PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM PHOTO/SITE PLAN SHEET

Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission
Bureau of Historic Preservation
Box 1026, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1026

Survey Code/Tax Parcel/Other No.: 072 / 66 00 04894 00 8 Block-Unit #009Z-093 County: Montgomery

Municipality: Whitpain Township Address: 398 North Wales Road

Historic Name/Other Name:

SITE PLAN

PHOTO INFORMATION

Number	Description of View	Direction of Camera
1	House – façade (right)	
2	House – façade (left)	
3	Barn	
4	Springhouse	
5		
6		

Photographer Name: Robert Wise Date: 1999

Negative Location: Robert Wise Consulting, Station Square 1, Suite 104, 37 N. Valley Road, Paoli PA 19301

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM - DATA SHEET

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

89B

IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION

Survey Code: 072 Tax Parcel/Other No.: 66 00 04894 00 8 Block Unit #009Z-093
County: 1. Montgomery 091 2.
Municipality: 1. Whitpain Township 2.
Address: 398 North Wales Road Historic Name:
Other Name:
Owner Name/Address: Edward J. Jr & Jean Sulima 398 North Wales Road Blue Bell PA 19422
Owner Category: x Private ___Public-local ___Public-state ___Public-federal
Resource Category: x Building ___District ___Site ___Structure ___Object
Number/Approximate Number of Resources Covered by This Form: 3
USGS Quad: 1. Lansdale 2.
UTM References: A. ___ C. ___ B. ___ D. ___

HISTORIC AND CURRENT FUNCTIONS

Historic Function **Category:**	**Subcategory:**	**Code:**
A. Residence 1727 2,453 SF Land 9.53 Acre	Dwelling	
B.		
C.		
D.		

Particular Type: A. ___ B. ___ C. ___ D. ___

Current Function Category:	**Subcategory:**	**Code:**
A. Single Family Residence	Dwelling	
B.		
C.		
D.		

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Architectural Classification: A. Colonial
B. ___ C. ___
D. ___ Other: ___

Exterior Materials: Foundation ___ Roof wood shingles
Walls stucco Walls ___
Other ___ Other ___
Structural System: 1. ___ 2. ___
Width 4 bays / 30 feet Depth ___ Stories/Height 2

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
NARRATIVE SHEET 89C

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Bureau for Historic Preservation

Survey Code: 072 Tax Parcel/Other No.: 66 00 048941875 00 8 Block-Unit #009Z-093
County: Montgomery 091 Municipality: Whitpain Township
Address: 398 North Wales Road
Historic/Other Name:

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

This property includes the c. 1727 house, large stone barn, and a stone springhouse.

The house is a 4-bay, two story, end gabled (wood shingles) structure with a semi-enclosed front porch. The house includes stone chimneys at each end, stucco-over-stonewalls, and a full-length, shed roofed, front porch. Fenestration includes 6 over 6 light windows on the second floor and larger 9 over 9-sash windows on the first floors. The door is located on a centered vestibule. The building measures 30' by 30', including porch.

Associated Resources:

Barn: The barn (1722 date stone) is a large (50' x 50'), el-shaped stone barn. It includes the double-decker stone core and an attached stone and frame el addition. The stone work includes elongated quoins and a flash course and an end gabled, wood shingled roof.

Springhouse: A 12' x 18' stone springhouse is located some distance behind the barn. It is 1.5 stories with a front end-gabled roof and s shed roofed porch.

Classification: The resources are intact and help maintain the appearance of the historic farmstead. Intact farmsteads are rare in the township. The property and its resources are Class II.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Year Built:____ca.__1727_____ Additions/Alterations Dates:__ca.____ca.___
Basis for Dating:_x__ Documentary ____Physical
Explain: Tax records

Cultural/Ethnic Affiliation: 1. _____2. _____Associated Individuals: 1. _____2.
Associated Events: 1._____2. _____Architects/Engineers: 1._____2.
Builders: 1. _____2.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

PREVIOUS SURVEY, DETERMINATIONS

EVALUATION (Survey Director/Consultants Only)

Individual NR Potential: _x_Yes ___No Context(s):_____
Contributes to Potential District ___Yes ___No District Name/Status:

Classification: The resources are intact and help maintain the appearance of the historic farmstead. Intact farmsteads are rare in the township. The property and its resources are Class II.

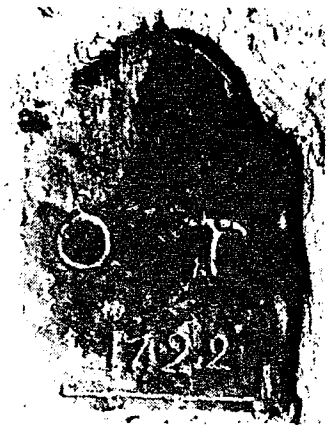
THREATS

Threats: _x__ 1. None 2. Public Development 3. Private Development 4. Neglect 5. Other

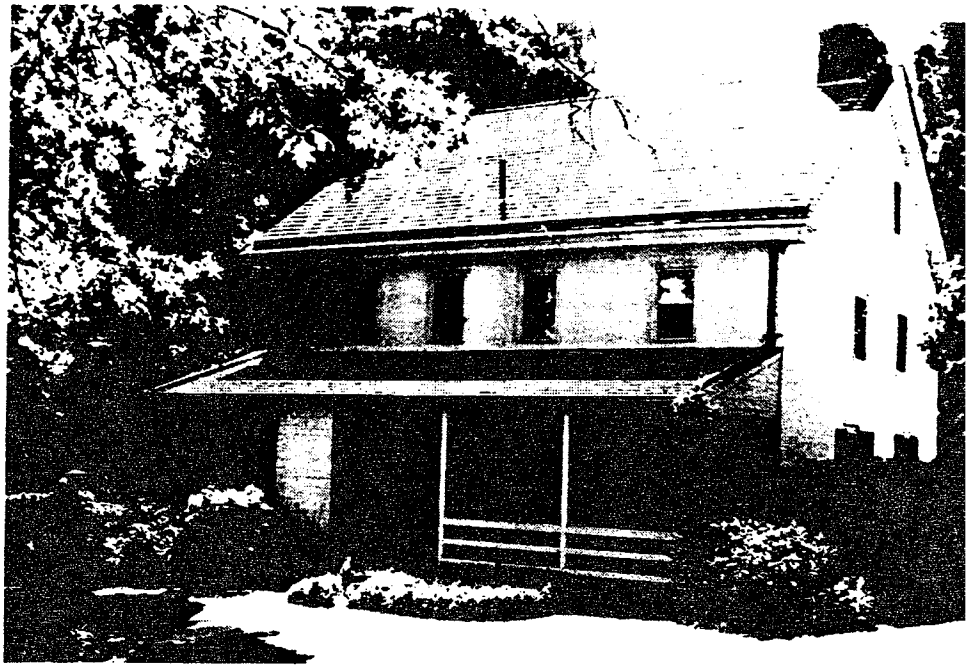
Explain:

SURVEYOR INFORMATION

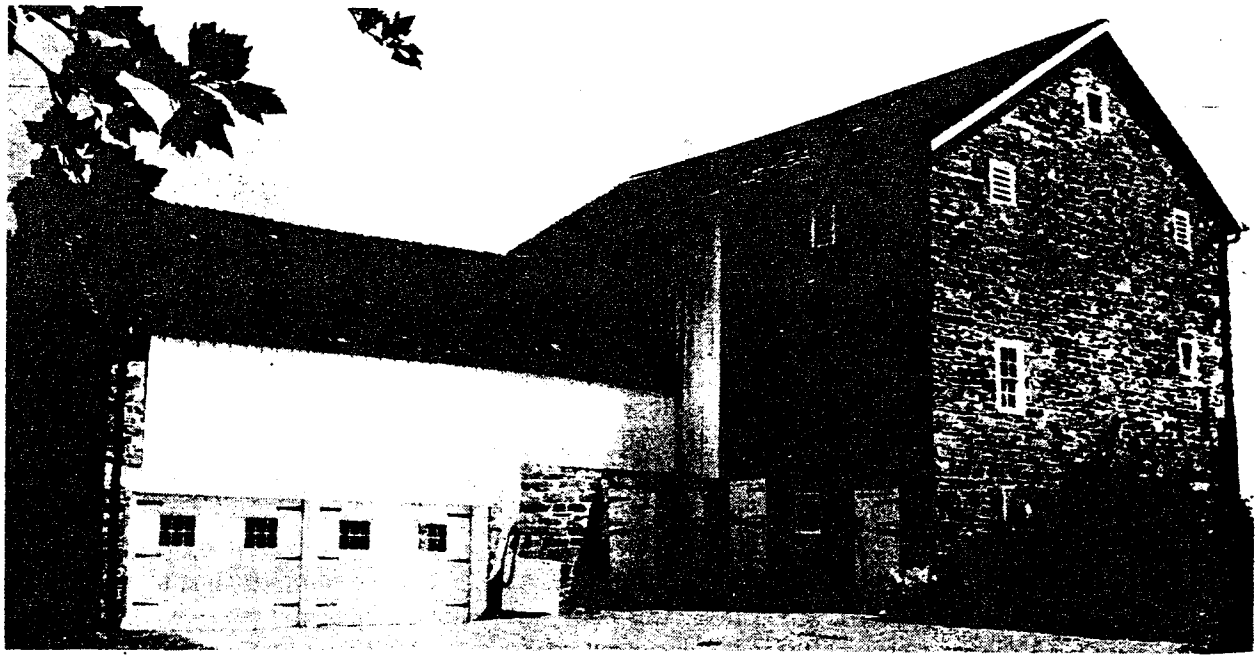
Surveyor Name/Title: Robert Wise Date: 6/16/2000
Project Name: Whitpain Township Historic Resource Survey
Organization: Robert Wise Consulting/Whitpain Township Telephone: (610) 722-5818
Street and No.: Station Square 1, Suite 104, 37 North Valley Road
City, State: Paoli, Pa Zip Code: 19301
Additional Survey Documentation: n/a
Associated Survey Codes: n/a



Date Stone Found And Placed In Wall Of Barn



Restored Carlson House Today



Pointed Field Stone Barn

North Section

By Agnes Baker Jefferson
Photography by George S. Peck

One cannot visit the north section of Whitpain Township along North Wales Road without coming away with a feeling of having just witnessed another era. So much is left or preserved as it was about one or two hundred years ago. The land and terrain remain unspoiled by modern times, except for a railroad track which carries a train perhaps once a week. Some trains do make a detour over this route; likewise, in the event of an emergency, this line of the Reading Railroad is then used.

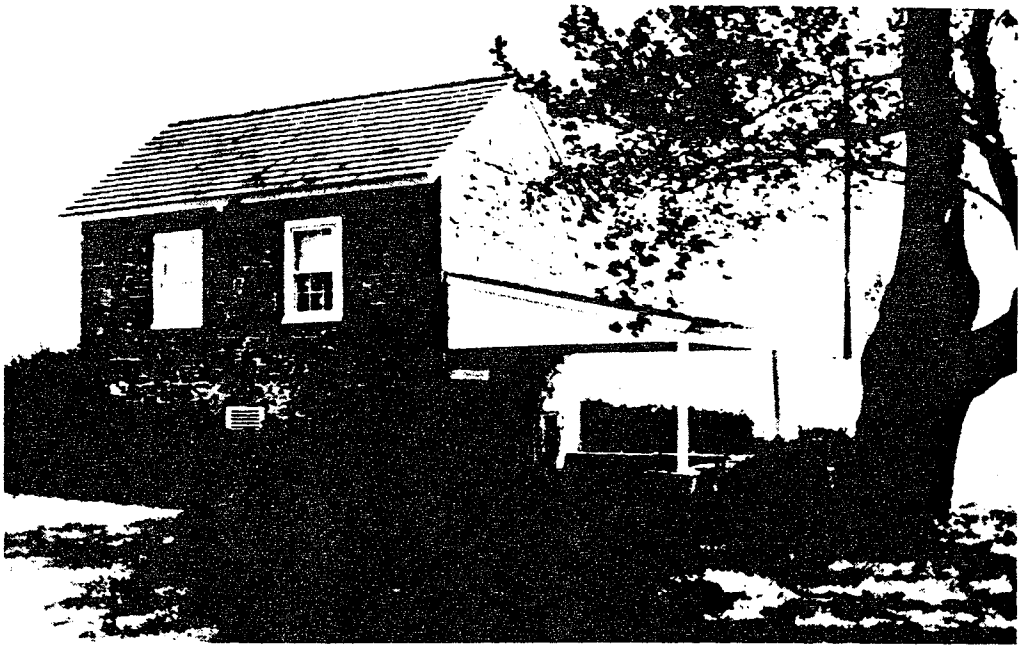
The Stony Creek flows through three properties. Its source is in a spring house on the other side of the road in the adjoining township. The three major properties make this area--the area deeded from Ann Whitpain to Thomas Cox and Charles Marshall and Rees Thomas--the last area to be settled in the township.

Wallace Carlson Property

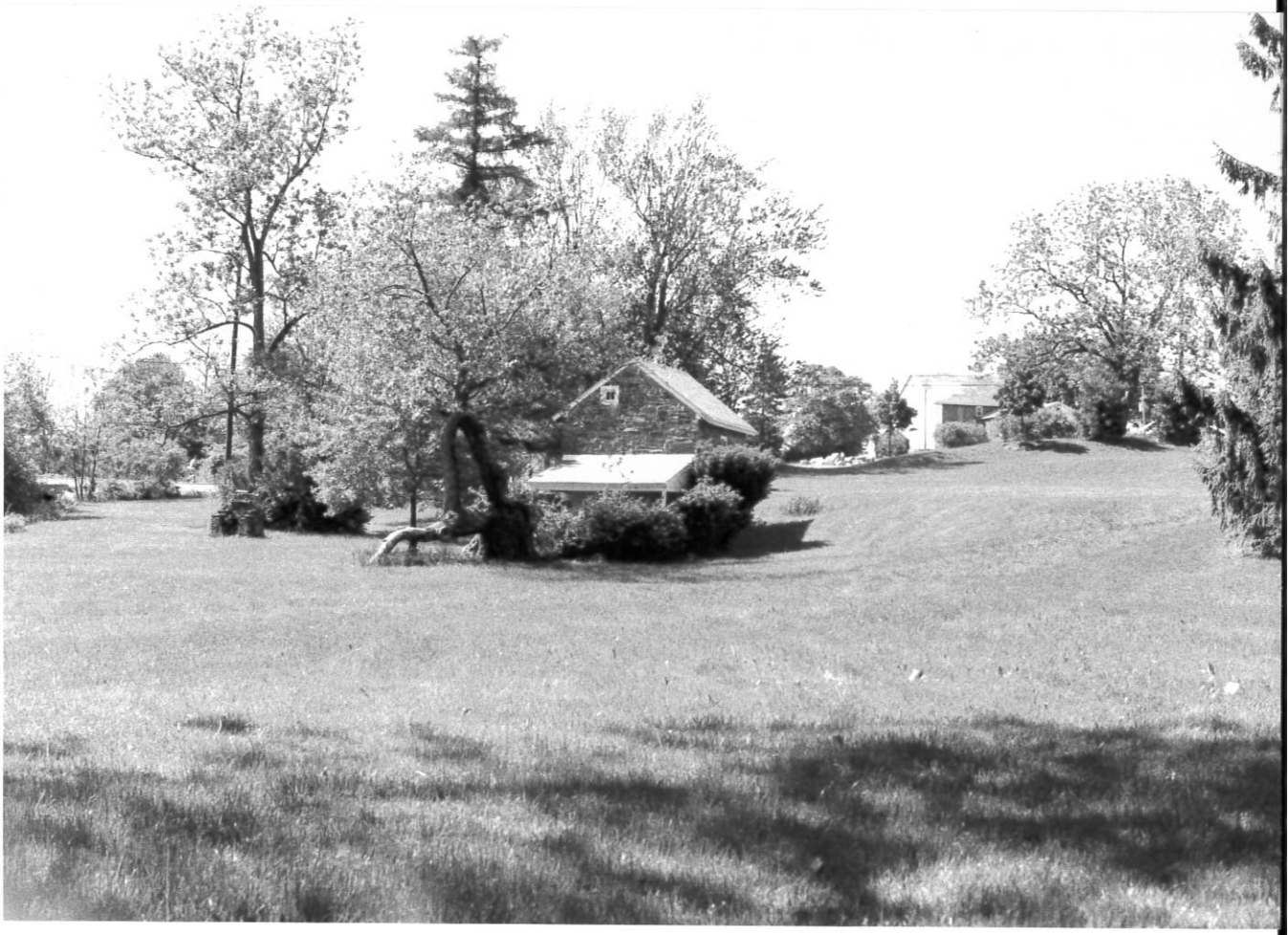
The E. W. Carlson and David Greger lands at one time were one. The earliest settler, Rees Thomas, willed it to sons William and Richard, thence to Owen and Evan Thomas, as early as 1712 to 1720. At some point, when the Owen and Evan Thomas families grew, the farms were divided, for the Carlson barn, house, and outbuildings date from 1712, 1722, and 1730, while the Greger main house is 1734, and the date shown in David Greger's large barn is 1815. Owen Thomas William, probably a grandson who followed the Welsh tradition of putting first names last, left his initials on a stone in the barn--O.T.W. 1815.

Upon entering via the Carlson driveway, one is impressed with the low slanted roof of the main house, which was restored to its present condition largely by a former owner, E. A. Wright. The most recent owners, Wallace Carlson (deceased July 4, 1976) and his wife, Emily Haines Carlson, were pleased to show the two corner fireplaces — one in the kitchen and one in the dining room — and four fireplaces in the upstairs low-ceiling bedrooms. The main beam which runs the length of the house is exposed and painted, as is all the woodwork, in a rich Williamsburg blue.

The barn and attached garage are all pointed field stone. Mr. Carlson pointed out the stone marked 1722, and then with a puzzled look explained that in the upper corner of the barn are some scratchings which he cannot decipher: "Geo.III////Almighty////. . .etc." Since we know that Owen and Evan Thomas were Welsh, we assume that the writing was in their native script. This fact no doubt explains that the Thomas' had no desire to communicate during the Revolution, and hence they were labeled "Tories."



The "Little House in the Valley" west of the barn predates the other buildings. It is a spring house with living quarters above it, built with the same native stone and log rafters. The rustic heavy door is still intact. Emily Carlson drew attention to the fact that the stone was quarried in a field on the land.

With the stream, the lawn, the shrubbery, and the swimming pool, designed in an appropriate setting, and the well-cultivated fifty acres surrounding it, the Carlson place is a picturesque reminder of a yesteryear.

After the division, the indefinite ownership can be picked up about 1890 when a Seidner owned it, and a Hamilton family lived there in the early 1900's. Later, R. B. Strassburger bought it for a Mr. Driver, a tenant farmer in the 1920's. In the 1940's E. A. Wright restored it, and the Carlsons have lived there and owned it since 1954.