

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.: 055 / 66 00 04291 00 8 Block-Unit #011-021 County: Montgomery

Municipality: Whitpain Township Address: 802 Morris Road

Historic Name/Other Name: _____

SITE PLAN

PHOTO INFORMATION



Number	Description of View	Direction of Camera
1	Front Façade	
2	Rear façade	
3		
4		
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: 055 Tax Parcel/Other No.: 66.00.04291.00.8 Block Unit #011-021
County: 1. Montgomery 2.
Municipality: 1. Whitpain Township 2.
Address: 802 Morris Road Historic Name:
Other Name:
Owner Name/Address: Andrew Gajan / Kristen C. Haines 802 Morris 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: 2
USGS Quad: 1. Lansdale 2.
UTM A. C.
References: B. D.

HISTORIC AND CURRENT FUNCTIONS

Historic Function Category: Subcategory: Code:
A. Residence 1800 2,781 SF Land 0.87 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. Victorian Gothic
B.
C.
D. Other:
Exterior Materials: Foundation Roof asphalt shingles
Walls stucco Walls
Other Other
Structural System: 1. 2.
Width 3 bay Depth Stories/Height 2.5

1860
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Year Built: ca. 1800 Additions/Alterations Dates: ca. ca. ca.
Basis for Dating: 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: Yes No Context(s):
Contributes to Potential District Yes No District Name/Status:

Classification: This Victorian house is in fair condition; its incompatible alterations make it a Class II resource.

THREATS

Threats: 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

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
NARRATIVE SHEET 89C

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Bureau for Historic Preservation

Survey Code: _____055_____ Tax Parcel/Other No.: 66.00.04291.00 & Block=Unit #011-021
County: _____Montgomery_091_____ Municipality: _____Whitpain Township
Address: _____802 Morris Road
Historic/Other Name:

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

This house is an example of Victorian Gothic architecture. It consists of a two and a half story core with some rear additions. The core was built c. 1880 and is clad in stucco. The roof is cross gabled with diamond shaped shingles. It is a three-bay, two story house with centered gables containing pointed windows. There are two interior end chimneys on the gable ends of the core. Heavy brackets support the eaves. On the gable end facing Morris Road is a small gabled entry hood supported by wooden braces. There is a small enclosed porch on the main façade and a larger enclosed porch on the rear. The windows on the first two floors have shutters.

On the rear is a large two story addition. This element has a gable end and is clad in stucco. Connecting this addition to the core are two smaller frame additions clad in wood shingles.

Classification: This Victorian house is in fair condition; its incompatible alterations make it a Class II resource.

The Clayton House

By Agnes Baker Jefferson
Photography by George S. Peck

Where Plymouth Road comes from Gwynedd and crosses Morris Road on the west corner there stands a charming old house which is the home of Mrs. Russell Clayton and her daughter, Mrs. Barbara Rambo. It is worthy of special recognition because of the way it is "put together," i.e., the original house, then a space which is now the kitchen, which connects the old smokehouse and thus becomes a continuous, comfortable, livable space.



Clayton House

The list of ownership going backward goes in this order:

1959	Mr. and Mrs. Russell Clayton bought from Wilbur and Edith Schmidt
1944	Schmidt bought from Harry Asquith
1925	Asquith bought from Charles Hackett
1900 (circa)	Hackett acquired from Mrs. Catherine Clair
1859	Mrs. Clair bought from Samuel Shive
1839	Shive bought from Hugh and Elizabeth Lukens
1832	Lukens bought from William Rhoades, Agent
1831	Rhoades acquired from Abraham Lutz
1813	Abraham Lutz bought from Jesse Wentz
1802-1805	Jesse Wentz acquired from Mordecai Jones (land agent)
1795	M. Jones received land from Jacob Walter Jacob Walter came by property from Septimus Wood

The next deed discusses the will of Septimus Wood written in 1750. Here it is difficult to fit together the relationship because of the nature of what is incorporated in a deed, will, release, etc., Septimus Wood names Samuel Lenderman as a recipient of something resembling this corner. Then alas! Sam Lenderman's daughter, Mary, was the wife of Samuel Castner.

When one reaches Castner (K or C), that is as far as one needs to go, for Samuel Kastner was either father or brother of George Kastner and they were landowners. (George donated the land for St. John's Church) There is a close relationship probably through marriage, to the Morris and Whitpain families. It would seem that the Kastners were the second generation landowners after the Whitpain, McCarty, Morris, Palmer group. Hence, it would be logical to conclude that the Clayton property was cut off and buildings erected in the 1750 to 1795 period.

Mrs. Clayton describes what she has learned in these words:

"According to the late Ross Rile, whose family dated far back in Blue Bell history, the Clayton house on the corner of Morris and Schoolhouse Roads was built soon after Whitpain Township was incorporated in 1794. It is believed that the builder of the Blue Bell Inn built this house.

"What is now the living room of the three-story stuccoed fieldstone house was used as a kitchen. About fifty years ago the owner built a kitchen joining the original house and the smokehouse behind it. A view through the trapdoor in the ceiling of the smokehouse shows wooden pegs holding the roof timbers together. This is also true of the view from the trapdoor of the porch ceiling.

"On the second and third floors the eighteen-inch deep window enclosures are rounded plaster rather than the more modern conventional wood."

With so many families making changes over a period of 200 years, it is a delightful hodge-podge of how taste and utility can blend to make a convenient and appealing home.

