final portions of the battle, which is not easily interpreted in other potential interpretive sites related to the retreat because those sites are connected to Quaker history and therefore, may not want to interpret the battle.

## Defining Features

The *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan: Revolution in the Peaceful Valley* identified “defining features” for the entire battlefield. The American Battlefield Protection Program describes “defining features” as:

“... natural terrain features, manmade features, and place names found in battle descriptions or on historic maps that can be used to locate significant actions and events associated with a battle. A defining feature may be a place such as a town or farm, a structure such as a mill, house or church, a road, wood lot, earthwork, or farm field; it may be a natural terrain feature, such as a stream, ridge, hill, ford, or ravine... Features that no longer exist... are not mapped as defining features.”

The following are those defining features within the Rearguard Defense and Strategic Retreat Strategic Landscapes identified in the *Preservation Plan*.

<b><i>Rearguard Defense</i></b>
• 1704 House/Dilworthtown Staging
• Rearguard Defense Battle
• Samuel Painter Field Hospital
• Harvey Run Rd.
• Oakland Rd.

<b><i>Strategic Retreat</i></b>
• Yellow House Field Hospital
• Concord Meetinghouse Field Hospital
• Nicholas Newlin House Field Hospital
• Dilworthtown Rd., (Former Great Rd.)
• Thornton Rd., (Formerly Concord Rd.)
• US Rt. 1, (Former Great Nottingham Rd.)

As described above, defining features can be a place or structure as well as a natural terrain feature. The *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan* focused more upon places, such as buildings and hospitals, than upon natural terrain. The Strategic Landscapes Preservation Plan provides the ability to look more closely at the significant natural features to expand upon the original list. In addition to the historic buildings and streets identified in the current plan, other defining features important to understanding these two Strategic Landscapes are topographic features. These include the clear field in the rearguard push, the rising ground, and hedges. KOCOA analysis helps determine defining features by understanding during what portion(s) of the battle the feature was significant. This analysis was conducted by JMA during the Archeological Design Analysis. The list created by JMA is listed below. Additional analysis of Defining Features can be found in Chapter 3.



Table 4.2. Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape Defining Features

Defining Feature	KOCSA Analysis	Robertson Map Designation	Text Source	Current Condition
<b>Large cleared field</b>	Observation/Field of Fire	4 <sup>th</sup> British brigade line (O)	Pickering (cited by McGuire 2006:253)	Agricultural field
<b>Rising ground in front of [south] the cleared field</b>	Key Terrain, Observation, Field of Fire. Location of Knox's two-gun artillery company	"two pieces of cannon (M)"	Pickering (cited by McGuire 2006:253)	Lawn associated with private home
<b>Rail Fence, 1<sup>st</sup> American Position</b>	Key Terrain, Observation, Field of Fire. Location of American battle line	"rebels behind the fence (L)"	Pickering and Robertson (McGuire 2006:253)	Location of today's Webb Road
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> American position and Hedge/ 2nd position of 4<sup>th</sup> British Brigade</b>	Observation, Field of fire, Cover & Concealment	Cannon posted here and "Americans left the hedge" (N)	Robertson	Tree line in agricultural field
<b>Royal Artillery Position</b>	Key Terrain, Observation, Field of Fire	Position of two Royal Artillery guns	Robertson	Agricultural Field. Topographic rise with view of 3 <sup>rd</sup> American position along Route 202
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> American Position, Hedges and Woods, Location of American battle line</b>	Key Terrain, Observation, Field of Fire	"fire commenced from the hedges and woods" (P and R) Plowed field where Virginia troops formed	Pinckney (cited by McGuire 2006:256); Robertson	Tree line bordering industrial park along Brandywine Avenue to south & Fallow field west of Rt. 202
<b>Dilworth village</b>	Cover and Concealment	Dilworth village		Crossroads village of Dilworthtown
<b>Harvey Road</b>	Avenue of Approach for Greene's Division and Nash's brigade	Farm lane		Similar to today's Harvey Road
<b>Wilmington Road</b>	Avenue of Approach/Retreat	Road		Today's Oakland Road
<b>Birmingham Road</b>	Avenue of Approach	Road		Birmingham Road

# Updating Historic Resource Documentation



165 Harvey Road, Chadds Ford

Updating documentation for all the resources that stood at the time of the battle was beyond the scope of this project. However, DCPD, with the assistance of the local historical commissions and HARB, identified a number of priority resources that need additional historic research or could benefit from updated documentation. The completed Historic Resource Survey Form for each of the identified historic resources is located in Appendix D.

There are many previously-known historic resources in the Brandywine Battlefield area. Many of these resources have been documented, but as they represent three different municipalities they were documented in different time periods, to different levels of detail, and stored in different places. Our goal was to establish, at least for a select group of battlefield resources, a review of all data previously collected and to centralize it in one file, updated to reflect new information. Eight priority resources were chosen. We would like to introduce a tool that can be shared by all three municipalities in Delaware County, to begin to maintain one updated centralized file of information. This review of remaining resources is vital, as resources can go through change and need re-documenting. We felt it wise to review all source material we could find and re-write the documentation as necessary to reveal a more accurate picture of some of the remaining resources that hold priority.



373 Glen Mills Road, Thornbury Township

Another reason to distinguish a select number of priority resources is to create a kind of encapsulated vision of what the built landscape was like at the time of the battle. So in a sense these eight resources are a microcosm of what we could find if we had the ability to go back in time and experience the landscape. This small but vital sample of resources might lend itself to explaining the big picture in a brochure or lecture.

These eight buildings represent major aspects of life in western Delaware County from the late 17<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Prominent development patterns, building types, and architectural design choices are more apparent when viewing the particular places.

As far as representing key development patterns from the period, some of these buildings are the main residence or tenant home on a farmstead, scattered around in the landscape but near a road for access to bring farm products to the market, such as the resource at 165 Harvey Road. Others represent early buildings in what began as a crossroads development and grew to village life – as in Dilworthtown’s 310 Brinton Bridge Road, 360 Brinton Bridge Road, and 373 Glen Mills Road, as well as 378 Glenn Mills Road in Thornton Village and 166 Trimble Road in Concordville.

The uses represented also express the main pattern of country life in this part of Delaware County. The residences include a few large farmstead homes, one millworker’s home (at 126 Thornton Road), one home of a tenant farmer who purchased 50 acres and his home at 183 Trimble Road after having been an indentured servant, and one commercial/social focal point for the homes at a crossroads village, like the Yellow House, at 378 Glen Mills Road, that began its life as a tavern.



Yellow House, Thornbury Township

The eight historic resources lie within a two mile radius of each other. All are north of Baltimore Pike and lie in the quadrant abutting Chester County along the northern border of Delaware County. All were built sometime between 1680 and 1799. They share common architectural features, including:

- a) All were built of stone, and originally covered with stucco.
- b) All have side-gabled pitched roofs.
- c) All represent the English vernacular Colonial style popular in the region.
- d) All appear to have been built in phases, and have been expanded, even in early times, to reflect changes in multi-generational growth, or the inclusion of a new use.
- e) Some represent the famous first families of the region, like the Mendenhalls and the Gilpins, where other buildings represent the “regular” people who made up the community – farm staff, millworkers, and tavern owners.

Concord Township	Reason for Documenting
183 Trimble Road	Building not listed on the National Register and does not have a completed Survey Form in Concord Historic Sites Survey
166 Trimble Road	Construction date stated in <i>Preservation Plan</i> needs to be verified
126 Thornton Road	Building not listed on the National Register
Thornbury Township	Reason for Documenting
373 Glen Mills Road	Historic Site Survey Form only has a minimal historical description and construction date needs to be verified
378 Glen Mills Road	Historic Site Survey Form only has a minimal historical description and construction date needs to be verified



Chadds Ford Township	Reason for Documenting
360 Brintons Bridge Road	Building not listed individually on the National Register and construction date needs to be verified
165 Harvey Road	Building not listed individually on the National Register and construction date needs to be verified
310 Brintons Bridge Road	Does not have a completed Survey Form and construction date needs to be verified

Documentation included reviewing and compiling all the current scattered information and conducting additional historic research, including deed searches. Photos and maps were updated for inclusion in the new/updated Historic Resource Survey Form. This information will aid with future Section 106 and History Code reviews by ensuring that these resources are not overlooked and that updated information is available.

## National Register

Several of the historic resources within the Strategic Landscapes are grouped together and should be considered for potential National Register districts or individual listings. Six of the eight priority resources are currently listed as contributing resources in National Register Historic Districts. The remaining two resources appear National Register eligible and should be considered for listing. They are 126 Thornton Road and 183 Trimble Road. Other resources for consideration for the National Register are complexes of historic resources.

## Historic Complex

**Concord Mills Complex:** This complex dates to circa 1720, making it one of the earliest milling operations in Delaware County. It is located within the Strategic Retreat along Thornton Road. The troops would have passed near the buildings as they retreated to Baltimore Pike.

- (13-12-009:000), 125 Thornton Road, Concord Mills Storage House
- (13-12-006:000), 126 Thornton Road

Concord Mills Storage House is a stucco-over-stone building believed to have served as a storage house for Pyle's mill and later turned into a tenant house that dates c. 1720. The building at 126 Thornton Road is a stucco-over-stone house that was built in 1729 by Nicholas Pyle, owner of the Concord Mills. John Newlin later bought the mills.

# Action Plan

## Short-term Recommendations (1-3 years)

### Low Cost

#### 1. Documentation

All documentation for historic resources within the larger battlefield area should be consolidated into one central place. DCPD has compiled all resources within the two Strategic Landscapes and begun updating documentation.

#### 2. Documentation Update

DCPD has begun updating the historic resources within the two Strategic Landscapes. DCPD will continue to update resources in other areas of the battlefield in Delaware County.

#### 3. National Register Recognition

Delaware and Chester counties will work on pursuing a Multiple Property Nomination Form. This will make it easier to pursue National Register nominations for historic resources related to the battle that lay outside of the existing National Historic Landmark, including those historic resources identified in this Chapter. This effort would help recognize resources within Thornbury and Concord. The strategy will include considering pursuing funding to hire an architectural historian to assist in the process. Pursuit of individual nominations should include the following in these Strategic Landscapes:

- a. 183 Trimble Road
- b. 126 Thornton Road
- c. Historic Complexes

#### 4. Defining Features should be incorporated into planning activities

The importance of defining features should be discussed in interpretation efforts to explain the battle and how it can be read on the land. This should include visually depicting the views on maps to better demonstrate why these areas are important and not just identifying their locations.

#### 5. Research

Further research should be conducted on the historic road network and citizen claims to have a better understanding of how residents were directly impacted in these two Strategic Landscapes and surrounding areas.

## Mid/Long-term Recommendations

- The further development of themes relating to the Philadelphia Campaign of 1777 and the modern day context of the battle is needed.
- More research is needed on social history and non-traditional history surrounding the battle, like camp followers, women, black loyalist soldiers, Quakers, and aftermath of battle on the area.





# Planning Strategies

## Current Planning Status

### Preservation Strategies

Concord, Chadds Ford, and Thornbury Townships all recognize the importance of their history and historic built environment. All three acknowledge their historic resources as assets through identification, assistance, and protection. The communities' commitment to preservation is evidenced in the presence of municipal ordinances, officially appointed commissions, and volunteer historical societies. The process of developing the Strategic Landscapes Plan has involved participants of all three communities, including local staff and officials, commissions, historical societies, and residents.



Dilworthtown Historic District,  
Chadds Ford

Each municipal government has appointed a group of residents to advise them on preserving their heritage. Concord and Thornbury have historical commissions, while Chadds Ford has a Historical Architectural Review Board. To give context, fewer than half of Delaware County's 49 municipalities have designated historic preservation advisory groups.

In addition to appointing advisory groups to act as watchdogs for preservation issues, municipalities in Pennsylvania can also adopt zoning regulations to protect their valued historic assets. Some communities have more scattered sites, which are best protected through historic preservation overlay zoning. Others have clusters of resources and thus they create local historic district ordinance protection.



373 Glen Mills Road, Thornbury

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) is the legal framework that enables local municipalities to legislate zoning and regulate the use of land. This includes local government's authority to "provide for protection of natural and historic features and resources." The results include municipalities passing ordinances that regulate historic properties. A historic preservation overlay zone can serve as a supplement to an underlying zoning provision in a historic area, and help retain historic resources by being more restrictive than or offering incentives beyond the underlying regulations. Where historic districts are concerned, Pennsylvania Act 167

(1961 PL 282) is the most important legislative tool. Act 167 authorizes a local government to implement additional regulations in which proposed architectural changes—demolition, additions, new construction, and alterations—to resources within the district are locally reviewed for consistency with guidelines.

Concord and Thornbury currently have historic preservation zoning overlay ordinances that protect the scattered sites listed in their Historic Resource Surveys. Chadds Ford has two local historic districts, both of which fall within the battlefield planning area. The Dilworthtown historic district specifically lies within the Rearguard Defense Strategic Landscape. Chadds Ford's Historic District Act lives within the Township's Zoning Code as an overlay. Each Ordinance provides slightly different regulations.

- Thornbury Township can delay a demolition permit up to 90 days to provide an opportunity to discuss alternatives to demolition, to complete documentation, and prepare financial analysis. The Township has the authority to deny a demolition permit for Class I historic resources. A historic Resource Impact Study is required for any subdivision and land development within 250 feet of a historic district or 200 feet of a historic resource.
- According to the Historic Preservation Article in Concord's Zoning Ordinance, the Historical Commission can recommend the denial of a demolition permit because an economically viable alternative has been found. Additional time is allotted in order to resolve any issues around the alternative. The Historical Commission also reviews any subdivision or land development plans that contain a historic resource or are within 300 feet of a historic resource.
- Chadds Ford's Historic Districts require issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness by the board of Supervisors for demolition, new construction, and alterations within the districts. The Historical Architectural Review Board provides recommendations to the Board of Supervisors prior to their ruling.

Most of the historic resources that date from the time of the battle are already protected by the overlay Ordinances (See Figure 5.1).

<b>Figure 5.1: Locally Protected Battle-related Historic Resources</b>	
<b>Rearguard Defense</b>	
<b>Chadds Ford Township</b>	
<b>Address</b>	<b>Traditional Name</b>
21 Oakland Rd.	1704 House
360 Brintons Bridge Road	
310 Brintons Bridge Road	
<b>Strategic Retreat</b>	
<b>Concord Township</b>	
<b>Address</b>	<b>Traditional Name</b>
821 Concord Rd.	Concord Friends Meetinghouse & Nicholas Newlin Tenant House
126 Thornton Rd.	Concord Mills Storage House
160 Thornton Rd.	M. Thompson Cottage
180 Thornton Rd.	John Pierce House, High Hill Farm

Figure 5.1 cont.: Locally Protected Battle-related Historic Resources		
Strategic Retreat		
Concord Township		
Address	Traditional Name	
125 Thornton Rd.		
166 Trimble Rd.	Mendenhall-Trimble House	
815 Concord Rd.	Samuel Trimble Hat Shop	
183 Trimble Rd.	Joseph Edward House	
855 Concord Rd.	Nicholas Newlin House	
Thornbury Township		
Address	Historic Name	Resource Category
32 Westtown Rd.	John Pyle House	Class II
373 Glen Mills Rd.	Isaac Pyle House	Class I
378 Glen Mills Rd.	The Yellow House	Class I

Incentives in a historic ordinance can encourage the preservation of historic resources by allowing them to more easily be adaptively reused, for example by permitting additional uses or waivers. Incentives provide extra motivation for landowners to preserve historic resources as well as demonstrating to potential developers the importance the community places on retaining its heritage. Municipalities should remember that in addition to regulations, incentives are an important tool for accomplishing their goals. Chadds Ford, Concord, and Thornbury have already taken advantage of this tool in some format within their ordinances.



310 Brintons Bridge Rd, Chadds Ford

- Thornbury Township provides several incentives in their Ordinance that make it easier to preserve a historic resource. The ordinance allows additional use beyond those of the base zoning, including residential conversion, home occupation, and bed and breakfast. It also allows the historic resource lot to satisfy, in part, the open space requirements and allows exclusion of the resource in some instances when calculating density and impervious coverage requirements. A maximum of 25% deviation in area and bulk regulation is potentially allowed if necessary to preserve a resource.
- Concord's Ordinance also allows incentives in the form of conditional use and modifications as long as specific conditions are met. Conditional uses permitted for historic resources include bed and breakfast, cultural studio, educational center, flower shop, indoor recreational facility, funeral home, and educational farm. An additional dwelling unit, over and above existing zoning requirements, may also be allowed in a historic dwelling. Modification of lot size, lot dimension, yard requirement, and minimum lot area in cluster development are allowed in order to preserve a historic resource.



- Chadds Ford's Historic District Ordinance permits conditional uses for different underlying zoning districts. Conditional uses within the R-1 Residential District include educational/religious uses, cultural uses, and signs. Conditional uses within the B Business District are signs, clubs or lodges, commercial recreational facilities for fitness, and educational/philanthropic/religious uses. The PBC Planned Business Center District has conditional use opportunities for signage.

Each community has an independent historical society. The Chadds Ford Historical Society is dedicated to educating the public on the 18<sup>th</sup> century and runs a historic site of three pre-Revolutionary War buildings. The Concord Historical Society preserves the history of Concord Township and maintains



Chadd's House, Chadds Ford  
Photo: Courtesy of Keith Lockhart

two historic sites, the Pole Cat Road House and the Pierce-Willits House. The Thornbury Historical Society promotes the heritage of the Township through programs and educational outreach.

The municipalities have all completed Historic Resource Surveys, though both Concord and Chadds Ford's were conducted in the 1980s and should be updated. The Concord Historical Commission is in the process of updating their survey. Thornbury Township's Historic Resource Survey is more recent, completed in 2001; however, there

are still resources documented that could use additional historic research. The documentation DCPD has completed for the priority resource list can serve as a starting point for more in-depth survey updates for all the municipalities.

## Comprehensive Plans



CHADDS FORD TOWNSHIP  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



A comprehensive plan is a long-range planning tool used to guide the future growth and development of a community. It expresses a community's vision and goals for the future and sets forth a plan to achieve them and strategies and recommendations for implementing them. Establishing preservation goals in a comprehensive plan illustrates a strong commitment to being good stewards of historic resources. Some municipalities in Pennsylvania have stand-alone preservation plans that provide additional information and direction, however no Delaware County municipalities have taken this step. At the very minimum, it is important for municipalities to incorporate preservation goals somewhere within a comprehensive plan.

All three of the Brandywine Battlefield municipalities mention the importance of retaining their history and historic resources within their comprehensive plans. Concord includes a historic resource section in the Addendum to its

Comprehensive Plan. Concord's Plan recognizes their Historic Resource Survey, promotes nominating

sites to the National Register, suggests creating a historic district ordinance, encourages heritage tourism, and recommends design standards compatible to the historic structures in the historic villages. Its Land Use Map recognizes historic neighborhoods in the Concordville area.

Thornbury Township's Comprehensive Plan has small sections concerning historic resources and preservation in four chapters, including:

- A discussion of the battle in the history of the Township;
- A review of the Survey update in detail;
- A recommendation advocating for infill and reuse development in Thornton that preserves the village character; and
- Mention of adopting amendments to the Subdivision and Land Development Code to facilitate preservation.

Since the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan in 2004, Thornbury passed a Historic Resource Preservation Overlay Ordinance. Thornbury Historical Commission is working on including the importance of the battlefield specifically in future planning efforts and has already included information on planning efforts on their webpage.

Chadds Ford has a chapter dedicated to Natural and Historic Resources and mentions preservation throughout their Comprehensive Plan. The Chadds Ford Open Space Plan also calls for the preservation of historic resources and includes a map of historic resources. It has a variety of recommendations supporting preservation, including the following:

- Using easements as a tool to preserve open space and protect historic resources;
- Protecting landscape elements;
- Preserving the remaining rural character;
- Scenic viewshed protection;
- Identifying the historic village in the Future Land Use map;
- Creating a historical commission;
- Making trail connections in Dilworthtown; and
- Incorporating the historic village into zoning.

Chadds Ford has a longer history of recognizing the Brandywine Battlefield since it is the only one of the three communities that was included in the original National Historic Landmark boundaries. Chadds Ford's Comprehensive Plan recognizes the battlefield specifically by calling for the support of the BBTF, the addition of recreational walking and hiking and access to the Brandywine Battlefield Historic Site, and the preservation of the National Historic Landmark.

It is anticipated that this Strategic Preservation Plan can benefit all three municipalities by helping them to better reach the goals of their comprehensive plans. The final document will be a tool to be used by the general public and municipalities in future planning initiatives. Municipalities will be able to take the planning ideas created from this document and implement them into their planning efforts, particularly Concord and Thornbury who do not have as strong of an association with the battlefield because they were not included in the original Landmark boundaries.

# Growth & Land Use

## *Rearguard Defense*

The Rearguard Defense has seen major development pressure with population growth in the last four decades. From 1970 to 2010, Chadds Ford experienced a 184 percent increase in population (from 1,281 to 3,640). This population growth has led to the conversion of agricultural, vacant, and wooded lands to residential communities. The Chadds Ford Township Comprehensive Plan's Current Land Use Map depicts approximately 80 percent of the land in the Township as single-family detached; however, this includes several large lots that contain only a few buildings with the remainder in open space. The Comprehensive Plan's Future Land Use Map denotes the land area of the Rearguard Defense as:

- Historic Village Mixed Use;
- Commercial/High Density Residential along Route 202;
- Scenic Areas along the west side of Oakland Road; and
- Open Space Protection Focus Areas.



Harvey Road, Chadds Ford



Route 202, Chadds Ford

As seen on the Inventory of Lands Well Suited for Preservation Map, the majority of the large lots along Oakland Road are unprotected open space. *Delaware County 2035*, the County's Comprehensive Plan, identifies these large lots along Oakland Road as Conservation Priority Areas. Conservation Priority Areas are defined as "undeveloped areas of high scenic, environmental, recreational, or agricultural value that should be preserved in their undeveloped or minimally developed

state to ensure they continue to serve as resources for the County and its residents, as identified by municipalities in their comprehensive plans." Chadds Ford's Open Space Plan identifies much of the area along Oakland Road as Open Space Protection Focus Areas. In contrast, much of the land along Route 202 is identified as appropriate for development in several plans. *Delaware County 2035* identifies several parcels along 202 as Potential Development Areas. Potential Development Areas are defined as "sites identified as appropriate for more intensified land use; usually deemed appropriate for built growth by a community due to their proximity to existing transportation and utility infrastructure." Chadds Ford's Comprehensive Plan supports this by identifying Route 202 as an area for higher density. Therefore, promoting more dense development along Route 202 while encouraging less dense along Oakland Road would be appropriate.

## *Strategic Retreat*

The predominant existing land use in Thornbury and Concord's portions of the Strategic Retreat Landscape is single-family detached residential (See Land Use of the Brandywine Battlefield Map). The existing land use around Thornton is Commercial while Concordville is designated Quasi-Public/Private and Retail/Services. Only two active farms remain in Thornbury Township and one lies right outside of the Strategic Retreat boundary, just south of Glen Mills Road.



# Land Use of the Brandywine Battlefield Study Area

## Land Use

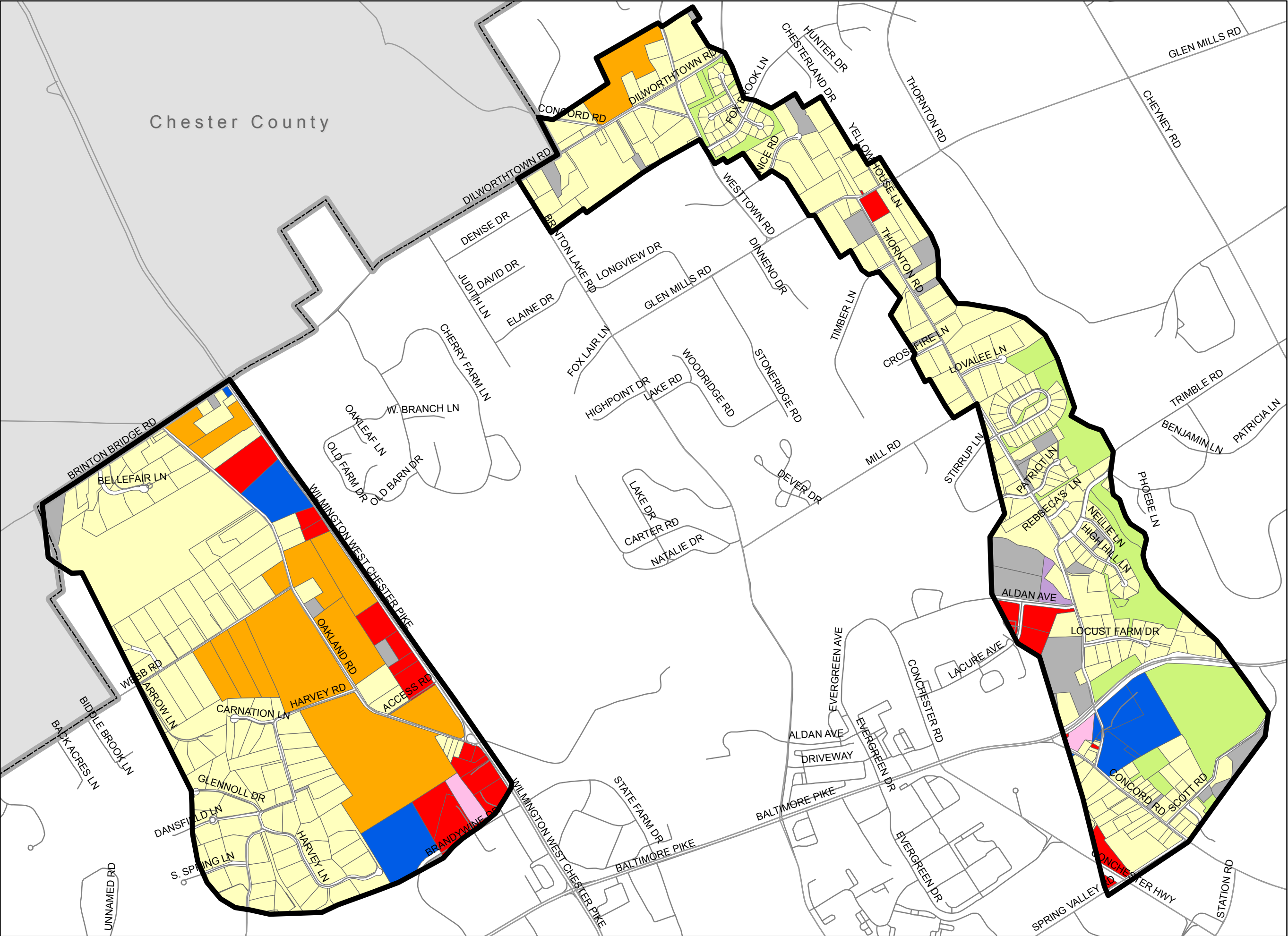
- Single-family detached
- Commercial
- Office
- Institutional
- Light Industrial
- Open Space
- Vacant
- Agriculture, pasture, meadow

- Battlefield Study Area
- Delaware County

Prepared by Delaware County Planning Department

0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet

Disclaimer  
This map is for analytical purposes only. The reliability of this map depends on the accuracy of the underlying data sources which have not been verified.





Dilworthtown Road, Thornbury Township

Within Thornbury's portion of the Strategic Retreat, one of the few remaining pieces of property over 6 acres that retains the majority of its open space is located on the northeast corner of Dilworthtown Road and Concord Road. Unfortunately, this property was overlooked during previous planning efforts and was not identified as a piece of property that would be well suited for protection in the *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan: Revolution in the Peaceful Valley*. Further analysis conducted during current planning efforts to create Strategic Landscapes Preservation Plans determined

that this property along Dilworthtown Road could be a potential location for preservation and interpretive efforts. (See Lands Well Suited for Preservation Map)

Concord's Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map designates the Concordville area on both sides of Route 1 as well as the Historic Neighborhoods district around Concord Road south of Baltimore Pike as "Possible Receiving Areas" for Transfer of Development Rights. Transfer of Development Rights would allow designated conservation areas in Concord to transfer their development right to designated Receiving Areas, thus retaining the rural character of the conservation areas while not impeding development on a broader scale. The remainder of the area in Concord is designated Mixed Use, Existing Residential Cluster/Planned Residential Development, and Other Compact Development Tracts. *Delaware County 2035* identifies areas adjacent to Thornton Road, near Baltimore Pike, as potential greenways.

Given current land use and zoning, most of the two Strategic Landscapes are either developed or zoned for potential development. While zoning can be an effective tool for controlling the timing and intensity of development, it is only effective while it is in place. Therefore, even acres zoned open space at present could be rezoned for future development if growth pressure demands it. Conservation easements and other such permanent designations have more strength in protecting valuable lands long-term.

# Planning Policy for Strategic Landscapes

After discussing with the municipalities and the public, DCPD determined that none of the municipalities in the study area are currently considering major revisions to their ordinances that would affect historic resources. Many of the major landowners were involved in efforts in the 1990s to protect open space in the battlefield and are completely aware of the availability of protection tools such as easements. Therefore, DCPD did not focus the efforts of this project on those tools but instead

concentrated on encouraging public recognition and ownership of battlefield protection. We wanted to explore a wide range of ideas, including using current planning strategies for battlefield protection and some non-traditional planning concepts.



Education- One of the best ways to ensure the preservation of resources is for the community to see value in it and want to promote its importance. Also, preservation is not just preserving the physical place but also preserving the history and the stories of those who were involved, which is particularly important when dealing with areas where people lost their lives.

Continuing to educate the public about the battle will encourage the future landowners and citizens to care about preserving resources associated with the battle.

Building Conservation- DCPD wants to encourage strategies and ideas that can assist with the continued upkeep and preservation of the historic buildings in the battlefield. Maintaining a historic building can be difficult because historic materials need different maintenance than a modern building. Most homeowners of

historic buildings cherish both their buildings and their buildings' histories, which is particularly true of homeowners in these Strategic Landscapes. DCPD found many homeowners and landowners who are very excited and interested in the history of the battlefield and Delaware County. So advertising and offering seminars about educational tools to assist homeowners could go a long way toward preserving these resources. DCPD has a Historic House Maintenance Guide available on its website that would be useful for homeowners in the Strategic Landscapes.



Protection of Archeological Resources- This is another area where possible outreach and education could help protect battle-related resources. DCPD learned during the public outreach for this project that unauthorized metal detecting in these communities is an issue. Landowners have had the public trespass on their property and there has been an issue with artifacts being taken from ruins of historic structures. There has even been an organization reaching out to historically-minded people to encourage metal detecting.


First of all, making certain people understand private property issues and the importance of not trespassing on other people's lands needs to be better addressed. There should be an emphasis on the negative impact informal digging and removal of objects can have on the value of historical information that a trained archeologist could discover on an undisturbed site. Educating historical organizations will help ensure that incorrect information is not being distributed. The Delaware County Historic Preservation Network (DCHPN), a group dedicated to coordinating communications among historical organizations, hosts technical lectures about topics important to preservation. This group could help by offering educational opportunities on a variety of topics related to archeology and site preservation. One such topic might be the use of ground penetrating radar to detect archeological artifacts, often a tool used for battlefield research.



Inventory  
of Lands  
Well Suited  
for  
Preservation  
in the  
Brandywine  
Battlefield  
Study Area

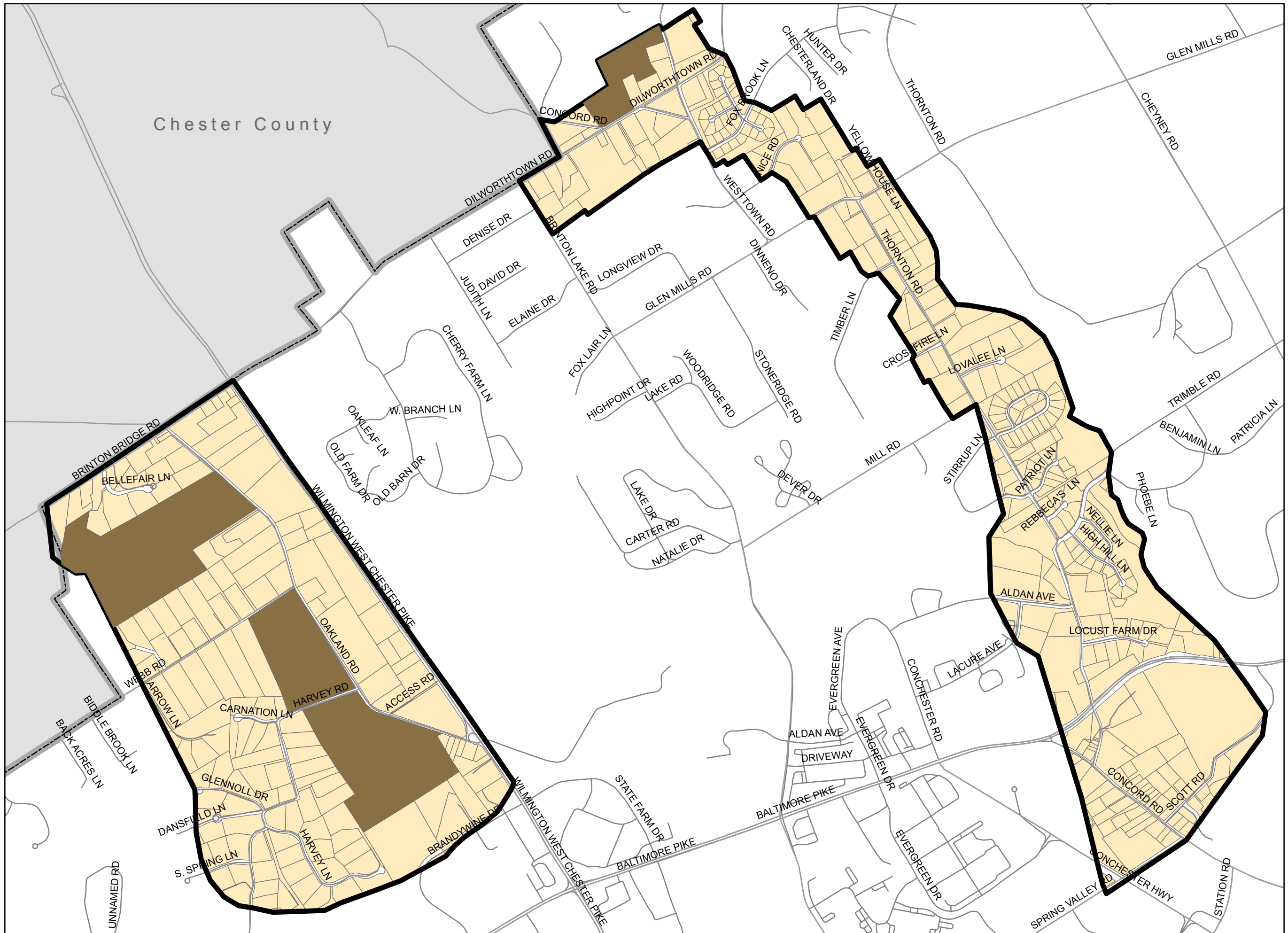
 Lands Well Suited for Preservation

 Battlefield Study Area  
 Delaware County

 Prepared by  
Delaware County  
Planning Department

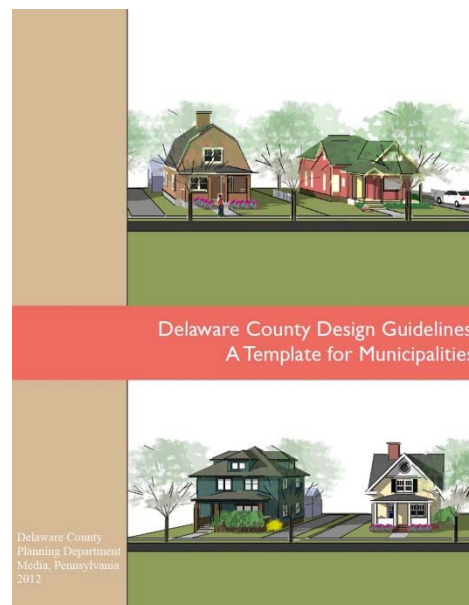
0 500 1,000 2,000  
Feet

Disclaimer  
This map is for analytical  
purposes only. The  
reliability of this map  
depends on the accuracy  
of the underlying data  
sources which have not  
been verified.



Municipalities should use the information on archeology presented in Chapter 3 of this plan and in the *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan* to guide them when considering the impact of development to the municipality. It is advisable that landowners in combat areas consider engaging a professional archeologist, who, with the assistance of a person qualified in metal detecting would conduct a survey of the property prior to any ground disturbance. This practice would facilitate the recovery of battle-related artifacts prior to their loss and allow the recording of the location of the artifacts on a map. This map of artifacts would provide a record of artifact distribution in the municipality and help raise awareness among citizens about the battlefield and the fact that evidence may still be in people's yards. It should be emphasized to landowners that they retain ownership of any archeological artifacts discovered on their property.

Voluntary Design Guidelines- These guidelines are not mandatory regulations but guides that landowners could use as a reference on how to more sensitively maintain or expand their property. Currently, Chadds Ford has Design Guidelines for their historic districts. DCPD created a general design guideline template that could be used to create targeted battlefield preservation guidelines specific to the period, styles, and materials particular to battlefield resources. DCDP guidelines were created for just this purpose, to allow communities to adapt and use portions that apply to their communities and that are important to their particular district. Design Guidelines can also include guidelines for identifying and protecting archeological resources.



Delaware County Design Guidelines:  
A Template for Municipalities

Delaware County  
Planning Department  
Media, Pennsylvania  
2012

Certified Local Government- Since all three municipalities have historic preservation ordinances, they could qualify for becoming a Certified Local Government (CLG). The CLG program, administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, provides municipalities with technical assistance and funding incentives. A CLG grant could help fund design guidelines, National Register nominations, and other planning activities.

Cluster Development- Currently the municipalities have planning strategies in place that can also be used to promote guided development to help better preserve the quality of the battlefield. Cluster zoning is a type of zoning in which density is determined for an entire area, rather than lot by lot. This allows for buildings to be grouped together, closer than standard zoning allows, which provides extra land to be used for open space, recreation, or agriculture. This can be a beneficial tool for preserving the battlefield by steering development away from sensitive areas, such as potentially sensitive archeological areas and viewsheds. For example, homes in a residential development can be clustered together farther back on a site to protect the viewshed of a historic road.

Currently all three municipalities have some form of cluster zoning in their codes. The Brandywine Conservancy is working with the homeowners of a large property within the Rearguard Defense to use cluster zoning to preserve open space on the lot.

Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) –TDR is a method of protecting valued land in any given community— e.g. farmland, open space, or natural resources—by transferring the development rights from one area to another. Basically, it has the effect of placing a conservation easement on one property, while offering an increase in density in another location that is being developed. Concord currently has a TDR ordinance but it does not specifically help preserve battlefield land.

Agriculture- Although these communities do not have large amounts of land actively used for agriculture— there is one farm in the Rearguard Defense and a farm outside of both the Rearguard Defense and Strategic Retreat—preserving the agriculture that remains is important. While municipalities must plan for future growth, the soils in these areas are also ripe for agricultural use. Regulations can accommodate growth while allowing for farming to continue and providing additional opportunities. For instance, small lots that may not be suitable for traditional commercial farming could be an appropriate size for Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) or a community garden. A residential development could



Example of a CSA, Red Hill Farm, Aston, Delaware County

possibly provide a CSA or community garden as well if the homes are clustered together and an open lot is reserved for farming. One of the most well-known community gardens in Delaware County is at Rose Tree County Park. Over 100 community garden plots are available for lease to County residents for a small fee. The plots can be used for gardening, including growing fruits and/or vegetables. The plots are a great example of the productive use of existing open space while also providing an amenity for the community. Hillside Farm is a CSA initiative established in 2009 at Elwyn's Media Campus in Middletown. It is comprised of 10 acres of land that is used for agriculture and educational outreach.

Recent changes to the laws regulating zoning in Pennsylvania have allowed for the preservation of agriculture through zoning. The State Clean and Green Act allows land being used for farming to be assessed by its use instead of fair market value, which can lower the assessment and the taxes. An Agricultural Security Area (ASA) is a voluntary agreement among landowners that can provide farmers with a more collective voice. It can assist with protecting against local nuisance claims and condemnation. ASAs are established by local governments.

## Funding

Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits- Federal and now State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits are available to owners of historic buildings who have incurred certain expenses with the rehabilitation of older buildings. The Federal tax credit covers 20 percent of qualifying expenses of a “substantial” renovation project, while the State program offers a rebate of up to 25 percent of the project costs. Both programs are only available to income-producing properties that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Brandywine Battlefield Landmark meets these criteria and therefore is eligible for rehabilitation tax credits. In addition, any building outside of the Landmark but within the larger battlefield area could also be eligible for tax credits if it is individually listed on the National



Register or is a contributing property within a National Register District. While there may not be many buildings within the Strategic Landscapes that are income-producing, tax credits are still a good resource to know about for those that qualify.



“Campaign 1776”- The Civil War Trust, a nonprofit organization created in the 1980s to preserve Civil War battlefields through land preservation, has expanded its mission to include the protection of Revolutionary War battlefields, through a new program entitled ‘Campaign 1776’. ‘Campaign 1776’ had its origins when representatives of the National Park Service (NPS) approached the Civil War Trust about expanding into Revolutionary War and War of 1812 preservation in light of pending federal legislation that would create a unified pool of government matching grant funding. The Trust works only with willing sellers, paying fair market value for land that will be protected in perpetuity through fee simple purchases and/or conservation easements. This could be a potential funding source for acquiring significant land from interested owners. Brandywine’s status as a “Class A, Preservation Priority 1” Revolutionary War battlefield by the National Park Service could give land associated with the battle priority. The BBTF has already begun discussions with representatives from the Civil War Trust on the importance of the battle and its landscape.

Conservation Funding- Several funding opportunities exist for environmental conservation. The Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP), administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), provides funds for planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation, and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, parks, and beautification projects. The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation of Natural Resources’ (DCNR) Community Conservation Partnership Program (C2P2) provides funding for land acquisition and conservation. Eligible activities include the rehabilitation and development of parks and recreation facilities, acquisition of land for park and conservation purposes, and technical assistance for feasibility studies, trail studies, and site development planning. The few larger unprotected open spaces within the Strategic Landscapes along Oakland Road and Dilworthtown Road could potentially take advantage of these funding sources to create protected open space or a pocket park.

# Action Plan

## Short-term Recommendations (1-3 years)

### Low Cost

#### 1. Educate Public on the Battle

DCPD will continue to have information about Brandywine on our website and will continue to be actively involved in the Brandywine Battlefield Task Force. The Brandywine Battlefield State Park is also actively involved in promoting not just their site but the entire battlefield. The Animated Map created in 2010 is a tool that all organizations involved in the battlefield will continue to use to educate the public about the battle and what area it covered.

#### 2. Encourage Good Stewardship of Historic Buildings

DCPD will encourage the distribution of the County's Historic House Maintenance Guide. DCPD will discuss with historical commissions and the HARB the idea of creating Design Guidelines geared towards the battlefield. The Historical Commissions could themselves adapt DCPD's Guidelines template or they could pursue funding to have their own guidelines drafted.

#### 3. Incorporate the Battlefield into Comprehensive Plans

Currently only Chadds Ford Township specifically mentioned battlefield preservation because they are the only ones within the National Historic Landmark. The expansion of what is considered the battlefield site in current planning efforts allows recognition by other municipalities outside of the Landmark. Thornbury Historical Commission has already begun efforts of recognition and Concord should as well.

#### 4. Promote Archeological Resource Protection

DCPD and historical organizations in the municipalities should continue to educate the public about the negative impacts of metal detecting and unofficial digging within the battlefield. Reaching out to the Delaware County Historic Preservation Network (DCHPN) to provide educational opportunities is a good first step. In addition, municipalities should consider the impact large developments could have not only on above-ground historic resources but also on archeological resources.

#### 5. Use Cluster Zoning for Battlefield Preservation

The sensitive use of cluster zoning should be pursued for the preservation of open space within the battlefield landscape.

## **6. Support Agriculture**

Zoning should encourage the continued farming of land within these areas by ensuring that regulations do not overly burden farmers and by promoting the continuance of the farms that still exist. In addition, smaller lots or open space created during development should be explored for potential CSAs and community gardens.

## **7. Encourage Natural Resource Protection**

- a. Review the Natural Heritage Inventory and assess what natural resources near rights of way might be worth protecting and/or denoting with signage.
- b. Research what native species were prevalent in this area during the American Revolution and what is extant to consider what might be reintroduced to improve some of the existing viewsheds.
- c. Build upon historic maps of existing viewsheds to create illustrations for these specific Strategic Landscapes that incorporate both a map and pictures of the viewshed to better demonstrate to the public the significance of each viewshed.
- d. Explore creating pocket parks within the Strategic Landscapes that could preserve open space, serve as passive recreation for residents, and educate residents about the area's role during the battle through interpretative material. One potential location could be property along Dilworthtown Road at Concord Road.
- e. Encourage landowners who own unprotected open lands to manage the sensitive natural resources on their property. Delaware County has a new Natural Heritage Inventory that is a great tool to help foster protection.

## **8. Provide Education on Funding Opportunities**

While many landowners are aware of the funding opportunities from being involved in previous planning efforts, it is important to continue to promote these opportunities as property owners and situations change over the years.

# Mid/Long-term Recommendations

- Subdivision and Land Development plans within the battlefield should identify the Landmark and the Planning Boundary, as identified in the *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan*, and historic resources related to the battle.
- Strategic Landscapes should be taken into consideration in open space preservation efforts as important features along with sensitive natural features.
- Continue to encourage incentives for historic preservation and adaptive reuse in order to preserve historic resources by identifying viable future uses.
- The three municipalities should consider adopting an “Official Map and Ordinance” to assist in the protection of open space related to the battlefield.





# Interpretation Recommendations

While not a typical topic in the planning field, interpretation has been included in these recent Preservation Plans because the first step in protecting battlefields is for the public to recognize the importance of the history of the battle and of the battlefield itself. Interpretation is a way to communicate a message using original objects and narratives so that the public understands not only what took place but also the meaning within the broader historical context. While historic research provides the basic facts of an event, it is the interpretation, the stories, that make history meaningful to the public. Interpretation is how to get the public to understand the significance of the battle, which in turn can generate support for preserving the battlefield.



Interpretation really allows us to include more of the human element – looking beyond just troop movement to include stories about the people who were involved and revealing untold stories, like the impact on the local community, the life of a soldier, and the roles of African American Militiamen, Civilians, and Camp Followers. Wider interpretation can better enable a more diverse range of people to identify with, and make a personal connection to, a resource or story.

An important element of interpretation efforts is using a thematic approach – that is, finding a common theme that connects many places. An interpretive theme is the central concept or key idea of any interpretive experience, exhibit, or presentation. Themes can relate a site to other similar sites through coordinated interpretation. By coordinating efforts, sites can highlight different aspects of the overall theme.

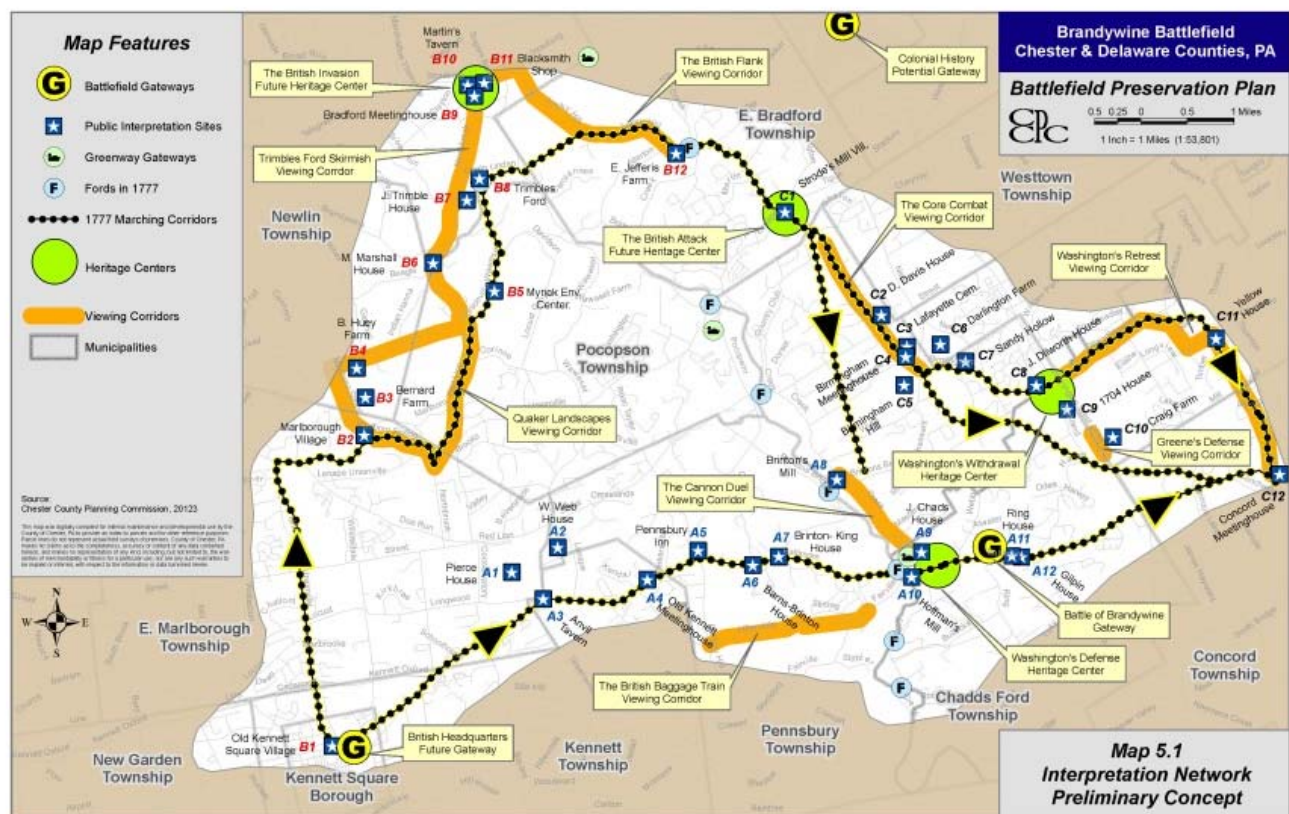
## Current Interpretive Planning

The Interpretation Chapter in the *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan: Revolution in the Peaceful Valley* includes sections on Opportunities to Expand Interpretation, Re-imagining Brandywine Battlefield Park, Educational Opportunities, and Tourism and Economic Development. The Plan also identified an Interpretation Network that would allow visitors to experience the historic landscapes

and resources within the larger battlefield area while at the same time respecting the privacy of its residents. That network, seen below, includes four elements:

- **Public Interpretation Sites:** These are locations which are significant to the battle and are not privately owned, like house museums.
- **Viewing Corridors/Historic Landscapes:** These are lengths of roadways with low to moderate traffic volumes which provide views of landscapes.
- **Heritage Areas:** These are villages or communities where smaller numbers of visitors could stop in for 15 to 30 minutes.
- **Battlefield Gateways:** These are sites with ample parking and restroom facilities, like Brandywine Battlefield Park.

The Interpretation Network will allow for telling more of the battlefield history. Too often the few places that do currently interpret the history of the battle provide the same information about the battle. By creating an Interpretation Network, it will enable a more complete history to be told because different sites can focus on different aspects of the battle.



The *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan* established the basis of the Interpretation Network, including beginning to identify what themes could be interpreted at different locations. This Strategic Preservation Plan takes the concept further, looking at the details of how this can be accomplished.

As part of the public participation for this project, DCPD created an Interpretation Working Group made up of people from historic sites and historical societies with expertise in interpretation. We also

worked with landowners and business owners. The Working Group fostered a great deal of interest from a diverse group of stakeholders. It brought together local historians who have a vast knowledge of the battlefield as well as those involved in local sites. They continued previous discussions on how to expand interest in the battlefield. Several local landowners became more excited about the history of the battle by attending these meetings. We cannot reiterate enough that one of the most meaningful aspects of this project has been the process itself and the positive response from the public, including landowners.

DCPD wanted to build upon the themes and ideas that were outlined in the *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan* by getting the input of those who know the most about the historic sites. This group identified the different themes/topics that should be stressed for these two Strategic Landscapes. Ideas and concepts the group discussed included those listed in Figure 6.1.

6.1 Interpretation Working Group's Ideas/Concepts	
Ferguson Breech-loading rifle	Civilian Role
Quakers	Washington's Retreat
Remembering the Fallen	Importance of Nathanael Greene
Significance of Rearguard Action	Medical Story
Following the Battle	Hospitals
Use of Retreating	Women's Role
Depredation	Camp Followers
Stone Homes	British Officers' Stories
Native Americans	Foraging
Wounded	Local Industry Role
Economic Impact of Battle	Remaining Viewsheds
Foreign Officers' Roles	Communication and the Scouts



Nicholas Newlin Grist Mill

The group also built upon the sites identified in the *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan*, including incorporating the Newlin Grist Mill and the Concord Municipal Building. While not directly within or near our Strategic Landscapes, the Newlin Grist Mill is a major historic site in Delaware County and it has battle-related history. In the case of Concord's Municipal Building, while it was not standing at the time of the battle, it is on the site where the two main retreat routes intersected. The Brandywine Battlefield Park is the closest Gateway and it should be a vital portion of any interpretation effort.

During the planning process, a few other sites were identified as potential locations for interpretation efforts. The large open property along Dilworthtown Road at Concord Road had not been identified during previous planning efforts but would be an excellent location for some form of interpretation for the Brandywine Battlefield. It could serve as a location to educate the public about the importance of the Strategic Retreat. Another potential location for interpretation, while technically lying outside of the Strategic Retreat boundaries, is the property on Dilworthtown Road west of Brinton Lake Road.



This property was identified in the *Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan* as a site of protected open space. Lying closer to Route 202, interpretation here could focus on the rearguard push or the retreat.

Public Historic Sites	Viewing Corridors
1704 House	Greene Defense Viewing Corridor
Yellow House	Washington's Retreat
Newlin Grist Mill	
Concord Meetinghouse	
Concord Municipal Building	
Gateway Site	Heritage Center
Brandywine Battlefield Park	Washington's Withdrawal: Dilworthtown

## Inventory of Assets

### Public Historic Sites

- Brinton 1704 House:** The 1704 House stood in the thick of the final offense by the Americans in the battle. George Brinton was living in the house during the battle and filed a lengthy claim for damages, totaling more than 544 pounds. General Washington issued the order to Major General Greene to form a line of defense across the street from this property. The house is run as a historic house museum that tells the history of a Quaker family. The site currently discusses with visitors the role the Brinton House played in the battle and how the war impacted the Brinton family. The site has expressed interest in being included in future battlefield interpretation efforts.
- Yellow House:** The Yellow House was constructed as a wider version of the typical Penn Plan. The building served a variety of purposes over the years, including a tavern, general store, grocery, and cloth manufacturing business. Today, the Yellow House still serves as a Post Office in Thornbury and provides public parking for businesses in the village.
- Concord Friends Meetinghouse:** Located in the Concordville Historic District, the building served as a hospital for American soldiers following the battle. The village developed around the Friends Meetinghouse in the early 1700s and saw major growth in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The building still is an active Quaker Meetinghouse.
- Concord Municipal Building:** Located adjacent to the Concordville Historic District, the troops passed directly by this property on their way to Chester at the time of the Revolution. While



1704 House



Yellow House

the building itself is post-battle construction, it sits near the path the troops took. Thus the building could serve as a more publically accessible site for interpretation of battle topics that might not be appropriate at the Meetinghouse.

- **Newlin Grist Mill:** The Newlin Grist Mill is a large historic site and organization with a great deal of capability to assist with interpretation and draw visitors. Retreating troops would have passed near the site. In addition, it is located near where the field hospital at the Concord Meetinghouse would have been. It also has history related to the battle, both before and after. Being an important mill close to the battle and the encampment, Newlin Grist Mill would have been a prime target for foraging. As Irish Quakers, the Newlins would have been open to abuse by both the British and American armies.

### Viewing Corridors

- **Greene's Defense Viewing Corridor:** This viewing corridor is where Major General Greene coordinated the rearguard defense. This area is located around Oakland Road, Harvey Road, and Route 202. Oakland Road still retains a rural feel that can reflect what troops experienced in 1777. Near Oakland Road is Route 202, which experiences greater traffic and lends itself to more interpretation opportunities.
- **Washington's Retreat Viewing Corridor:** Troops filed through the small crossroads village—later named Thornton—as they retreated. Today, the road still retains a clustering of 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings encircled by 19<sup>th</sup> century residences, including the Thornton Village Historic District. This village served as a destination for travelers in the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, providing a place to rest as well as blacksmith and wheelwright services.



Thornton Village Historic District

### Heritage Center

- **Washington's Withdrawal (Dilworthtown):** Situated at an important crossroads, Dilworthtown served as a community center with its tavern and blacksmith shop in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The crossroads village and surrounding area were the scene of very vigorous fighting during the Battle of Brandywine in its final hours. It is close to the 1704 House, and American troops marched through the village as they headed east along Dilworthtown Road during the Retreat.

## Gateway

- **Brandywine Battlefield Historic Park:** This site should be the central location for all interpretation efforts. It has the capacity to set the stage for the entire Brandywine Battle story, which the remaining sites would build upon. The museum is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission in partnership with the Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates. Visitor amenities include guided tours, self-guided tour recommendations, educational programs, a gift shop, interpretive displays, and parking.



Brandywine Battlefield Historic Park

The Interpretation Working Group involved individuals associated with historic sites in Delaware County. The group was able to identify concerns about the practicality of ideas. One of the major issues raised during the working group sessions was that not every site may be comfortable interpreting topics of the battle. For instance, sites associated with Quakers may not want to cover anything connected to the battle because of the pacifist stance of Quakers. Even if sites are open to the narratives, they might not be interested in expanding their stories in the manner outlined by the current Plan or what we outline.

DCPD took all the ideas and facts that were discussed by the group and grouped them under seven overall themes that were identified in the *Preservation Plan*. So what we propose to include in the Strategic Landscapes Preservation Plan is an Interpretive Network of different themes that the group said were important. From those larger themes, we identified more specific concepts and ideas that people mentioned were important to address.

Another issue that DCPD discussed is that many of the ideas outlined in the current plan are great ideas but they can be more complicated ideas that could take some time and money to implement. DCPD attempted to address the less complex, less expensive, and less time-consuming ideas and recommended easier interpretation ideas that are thematically based and not concentrating completely on location.



Brandywine Battlefield Park  
Museum

We recommend communicating the themes in a simple, self-contained manner, like a webpage or a brochure. While these are simple methods, they allow the theme to be interpreted for the public without having to change the interpretation at any individual site. Webpages or brochures can build upon existing sites' interpretation efforts by giving the sites additional interpretive information in a simple manner. Also, the public can learn about the theme without having to physically go to each site if they want. The Battlefield Park could serve as the central location and could have brochures or web links about the different themes.



DCPD has also been working with the new Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia, which is planned to open in 2017. The Museum will be organized around the following four large themes:

- What had turned loyal subjects into defiant revolutionaries?
- How did the Revolution survive its darkest hours?
- What was the radical nature of the Revolution they made?
- What lasting meaning does the American Revolution have?

In an effort to coordinate future interpretation activities with the new Museum, DCPD took the themes established in this study for the Rearguard Defense & Strategic Retreat and related them to the four themes used by the Museum of the American Revolution. The first four themes relate most strongly to “how the Revolution survived its darkest hours,” while the last three themes explore “the lasting meaning of the American Revolution”.

# Rearguard Defense & Strategic Retreat Interpretation Plan

The following is an interpretation plan for the Rearguard Defense and Strategic Retreat. These seven themes appeal to different audiences and communication methods. The variety of themes allows for a wide audience to be able to connect to the history of the Brandywine.

## I. General Understanding of the Battle of Brandywine: The Battle as a Pivotal Event in the American Revolution

On September 11, 1777, General Howe and his well-armed professional army engaged the non-professional soldiers led by General Washington for a day-long battle along the banks of the Brandywine Creek. The conditions of the Brandywine Valley influenced the battle while the battle itself also had long ranging impacts to the Campaign of 1777 as well as to the community.

### Location:

- Brandywine Battlefield State Park: This site has the capacity to set the stage for the entire Brandywine Battle story, which the remaining sites would build upon. The Park could be the central location and then provide information on all the other themes that should be highlighted.

### Communicating Theme:

- The current exhibits by the Friends of the Brandywine Battlefield explain the significance of the battle, its importance in the history of the Revolution, important military figures, and the life of a soldier.

- The Park can also provide opportunity for visitors to learn about different themes. These thematic interpretive methods could be in various forms, such as pages on their website or a central location with brochures. These methods would be able to tell the history of a particular theme by noting the various sites that are best suited to interpret that theme. No site needs to immediately or ever change the current interpretation of the site.

## II. Living to Fight Another Day: Strategic Retreating as a Tactical Maneuver

George Washington's effective use of retreating as a tactical maneuver can be seen at the Battle of Brandywine. Washington is known for his efficient use of Fabian Warfare as a means to prolong the war, aiding in the eventual success of the Americans.<sup>1</sup> While often unpopular with the troops, Washington's use of retreats allowed the Americans the ability to regroup and face the British again.



Concord Municipal Building, Baltimore Pike

### Concepts/Topics:

- Provide a brief description of Fabian Warfare.
- Provide a Summary of the significance of Washington's use of Retreat during the American Revolution.
- Describe the Retreat at the Battle of Brandywine.
- Explore the impact of the Retreat through the countryside on the local population.

### Locations/Resources:

- Yellow House: Injured soldiers were housed at Yellow House.
- Concord Municipal Building: The Americans retreated past the property on their way to Chester. From the property, one can see where the two main paths of the Americans' retreat converged.
- Newlin Grist Mill: Retreating troops also would have passed by Newlin Grist Mill.
- "James" Dilworth House: This was a gathering place for the American troops.
- Dilworthtown (Future Washington's Withdrawal Heritage Center): American troops streamed through the village during the retreat.
- Washington Retreat Viewing Corridor: Much of the landscape and topography is still visible along a significant portion of Thornton Road.

### Communicating Theme:

- Brochure on this interpretive theme directs people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be directly interpreted.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists

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<sup>1</sup> According to historian John Ferling, Washington employed Fabian tactics, which involved avoiding hostilities until Washington had every advantage before he would strike. This included retreating when necessary in order to regroup and prolong the war. It was designed to exhaust the British and make it a costly war so that the British would decide it was not worth it. (*Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan: Revolution in the Peaceful Valley*, Appendix D, D-7).

- A webpage could explore the theme and direct people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be interpreted.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; School Children; Virtual Visitors
- Interpretation of this theme could be included in guided walks, like Town Tours.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors
- Visiting Newlin Grist Mill with the information from the brochure or webpage can provide visitors with the experience of a site existing during the Retreat.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; School Children; Heritage Tourists
- An interpretive sign could be placed along the Washington Retreat Viewing Corridor that interprets the Retreat and the aftermath of the battle.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists
- A self-guided driving tour that tours the sites of both the Rearguard Defense and the Retreat, interpreting the last portion of the battle.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists
- If coordination with Valley Forge on Podcasts ever comes to fruition, discussion of this theme could be included on one of the stops located in the Rearguard Defense or Strategic Retreat Strategic Landscapes.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists

### III. Saving the American Army from Disaster: The Rearguard Defense

Greene's Rearguard Defense halted the British, allowing the rest of Washington's army to retreat in a more orderly fashion. This last push against the British saved the American forces from greater destruction.

#### Concepts/Topics:

- Provide overall explanation of what the Rearguard Defense entails.
- Provide brief summary of the significance of the action to the overall battle and Philadelphia Campaign.
- Describe the location both then and now. Discuss the damage done by troops along Oakland Road.
- Highlight Maj. Gen. Greene and his importance in this action and the American Revolution.

#### Locations:

- 1704 House: Greene and Washington were in the vicinity of the house when making the decision to undertake the Rearguard push.
- Dilworthtown (Future Washington's Withdrawal Heritage Center): The area is located near the 1704 House and the rearguard action.
- Greene Defense Viewing Corridor: (Along Route 202): Much of the Rearguard Defense occurred to the west of 202. Route 202 still retains open landscape





and topography that existed at the time of the battle. Jimmy John's is a potential stop for people along the road and a possible location for a future interpretive plaque.

#### Communicating Theme:

- Brochure on this theme can interpret the theme and direct people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be directly interpreted.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists
- A webpage could explore the theme and direct people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be interpreted.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; School Children; Virtual Visitors
- Visiting the 1704 House with the information from the brochure or webpage can provide visitors with the experience of a site that was part of the history of the Rearguard activities.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; School Children; Heritage Tourists
- An interpretive sign could be placed along the Greene's Defense Viewing Corridor, potentially near Jimmy Johns, which interprets the Rearguard Defense and the aftermath of the battle.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists
- A self-guided driving tour that directs visitors to the sites of both the Rearguard Defense and the Retreat interpreting the last portion of the battle.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists
- If coordination with Valley Forge on Podcasts ever comes to fruition, discussion of this theme could be included on a stop at the 1704 House.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists

## IV. Treating the Injured: Exploring Delaware County's Role

Following the battle, both sides had to deal with the hundreds of troops that were greatly injured. Hospitals were spontaneously created inside buildings, including meetinghouses and homes. Following the battle, the Quakers and others provided medical treatment.

#### Concepts/Topics:

- Explore what medical practices were like during the Revolutionary War period and would have been practiced following Brandywine.
- Discuss the important role the Quaker community provided in treating the wounded soldiers.
- Outline the different publically accessible sites that were used as field hospitals.
- Explore the concept of dealing with those that did not recover.
- The emergence of the Gray ladies.

#### Locations/Resources:

- Brinton 1704 House: The property served as a field hospital.
- Yellow House: The property is an example of the use of civilian buildings for field hospitals.
- Concord Quaker Meetinghouse: The meetinghouse was used as a field hospital.
- Concord Municipal Building: It can be a more easily accessible public site to interpret the story of the field hospital at the Concord Quaker Meetinghouse.
- St. John's Episcopal Church: Many British soldiers were interred there.

#### Communicating Theme:

- Brochure on this theme can interpret the theme and direct people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be directly interpreted.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists
- A webpage could explore the theme and direct people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be interpreted.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; School Children; Virtual Visitors
- Use pictures, drawings, renderings, etc. to demonstrate the seriousness of this theme.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists; Virtual Visitors

### V. From Encampment to Retreat: The Tremendous Impact on Delaware County Communities

When the two armies marched into the Brandywine Valley, it had a major impact on the character of a quiet farming community that consisted mainly of Quakers. This impact was felt immediately due to the encampment of the British following the battle as well as years later due to the effects on industries and the landscape.

#### Concepts/Topics:

- Discuss the issue of troops seizing supplies and property, both formally as an army and troops informally on their own.
- Describe the encampment and the impact of what having such a large group does to the land and community, including the practical issues like latrines, animals, and environmental aspects.
- Provide an understanding of the impact to fields and the longer lasting effects on agriculture.
- Illustrate the impact the battle had on local industries, particularly mills.
- Explore the impact on local families following the battle, such as the Brinton family.
- Explore what can be learned from what was discarded by the troops and what remains have been found over the years.

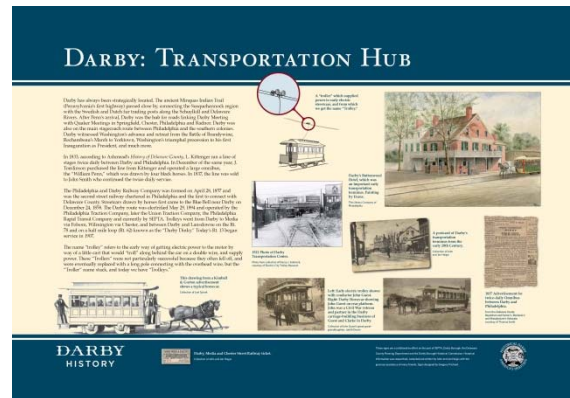
#### Locations/Resources:

- Brinton 1704 House: The British were encamped in the area for five days following the battle. George Brinton claimed more than 544 pounds in damages.
- Newlin Grist Mill: The war had a great impact on grain supplies.
- Brandywine Battlefield Park: Troops were encamped in the area following the battle.

#### Communicating Theme:

- Brochure on this theme can interpret the theme and direct people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be directly interpreted.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists
- A webpage could explore the theme and direct people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be interpreted.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; School Children; Virtual Visitors

- Visiting the three sites with the information from the brochure or webpage can provide visitors with the experience of a site existing during the Retreat.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; School Children; Heritage Tourists
- An interpretive sign could be placed along Washington Retreat Viewing Corridor that interprets the Rearguard Defense, the Retreat, and the aftermath of the battle.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors



Example of Interpretive Sign  
Darby Borough, Delaware County

## VI. Remembering Those Who Sacrificed: Rearguard Defense & Strategic Retreat

Too often the public gets absorbed in the details of a battle, like troop location and tactical maneuvers. We must not forget that more importantly these locations are places where people suffered and died.

### Concepts/Topics:

- Discuss the great psychological toll that the battle had on those that survived, both as individuals and as a community. Particularly emphasize the impact on small, insular communities that were not used to so many strangers.
- Highlight stories of survivors in order to illustrate the human element of warfare.
- Incorporate the stories of those that lost their lives at Brandywine.
- Emphasize how battles are more than just troop location and tactical maneuvers but are places where people suffered and died.
- Explore how we can honor the known and unknown burials in a respectful manner to everyone.

### Locations:

- St. John's Episcopal Church: Many British soldiers were interred there.
- Yellow House: Injured soldiers were housed at Yellow House.
- Concord Quaker Meetinghouse: The meetinghouse was used as a field hospital.
- Concord Municipal Building: The building is located near the Meetinghouse that served as a field hospital and is a publically accessible site on the path of the Retreat.

### Communicating Theme:

- Brochure on this theme can interpret the theme and direct people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be directly interpreted.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists
- A webpage could explore the theme and direct people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be interpreted.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; School Children; Virtual Visitors

- A memorial in the form of a plaque, piece of art, or memorial garden could be created to remember the fallen. The Peace Garden at Birmingham Meetinghouse is an example of an effective memorial design. A memorial could be potentially placed at Concord Meetinghouse or the Concord Municipal Building.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists

## VII. War in a Peaceful Valley: The Quaker Community and the Battle of Brandywine



Concord Quaker Meetinghouse

The introduction of 30,000 soldiers into the Brandywine Valley greatly impacted the quiet Quaker community. Because of their religious belief of pacifism, they were confronted with hostility and mistrust on both sides. However, regardless of the treatment they received, the Quakers ended up providing much of the medical care to the wounded following the battle.

### Concepts/Topics:

- The Quakers had to deal with hostility and mistreatment on both sides.
- Due to their pacifist stance, the Quakers were greatly affected economically before, during, and after the battle.
- While Quakers as a community did not support war and therefore either side, some individual Quakers did take up arms, often leading to removal of membership.
- Many Quakers today still do not want to honor warfare.

### Locations:

- 1704 House: The Brintons were Quakers who had their home brought into the middle of the fighting and the encampment following the battle.
- Concord Quaker Meetinghouse: The meetinghouse was used as a field hospital.
- Dilworthtown (Future Washington's Withdrawal Heritage Center): American troops streamed through the village that consisted of many Quakers during the retreat.

### Communicating Theme:

- Brochure on this theme can interpret the theme and direct people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be directly interpreted.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists
- A webpage could explore the theme and direct people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be interpreted.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; School Children; Virtual Visitors
- An interpretive sign at Concord Meetinghouse or the Concord Municipal Building that explores the lesser known story of the impact the battle had on the Quaker community.
  - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists



# Action Plan

## Short-term Recommendations (1-3 years)

### **1. Incorporate Importance of Strategic Retreat and Rearguard Defense into Interpretation Efforts**

This Strategic Landscapes Preservation Plan has begun focusing attention on the importance of the final portion of the battle to the overall Campaign of 1777 and the American Revolution. Following this plan, the members of the Interpretation Working Group will merge with the Historic Resource Subcommittee of the BBTF, which will help continue the inclusion of these themes in future planning efforts.

### **2. Create thematic brochures**

Example brochures found in Appendix B were created to demonstrate how to begin incorporating expanded themes into the interpretation at sites. These brochures focus on highlighting two themes: Strategic Retreating as a Tactical Maneuver and Saving the American Army from Disaster. DCPD focused on these two themes because of the vital role the two Strategic Landscapes played in those themes. People can use the brochures to conduct a self-guided tour of the theme or use it to expand their knowledge of the battle at any location.

These brochures can be available online and potentially at the Park. Delaware County's Brandywine Conference and Visitors Bureau will help design brochures. Having them digitally available is simple. The printing of the brochures is more complex and costly. A small grant from the National Humanities Council or Ethel Sergeant Clark funds could help with printing costs.

### **3. Create tours for the Rearguard Defense and Strategic Retreat**

During this project, the Historic Resource Subcommittee of the Brandywine Battlefield Task Force began implementing the idea of theme tours. Chester County has agreed to focus their annual summer tours on the Philadelphia Campaign of 1777 in 2017, the anniversary year of the Campaign. The tours will include Brandywine, the Paoli Massacre, and the Battle of the Clouds. For this tour, Chester County is offering to partner with Delaware County historical organizations to include the entire history of the battle. A brochure will be created showcasing the entire tour program. In addition, each tour will provide a handout about the tour. Chester County and DCPD will seek funding to create a general driving tour of Brandywine that can include other sites not highlighted in the Town Talks. This project will be completed by 2017.

#### 4. Interpretative Sign System

Having a unified sign system for the battlefield will help brand the area and make it easier for the public to identify battle-related areas. The *Preservation Plan* recommended the use of the existing signage guidelines already developed for use within the National Landmark. Spurred by a property within the Strategic Retreat, the BBTF is currently in discussion about how to adapt those guidelines for the expanded battlefield. One potential location for an interpretive sign is the open space at the Cherry Creek development. The public outreach during this project led to discussion to initiate communications with the homeowners association to gauge their interest in engaging in battlefield interpretation. DCPD is also in discussion with a local developer to provide interpretation near Dilworthtown.

#### 5. Plaques

A local landowner with one of the larger lots on Dilworthtown Road is interested in putting a plaque on the land when they develop it with homes. The BBTF has begun discussion about the look of potential plaques.

### Mid/Long-term Recommendations

- Work on distributing brochures to the Park and other sites.
- Explore erecting interpretive plaques at Jimmy Johns Restaurant and a site in the Strategic Retreat.
- Continue to reach out to the Quaker community to determine the view of recognizing the Quaker history in battlefield interpretation. One of the outcomes of the public input was that the battle is still a sensitive subject for the Quaker community due to the treatment the Quakers received. In addition, the Quaker community has shown opposition to events that commemorate the battle.
- Coordinate with local businesses in marketing the battlefield and promoting its interpretation.
- Municipal historic commissions and historical societies should hold events and programs that highlight the battle sites located within their respective municipalities.
- Battlefield education should continue to be incorporated with local events and festivals.



# Strategic Landscapes Plan: Rearguard Defense & Strategic Retreat

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# Strategic Landscapes Plan: Rearguard Defense & Strategic Retreat

**Appendix B: Interpretation Brochure Examples**





The Battle of Brandywine was one of the earliest and largest battles of the American Revolution, one that encompassed some 30,000 British and American soldiers. The Battle lasted from sunup to sundown, instantly changing the character of a quiet farming community that was home to many Quakers. Although the Battle of Brandywine was a loss for the Americans, they proved that they had the resiliency to withstand the British, increasing French support of



*"They Sustained a heavy fire for near 20 minutes when they were posted (about Sunset) to Cover the Retreat of our Army & had it not*

## Discovering Unknown Stories: Battle of Brandywine

### Saving the American Army: The Rearguard Defense



Discover the history of  
the Battle of Brandywine

September 11, 1777



## History of the Battle of Brandywine

Washington received differing accounts of the British locations. Finally at the last moment, Washington was assured that Howe was coming upon his right. Stephen and Stirling divisions and later Sullivan were sent to Birmingham Hill to defend the right flank. By the time Washington and Nathanael Greene arrived, the line was broken and the American forces were retreating. Greene was ordered to form a rearguard defensive line to stop the advancing British troops.



## Washington Orders Formation of Rearguard Line

Greene's troops began to form their line of defense at 6:16 PM. Troops formed two lines of defense. One line, shaped like an upside down "L," ran almost parallel to historic Oakland Road. The second line formed south of the first in a concave shape.

Having come from Birmingham Hill, exhausted British and Hessian troops were taken by great surprise at the discovery of Greene's troops forming in two strong lines. The two armies exchanged fire for about 30 minutes, until darkness had fallen.

*"without giving way on either side until dark. Our ammunition almost expended, firing ceased on both sides."*

~James McMichael, Pennsylvania State Regiment

## Preventing Disaster

Had Greene failed to stop the British in this field, it would have meant disaster for the American troops. The British came upon a site they were not ready for - a formed American defense. They maintained their ground until dark, allowing time for the remainder of the army to perform a more orderly retreat.

***"When I came upon the ground I found the whole of the troops routed and retreating...and in the most broken and confused manner. I was ordered to cover the retreat, which I effected in such a manner as to save hundreds of our people from falling into the enemy's hands."*** Maj. Gen. Greene

## Major General Nathaniel Greene

Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene (1742-1786) was born into a Rhode Island Quaker family. In 1773 he was expelled from the Quaker Monthly Meeting for attending a military parade.

During the Battle of Brandywine, Greene's spontaneous organization of the army into a defensive line halted the British advance. Later in the Revolutionary War, Washington showed his faith in Greene by giving him command of the American southern army in 1780 when the American cause faced ruin. Greene's well executed tactical retreat across North Carolina aided the southern army's very survival.



## Experiencing the Story: Sites to Visit

### William Brinton 1704 House

21 Oakland Road  
West Chester, PA 19382  
610-399-0913  
[www.brintonfamily.org](http://www.brintonfamily.org)  
HOURS: Saturday & Sunday, May-Oct., 1-5

The house stood in the thick of the final offense by the Americans in the Battle. The site was used as "ad hoc" headquarters and Greene formed near the house.

The house was built by William Brinton, Sr., a



Quaker who left England to escape religious persecution. The site is operated as a house museum.

*Directions: From I-95, head north on Rt. 202 and turn left onto Oakland Road. From I-476, head west on Baltimore Pike, turn right onto Rt. 202 and turn left onto Oakland Road. House located on right, pass Webb Rd.*

## Greene Defense Viewing Corridor

Location: Rt. 202  
Stop: Jimmy John's Pipin Hot Sandwiches  
1507 Wilmington Pike  
West Chester, PA 19382

The majority of the Rearguard Defense occurred to the west of Route 202. Visitors can still see the open landscape and topography that the troops experienced.

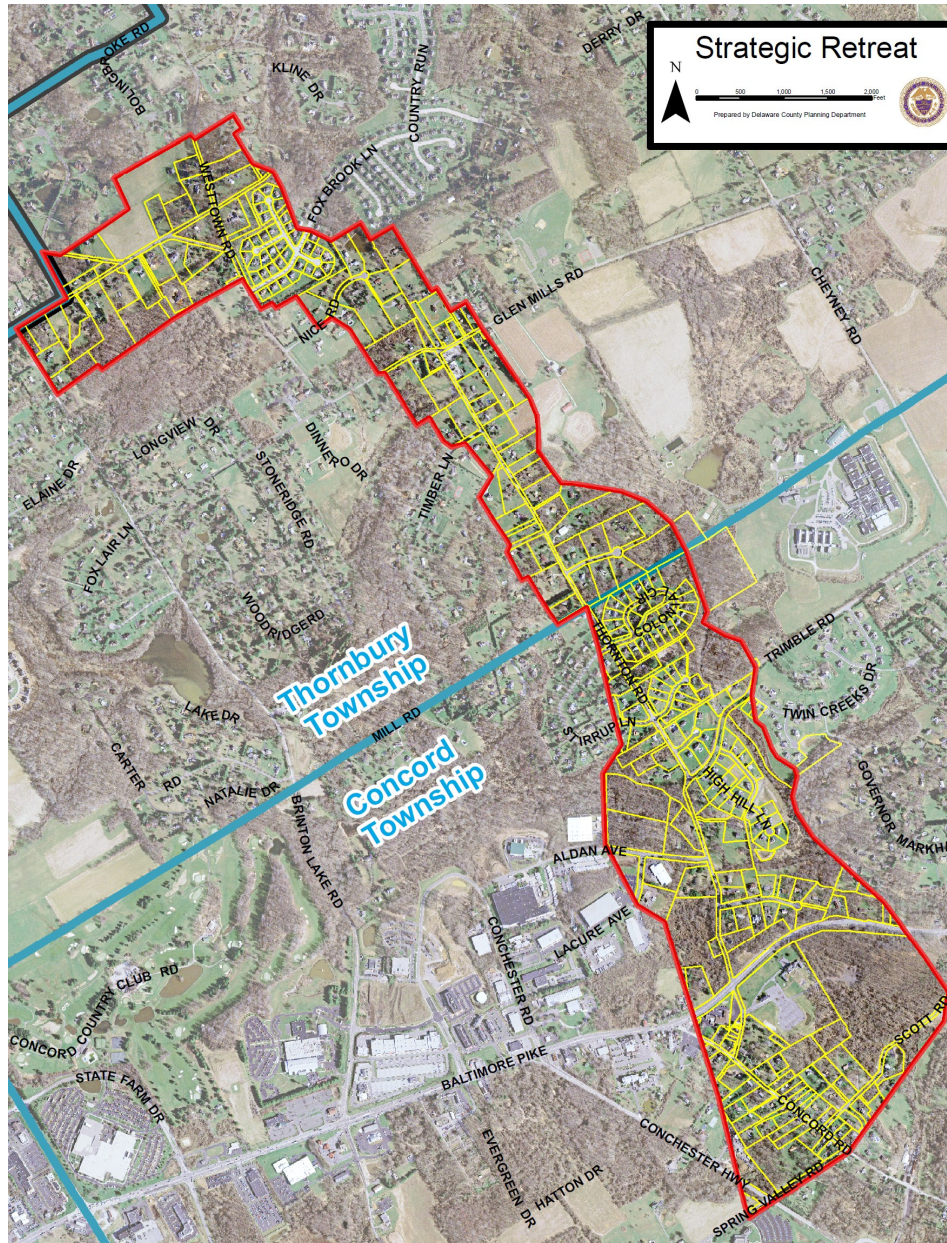


*Directions: From I-95, head north on Rt. 202, pass Baltimore Pike. From I-476, head west on Baltimore Pike, turn right onto Rt. 202. Area is located near Oakland Rd. intersection.*





The Battle of Brandywine was one of the earliest and largest battles of the American Revolution, one that encompassed some 30,000 British and American soldiers. The Battle lasted from sunup to sundown, instantly changing the character of a quiet farming community that was home to many Quakers. Although the Battle of Brandywine was a loss for the Americans, they proved that they had the resiliency to withstand the British, increasing French support of the American cause.



## Discovering Unknown Stories: Battle of Brandywine

### Strategic Retreating Helped Win the War



*Come and  
Explore!*

Discover the history of  
the Battle of Brandywine

September 11, 1777



## History of the Battle of Brandywine



Throughout the morning of September 11th, Washington received differing accounts on the British locations.

Not until afternoon was Washington finally assured that Howe had flanked him again. Washington sent his trusted officers to Birmingham Hill to meet the British. Realizing the circumstances were becoming more dire at Birmingham Hill, Washington and Nathanael Greene galloped north to find a broken American line in retreat. Many of the retreating American troops went east along Dilworthtown Road and then south down Thornton Road, meeting up with the rest of the army at Concordville.

Greene was ordered to form a rearguard defensive line near Oakland Road to stop the advancing British troops. This action allowed the remaining American troops to more easily retreat, enabling the Americans to fight another day.

## Strategic Retreating Helped Win the War

The Battle of Brandywine is a prime example of George Washington's effective use of retreating as a tactical maneuver. Washington used retreats as a means to prolong the war. While often unpopular with the troops, Washington's use of retreats allowed the Americans the ability to regroup and face the British again. Washington failed to hold his ground, but he maintained his troop strength.

## Experiencing the Story: Sites to Visit

### Dilworthtown

Location: Dilworthtown  
Historic District  
Dilworthtown Road

Situated at an important crossroads, Dilworthtown served as a community center with its tavern and blacksmith shop in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Today, the village offers a wide range of dining experiences in a historic setting.

The crossroads village and surrounding area was the scene of very vigorous fighting during the Battle of Brandywine in its final hours. Retreating troops passed along this historic five point intersection.



### Washington Retreat Viewing Corridor

Location: Thornton Village,  
Thornton Road &  
Dilworthtown Road

Troops filed through the small crossroads village—later named Thornton—as they retreated. Today, the road still retains a clustering of 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings encircled by 19<sup>th</sup> century residences.

Much of the landscape and topography experienced by the army is still visible.



## Experiencing the Story: Sites to Visit

### Yellow House

378 Glen Mills Road  
Thornton, PA 19373  
HOURS: Mon-Fri, 8-4;  
Sat. 8-12

This property, locally known as the Yellow House, was used as a field hospital that assisted wounded troops during the core combat. It is believed to be the oldest building in the Thornton historic district, dating to c. 1750. Over the years, the building has served as a tavern, general store, and manufacturing business.

Today, it still serves as an anchor for this small commercial center in Thornton.



### Newlin Grist Mill

219 S. Cheyney Road  
Glen Mills, PA 19342  
610-459-2359  
[www.newlingristmill.org](http://www.newlingristmill.org)  
HOURS: 9-4 weekdays;  
10-3 weekends, Dec-Feb

Being an important mill close to the Battle and the encampment, Newlin Grist Mill would have been a prime target for foraging. As Irish Quakers, the Newlins would have also been open to abuse by both the British and American troops.

Today, the Newlin Grist Mill and Park contains twelve historic structures and over eight miles of hiking trails. Its 160-acre park is a place for exploration of both history and the environment.





# Strategic Landscapes Plan: Rearguard Defense & Strategic Retreat

## **Appendix C: Public Meeting Minutes**

## Brandywine Battlefield Grant meeting with Township Managers

December 5, 2010

### Attendees:

Judy Lizza

Susan Dandert

Linda Hill

Jill Hall

Yinka Adesbuken

Beverlee Barnes

1. Discussion began with asking the municipal managers how the average person in their communities thinks of the Brandywine Battle. They both said many people think of it as a battle that the U.S. lost, and therefore think it was an insignificant contribution to the American Revolution. We all indicated that better marketing was needed to get the story out about the real significance of this battle.
2. Delaware County Planning Department thanked the managers for their support letters.
3. Jill discussed how Chester County is finishing up their current grant for a Preservation Plan, and showed the map that has proposed the battle area is much larger than was previously known, as the battleground includes a lot of peripheral activity and troop movement that lead to the actual battle action. They will be distributing a copy this month to all fifteen municipalities within the battlefield.
4. Their Preservation Plan identifies key strategic areas.
5. Delaware County received their grant to further study our strategic areas. Our grant is a study that will accomplish the following goals:
  - a. Education to all facets of the community
  - b. Engage the community as to the importance of the battle
  - c. Do some additional research and confirm existing data
6. This study will be :
  - a. Non-invasive



- b. Public outreach-oriented
  - c. Investigate ways to interpret our strategic areas
- 7. The product of this grant will be a six chapter report. We will include in it the consultant archeologist's findings on the current historic landscape and any archaeological information that may reveal battle movement, planning strategies for the future, interpretation plans, and results of the public outreach.
- 8. We asked the managers about key landowners they know of, who we should include. They said a few that comes to mind are Mr. Craig, and the owner of the property in Chadds Ford now up for sale that Joe Grace, the developer, is interested in purchasing. It was remarked that Mr. Craig "cherishes his land" and our sentiment to value the land should be shared with him, in any future discussions we may have with him or his son, who will inherit this legacy.
- 9. Delaware County Planning Department (DCPD) staff was asked how will the Chester County grant and the Delaware County grant be distinguished? We have similar goals in investigating the strategic areas, but we are choosing the key ones in each of our counties and involving the public in our own ways. We will be investigating the Rearguard Retreat strategic area and concept, and the two other strategic areas, because less is known about these key areas to date. We need to recognize how territorial previous Battlefield work has been in the past, and help distinguish the portion of our county's battlefield significance as key to the whole battle, regardless of it being a smaller portion of the battleground.
- 10. The existing Battlefield Task Force, which includes all fifteen municipalities, which has been meeting for years, will still meet. It includes many of the municipal historic commission members.
- 11. A Battlefield Grant task Force will also be convened to review our progress and product. Sub-committees will be formed to accomplish some of the specific goals of this grant, such as interpretation plans, and gathering new information regarding our strategic areas. Members of the existing Task Force are welcome to join them, as well as other people in the community who can share their expertise.
- 12. There will be a landowners sub-committee formed to gather information and input with these key players.
- 13. DCPD staff was guided to make a formal request to the municipalities for them to assign their designated official representative for our Grant's Task Force. This way our hope is that this officially designated person will participate as much as they like in our sub-committees informational and working group meetings, and report back to the municipalities, to gather their comments, and then in turn, report those comments back to us.
- 14. Thus we hope there will be at least two people per municipality involved – one from the historic commission or equivalent historical group, and one from an historical society or historical site in

each of the three municipalities involved in Delaware County. Rick Miller, the chair of the Thornbury Historical Commission was mentioned as a key player.

15. There will be a Delaware county Kick Off meeting for all to attend, probably scheduled for mid-January.
16. There will be a Joint County Kick Off meeting on January 29.
17. We discussed our time frame for the project. We need to submit a completed product by June, 2015. So we anticipate having a final draft done and circulated for comments by January/February 2015. Therefore the implementation of the project must be accomplished in 2014.
18. We asked who else should we reach out to as part of our public outreach?
  - a. Joe Grace
  - b. Brandywine Conservancy
  - c. Friends of the Battlefield
  - d. The townships
  - e. Chadds Ford HARB, especially one member who is also a Planning Commissioner
  - f. Barnes Brinton House
  - g. Joan Deem, Thornbury Historical Society
19. We shared needing to narrow down the 600 landowners to a more manageable number, and all agreed that we should focus on those owning large tracts, tracts with historic resources on them, large open spaces tracts, and representatives of homeowners associations.
20. We discussed how best to engage landowners to participate. Two issues were discussed:
  - a. How best to alleviate any fears they may have as to how this study may affect them. We want to get the message out quickly that:
    - i. This is a study focusing on historical information and interpretation of old and new battle information.
    - ii. It is not invasive nor will it involve any work on easements or land protection.
    - iii. Its goal is to make people in the area more aware and proud of the battle's significance.

b. How best to invite participation of landowners at the informational and working group meetings:

- i. Send a letter or postcard
- ii. Post meetings and progress on the DCPD website, with links to it on the municipality websites
- iii. Municipality newsletter articles, e-blasts
- iv. Announcements at the townships' supervisor meetings

21. We also discussed how to connect with the municipalities:

- i. Send them a simple informative letter, reminding them our grant is a Preservation Plan, but like a study, not a Preservation Plan needing formal endorsement from municipalities. We are:
- ii. asking for their support,
- iii. thanking them for sending representatives to our Dec 5 meeting and any subsequent municipality meetings,
- iv. asking them to appoint an official historical commission or equivalent person to our Grant Task Force.

22. Next steps:

- a. Get the word out for the upcoming meetings:
  - i. January 29 Joint County Kick off meeting at the Battlefield Park at 6:30.
  - ii. Delaware County Kick Off meeting in mid-January
- b. Decide where to hold the Delaware County Kick Off meeting
  - i. Both Chadds Ford and Thornbury had space in their municipal building to hold 50-75 people.
- c. Update the DCPD website regarding the Battlefield Grant.
- d. Send Concord Township the information to date.

## Brandywine Battlefield Strategic landscapes Preservation Plan

### Interpretation Working Group Meeting #1

April 7, 2014

7pm-8pm

Chadds Ford Township Building  
Chadds Ford, PA

#### Attendees:

George Thorpe	Chadds Ford Township Supervisor	<a href="mailto:georgethorpe@aol.com">georgethorpe@aol.com</a>
Robert Craig	Craig Farms	
Ted Brinton	Brinton 1704 House	
Susie MacDonnell	Brinton 1704 House	<a href="mailto:smacdonnell@verizon.net">smacdonnell@verizon.net</a>
Judy Lizza		
Nancy Webster	Friends Historical Society, concord Historical Society	<a href="mailto:websternv@aol.com">websternv@aol.com</a>
Donna McDermott	Valley Forge NHP	<a href="mailto:dona_mcdermott@nps.gov">dona_mcdermott@nps.gov</a>
Jake Michaels		
Tony Shahan	Newlin Grist Mill	610-459-2359
Marianne Squyres	Concord Historical Township Society	<a href="mailto:mdsquyres@squyres.com">mdsquyres@squyres.com</a>
David Poston	Chadds ford Township Open Space	<a href="mailto:peas96@verizon.net">peas96@verizon.net</a>
Ed Kean	Concord Township Historical society	
Ric Miller	Thornbury Township Historical Commission	<a href="mailto:rmiller@axs2000.net">rmiller@axs2000.net</a>
Jake Michael	Chester County Planning Department	610-344-6503
Judy Lizza	Chadds Ford Township Manager	610-388-8800, x104

1. Jill and Yinka presented their information summarizing the Kick-Off Meeting.
2. The group was then asked to discuss how we could expand interpretive themes, to especially result in engaging the public. It was pointed out how connected interpretation and preservation planning really are, even though this may not be generally understood.
3. Jill reminded us that it's the stories these places tell us, as much as the places themselves. The human stories that can be told are not only about troop/battle life itself, but about all those civilians effected - nearby farmers, residents, people who could supply clothes, skills like metal forging, food supplies, local taverns, etc .
4. The purpose of holding this Interpretation Working Group is to reflect on overall Interpretive themes, and see how they particularly relate to our two strategic landscape areas in Delaware County. This first meeting is to solicit comments on "WHAT" themes.
5. Our next meetings will focus on "WHERE and HOW" these interpretive themes particular to our two strategic landscapes can be implemented.



6. Yinka briefly described how interpretation was defined, and mentioned various ways to implement this material:
  - a. Events
  - b. Educational activities for kids or adults
  - c. Tours – walking, driving, mobile tours
  - d. Cohesive signage plans
  - e. Markers
  - f. Digital initiatives
7. Jake Michaels briefly described the Chester County Battlefield Preservation Plan and pointed out their focus on interpretation :
  - a. The Untold Stories
  - b. Expanding Narratives
  - c. Increasing the Human Element
8. Jake mentioned some themes that also applied to our two areas – Rearguard Defense and the Concord Meeting Staging area:
  - a. Greene’s Defense
  - b. Retreat past the Yellow House and Meeting House
  - c. Some Hessian troops involvement – Muhlenberg
  - d. Black pioneers –slaves fought on the British side and promised freedom, had hospital; skills
9. The Camp followers were mentioned by the group
10. The Quakers theme was discussed a lot and many sub-topics were mentioned:
  - i. How they had to deal with both invasions – the British and the hostility of the U.S. towards those who chose not to support the war.
  - ii. Role as temporary hospitals
  - iii. Economic effect on them during and after the battle
  - iv. The fighting Quaker’s story
11. The Queen’s Rangers – a lot who survived moved to Toronto
12. The British officers story, after the battle, and involving the 1704 Brinton House
13. Pilaski’s Charge – 1704 house and north.
14. Oakland Rd. Cannon Fighters
15. Signs and plaques along Rte. 202 were create and located when Rte. 202 was narrower. The impact of this signage might be reconsidered as the road has become larger.

16. Ted Brinton brought up the idea about how Cornwallis had a n idea to solve this peacefully, without a battle, and this was conveyed while he was in Dilworthtown.
17. Someone else wondered what research there was that described the battle from the British perspective
18. Nancy Webster brought up the Southern troops involvement, like those from North Carolina, near Jimmy John's
19. Health issues, like small pox inoculations, especially for troops from states where it was illegal.
20. Jill brought up how the last push led to a strategic retreat.
21. Susie brought up the role of the Native Americans, the Lenni Lenape. ( A Valley Forge woman may know about this)
22. Nancy brought up the hedgerows and plot lines of 1777 in the Rearguard strategic landscape area.
23. Nancy brought up how a British representative in a past meeting felt " Her Majesty" considered some of the battlefield "sacred ground."
24. Marianne Squyres brought up the "depredation" of civilians, some who made claims and some who did not make claims, even beyond the boundaries of the Battlefield, is a story itself.
25. Tony Shahan brought up the issue of the British probably seizing all kinds of supplies they needed from nearby locations, like bread from the Newlin Grist Mill site. The British foraged formally as a troop as well as probably on their own.
26. What effect did the battle have on the many mills, which were probably foraged, as well as other industries who were forced to give up their goods? Were whole centers of industrial activity taken over by the British and the American Civilians made to work for them?
27. Somewhere, Washington D.C. area civilians hid their millstones to counteract the British making them supply them.

28. Judy wondered who might know about the effect on the old Paper Mill in Thornbury or Chadds Ford?
29. Jake discussed the damage troops did along roads like Oakland Rd. Many roads in the battlefield area may still retain their rural character and portray a sense of place, as it was during the battle. There may also have been some sunken roads, from all that activity.
30. Nancy brought up the Clinton Papers Collection in Ann Arbor, at the U. of Michigan, where there are two Brandywine Battlefield maps, one showing where the British camped for the 5 days after the battle. Ted Brinton mentioned the Windsor map. Someone else referenced the Tom McGuire map.
31. Nancy mentioned a map in Portugal of the Kennett area.
32. Another theme that was mentioned was burials, and some of the British soldiers were buried at St. John's, the nearest Episcopalian Church.
33. Someone mentioned Hanover grew up in this area, and might have visited relatives?
34. Ted Brinton wondered if we knew of any funding for the Brandywine Battlefield Park? No one knew but Yinka reminded us all that the more grants that are received, and the more the public gets involved in events and learning the significance of the battle, the more likely the Federal government and state will support a place people relate to, and want to visit.
35. Marianne asked about the research we will identify, and wished there was a central location for all this information. We reminded the group whatever research we do, our information will be accessible to the public, whether it is in the final report, on our website or at our office.
36. Nancy mentioned the David Library of the American Revolution as a central repository. It is near Washington's Crossing.
37. Nancy mentioned she represented the National Organization of Quaker History, and mentioned the 1704 Brinton house and Birmingham meeting as two key resources in the battle.
38. Jake mentioned how we should play on the theme that the Quakers are a "continuous community" and we could ask current day Quakers about the stories that have been passed down to them.

39. People mentioned Chris Densmore at the Swarthmore Library as having a vast knowledge of Quaker history.
40. Susie mentioned how our outreach to the public with this grant could act as public relations for gaining future grants.
41. Jill mentioned that Chester County is planning their 2017 Town tours to include some Delaware county battlefield sites, and some of our research or interpretation activities can become a part of the tour. Jill was mistaken on the year. Chester County is considering that theme for 2015.
42. Susie was wondering if there was a way to distinguish legitimate sources of battlefield information, from the others that may be useful, but have not been verified, like oral histories, and provide this to then whole group. Jake mentioned how the ABPP recommended three sources to use as his baseline.
43. Nancy thought it useful to not only identify the issues we can verify, but also the ones we have not concluded yet.
44. Nancy also asked for an email contact sheet of participants and the crowd agreed they would all like that idea.
45. Ted mentioned a May Battlefield re-enactor event at Sandy Hollow.
46. Nancy mentioned the "Staff ride" concept, of using historic battlefield for present day military training.
47. Another interpretation topic is how the wounded were removed.
48. Medical history and temporary hospitals are an interpretive theme to explore.
49. Birmingham Meeting, the yellow house and at least 3 other private homes all may still have blood stains on the floors.
50. Look into places where local folks found artifacts. And compare this to known battle actions.
51. Next meetings – one in June or July and one in October. Beverlee will email all with possible dates.



52. I will send all:

- a. Email contacts of participants
- b. Possible meeting dates
- c. List of interpretive themes to list in priority order
- d. Jill's notes on past interpretive themes mentioned in the current Preservation Plan .

Brandywine Battlefield Strategic Landscapes Preservation Plan  
Landowners Working Group Meeting #1

April 8, 2014  
7:00-8:00 pm  
Chadds Ford Township Building  
Chadds Ford, PA

Attendees:

George Thorpe	Chadds Ford Township	<a href="mailto:GeorgeThorpe@aol.com">GeorgeThorpe@aol.com</a>
Ric Miller	Thornbury Township Historical Commission, chair	<a href="mailto:emiller@axs2000.net">emiller@axs2000.net</a>
Mr. Craig	Craig Farm	
George Franz	Chadds Ford Township Historical Society	<a href="mailto:gwfranz@verizon.net">gwfranz@verizon.net</a>
George Watkins		
Chuck Grabe		

Next Steps for our next future meeting:

- a. Landowners should share with us at the next meeting or between meetings (either on the phone or at a private meeting) any documentation or knowledge of the history of their property
  - b. Landowners should share with us at the next meeting or between meetings (either on the phone or in a private meeting) any knowledge of changes to the landscape of their properties – earth movement, cut and fill areas, flooding, plantings, change of crops, etc.
  - c. We will review the list of historic resources in the battlefield landmark passed out to all of those who attended the last meeting, to see if you can add or subtract any historic resources at the next meeting.
2. Jill and Yinka gave overviews of their previous power point presentations given at the kick off meeting.
3. They explained the Landowners Working Group was formed to gather feedback from landowners as to:
  - a. Seeing if the list of historic resources in the battlefield area appears complete to them
  - b. Any information landowners can provide about the history of their land, i.e. deeds, etc.

- c. Any knowledge of changes over time to the terrain, vegetation, or usage of their land
4. Mr. Watkins discussed the mass grave and plaque near it, but wondered if it could play a bigger role in interpretation. ( We believe that a mass grave is in Chester County, but we can pass along that info to them, and see if we can incorporate the information into our interpretation)
  5. Mr. Watkins also reminded us about the archeology study done by PennDOT along Rte. 202, in case we can use any data they collected.
  6. Mr. Craig discussed that Tom McGuire's book, which others think is a good source of information, is very vague about the Thornbury portion of the Rearguard Defense strategic area. He feels the source McGuire used, the Windsor castle map, is not accurate.
  7. Mr. Craig has lived his whole life in this area, and a good part of it on Harvey Rd., on the Craig farm. He filled us in on some of his school days memories of life in Chadds Ford Elementary School.
  8. He discussed the boundaries of the Rearguard Defense area and said he was fine with the Chadds Ford part but not in agreement with the Thornbury part, as he believes there was no battle action in Thornbury. He believes Greene's last push all happened on Harvey Rd.
  9. It seems like the battle activity there is dispute as to location of "Greene's last push". Part of why we chose this strategic landscape area is because it is uncertain where exactly activity happened and also where peripheral activity, like troop movement, may have been.
  10. Mr. Craig liked the book published by the Chester County Historical Society in 1976 about Brandywine Battle.
  11. George Franz discussed how the portions of the Rearguard Defense area was probably because troop movement, not battle activity passed through this area.
  12. We all discussed that the unclear nature of some battle activity or battle-related experience was why these two strategic area are chosen for study in the grant, and why the boundaries we used are fuzzy, not meant to be specific.
  13. George Franz wondered how the troops traveled to Chester City?
  14. Mr. Watkins agrees with Mr. Craig and believes the 1778 map, done by a Hessian is the correct source. If this is so, then the Thornbury part of the Rearguard Defense is too big. It shows the British near the Harvey House, so there was no action near his or Mr. Craig's property in Thornbury. He also is not so sure as to Tom McGuire's book.
  15. The discrepancy with the two maps should be addressed. One map was done in 1778 by a Hessian. The other was done at the time of the Battle by an English engineer named Archibald Robertson.
  16. Mr. Craig told us about a new book about the Brandywine Battlefield by Michael C. Harris. He was a former employee of PHMC, maybe the educational director?
  17. Someone discussed how Sullivan retreated on roads that were not labeled correctly, so perhaps that is why he got lost?
  18. Someone suggested it would be great to do an oral history with Mr. Craig, as he is such a wealth of knowledge.
  19. Mr. Craig remembered working in his father's house on Harvey Rd. in the big garden. He found only two musket balls.
  20. And when he tilled the 160-acre Craig Farm in later years, up until 2000, only one musket ball was ever found, on top of the hill. He said that certainly implies no troop action on that property.
  21. He remembers a bronze plaque locating General Howe's headquarters along a road, but thinks Mr. Francis dug it up and put it near his own house.
  22. George Thorpe told everyone that it looks like PHMC is investing in the Battlefield Park site, as they committed \$100,000 to do some upgrading.

23. We all feel the park makes a great hub of visitor activity for battlefield information, experience. Jill called it a Gateway Center, and George reminded everyone that many people use the site for other reasons, like recreation, so it draws a wide crowd to the site, and it gives a great opportunity for heritage tourism.
24. Mr. Craig discussed his decision to keep both the Craig Farm in a private trust, to let his son make future decision regarding the property. His dad bought the farm in 1923.
25. George Franz mentioned he thought another farm property is up for sale, the Dilworthtown Farm? It is 10-15 acres of farmland that is highly significant to the battlefield. He thinks soldiers camped there.

Future meetings:

- a. Can we meet somewhere to examine both maps, or have someone from PHMC show us or tell us about these maps?
- b. Perhaps we can show more of the animated map, and some people thought it would be great to have Sean Moir, who created the map come talk to us.
- c. Perhaps we can discuss the various boundaries of the National Historic Landmark, and discuss why the human story has become something people want to know, such as troop movement, the lives of the surrounding farmers, and residents who were affected by the battle.
- d. Please tell us if there is any other issue to add to our agenda

Thanks to everyone for participating.



## Brandywine Battlefield Working Group Meetings

June 10, 2014

Brandywine Battlefield Park

### Landowners Meeting

Landowners Attendees:

Ann Stauffer	Beverlee Barnes
George Franz	Alex Thurstlic
Jake Michael	Ric Miller
Robert Craig	Tom Sand
Andrew Outten	Yinka Adesbukan
George Thorpe	Jill Hall

1. Yinka And Jill lead the group in introductions around the room, and reiterated the purpose of the meeting- to continue learning more about the properties in the two strategic landscapes in Delaware County, as the focus of the present grant.
2. Yinka reviewed the various boundaries that have been designated as Battlefield boundaries – the largest one being the 2007 ABPP/Dept. of the Interior, the next one being the National Landmark boundary, and the smallest being the actual Brandywine Battlefield Park. He also pointed out the two strategic landscapes we are studying further for the grant – The Rearguard Defense and the Strategic Retreat.
3. Yinka discussed the status of non-invasive archeological study. JMA is being awarded as the archaeology consultant for this project. He mentioned they would like to meet the landowners and discuss what they know about their property, especially and artifacts they found, location of other artifacts, and any changes they know about the landscape.
4. They discussed what will be reviewed as previous research , to determine the context of the present study. Resources include :
  - a. 2013 Preservation Plan
  - b. Robertson Map (1777), aka the Windsor Map, used by McGuire in his book

- c. The Werner map , aka the Hession map
  - d. 1989 DCPD Study
  - e. Book by Sam Smith, 1976
5. We discussed how as there is always new information being found for any given period in history, we are investigating discrepancies in the many sources, to determine if we can shed more light on actual battle action and movement, especially in the Rearguard Movement Landscape. We might also want to note the all the maps show in common, as this may be an important part of the story as well.
  6. Dr. Craig passed out a few pages from the Sam Smith book, and we thank him, and will include this in our current re-thinking of troop movement. Jake and he discussed the reference to Henry Rd, and maybe it refers to an old Henry Rd vs. a new Henry Rd?
  7. Jake said he spoke to Wade, who worked on the Battle of Princeton and remarked that scale of symbols used to determine various features may have altered the actual location of events, so we should take caution of this in current or future maps.
  8. Wade also seems to have studies McGuire and Smith and may have found some new data to help with the discrepancies.
  9. Artifact location is a strong interest of Wade, so Dr. Craig and others may have some important information to share. Creating an Artifact Location map may be useful to help tell the story. (Location of where the artifacts were found, not where they are now, though that would be good to know as well).
  10. Dr. Craig told us how he could probably say where 98% of the musket balls fell. We should try to document this on a map.
  11. George Thorpe recommended the park be the location of information like where a visitor may find a particular exhibit, or see a sign regarding a particular sub-topic of Battlefield history.
  12. Jill also mentioned it may be a good component of this work product.
  13. Someone mentioned that even Townships may have drawers of artifacts that could be identified, catalogued or even kept on exhibit at the park. A guy in Birmingham may be a good source. Ask George Thorpe or Karen Marshall.
  14. Jill pointed out the Robertson map has McGuire's notes to the right, but the symbols on the map are from the original key.

15. We would like to work on the discrepancies on the various maps, especially the Rearguard area, and by next meeting hope to have some answers.
16. We would like to look at where we think troops marched and which buildings were there then that are still here now.
17. We have begun to create a master list of all historic resources we have documented in our Historic Resources Surveys, existing at the time of the Revolution, within the 2 strategic landscapes in Concord, Thornbury and Chadds Ford.
18. We would like to know from landowners or others in the communities, if they are aware of other historic resources to add to our list, or if they know more about the ones on the list, so we can update our survey forms.
19. We noted the Evolving Landscapes map, which superimposed maps from 1883 troop movement with later county and municipal boundaries with maps from 1837, 1993, and 2010. It shows the locations where development occurred and density increased.
20. We would love to hear anything the landowners known about changes to their landscapes/topography, even crop rotation, or growth of trees/hedges, etc. And if anyone knows where streams have re-located, or gone underground at places.
21. We are also looking for any older photos of the properties, in case it may reveal anything about the landscape changes.
22. If any landowners have done previous deed search, we would also like it if it could be shared.
23. Mike Harris's new book has come out, and there is a book signing on Chadds Ford on June 15. It's been hard for some to get the book, but the Park has some.
24. Our next meeting will be sometime in the Fall.

## Brandywine Battlefield Working Groups Meeting

June 10, 2014

### Interpretation Working group Meeting

#### Attendees:

Ann Stauffer	Tony Shahan
Beverlee Barnes	George Franz
Jill Hall	Jake Micheal
Alex Thurstlic	Robert Craig
Ric Miller	Andrew Outten
Nancy Webster	George Thorpe
Mary Ann Squires	Donna McDermott
Dave Poston	

1. Introductions were made.
2. The previous Interpretation Plan in the preservation Plan 2013 was reviewed.
3. Yinka reviewed the 4 items on the Interpretation network Map:
  - a. Public Interest Sites - those with access for public viewing
  - b. Viewing Corridors – along low/mod traffic roads
  - c. Heritage Areas – communities where visitors can stop
  - d. Battlefield gateways – large areas where there is bathroom facilities, parking, etc. like the Brandywine battlefield Park, Kennett Square.
4. The Brandywine Battlefield Park is the focus of a map down in this plan of how to better interpret the battle, and includes signage and trails.



5. There was an educational and Tourism Map showing heritage tourism, linking the Brandywine Battle to other Revolutionary sites in the region.
6. Our hopes are to build upon ideas in the 2013 Preservation plan's Interpretation Plan and get more detailed, for our study.
7. We discussed possible themes last meeting, and they include many themes that expand upon the story- to include more human story elements, not just the soldiers stories, movement, and action, though that is obviously very important.
8. We asked you on the survey to look at all the thematic ideas you all offered at the last meeting and then rank them by their importance.
9. The top choices were:
  - a. Ferguson Rifle
  - b. Use of Retreat as a battle strategy
  - c. Quakers role
  - d. Civilian role
  - e. More inclusive story
  - f. Remembering the Fallen

Jill mentioned that Mr. Watkins was unable to attend this meeting, but he has stressed at other meetings the importance of remembering the fallen. Yinka mentioned that that theme could be universal. Nancy Webster mentioned the Peace Garden that Birmingham Meetinghouse did at one time but she wasn't certain if it was still in around.

10. We tried to match the themes to the historic sites in our two strategic landscapes, and also correlate these sites with the 4 elements of the Interpretation Network map:

11. Public Interest Sites

- 1704 House
- Concord Meeting
- Yellow House

Other sites

- Newlin Grist Mill

- Concord Community Center

#### Gateway Sites

- Brandywine Battlefield Park

#### Viewing Corridors

- Washington's Retreat - Dilworthtown & Thornton Roads
- Green's Defense –Route 202

#### Heritage Areas

- Washington's withdrawal: Around Dilworthtown

12. Our goal today is now that we have made a stab at where and what themes to interpret, the next question is how to do this?
13. One idea that Chester County has planned is to make their 2017 Town Walks program have Brandywine battlefield theme. And Delaware County sites will be included.
14. We could do a brochure featuring a summer where all battlefield-related sites all exhibit something they have that helps tell the story . This could be an Mobile App tour, a self-guided brochure tour, or even an event planned for a group to go to all the sites in one afternoon.
15. Our next exercise today is to get feedback on matching our themes and sites.
  - a. One example is that it sounds like Jimmy Johns wants a copy of the animated map, and maybe an interpretive sign outside might be another idea.
  - b. 1704 House – the rearguard defense adjacent to the 1704 house or General Greene's Retreat may be both too military-oriented, for a Quaker site, but Quaker themes may be more appropriate.
    - Another idea to explore is the 5 day British encampment at the 1704 house, and written in a Quartermaster's diary.
    - Impact of the community during the battle
    - Impact of Revolutionary war on the Brinton family
    - Medical history

- Peace Garden for honoring the fallen, like the one at Birmingham Meeting

c. Concord Meetinghouse

- i. Quaker experience
- ii. Medical story
- iii. Remembering the fallen
- iv. Survivor's/wounded

d. Look into St John's Episcopal Church, where many British soldiers were interned.

e. Other themes to do – The wounded and the battle experience on the soldiers and their families

f. Nearby free black house needs researching

g. Veteran Pension records

h. 1880's National Lottery for Veterans

i. Yellow House

- i. Civilian impact
- ii. Remembering the Fallen
- iii. The Grey Ladies
- iv. Sending relatives away from danger in Philly and some got stuck at the Yellow House
- v. Soldier experience

j. Concord Community Building

- i. Similar themes to Concord Meeting house, as so nearby

k. Newlin Gristmill

- i. Effect of war on grain supplies
- ii. Why the gristmill changed hands so quickly after the battle
- iii. What food products were used during battle

iv. Local industries that were effected

v. Retreat

- l. Survivor as a theme – what were the psychological effects of war on survivors, whole communities? Especially these little closed communities not used to strangers, let alone being left with little or no livelihood, supplies.
- m. Waste – How was it handled?
- n. How did both sides get supplies?
- o. Pioneer corps- Dug Latrines
- p. What was the use of animals during battle? Oxen, horses, British wagon trains
- q. What was after the battle like?
- r. Environmental/health effects of people eating /eliminating waste/dead bodies all in one place.
- s. What can we learn about the discarded items from troops? Knapsacks, clothing, etc., and how was this effecting the landscape?
- t. What about the hurricane five days after the battle?

16. Viewing Corridors interpretation – needs ideas

- a. Washington's Retreat
- b. Green's Defense/Rear Guard

17. Heritage Areas - Dillworthtown

- a) Shift of battle strategy
- b) Community impact

18. Check out Pete Renzetti – blacksmith shop site

19. We will need to consider how best to coordinate all these efforts, to see how they relate to each other, so every site does not do the same interpretation. Tours, brochures

20. Nancy can talk to Concord Meeting about participating.

21. Ask each site what they want to interpret there and offer our ideas, but don't tell them what to do.



22. Mobile App tours, GPS tours, just plain non-tech tours
23. Appomattox Retreat does some of these
24. Tony discussed placing interpretive signage at Newlin directing people to nearby sites in the landscape
25. Nancy reminded us of as part of the Bicentennial they published nearby restaurants, gas stations, etc, to promote tourism.
26. Someone suggested a CD to play in your car explain the battle, and could sell this. One is sold at Valley Forge for \$14.95
27. A Brandywine Battlefield map could be for sale.
28. Next meeting – We can continue with the “How” to interpret, as our goals have been :
  - a. Meeting 1 –What themes to do
  - b. Meeting 2 – What ones are most important and where do we see them?
  - c. Meeting 3 – How?
29. Next meeting sometime in the fall, maybe October

Brandywine Battlefield Grant  
Strategic Landscapes Plan Public Meetings

December 4, 2014

1. Meetings were held at the Chadds Ford Township Building.
2. The Landowners Meeting was first, 6:30- 7:30. Attendees included Ric Miller, Dr. Craig, Mr. Watkins, and others who were also attending the second meeting.
3. Jill reviewed the agenda and mentioned she would focus on giving an update on the last few months, and include a discussion of the many planning strategies available, to be included in the final report.
4. She discussed the Archaeology studies that are being finished. JMA is conducting a non-invasive archeological design study and the geomorphic land study. Wade Catts will be finishing the studies and discussing the results in an upcoming meeting.
5. Jill also mentioned a visit from a representative from the Museum of the American Revolution, who took a house tour of the 1704 House and met with Wade and others.
6. She reiterated we are still looking for anyone to contact us who has knowledge of artifacts or other archaeological information. We are interested in locations within the two strategic landscapes we are working with, as well as any artifacts found outside those parameters.
7. As Jill showed a photo of a musket ball, Dr. Craig had some interesting comments about how they oxidize and appear white in many cases.
8. Jill reviewed the documentation we are providing in the report, focusing on the list of Priority Sites. We are continuing our work, consolidating written documentation from the various sources we have found, taking current photos, and doing some deed searches to help determine more accurate dates. Someone mentioned that the 165 Harvey Rd. resource may have a wrong house number.
9. Jill next began discussing Current Preservation Efforts of all three municipalities. She mentioned all three have a HARB or a Historical Commission, all have historical societies, and have surveys. All three also include preservation as a priority in their Comp Plans, and all have some sort of protective ordinance.
10. Mr. Watkins reminded us of the archaeology study done circa 2004 along Rte. 202, by CHRS.
11. He has documentation from PHMC that there are no National Register-eligible historic resources on his property in the area they tested. We assume that refers to underground resources.
12. Dr. Craig brought up the point that there is discrepancy between the maps indicating troop movement, and that some of the written sources we have all been using may be incorrect. He reminded us that Wade agreed with Dr. Craig on which version of the battle may be correct.

13. Jill described how we were highlighting the planning strategies that mostly encouraged public recognition and “ownership” of the story and value of the Battle, not so much a focus on any regulatory strategies. She discussed the stewardship of the historic resources within our strategic landscapes is often accomplished by the landowners voluntarily.
14. She described some of the planning tools such as:
  - a. Correct maintenance, and referred to the County’s “ Maintaining Your Historic Home: A Practical Guide for Homeowners”, available online at our website.
  - b. Voluntary design guidelines, and referred to the County’s general Design Guidelines, and how maybe those interested could streamline a set of voluntary guidelines specific to battlefield properties.
  - c. Archaeology educational opportunities could be created, to help the public understand what insights can be gained from archeological information, like the information collected in this study.
  - d. Incorporating language about Battlefield protection in Comp Plans is another way to be good stewards of this important part of our heritage.
  - e. Cluster Zoning is a technique where guided development can promote leaving certain key parcels open, and undisturbed, while still building the desired number of units, but in a denser pattern.
  - f. TDC’s were discussed, and it was mentioned that Concord has this in their zoning.
  - g. Agricultural zoning tools exist where landowners of farmland can be compensated for selling their development rights, or perpetuating their use of land for farming.
  - h. Funding sources were reviewed, including easements, agricultural protection and Rehabilitation Tax Credits.
15. We discussed how we are including all the possible planning strategies in the report, even if they are not all preferred by everyone. They are included to keep the complete set of planning strategies intact for future review.
16. Ric made the point that Thornbury already has in place many of these planning strategies.
17. Jill also mentioned the Civil War Trust is now also funding other battles projects, including the War of 1812 and the American Revolution.
18. Our next meeting will be in 2015, and Wade will be presenting his final findings in that meeting or another in that same time frame. And there will be a later meeting for all the public to present the final report.
19. We discussed the “loop in Thornbury” and if this will be revised for this study. We anticipate it will be.
20. Mr. Watkins would like Wade’s phone number.

## Brandywine Battlefield Grant

### Strategic Landscapes Plan Public Meetings

December 4, 2014

1. The Interpretation Meeting was next, running from 7:30 - 8:30. Christopher Densmore , from the Swarthmore Friends Library attended, and a gentleman for the Chadds Ford Open Space Committee attended.
2. Jill reviewed our work to date, explaining how all the ideas discussed in previous Interpretation Meetings were compiled and set up as sub-themes of a few larger overall themes. We especially focused on themes associated with the two strategic landscapes.
3. She discussed how she created a system of organizing the what, how and where to interpret, into a system of a few overriding themes and connecting them to locations existing in the area that relate to that theme, and “communicating themes” are ways to deliver this theme. She created “concept/topics” which split up the overriding theme into smaller topics that can be explored.
4. The goals in creating this system are to take advantage of the existing public history sites, who already have their interpretation which may not include any battle activity, but which help illustrate stories about life during battle. Another goal is to focus on strategies that were easy to accomplish in a short time and with no or low cost. And finally we hoped to create some interpretative activities that people could do at their own pace and learn more through visiting just one site, website or seeing a brochure.
5. Locations include 1704 House, the Yellow House, Newlin Grist Mill, Concord Meeting, and Concord Municipal Building.
6. Christopher Densmore elaborated on the impact of the American Revolution, and the Brandywine Battle on the Quakers between 1775 – and the 1790’s. This impact was large, harsh, included jail sentences and many fines, besides the loss of goods, crops, etc. from either side's soldiers. Some gave 30 years in prison for not paying taxes or participating in war. And the Meetinghouses that were used for hospitals may not have done so out of choice.
7. So lots of bad feelings were felt on both sides. And it seemed the Patriots showed more hostility than the British in many cases.
8. There are lots of stories to tell besides the obvious ones, including more Quaker stories, the Native American story and the museum paintings that portrayed these events.



Battlefield Park

1. Jill introduced the meeting, and did a quick overview of the two Strategic Plans we are working on in this grant.
2. She went over the past studies done since the 2007 one by Chester County.
3. She discussed the definition of “engagement” as including activity leading up to and including troop movement to and from the one day battle.
4. She discussed how the Battlefield Landmark boundary had been expanded, and is now 30 square acres.
5. The ABPP Preservation Plan of the larger area had led to these Preservation Plans, or Strategic Landscapes within this overall battlefield area – The Strategic Retreat and the Rear Guard Retreat.
6. She gave an overview of the public participation that has occurred in this project. It has involved the many land owners, preservation community, municipalities, general public and businesses.
7. Two task forces were created and were well –attended – the Landowners and the Interpretation Committees.
8. The existing conditions were explored and after much discussion and JMA Wade Catt’s information on archeology, some of the boundaries of the Strategic Landscapes were altered.
9. Wade Catts and Kevin Donaghy spoke about their chapter – the Archeological Design Analysis.
10. They discussed the project goals as :
  - a. Verify and build upon previous planning efforts
  - b. Complete archeology geomorphic land study for the 2 strategic landscapes
  - c. Complete the Chapter 3 of the Battlefield Grant
11. They reminded us that Brandywine Battlefield was the largest in the USA.
12. They thanked Dr. Craig for all his help.
13. They viewed lots of maps including the Hessian one, Robertson map.
14. They discussed how they work a lot in “conflict archeology”, as in battlefield artifacts.

15. They discussed how their findings as to hospitalization, encampment post battle, and burials were all relevant to the whole battle story.
16. They talked about doing their KOCO analysis and how a lot of artifacts were associated with the Rear Guard Retreat. KOCO is a common analysis for military terrain analysis.
17. They mentioned how the Painter-Craig house is a key terrain location, the “apex of the battle lines”.
18. They talked about how many battle artifacts represent how soldiers who were fleeing discarded lots of items, like boots, to both make their travel easier, and to not be detected as a soldier.
19. Jill next spoke about the action Plan focusing on short term and easy to implement recommendations.
20. She discussed how the boundaries in the existing conditions section have been altered with new information.
21. She discussed how Chapter 4 - Historic Resources and Defining Features will include relevant roads, viewsheds, and National Register recommendations.
22. Dr. Craig made a comment that one of the photos shown was not Harvey Rd, not Oakland Rd.
23. Jill discussed the Chapter 5 Planning strategies as well as the Chapter 6 Interpretation chapter.
24. Following was a comments portion of the meeting:
25. Kevin thanked the Delaware County Planning Department who did a fine job orchestrating all the volunteers and all the research they as a department have also done.
26. He mentioned the need for this type of study was crucial as he sees the public still not understanding the significance of Brandywine Battle.
27. George Thorpe also commented that this study could be useful as he talks to many young people living in this battlefield area, who still have no idea about the battle history or significance.
28. Kevin asked for land owners to share their artifacts with him and reminded them to discourage how random metal detecting, they could get certificates saying they agree no metal detecting allowed on their property.
29. Someone asked about the effect of the battle on the Quakers in the area.
30. We discussed how the impact on the Quakers still needs interpreting.
31. Kevin mentioned how most of the Quaker leadership was jailed. He went on to discuss the

How it is hard to interpret or do archaeology with groups who were not happily involved in a battle. But that it is all part of the human landscape that is so much part of what we can learn from archaeology studies such as this one. And he mentioned how the Brandywine Battlefield Task Force has such a wonderful reputation nationally.



# Strategic Landscapes Plan: Rearguard Defense & Strategic Retreat

## **Appendix D: Historic Resources Documentation**

**Abbreviated Historic Resource Survey Form**  
**Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission**

**IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION**

ER #:

Survey Code:

Tax Parcel: 04-00-00129-00

County: Delaware

Municipality: Chadds Ford

Township

Address: 165 Harvey Rd.

Historic/Other Name: Gilpin House

Owner Name/Address:

Owner Category: Private

USGS Quad:

UTM: Zone 18 N 4415115 E 452069 Or Lat /Long

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Resource Classification: Building

# Resources

Historic Property Function: residential

Current Property Function: residential

Year Built: 1775-1784

Architectural Style: Colonial

Materials: Foundation: Stone

Walls: Stone

Roof:

Width in Bays: 5

Stories: 2.5

**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

Name: Beverlee Barnes

Project Name: Brandywine Battlefield Grant

Date: 2-12-15

Project Location: Brandywine Battlefield

Organization Name: Delaware County Planning Department

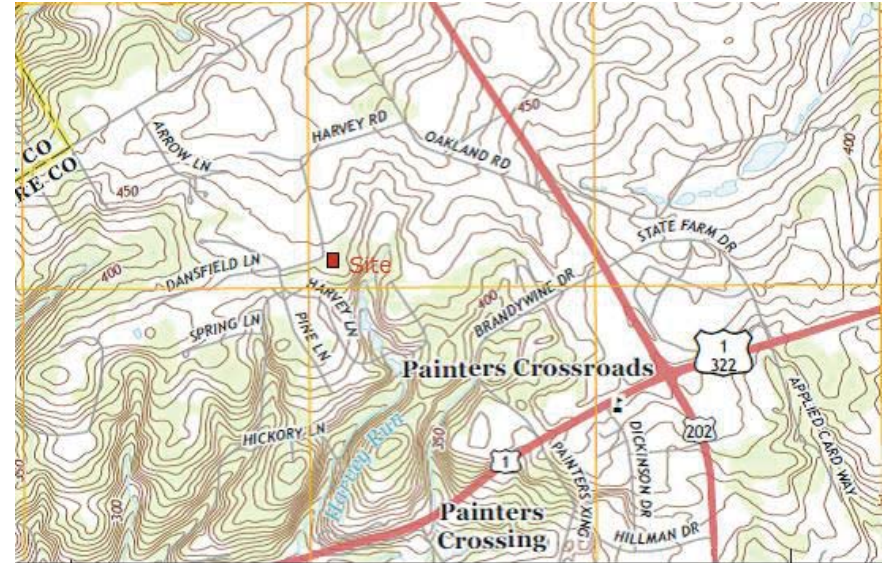
Organization Address: Courthouse and Govt Ctr, 201 W. front St., Media, PA 19063

Previous Survey(s):

PHMC Key No.

Surveyor Eligibility Recommendation:

- ☐ Lack of integrity ☐ Lack of significance  
☐ Insufficient information to make a recommendation



Caption: US Topo, WEST CHESTER QUADRANGLE, PENNSYLVANIA  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES, Source: USGS Website



Caption: Front Facade, Camera Direction: S



**Abbreviated Historic Resource Survey Form**  
**Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission**

**IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION**

ER #:

Survey Code: Tax Parcel: 04-00-00129-00  
County: Delaware Municipality: Chadds Ford Township  
Address: 165 Harvey Rd.  
Historic/Other Name: Gilpin House  
Owner Name/Address:

Owner Category: Private

USGS Quad:

UTM: Zone 18 N 4415115 E 452069 Or Lat /Long

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Resource Classification: Building # Resources

Historic Property Function: residential

Current Property Function: residential

Year Built: 1775-1875

Architectural Style: Colonial

Materials: Foundation: Stone

Walls: Stone

Roof:

Width in Bays: 5 Stories: 2.5

**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

Name: Beverlee Barnes

Project Name: Brandywine Battlefield Grant Date: 2-12-15

Project Location: Brandywine Battlefield

Organization Name: Delaware County Planning Department

Organization Address: Courthouse and Govt Ctr, 201 W. front St., Media, PA 19063

Previous Survey(s):

PHMC Key No.

Surveyor Eligibility Recommendation:

- ☐ Lack of integrity ☐ Lack of significance  
☐ Insufficient information to make a recommendation



Caption: West elevation, Camera Direction: SE



Caption: East Elevation, Camera Direction: SW

**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM—Narrative Sheet**

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

**Survey Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tax Parcel/Other No.:** 04-00-00129-00  
**County:** 045-Delaware County \_\_\_\_\_ **Municipality:** Chadds Ford Township \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** 165 Harvey Road, Chadds Ford, PA \_\_\_\_\_  
**Historic Name/Other Name:** Gilpin House \_\_\_\_\_

**Physical Description**

The house at 165 Harvey Rd., called the “Gilpin House”, is associated with the earliest family who owned the nearby Gilpin Homestead, which was used as General Howe’s headquarters after the Brandywine Battlefield from Sept. 11-16, 1777.

The Gilpin House, thought to be the tenant home to the Gilpin Homestead, is a stucco over fieldstone, 5-bay, 2-pile and 2½-story home with later additions of a pedimented portico at the front entry and double-width gabled dormers. There are subsequent additions to the rear of the home, including the two earlier additions to the rear – a 2-story “el” dining room addition, and a 1-story kitchen addition. There are three interior chimneys. Many windows are replacement, though the window openings remain original. The thin, moulded roof cornice remains.

**Historical Narrative**

The Gilpin family owned the property surrounding 165 Harvey Rd., which was linked to the Gilpin Homestead. The home has been given various dates of origin, but most likely records at the Chadds Ford Historical Society appear correct, as describing it as “another Gilpin home of approximately the same date (as the Gilpin Homestead), stone for both were quarried at the start of the old road on Rte. 1 and hauled up that road by teams of oxen” (Birmingham Historic Resource Survey #045-BI-41. Delaware County Planning Department. 1984).

The Historic Resource Survey dates the Gilpin House circa 1775-99, and dates the Gilpin Homestead to 1754, which is indicated on its datestone.

The Gilpin Homestead was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1971. General Howe was known to have made it be his headquarters from September 11 – 16, after the battle. From his stay here, he dispersed troops to Wilmington. Thus, as the Gilpin House is associated to this nationally historically significant resource, it is likely it would be National Register-eligible.

**Abbreviated Historic Resource Survey Form**  
**Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission**

**IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION**

ER #:

Survey Code:

Tax Parcel: 04-00-00121-00

County: Delaware

Municipality: Chadds Ford

Township

Address: 310 Brinton Bridge Rd.

Historic/Other Name:

Owner Name/Address:

Owner Category: Private

USGS Quad: West Chester

UTM: Zone 18 N 4416666 E 451388 Or Lat /Long

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Resource Classification: Building

# Resources

Historic Property Function: residential

Current Property Function: residential

Year Built: 1750

Architectural Style: Colonial

Materials: Foundation: Stone

Walls: Stone

Roof:

Width in Bays: 3

Stories: 2

**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

Name: Beverlee Barnes

Project Name: Brandywine Battlefield Grant

Date: 2-13-15

Project Location: Brandywine Battlefield

Organization Name: Delaware County Planning Department

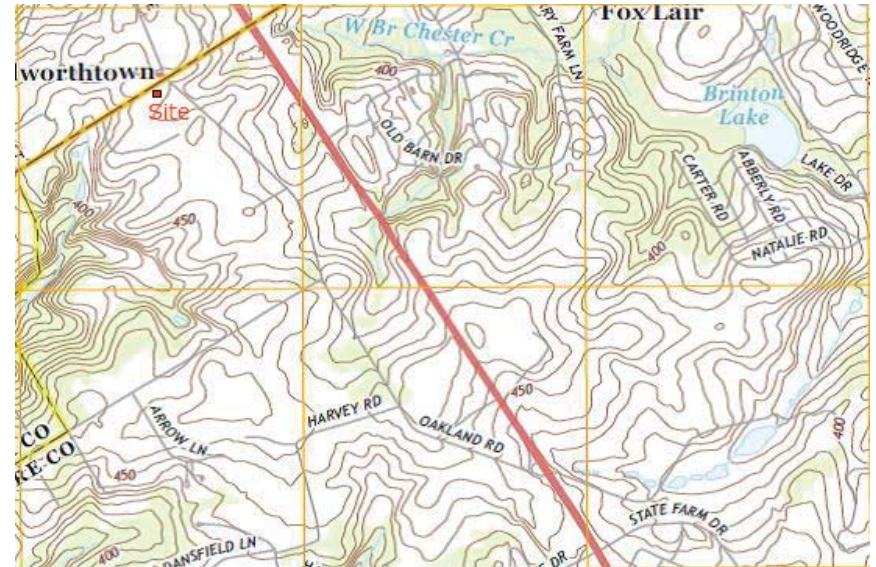
Organization Address: Courthouse and Govt Ctr, 201 W. Front St., Media, PA 19063

Previous Survey(s):

PHMC Key No.

Surveyor Eligibility Recommendation:

- ☐ Lack of integrity ☐ Lack of significance  
☐ Insufficient information to make a recommendation



Caption: US Topo, WEST CHESTER QUADRANGLE, PENNSYLVANIA  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES, Source: USGS Website



Caption: Front Facade & West Elevation; Camera Direction: SE



**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM—Narrative Sheet**

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

**Survey Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tax Parcel/Other No.:** 04-00-00121-00\_\_\_\_

**County:** 045-Delaware County\_\_\_\_\_ **Municipality:** Chadds Ford Township\_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** 310 Brinton Bridge Road, Chadds Ford, PA\_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Name/Other Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Physical Description**

The home at 310 Brinton Bridge Rd. sits close to the road, and is a 2-story, 3-bay, and 2-pile, stucco over stone home. The front façade is symmetrical with a single centered front door. The pitched roof has slightly protruding eaves. It is simply designed, lacking decorative elements. It has one interior chimney and one exterior one on the elevation. Windows appear original 4 x4 and have retained their window surrounds.

**Historical Narrative**

The home at 310 Brinton Bridge Rd. is a contributing resource in the Dilworthtown National Register Historic District, as well as in the Chadds Ford Historic Overlay District. The Chester County Historic Resource Inventory - Appendix B, part of the 2010 Battlefield Preservation Plan, dates the home c. 1750 as does the Delaware County Tax assessors database.

**Abbreviated Historic Resource Survey Form**  
**Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission**

**IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION**

ER #:

Survey Code:

Tax Parcel: 04-00-00126-00

County: Dauphin

Municipality: Chadds Ford

Township

Address: 360 Brinton Bridge Rd.

Historic/Other Name:

Owner Name/Address:

Owner Category: Private

USGS Quad:

UTM: Zone 18 N 4416559 E 451282 Or Lat /Long

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Resource Classification: Building

# Resources

Historic Property Function: residential

Current Property Function: residential

Year Built: 1770-1875

Architectural Style: Georgian

Materials: Foundation: Stone

Walls: Stone

Roof:

Width in Bays: 3

Stories: 2

**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

Name: Beverlee Barnes

Project Name: Brandywine Battlefield Grant

Date: 2-13-15

Project Location: Brandywine Battlefield

Organization Name: Delaware county Planning Department

Organization Address: Courthouse and Govt Ctr, 201 W. Front St., Media, PA 19063

Previous Survey(s):

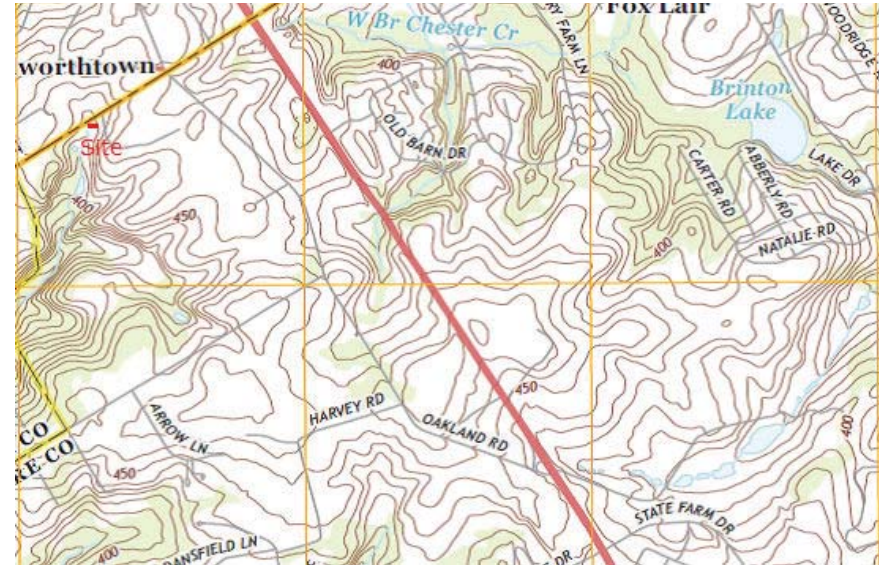
PHMC Key No.

Surveyor Eligibility Recommendation:

☐ Lack of integrity

☐ Lack of significance

☐ Insufficient information to make a recommendation



Caption: US Topo, WEST CHESTER QUADRANGLE, PENNSYLVANIA  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES, Source: USGS Website



Caption: West Elevation & Garage; Camera Direction E



**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM—Narrative Sheet**

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

**Survey Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tax Parcel/Other No.:** 04-00-00126-00\_\_\_\_

**County:** 045-Delaware County\_\_\_\_\_ **Municipality:** Chadds Ford Township\_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** 360 Brinton Bridge Road, Chadds Ford, PA\_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Name/Other Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Physical Description**

360 Brinton Bridge Rd. is a 2-story, stucco over frame home. It has a pitched roof. There have been alterations to this home, especially on the rear elevation. It sits close to the road, not very visible, due to mature landscaping. An outbuilding sits along the street as well. Windows appear replacement, and a stucco chimney is visible.

**Historical Narrative**

The home at 360 Brinton Bridge Rd. is in the Dilworthtown National Register Historic District. It is also a resource in the Chadds Ford Historic Overlay District. The Chester County Historic Resource Inventory Appendix B, done as part of the 2010 Preservation Plan, dates the core of the building to c. 1770-1779.

**Abbreviated Historic Resource Survey Form**  
**Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission**

**IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION**

ER #:

Survey Code: 045-CO-195

Tax Parcel: 13-00-00386-01

County: Delaware

Municipality: Concord

Township

Address: 126 Thornton Rd.

Historic/Other Name:

Owner Name/Address:

126 Thornton Rd., Glen Mills, PA 19342

Owner Category: Private

USGS Quad:

UTM: Zone 18 N 4415895 E 455431 Or Lat /Long

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Resource Classification: Building

# Resources

Historic Property Function: millworker housing

Current Property Function: residential

Year Built: c.1682

Architectural Style: Colonial

Materials: Foundation: Stone

Walls: Stone

Roof: Shingle

Width in Bays: 3

Stories: 2

**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

Name: Beverlee Barnes

Project Name: Brandywine Battlefield Grant

Date: 1/8/15

Project Location: Brandywine Battlefield

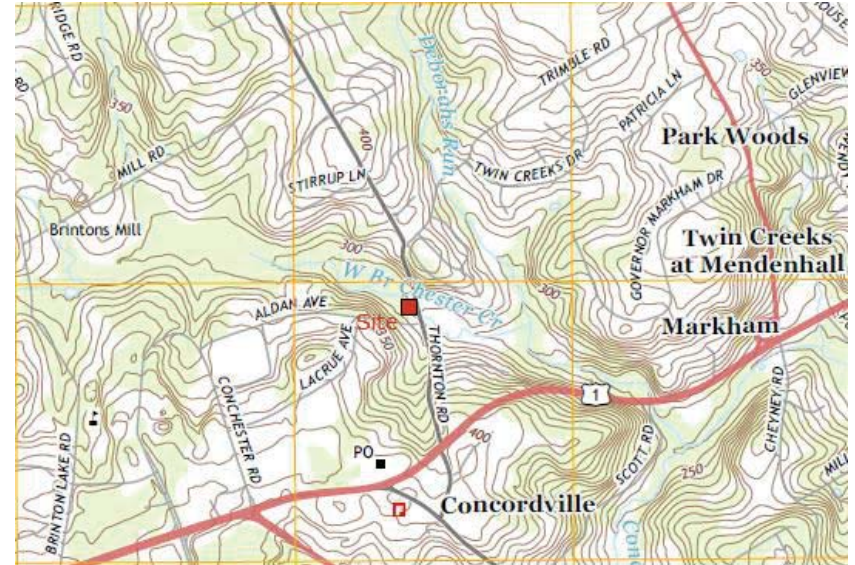
Organization Name: Delaware County Planning Department

Organization Address: Courthouse and Govt Center, 201 W. Front st., Media, PA 19063

Previous Survey(s): Concord Township Historic Resource Survey, 1983  
PHMC Key No.

Surveyor Eligibility Recommendation:

- ☐ Lack of integrity ☐ Lack of significance  
☐ Insufficient information to make a recommendation



Caption: US Topo, WEST CHESTER QUADRANGLE, PENNSYLVANIA  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES, Source: USGS Website



Caption: Front Facade, Camera Direction: SW

## PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM—Narrative Sheet

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

**Survey Code:** 045-CO-195\_\_\_\_\_ **Tax Parcel/Other No.:** 13-00-00386-01  
**County:** 045-Delaware County\_\_\_\_\_ **Municipality:** Concord Township\_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** 126 Thornton Road, Concord, PA\_\_\_\_\_  
**Historic Name/Other Name:**\_\_\_\_\_

### Physical Description

126 Thornton Rd. sits near the intersection of Thornton Rd and Aldan Ave., not far from Baltimore Pike, near Concordville. The home is a 2-story, 3-bay, and 1-pile building with additions. It was stucco over stone, is now exposed stone, and has a pitched roof with cedar shingles. There is a slight eave overhang. The front façade is symmetrical, with a single central front door. Both side elevations appear to have multi-paned side doors with asymmetrical placement of windows. There is a 2-story rear addition with a shed roof, at a different slope than the pitched roof it is attached to. Windows were originally 6x6, and now appear replacement and are 1x1. The residence has original flooring and beams. This residence appears National Register-eligible, as well as locally significant.

### Historical Narrative

According to “A Survey of Mills in Delaware County PA - 1826-1880”, by Robert Case, 1994, this building could have been a millworker residence or mill storage, and later converted to a residence. This source associates 126 Thornton Rd. with Concord Mills - the first mill in Concord, founded circa 1682 -1720, and producing grist and cider. Both the WPA (Workers Progressive Administration) and Concord Historic Resource Survey seem to corroborate the home being built circa 1680’s.

Another source, the Case and DeNenno book on Concord Township, says the home at 126 Thornton Rd. may have been associated with the Nicholas Pyle Mill, which was founded in 1698. In which case, it is likely the home dates a little later, c. 1698 – 1720.

If the home is associated with the Concord Mill, founded earlier – 1682, then the home may be estimated as built earlier, as c. 1682-1720, as related to the founding of the mill, and this date has been corroborated by the WPA study and Concord Survey.

Other sources describe this part of Concord as known for its mills. The 1695 Tax Assessment of Chester County (Concord Township was part of Chester County at that time) listed 5 mills and one was Concord Mills. George Smith’s 1862 book on the history of Delaware County said Leedom Mill was the site of Concord Mill. Therefore, a very significant development pattern of the late 17<sup>th</sup> c. and early 18<sup>th</sup> c. was the mills. And this included the built environment of the millworker’s homes, the actual mills and storage and other outbuildings associated with them.



**Abbreviated Historic Resource Survey Form**  
**Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission**

**IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION**

ER #:

Survey Code: 045-CO-190

Tax Parcel: 13-00-00915-04

County: Delaware

Municipality: Concord Township

Address: 166 Trimble Road

Historic/Other Name: Windswept Acres, Betty and Low's Farm, Mendenhall Farm

Owner Name/Address: Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Honold

166 Trimble Road, Glen Mills, PA 19342

Owner Category: Private

USGS Quad:

UTM: Zone 18 N 4416533 E 455779 Or Lat /Long

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Resource Classification: Building

# Resources 5

Historic Property Function: residence

Current Property Function: residence

Year Built: 1830, 19

Architectural Style: Colonial

Materials: Foundation: Stone

Walls: Stone

Roof:

Width in Bays: 5

Stories: 2 1/2

**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

Name: Beverlee Barnes

Project Name: Brandywine Battlefield Grant

Date: 1/7/15

Project Location: Brandywine Battlefiled

Organization Name: Delaware County Planning Department

Organization Address: Courthouse and Govt Center, 201 W. Front St., Media, PA

Previous Survey(s): Concord Township Historic Resource Survey, 1983  
PHMC Key No.

Surveyor Eligibility Recommendation:

☐ Lack of integrity

☐ Lack of significance

☐ Insufficient information to make a recommendation



Caption: US Topo, WEST CHESTER QUADRANGLE, PENNSYLVANIA  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES, Source: USGS Website



Caption: South Facade, Camera Direction: NW

## PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM—Narrative Sheet

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

**Survey Code:** 045-CO-190\_\_\_\_\_ **Tax Parcel/Other No.:** 13-00-00915-04

**County:** 045-Delaware County\_\_\_\_\_ **Municipality:** Concord Township\_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** 166 Trimble Road, Concord, PA\_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Name/Other Name:** Windswept Acres, Betty and Low's Farm, Mendenhall Farm\_\_\_\_\_

### Physical Description

Set off the road on a long drive is the farmstead once called "Windswept". Other names used have been "Betty and Low's Farm", and "Mendenhall Farm." The main house now sits in a residential subdivision. It is a 2½-story, 5-bay, and 2-pile stucco over stone farmhouse, in the Colonial style. The pitched roof has 2 gable dormers on each side. Each gable end has a wide interior plastered chimney. The roof is cedar shingle. Windows are 6x6 and shuttered. They are now narrower than the original operable type. The front or south façade has a central front door, with two windows on each side. There is a heavy cornice with a generous overhang. It has a full width, enclosed, one story porch. The door hood originally had patterned shingles. The east elevation is mostly blank on the upper stories except for two small 2x2 light windows at attic level. There are three windows on the first story, and once there a paneled door with a four light fan window installed in the 20<sup>th</sup> c. It may no longer be present. The addition on the northern side, attached to the back of the oldest portion of the house, was originally clapboard, and is now sided. It has a gently-sloping roof. Outbuildings included a barn, shed, garage, and tenant house.

Interior still had original hardware, flooring and beams, panel doors, hand carved woodwork, fireplaces, stairway with gouged square spindles and wide walnut stair treads in 1983.

### Historical Narrative

The earliest use of this parcel includes a fieldstone house being built in 1713 by Benjamin Mendenhall, according to the Concord Township Historical Society. It is documented in the Concordville National Register Historic District listing, in 1973. However there is no obvious evidence of this house on the site. This may be because the National Register documentation says an early 19<sup>th</sup> c. addition was made to the front of the house, as well as later additions to the rear of the house. The original part of the house existed in 1973, and was stuccoed with a metal roof. Another 19<sup>th</sup> c. addition of wood shingle with a gently sloping roof was attached to the back of the oldest part of the house. Thus, the original core of the house may very well exist, hidden within the many 19<sup>th</sup> c. and early 20<sup>th</sup> c. additions and alterations. Or, it was rebuilt by Samuel Trimble and his wife Rebecca in 1830, recent immigrants from Ireland. One feature of note that appeared to have happened sometime during the Trimble's period was the plaster imitation marble fireplace on the second floor's west chamber. More alterations in the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> c. include relocating the stairwell, enlarging rooms in the earlier part of the house, and closing off some fireplaces.

The Mendenhall and Trimble families were some of the first settlers in Concord, and were active participants in religious and political life. They both became prominent families in Southeastern



## **PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM—Narrative Sheet**

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Pennsylvania. The 1875 Lee atlas indicates a 99 acre parcel owned by Mrs. R. Trimble. The 1913 Mueller atlas indicates the 99 acre parcel being owned by William Trimble, and shows the c. 1910 addition.

In 1973, the Concordville Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is comprised on 6 contributing resources, one of which is the Samuel Trimble House at 166 Trimble Rd. It documents the early 19<sup>th</sup> c. origin of this crossroads development, where Baltimore Pike and Concord Rd. intersect. Pre-1831 this node included the Concord Meetinghouse, built in 1728, and enlarged in 1788, the 18<sup>th</sup> c. fieldstone Newlin Tenant House, and the Nicholas Newlin House, whose datestone reads "1742", and the house across from the meetinghouse, built by Samuel Trimble.

By 1831 John Way was licensed to keep a public house, and in the following year the Concordville Post Office opened. In 1873-74 a two story public school, named Maplewood Institute was built in Concordville. It later became Dante's Orphanage, and now is the Concord Community Center and township office. It received its charter in 1870 as "a seminary for learning." (Ashmead) A village began to grow and by 1894 it had grown to over 50 dwellings. Though all of these resources added greatly to the community of Concordville, none were included in the National Register District in 1973, as they lacked architectural integrity and were separated from the Concordville contributing resources by many modern, non-contributing buildings. This historic district reflects some of the major rural architectural styles that were prevalent in this part of Delaware County in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**Abbreviated Historic Resource Survey Form**  
**Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission**

**IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION**

ER #:

Survey Code: Tax Parcel: 13-00-00918-00

County: Delaware Municipality: Concord Township

Address: 183 Trimble Road

Historic/Other Name: Joseph Edwards House

Owner Name/Address: Constance Campisi  
183 Trimble Road

Owner Category: Private

USGS Quad:

UTM: Zone 18 N 4416599 E 455736 Or Lat /Long

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Resource Classification: Building # Resources

Historic Property Function: residential

Current Property Function: residential

Year Built: 1695, 17

Architectural Style: Colonial

Materials: Foundation: Stone

Walls: Stone

Roof:

Width in Bays: Stories: 2 1/2

**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

Name: Beverlee Barnes

Project Name: Brandywine Battlefield Grant Date: 1-5-15

Project Location: Brandywine Battlefield

Organization Name: Delaware County Planning Department

Organization Address: Courthouse/Govt Center, 201 w. Front St. Media, PA 19063

Previous Survey(s):

PHMC Key No.

Surveyor Eligibility Recommendation:

- ☐ Lack of integrity ☐ Lack of significance  
☐ Insufficient information to make a recommendation



Caption: US Topo, WEST CHESTER QUADRANGLE, PENNSYLVANIA  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES, Source: USGS Website



Caption: Front Facade & East Elevation; Camera Direction: NW

**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM—Narrative Sheet**

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

**Survey Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tax Parcel/Other No.:** 13-00-00918-00 \_\_\_\_\_

**County:** 045-Delaware County \_\_\_\_\_ **Municipality:** Concord Township \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** 183 Trimble Rd., Concord, PA \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Name/Other Name:** Joseph Edwards House \_\_\_\_\_

**Physical Description**

The home at 183 Trimble Rd. has 2½ stories, with a pitched roof and has a wraparound, 1-story, enclosed porch along the street-facing façade. It is a later addition. The original exterior stone façade is still visible above and alongside the porch portion of the home. Windows appear to be replacement. The home appears on the Concord Historic Resources Survey, 1997 spreadsheet as #191. It is known as the Joseph Edwards House.

**Historical Narrative**

The house at 183, the Joseph Edwards house was built in 1695, with additions in 1770. It is a Class 2 resource in the Concord Historic Resources Survey.

“Concord Township – Progress and Prosperity in the 19<sup>th</sup> c.” by Robert P. Case and Virginia M. DeNenno, Concord Township Historical Society, The Kutztown Publishing Company, 1998 supplied the following information:

“The home that has been attributed to Joseph Edwards is a 16 x 20 stone house. The association with him rests on his acquiring 50 acres of land from John Mendenhall in 1694, including the site of the stone home at 183 Trimble Rd. This 50 acre parcel was part of the 250 acres Mendenhall bought from John Harding in 1684.”

In a journal of Marie Edwards Quisenberry, Vol. 4, Numbers 1, 2 and 3, 1980:

“The way Edwards acquired the 50 acre parcel appears to be because Mary Hickman emigrated to America as an indentured servant with the John Harding family. She married Joseph Edwards in 1694-95 and had a son Joseph Jr. in 1695. Her son acquired the 50 acres received she was due, as an indentured servant. Joseph Edwards Jr. farmed this land until his death in 1715.”

Thus it appears that the house at 183 Trimble Rd. was built for or by this Edwards family, who farmed this parcel and lived here. The second half of the home has been attributed to 1770.

As the farms on Trimble Rd, including the one owned by the Edwards thrived, it has been documented that this portion of Trimble Rd., once part of the Mendenhall 250 acre farm estate, but now the 50 acre farm estate of the Edwards was the residential hub of mid-19<sup>th</sup> c. African American farm laborers and their families. In 1832, it is unclear if a couple named James and Rachel Green lived in the Edwards’ home or a nearby home, but they acquired 2 acres from George Israel, had two kids, Charles and Eliza,

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and were on one of the African American farm laborer families to reside in the area. The Gibson's and their 3 children also lived in their property. In 1833, a third African American farmer, Henry Sanderson, bought 5 acres from Mendenhall. And a family named January Washington, wife Lydia Ann and their daughter and two other relatives all lived in this farm laborer's home. So with all this evidence of many farm laborer families living along the portion of Trimble Rd. near Deborah's Run, a tributary of the West Branch of Chester Creek, the home at 183 Trimble Rd. may be the last remaining remnant of this important historically significant story of the history of African American farm workers in the western portion of Delaware County. More research should be done to substantiate this social history, and determine if it is National Register-eligible.



**Abbreviated Historic Resource Survey Form**  
**Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission**

**IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION**

ER #:

Survey Code: Tax Parcel: 44-00-00153-00

County: Delaware Municipality: Thornbury Township

Address: 373 Glen Mills Rd., Thornbury

Historic/Other Name: Isaac Pyle House, Harvey P. Marvin House

Owner Name/Address: 373 Glen Mills rd., Thornbury

Owner Category: Private

USGS Quad:

UTM: Zone 18 N 4417690 E 454602 Or Lat /Long

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Resource Classification: Building # Resources 2

Historic Property Function: residence

Current Property Function: residence

Year Built: c.1777

Architectural Style: Colonial

Materials: Foundation: Stone

Walls: Stone

Roof: Metal

Width in Bays: 5 Stories: 2

**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

Name: Beverlee Barnes

Project Name: Brandywine Battlefield Grant Date: 1-9-15

Project Location: Brandywine Battlefield

Organization Name: Delaware County Planning Dept.

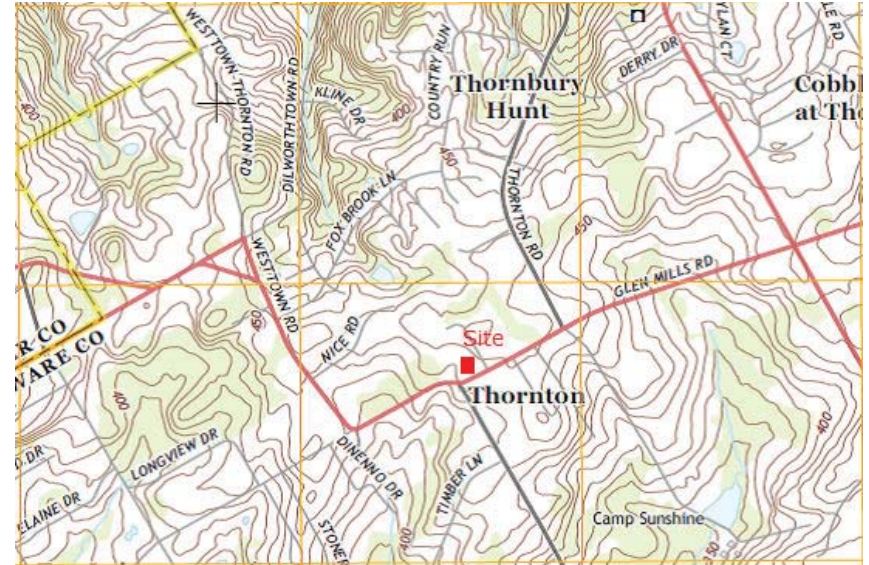
Organization Address: Courthouse and Govt. Center, 201 W. Front St., Media, PA 19063

Previous Survey(s): 045-TH-116

PHMC Key No.

Surveyor Eligibility Recommendation:

- ☐ Lack of integrity ☐ Lack of significance  
☐ Insufficient information to make a recommendation



Caption: US Topo, WEST CHESTER QUADRANGLE, PENNSYLVANIA  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES, Source: USGS Website



Caption: Front Facade & West Elevation; Camera Direction: NE

## PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM—Narrative Sheet

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

**Survey Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tax Parcel/Other No.:** 44-00-00153-00\_\_

**County:** 045-Delaware County \_\_\_\_\_ **Municipality:** Thornbury Township \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** 373 Glen Mills Road, Thornbury, PA \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Name/Other Name:** Isaac Pyle House \_\_\_\_\_

### Physical Description

The Isaac Pyle House is a Colonial style residence, in the Thornton Village Historic District, northeast of the Yellow House. The main block is 2-story, 5-bay, and 2-pile, and is stone construction. The original core is the 3 bays to the west. The second half of the main block was constructed to the east, so the original "end" chimney is now located towards the middle of the rectangular home. There is another interior brick chimney from the second building campaign. The east elevation on this half of the main block has a narrow pent eave, and the wall has been stuccoed. All other walls of this main block have retained their exposed stone and mortar pointing design. Windows are 6x6 double hung and replacement, though their openings are original, and the second story windows sitting flush to the roofline is typical of the period.

The roof is standing seam tin, with brick chimneys at either end of the core. There is a one-story porch, running along most of the front façade of the home, with a shed roof and narrow columns. Not visible from Glen Mills Rd. are two rear additions. One is a 2-story addition behind the eastern side of the main block. It has a shed roof, 2x2 windows, is stucco over stone, and has a corner chimney. The second addition is a 1-story, frame with aluminum siding, ell addition, jutting off of the 2-story addition. It has large 8x8 windows.

### Historical Narrative

The Pyle family was a well-known family of farmers, owning farmsteads in the western part of the Township. Israel, Eli, Jacob, Isaac, and John were men from the family who built homes that still exist.

The Isaac Pyle House is an example of the many homes built in the Colonial period, where there were many building campaigns. The National Register listing for Thornton Historic District, 2007, indicates the core of the main block, the western half dates circa 1777. The eastern half, the first addition, dates circa 1784. The larger rear addition was built sometime in the 19<sup>th</sup> c., and the smaller rear addition was built in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> c.

There is a stable/carriage house on the property associated with the Isaac Pyle House. The carriage home dates c. 1890. It has 2 stories and 2 bays. It is board and batten sided, with asphalt shingle roof. It has been converted into an office.

The Isaac Pyle House is a contributing resource in the Thornton Historic District. It expresses late 18<sup>th</sup> c to late 19<sup>th</sup> c village architectural style and rural building traditions prevalent in western Delaware County.



**Abbreviated Historic Resource Survey Form**  
**Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission**

**IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION**

ER #:

Survey Code: Tax Parcel: 44-00-00142-00  
County: Delaware Municipality: Thornbury Township  
Address: 378 Glen Mills Road  
Historic/Other Name: The Yellow House  
Owner Name/Address:

Owner Category: Private

USGS Quad:

UTM: Zone 18 N 4417638 E 454602 Or Lat /Long

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Resource Classification: Building # Resources 4

Historic Property Function: tavern or inn

Current Property Function: restaurant, hotel

Year Built: 1750

Architectural Style: Vernacular

Materials: Foundation: Stone

Walls: Stone

Roof:

Width in Bays: 4 Stories: 3.5

**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

Name: Beverlee Barnes

Project Name: Brandywine Battlefield Grant Date: 2-12-15

Project Location: Brandywine Battlefield

Organization Name: Delaware County Planning Department

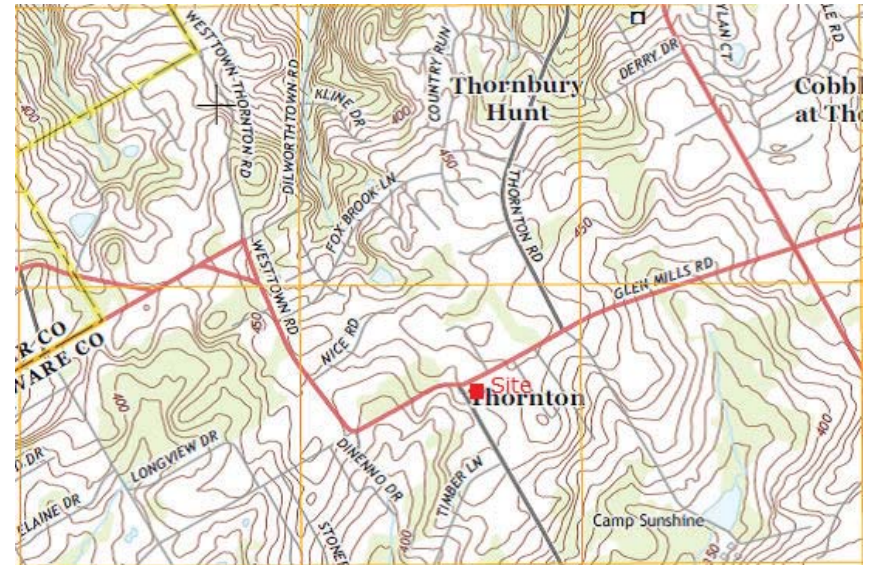
Organization Address: Courthouse and Government Center, 201 W. Front St. , Media, PA

Previous Survey(s):

PHMC Key No.

Surveyor Eligibility Recommendation:

- ☐ Lack of integrity ☐ Lack of significance  
☐ Insufficient information to make a recommendation



Caption: US Topo, WEST CHESTER QUADRANGLE, PENNSYLVANIA  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES, Source: USGS Website



Caption: Front Facade; Camera Direction: S

**Abbreviated Historic Resource Survey Form**  
**Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission**

**IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION**

ER #:

Survey Code: Tax Parcel: 44-00-00142-00  
County: Delaware Municipality: Thornbury Township  
Address: 378 Glen Mills Road  
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Owner Name/Address:

Owner Category: Private

USGS Quad:

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Architectural Style: Vernacular

Materials: Foundation: Stone

Walls: Stone

Roof:

Width in Bays: 4 Stories: 3.5

**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

Name: Beverlee Barnes

Project Name: Brandywine Battlefield Grant Date: 2-12-15

Project Location: Brandywine Battlefield

Organization Name: Delaware County Planning Department

Organization Address: Courthouse and Government Center, 201 W. Front St. , Media, PA

Previous Survey(s):

PHMC Key No.

Surveyor Eligibility Recommendation:

- ☐ Lack of integrity ☐ Lack of significance  
☐ Insufficient information to make a recommendation



Caption: Front Facade & West Elevation; Camera Direction: SE



Caption: East Elevation; Camera Direction: W



**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM—Narrative Sheet**

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

**Survey Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tax Parcel/Other No.:** 44-00-00142-00 \_\_\_\_

**County:** 045-Delaware County \_\_\_\_\_ **Municipality:** Thornbury Township \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** 378 Glen Mills Road, Thornbury, PA \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Name/Other Name:** The Yellow House \_\_\_\_\_

**Physical Description**

The house known as The Yellow House, at 378 Glen Mills Road, was the initial anchor of a crossroads development at the intersection of Glen Mills and Thornton Rds. It is a rectangular, pitched-roof building, with 2 stories, 8 bays and 4 piles. It has return cornices on the elevations. It has a 1-story, full-width, open porch with exposed roof rafters, along the front façade. The front facade is German siding clapboards. It was believed to have been built as a tavern or inn, and has many subsequent building campaigns after its initial construction.

**Historical Narrative**

The Yellow house is a contributing resource in the Thornton Village Historic District, nominated to the National Register of Historic Places in 2005. The district includes 13 contributing resources, with the Yellow House serving as the anchor of this crossroads development of an agrarian rural village outside of Philadelphia.

It is the oldest building in the district dating to c. 1750 (p.2, Section 7, National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 2005, Robert Wise). This is substantiated by an article in Town Talk on July 18, 1984, written by Joyce M. Ellis, quoting the then president of the Thornbury Historical Society as saying the Yellow House was built “long before the Revolutionary War.”

It was said to have been built as a tavern or inn at the intersection of Glen Mills Road (then called the Great Road), and Thornton Road.

It was built in stages, with the present eastern half being the core, with the later half being added to the west, and additions on the north and south sides as well. It was built in the shape of a wider Penn Plan home – two stories and two bays. There was a back-to-back corner fireplace, originally located on the west elevation of the core structure, now in the center of the home. It was doubled later in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, providing heat to the parlor and kitchen hearth. According to the National Register nomination it reflects “common vernacular colonial building techniques” (p.2, Section 7, National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 2005, Robert Wise). The rear or southern addition is one story and full length, c. 1930, constructed with the same cladding as the main structure. Anchoring the 15 resources in the small district, the Yellow House has served as a tavern, post office, general store, grocery, cloth manufacturing business, and hair salon.

## PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM—Narrative Sheet

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

According to the well-known book by Ashmead, "History of Delaware County," George Gray, a participant in the Revolutionary War, claimed the Yellow House as his summer residence, thinking he would keep his family safe there, out of harm's way, as he figured the battle would rage in Philadelphia. Little did he know battle action would take place so close to the Yellow House during the Brandywine Battle. The house was used in September 1777 as a field hospital for the Americans, and as George Gray's wife and daughter took care of the wounded, the term "Gray Ladies" was used thereafter as a name for volunteer women in hospitals across the U.S.

By 1831, it became the home to Thomas Charlot, manufacturer of toweling, sheeting and linens, all made with a hand loom. At the end of 1831, he moved shop.

The Yellow House had been used as a post office before 1829. But in that year, John King, was named the first official postmaster. He opened the first general store in the Yellow House in 1835. A few years later he sold it to Albin Ingram and the building changed hands many times, including one owner named Bennett Temple, before 1899, according to a Business Directory pre-1899.

In 1922, the Hunters bought the store and owned it until 1955, when they sold it to the Stinsons, who owned it through 1979. Presently, it houses a hair salon and the post office.

Janet Hunter Valentine grew up in the Yellow House, where her family ran the general store, and describes her experience living at the hub of village life in Thornton, in a diary she compiled and wrote September 24, 1984. The following summarizes her early recollections.

She mentions agreeing with the old timers, who believe the Yellow House was once a tavern. Though there are no definite records to substantiate this theory, she offers some crucial thoughts confirming this conclusion, both from the architectural remnants of the building, as well as her recollection of records found during a renovation of the home. Many tavern bills and other ledger pages had been stashed away in the attic.

She recalls that in 1922, the year her parents bought the property, it entailed a 10 room house with 6 bedrooms, a rundown country store, a large stone barn, and several outbuildings on 8 acres of land. There was a lean-to kitchen, no indoor plumbing, a wood stove for heat, and only a few electric overhead fixtures.

Her parents turned the rundown general store into a thriving store and post office, and between 1922 -27, central heating and an indoor bathroom was installed. Some of the outbuildings were moved or demolished. The chicken house was repaired.

In the 1920's, while the house was being renovated, certain observations substantiate the building being used as a tavern, and physical evidence was noted that helped to date the various portions of the building.

It has been repeatedly observed the main portion of the house was built in two stages, and it has been stipulated the earliest portion was built c. 1750's. It appears that the second or western half of the building was built soon after the core of the house, as during renovation work it was discovered

## PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM—Narrative Sheet

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that many features including window size and placement, plantings along the entire building, hardware, paneled doors and shutters all match the earlier core. Thus, it appears the use and style of the original building dictated the design of the second half of the building, which was the first addition, and appearing to date also in the 1750's.

The supposition is that such a quick need for an expansion so close to the original date of the house, implies accommodating a growing use of the building as a tavern, or at least changing the use to accommodate something new beyond the current residential capacity. So a tavern use at least came into play during the 1750's, if not at the inception of the building.

The author further corroborates this architectural evidence, by writing about finding objects and archival records under the eaves of the roof, when it was being renovated in 1928. She remembers finding multiple cream and sugar sets, pewter plates, and earthenware pitchers. She does not indicate any dates, but they seemed to be of an old style and be stored next to a set of records. They found receipts in old script, dated from the c. 1750's, of goods purchased typical of a tavern, and ledger books with entries like "night's lodging, 3 horses". It is probable, not definitive, that the existence of these ledgers stashed away in the eaves, indicates they were records kept for the building they were found in. Unless the owners owned other commercial buildings, why store these personal business records in the eaves of this building? If they were not one's personal information, why bother to put them in such a private location?

The author said she loved looking at the records, an early indication of her love of history, but her practical parents washed and sold all the tavern plateware, pitchers and other items, and burned the records.

Another major renovation to the home occurred in 1934. The two mid-sized east wing rooms were combined into one large living room. The dining room became the kitchen. And the lean-to kitchen became the laundry and pantry room. A one story, full width addition of the house was attached to the rear elevation.

The author describes the Yellow House's barn, and adds another affirmation of the commercial use of the site. There were 4 "great barns" in the village of Thornton, and the Yellow House barn was the smallest of the four, perhaps an indication of the size of the original farmstead. However, it had unusually high "mows", or the part of the barn where hay or feed is stored. This could indicate the need for sufficient feed or hay to accommodate traveler's horses, who stayed overnight, beyond the normal amount of horses associated with a home or farm of that size.

She continues to describe the series of sheds that existed along the east side of the back of the "court" area until the late 19<sup>th</sup> c. This area connected the inn with the barn. They included a windmill house that existed until 1922, a series of shelters for horses of overnight guests, and a corn crib.

The barn was made of fieldstone, 3 levels, and faced south, as all barns of the period were oriented, to keep the animals as warm as possible. It dates c. 1740's.