

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Stewart, Walter and Gertrude May Farmstead

Other names/site number: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

2. Location

Street & number: 2600 Line Lexington Rd.

City or town: Hatfield Township State: PA County: Montgomery County

Not For Publication: NA Vicinity: NA

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

<u><i>Andrea T. Donald</i></u>	<u>3/31/2015</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title/State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Justin 5/19/15
 Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>11</u>	—	buildings
—	—	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
—	—	objects
<u>12</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/single dwelling
Agriculture/Subsistence animal facility
Agriculture/Subsistence agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/multiple dwelling
Storage

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7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)

Late Victorian, Early 19th & 20th Century Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: wood, metal, asphalt, vinyl, concrete

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Walter and Gertrude May Stewart Farmstead is located on Line Lexington Road, Hatfield Township, Montgomery County, PA. Line Lexington Road is a winding road that extends from Cowpath Road to Bethlehem Pike (State Hwy 309) at the village of Line Lexington. Situated on a tax parcel of almost 25 acres, primarily open space, the farmstead is set back from the road and accessed by a long driveway that begins at one of the curves in Line Lexington Road. The driveway is paved from the road to a parking area near the garage, where a sidewalk leads to the farm house. The driveway continues unpaved turning between the barn and the garage toward the south side of the farm house. Eleven contributing resources are located in a roughly-linear pattern: a farm house, barn, garage, equipment shed, milk house, windmill with a well, two chicken houses, a well house, wood shed, corn crib, and a privy. (See Photos 1, 14 and the site plan.) The resource count includes 12 contributing resources: 11 buildings and one structure, the windmill with the well. There is one noncontributing structure, an open sided modern backhoe shed. The resources, with the exception of the backhoe shed, were constructed in the early to mid- 20th century (c.1909 to c.1940). The c.1909 farm house exhibits both Late Victorian and Early 20th Century Revival influences, and is currently internally divided to serve as a two-family residence. The other prominent building on the property is the large cross-gambrel roof barn. The barns and other outbuildings are currently used primarily for storage. Also associated with the farmstead are uncounted landscape features including former fields and farm lanes, open space, and wooded areas. The siting of the farmstead shelters it from surrounding residential development. The resources on the farmstead are in excellent condition and retain historic integrity.

Farm House

The c.1909 farm house is a large, three story frame building measuring approximately 42 ft wide by 30 ft deep. This includes a 30 by 30 foot main block and a one story 12 by 30 foot wing that

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includes a kitchen and storage area as well indoor access to the basement. The 12 ft by 30 ft kitchen wing is not an addition, but was built contemporary with the main block of the house. The farm house has had no subsequent additions since its construction. It features a prominent porch that wraps around two sides. The porch is approximately 8 to 10 ft deep, with curving corners and original columns and banisters. The farm house does not reflect typical local cultural or vernacular influences, but has of a more “mainstream” appearance than many farmhouses in the area, likely influenced by builders’ catalogs of the era, and has Late Victorian and Colonial Revival influences.

The farm house has had a change in the orientation of its main entrance door as the result of its conversion to a two-family residence. The current main entrance to the house faces east and has two entrance doors, one directly to the stairway to the second floor apartment, and the other into the kitchen of the first floor apartment. The former main entrance is on the south side of the house. The roof of the house is covered with asphalt shingles. Along the current main entrance side (east side) and along the rear (west side) of the house the roof has a large triangular shaped gable with a pair of one-over-one double hung windows. On the former main entrance (south side) and on the north side, the roof has a gambrel shape. The former main entrance is distinguished by a Palladian style window in the gambrel end, while the north facing side has paired one-over-one double hung windows. There is a brick chimney protruding through the roof well within the interior of the north gambrel side of the roof. (See Photos 16 through 18.)

The walls of the house are covered with vinyl siding. Windows are one-over-one double hung sashes flanked by wooden shutters. The two entrance doors on the current main façade, and an entrance door in the kitchen wing, have simple trim. However on the former main façade, the door is trimmed in a much more stylish fashion with square Doric pilasters that support a cornice above. This door also has a transom above. The wrap-around porch has round Doric support posts and turned balusters for the railings. At the rounded curves in the porch the banister is enclosed and covered with wood shingles. On the former main façade entrance side the porch is extended, covering the steps. The extension is accented by square Doric support posts resting on wood sided piers. Similarly on the current main façade the porch is extended and has square Doric support posts resting on brick piers. This extension is quite wide and appears as though it may have been intended to be a porte-cochere. (See Photo 16.)

The interior of the house retains original wood trim around windows and doors. Some interior doors have been permanently closed to retain privacy for the tenants. The former main entry parlor is now a bedroom and the former main entrance door is concealed by a curtain. A staircase to the second floor has been removed from the former entry parlor and replaced by a closet. A wall was constructed in the entry parlor to add a bathroom. (See Photos 19 through 21 and the floor plan.) The second and third floors are similar to the first floor with original wood trim around windows and doors. The second floor has two bedrooms, a kitchen and a bathroom. The third floor has three bedrooms. The basement of the house is accessed by a set of stairs in a storage area adjacent to the kitchen. The support structure in the basement consists of circular sawn light framing, indicating early 20th century building techniques. Despite the interior

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changes to the floor plan and original room functions, the house retains exterior integrity and contributes to the overall property.

Barn

The large barn, built c.1909 measures about 64 ft wide by 36 ft deep with a 12 ft deep overhang across the north side. The overhang is supported by round Doric columns. Other features of the barn reflect early 20th century, late Victorian design elements or new trends in agricultural outbuildings. For example the roof shape of the barn is a cross gambrel with a ventilated cupola in the center. (See Photos 1 through 4.) Asphalt shingles cover the roof of the barn. The barn walls are covered by vertical wood siding, except for the east end's lower level, which is constructed of cement block. There is a large sliding entrance door opening on the north main façade of the barn that accesses the threshing floor. There formerly was a large carriage entrance door also on the north facade of the barn which was filled in around 1925. Evidence of this second large carriage entrance door is the extant door slide that is just below the overhang ceiling. The carriage door was in the location where there are now three small windows. (See right side of Photo 3). Wood sash six-light windows are located on each elevation. On the interior of the barn the east side was used as a dairy and has cow stanchions. (See Figure 5) The interior of the dairy side of the barn retains white paint which was used to convey sanitary conditions. (See Photo 6.) The center part of the barn has a threshing floor. Immediately adjacent to the threshing floor is the horse stable area and adjacent to the horse stable was the carriage area. Hay was stored in mows on each side of the threshing floor above the dairy and stables/carriage area. The framing of the barn is heavy frame construction combined with light framing. (See Photo 5.) The lumber used to build the barn is circular sawn and is nailed together.

Garage

The garage is a two story building constructed c.1909 that was likely used to store a wagon, truck or other vehicles used on the farm, with grain storage on the second floor. The use of the term "garage" used for this building is in keeping with how the Stewart family referred to the building. The building measures approximately 20 ft wide by 36 ft deep. It has large, folding, X pattern doors in the gable end. There is a man door on the east side near the north gable end and a man door in the south gable end, both have X panels. There is a hay loading door with an X pattern on the second floor of each gable end. (See Photo 12 and 27) The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Walls are vertical wood siding. There are many six-over-six double hung wood sash windows in the garage. The second floor is supported by large horizontal hand hewn beams that were presumably reused from another, earlier building. The current owner has supported the large beams, which are sagging, with a series of vertical upright posts running down the center of the garage. (See Photo 12 and 13.) The floor boards on the second floor interior of the garage are random width and not nailed down. The garage is currently used for storage.

Equipment Shed

The equipment shed is nearly 100 ft deep and about 20 ft wide. It was constructed in two phases. It was about half as deep when it was first constructed c.1909. Circa 1940 the building was expanded to its current depth. The roof of the building is covered with standing seam metal

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roofing and the walls are covered with horizontal wood siding. It currently has an overhead garage door opening in the gable end that replaced a two-leaf wood door. Along the eave side are openings for large equipment, as well as several man doors and six-light wood sash windows. The building was used to store motorized equipment such as tractors and other agricultural implements. In addition, the shed was used as a work shop as indicated by the presence of a belt drive system and related machinery toward the back of the building. (See Photos 8 through 11.) The equipment shed is currently used as a garage and for storage.

Milk House

The milk house, built c.1909, measures just 12 ft square. It is one story, with a pyramid shaped roof that is covered with asphalt shingles. The entrance door is wood. The milk house is constructed of concrete to a height of about three feet. The remainder is made of wood frame with horizontal wood siding. The interior of the milk house has original white paint. The original use of the milk house was to store milk away from other farm operations, meeting dairy standards for the era, and keep it cool prior to shipping to market. It is currently serving as a small storage shed. (See Photo 14 and 15.)

Windmill and Well

The windmill support is a tall triangular, or pyramid shaped, open framed metal structure built c.1918. The support structure for the mill is approximately 25 ft tall with a curved blade rotary windmill at the top (See Photo 14 and 32). At the base of the windmill is a roughly 4 ft by 4 ft concrete pad, which tops the well. The round metal well cover is marked "Heebner and Son's Lansdale". Heebner and Son's was a well-known manufacturer of agricultural implements and machinery located in nearby Lansdale. The windmill's role was to pump water from the well to buildings on the farmstead and possibly used to irrigate fields.

Chicken Houses

A small 10 ft by 14 ft chicken house, constructed c.1940, is located to the south of the farm house. Its gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. (See Photo 23.) Walls are covered with vertical wood siding and it has many six-light windows along the east side, of varying sizes. In the north gable end is a small entrance door at the edge of the end, with a six light window nearer the center of the end and a fixed three-light window under the eaves. The building rests on piers.

Southeast of the first chicken house is a second that is in very deteriorated condition. (See Photo 29.) The frame building has a gable roof and asbestos shingle siding. There is a large fixed multi-light window in the north end, a trio of large sash without panes in the south end, and the entire east wall has been removed or collapsed, exposing the interior.

Well House

The well house, constructed c.1909 is approximately 10 ft by 10 ft. It is located a short distance to the north of the farm house near the kitchen wing. (See Photo 22.) It has an asphalt covered gable roof and vertical wood siding, with six-over-six windows and a door on the south end. It houses a well.

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Wood Shed

Located near the well house, the wood shed is also small, measuring about 8 feet by 10 feet. (See Photo 22.) It was built c.1909 and it has a corrugated metal roof and horizontal wood drop siding for the walls. It has a low, salt-box shaped roof line and the south side is open.

Corn Crib

A 6 foot by 14 foot corn crib built c.1909 is located to the south of the barn and garage near a former field access lane. It has a corrugated metal gable roof and horizontally placed, angled wood slats over metal mesh screens along each side. (See Photos 24 and 25). The ends are covered in wood drop siding, with a single door on the north end.

Privy

The privy was formerly located near the corn crib and was constructed at that location c.1909, but was recently (c.2010) moved to its present location near the equipment shed. It is about four foot square with an asphalt shingle gable roof. (See Photo 28.) It has vertical wood siding and crescent moon ventilators on the sides and over the door. It was used primarily by farm employees and farm owners working on the farm.

Ancillary Landscape Features

The property includes former agricultural fields and pasture land, which are now maintained as meadows by mowing them about two times a year. (See Photo 30 and 31, Figures 12 and 16.) In the area of the original orchard is a c.1972 house. (See Figures 10, 12 and 16.) North of the farm house there are remnants of a more recent orchard. This area of former orchard is now mostly reclaimed by forest with possibly a few scattered fruit trees remaining. (See Figures 12 and 16). There is a split rail fence that lines part of the driveway between the barn and the house. (See Photo 26). There are also the ruins of a metal pipe fence behind the barn (to the south) that defined the barnyard. (See Photo 33). The former fields can currently be distinguished by tree lines. Within the tree lines are a few remaining metal and wood fence posts. Some wood posts and trees retain short pieces of barbed wire embedded in them, or scars where barbed wire was once attached. (See Photo 34.) Former farm lanes remain relatively intact. One is to the south of the barn beginning where the corn crib is located and leads out to the former fields and pasture (See Photo 25 and Figure 4, 12 and 16). The other former farm lane is to the north of the equipment shed and also leads out to fields and towards Line Lexington Road. (Photo 31 and Figure 4, 12 and 16.)

Historic Integrity

While some changes have occurred to the Stewart Farmstead, it retains its overall historic integrity. Changes that have been made were part of its 20th century evolution as a farm or more recently as the farm function of the property diminished. The farmstead is situated in the center of a 26 acre tax parcel somewhat insulated from surrounding and encroaching suburban development. The land surrounding farm, while not active farm land, is well maintained open

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space and it buffers the farmstead from surrounding suburban development. This results in retention of the overall setting of the property. Open areas, meadow, large trees and stands of trees, along with former farm fields and pasture surround the farmstead.

The farm house was converted to a two-family residence in the 1970s to generate additional rental income as farming began to fade as the primary focus of the property. Those interior changes do not diminish the overall integrity of the property. Some exterior materials on the farm house have been changed including asphalt shingles on the roof and vinyl siding. Windows in the farm house retain wood sash and the interior trim around windows and doors inside the house remain. The farm house has not had any major additions to it since it was constructed. The outbuildings have had few changes to materials. Most retain wood siding and a few have original or early metal roofing material. The barn roof is now asphalt shingles. Based on historic aerial photos and discussions with the owner some farm buildings were removed due to poor condition. These buildings were small and included an approximately 6 ft by 6 ft shed that housed a small cider press. It was constructed of wood with a poured concrete floor. The cider press shed was in poor condition and removed in the 1970s or 80s. Along the driveway towards the house were one or two other small chicken houses like the one that is extant near the house. There were also several small chicken coops that resembled small wooden quonset huts with rounded arch roofs. A 12 ft round wooden grain storage bin was formerly toward the back (south) of the barn. These buildings or structures were in very poor condition and were small in size. The farm produced a diversity of agricultural products including hay, grains, corn, milk, and vegetables for market, as well as eggs and fruits. Since the farm's focus was not strictly egg production nor orchard products, the removal of the small buildings and structures from the property does not greatly impact the overall historic integrity of the farmstead. In general the buildings on the farmstead retain their original design, shape, massing and craftsmanship.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c.1909 – c.1940

Significant Dates

c.1909

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Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Zane, H. Marion (builder)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Walter and Gertrude May Stewart Farmstead is a locally significant collection of early 20th century farm buildings and meets National Register Criterion C, for architecture. The period of significance, c.1909-c.1940, reflects the period when the buildings were constructed and gradually adapted as the farm evolved. In southeastern Pennsylvania it is unusual to find a complete farmstead designed and constructed entirely in the early 20th century. Most local farms contain a collection of buildings that evolved over many generations, from the settlement era through 19th century and on. Generally buildings or structures were added as regional agricultural trends changed, and barns and houses are modernized. Sometimes houses or barns were extensively rebuilt or replaced following a fire or other disaster. This property is an important example of an entire farmstead built in keeping with the latest trends in architecture and standards in agricultural building practices. The property presents a cohesive and distinctive collection of early 20th century agricultural buildings, unusual for this Pennsylvania German area in that they do not reflect primarily the cultural traditions and patterns typically found on local farms. Instead, this is one of (and perhaps) the best examples of a 20th century designed farmstead in the southeastern Pennsylvania region, likely influenced heavily by architectural pattern books and agricultural guides of the era, instead of local vernacular architecture and cultural legacies. It provides an interesting example to examine how national trends of the period contrasted from, and corresponded to, local practices.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

History of the Property

A brief property chain of title in *History of Hatfield* written in 1944 indicates a series of transactions involving what became the Stewart Farmstead. These occurred between 1793 and 1837. These transactions reduced a larger 95 acre parcel down to 33 acres and it is likely that during the late 18th to early 19th century a farmstead was built on the 33 acre parcel. A nine acre parcel was added to the farm in 1846 bringing the total area of the farm to 42 acres. Based on historic maps, farm buildings were present on the property prior to c.1909 when the buildings currently on the property were constructed. The 1893 Montgomery County Atlas map of Hatfield Township shows the property with buildings and 42 acres with J. (James) McKaig as the

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owner (See Figure 7.) Edward McKaig, inherited the farm from his father James. Edward McKaig passed away in 1908 and was deeply in debt requiring that his property be sold at public sale. On April 18, 1908, the property was sold to George B. Kratz for \$850. The 1908 public sale advertisement describes the farm house on the property as a two story frame dwelling. The house currently on the farmstead is three stories, contributing to physical evidence that the farm house, and likely the other buildings on the property, were constructed after 1908. In the 1908 public sale advertisement the barn is described simply as having stabling for six cows and three horses. It also states that there are other buildings, but their functions are not specified. The property is described as having “fruit trees on the premises”.

The Stewart Farmstead currently consists of buildings constructed in the early to mid- 20th century (c.1909 to c.1940). According to *History of Hatfield*, George B. Kratz, sold the property to Gertrude May Zane and H. Marion Zane in 1909 and they demolished and replaced the original buildings on the farm. Gertrude May Zane is listed first on the deed with her husband H. Marion Zane. Most of the buildings on the Stewart Farmstead are presumed to have been constructed by H. Marion Zane, a builder from Philadelphia. According to the deed, Gertrude May Zane and H. Marion Zane bought the property from George B. Kratz for \$2,300. H. Marion Zane constructed buildings in Philadelphia in the early 20th century, and he also possibly did work in various locations in Montgomery and Bucks Counties. H. Marion Zane, being a builder, may not have purchased the farm with intention of farming it himself, or may have intended to operate it as a gentleman’s or hobby farm. In fact, in the 1910 Census for Hatfield Township H. Marion Zane lists his occupation as “representative” in the contractor industry. Gertrude and Marion Zane were about 33 years old in 1909 at the time of the acquisition of the farm, so it was not purchased as a place for their retirement.

By 1911 the Zanes failed to make payments on their mortgage and they were foreclosed on. The property was advertised for public sale in the Lansdale Reporter in October and November of 1911 and was sold on November 18, 1911, to Amos Allebach for the reported price of just \$75. The 1911 advertisement for the property describes a three story frame house measuring 30 feet by 30 feet, with a porch on two sides. It also describes a one story kitchen measuring 16 feet by 12 feet. This matches the current dimensions of the house including the kitchen section in the one story wing on the north side of the house. The interior is described as five rooms on the first floor, two rooms and a bath on the second floor, three rooms on the third floor. This also nearly matches the current configuration of the interior of the house. The ad also stated that there was a hot and cold water tank on the third floor. The barn is described in the advertisement as being of frame construction with a wagon house section, measuring in total 64 feet by 34 feet with a 12 foot “overshoot”. It is described as having stabling for six horses. This is nearly the same as the current dimensions of the barn and supports physical evidence that the barn included a carriage house or wagon house section. Other outbuildings on the property are not described in detail in the advertisement.

The evidence of the matching dimensions and description of the 1911 public sale ad reinforces that the buildings currently on the property were built during the Zanes’ ownership. Efforts were

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made to verify that Zane built the buildings using other sources. The Lansdale Reporter and the Hatfield Times from around the time the Zanes purchased the property were checked for articles about the construction of new buildings on the property, but none were found. Tax records for Hatfield Township do not describe the buildings on the property in detail.

The farm was held by several different owners between 1911 and 1923. In 1915 Amos Allebach cashed in on his \$75 investment by selling the farm to Herman Behr of Jennings, Maryland, for \$7,250. In 1921 Fritz and Margaretta Shallbruch bought the farm from Herman Behr for an undisclosed amount. In 1923 the farm was purchased by Walter and Gertrude May Stewart for \$8,200. The farm remains in the Stewart family today as the current co-owner, Margaret Harvey, is Walter and Gertrude May Stewart's granddaughter. She owns the property with her husband, Ralph Harvey, and they reside in the c.1972 Ranch style house that is located on the 26 acre tax parcel with the farmstead (their house is excluded from the nominated boundary).

It is a coincidence that H. Marion Zane's wife and Walter Stewart's wife have the same first name: Gertrude May. It may appear that Gertrude May Zane remarried Walter Stewart and reacquired the farm, however basic research indicates that they were two separate people. Gertrude May (Oliver) Zane was born in 1875 in Philadelphia and grew up on Green Lane in the Roxborough section of the city. She married Henry Marion Zane in Philadelphia in 1899 and they lived on Boston Street. The Zanes relocated to Lansdowne, Pennsylvania, around 1902, but her husband kept his building contracting office in Philadelphia. They purchased the farmstead in Hatfield Township and relocated there in 1909. After the Zanes lost the farm they moved to Massachusetts and lived in Lynn and Salem. Gertrude May Zane died in 1941 in Massachusetts. Gertrude May (Lewis) Stewart was born in Trenton, New Jersey, in 1881 and lived on Greenway Avenue in Southwest Philadelphia. Gertrude May Stewart also used Mae as her middle name, however Gertrude May Stewart appears on deeds related to property transactions for the farm and May is therefore the preferred spelling for this nomination. Gertrude May Lewis married Walter H. Stewart in 1909 in Philadelphia. They lived in Warrington Township, Bucks County, on a farm until they purchased the farm in Hatfield Township, Montgomery County, in 1923. Gertrude May Stewart lived on the farm in Hatfield Township until her death in 1958.

The 1924 Pennsylvania Agricultural Census, taken soon after the Stewarts obtained the property, indicates that the property had 42 acres, of this 15 acres were planted in hay. There were 10 apple trees of bearing age and 20 apple trees of non-bearing age, and 12 peach trees. The large number of nonbearing apple trees may indicate that the Stewarts planted a significant number of apple trees after obtaining the farm. Apple trees on average bear fruit when four years old. According to the 1924 census, the farm also had two horses, three cows, and 50 hens. Farm equipment included a tractor and the family owned an automobile.

Three years later, according to the 1927 Pennsylvania Agricultural Census, the Stewart Farmstead had 40 apple trees of fruit bearing age and four pear trees. Five acres of land were planted with hay. The farm had three milk cows in 1927 and 50 chickens. The 1927 agricultural census states that the farm house did not have running water in the kitchen, and the farm did not

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have milking machines, nor did it have a truck or tractor, a radio, a silo, or electricity. The farm did have a telephone, heating from a central furnace, an automobile and a gas engine. The lack of running water in the kitchen seems to contradict the earlier 1911 public sale advertisement that lists a tank for water on the 3rd floor. It is possible that the tank was for the bathroom and that water for the kitchen was obtained from the well outside the house.

Beginning in the 1940s, Melvin and Margaret Stewart (Walter and Gertrude May's son and daughter in-law), purchased two, 14 acre parcels of land adjacent to the farm increasing the total acreage from 42 acres to about 70 acres. The first parcel that Melvin and Margaret purchased was 14 acres of vacant land north of the farmstead from William and Susan White in 1943. In 1948 Melvin and Margaret Stewart purchased a two acre parcel of vacant land from the Walter and Gertrude May Stewart farmstead property. (See Figure 8, 11 and 12.) On this land they built a one and one-half story, brick, Cape Cod style residence. The parcel and their 1948 house and land was not considered for inclusion with the main farmstead in this National Register nomination because the house on it does not fall in the period of significance for the property (c.1909 to c.1940). In 1955 Melvin and Margaret Stewart purchased 14 acres of adjacent vacant land south of the farmstead from Raymond Kratz. (See Figure 11 and 12.) In 1956 Melvin and Margaret Stewart purchased an adjacent one acre of land from Randolph and Bertha Clegg adjacent to the land with their house making their home lot three acres in size. (See Figure 12.)

A 1950 property map of Hatfield Township produced by local map maker Frank H.M. Klinge shows the size and shape of the Stewart farm at that time. The 1893 Atlas of Montgomery County also shows the property but it is not the same shape as the 1950 map. (See Figures 7 and 8.) This is due to more accurate deed platting done on the later map. The 1950 map also shows Melvin and Margaret Stewarts' property with their c.1948 house adjacent to the Walter and Gertrude May Stewart Farmstead.

Historical aerial photos from 1938, 1942, 1958 and 1971 show how the land of the farm evolved. The 1938 aerial photo (See Figure 9) shows the 42 acre parcel owned by Walter and Gertrude May Stewart. By the time the 1942 aerial photo was taken the property did not change in size or shape. The 1942 aerial is labelled with an approximation of how the fields were used at that time. This is based on aerial photo interpretation which clearly shows hay bales in some fields and the distinct pattern of trees in the orchard. (See Figure 10.) Other field pattern interpretation is based on logical arrangement of the farm, with the pasture behind the barn and the truck patch along the driveway and adjacent to the road. By the time the 1958 aerial photo was taken many changes had occurred. Melvin and Margaret Stewart had obtained two parcels of farm land of 14 acres each in 1943 and 1955 adjacent to Walter and Gertrude May's 42 acre property. Melvin and Margaret Stewart also purchased from Walter and Gertrude May two acres from the 42 acre farm where their house was built. (See Figure 11.) The 1971 aerial photo shows the land after Melvin and Margaret Stewart acquired Walter Stewart's farm totaling 40 acres in 1967. (Gertrude May Stewart passed away in 1958 and Walter Stewart died in 1968.) The 28 acres of land obtained by Melvin and Margaret adjacent to the farm in 1943 and 1955 merged with the 40 acre farm to create a 68 acre farm. (See Figure 12.)

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Credit for the success and expansion of the Walter and Gertrude May Stewart farmstead belongs in part to Melvin and Margaret Stewart. Melvin as an adolescent, began working on his father's farm. Melvin and Margaret Stewart shrewdly obtained land adjacent to Walter and Gertrude Stewart's farm increasing its overall size and economic viability. In addition, Melvin Stewart became involved in local politics and was elected a Hatfield Township commissioner in November of 1957. Margaret Stewart is remembered by her daughter Margaret (Stewart) Harvey for also being involved in work on the farm. Margaret Stewart was responsible for gathering eggs, as well as sizing and grading them in the basement of the farm house.

According to a 1942-1943 ledger in the possession of the current owners, the farm at that time had six paid employees. The ledger does not include evidence that any of the employees lived on the property. Income came from milk, eggs, the truck patch and gardens. Seeds purchased provide evidence of the types of market crops produced on the farm: soybeans, oats, clover, beets, pumpkins, buckwheat and timothy grass. Margaret Harvey (Melvin and Margaret Stewart's daughter) remembers specifically as a child riding in a truck to take milk to a creamery in the nearby village of Colmar. Sometime between 1927 and 1942 the Stewart Farm was able to purchase a truck and a tractor, as the 1927 Pennsylvania Census of Agriculture states the farm had neither a truck, nor tractor. Margaret Harvey remembers that the farm had several trucks and that there was a black smith shop in the equipment shed. She also recalls apples and pears being produced on the farm, but was not sure where they were sold, or where other market garden products and truck patch products were sold. Some of the grain products produced on the farm, including wheat, oats and corn were trucked to, and processed at, mills in nearby Hatfield and Souderton. Some of the grains were mixed at the mills and returned to the farm to feed horses. Mrs. Harvey also recalls the farm having chickens, pigs, horses and about 10 milk cows. She also recalls that her mother was responsible for gathering eggs from the various chicken houses on the farmstead. The 1942-1943 ledger lists expenses for feed bills, repairs, seed and fertilizer as well as expenses for liquid fuels including kerosene, oil, and gasoline, and includes income for the farm from tractoring, combining and plowing for nearby farmers for a fee. Melvin Stewart did most of this contracted field work and most of the other work on the farm.

In 1975 Melvin and Margaret Stewart sold 42 acres of land to the west and south of the farmstead to a developer for residential construction, retaining 26 acres which is the current tax parcel. The 26 acre tax parcel has been given preferential property tax assessment for open space and environmental quality.

Figures 13 through 15 summarize the size and shape of the farm overlaid on a current aerial photograph. Figure 16 shows the National Register boundary and is labelled to show the remnant field patterns of the farm. Melvin and Margaret Stewart owned the 26 acre property until Margaret (Stewart) and Ralph Harvey acquired the property after both Melvin and Margaret had passed away. Melvin Stewart died in 1991 and Margaret Stewart died in 2009. Ralph and Margaret (Stewart) Harvey are the current owners and live on the nominated property maintaining the land, the farm house and the buildings on the property. They reside in the c.1972

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Ranch style house on the property. This house can be seen on Figures 3 and 16. Since the Ranch house falls outside of the period of significance and doesn't relate to the architectural significance of the nominated property, the house and about one acre surrounding it are excluded from the National Register boundary

Architectural Significance of the Property

The Walter and Gertrude May Stewart Farmstead contains buildings that are locally significant examples of early 20th century farm architecture, meeting National Register Criteria C. Local history indicates that the buildings were built by a Philadelphia builder named H. Marion Zane. The buildings, structures and the layout of the farmstead resemble those found in early 20th century farm publications. The house resembles others found in period builders' residential catalogs. The property contains a collection of early 20th century "mainstream" farm buildings in a region that primarily features vernacular, culturally-influenced farm buildings constructed in the 18th and 19th centuries.

The *Philadelphia Architects and Buildings* (PAB) web site was consulted for information about H. Marion Zane, the builder of the farmstead. There are several listings on the website referencing the *Philadelphia Real Estate Record and Builders' Guide*. These listings state that H. Marion Zane constructed the Rumsey Electric Company building (also known as the Biddle Press building) at 1010 Cherry St. Philadelphia in 1905 and the John L. Clawson Residence at 116 S. 19th St. Philadelphia in 1903. The John L. Clawson Residence was listed on the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places in 1995. Both of these buildings, having been constructed in a highly urbanized setting, are very different from the buildings on the Stewart Farmstead. The Rumsey Electric Building and the Clawson Residence are typical urban three story brick buildings with a first floor business and residence above. For H. Marion Zane, the construction of the buildings on the Stewart Farmstead was a departure from his usual work in Philadelphia. There are other projects listed on the PAB web site that also are possibly connected to Zane, but not verified. These include other buildings in Philadelphia, most notable are construction of three Regal Shoe Store buildings in Center City. In addition, Zane is attributed as having built houses in suburban Philadelphia locations including in Bala Cynwyd, Lower Merion Township, and in Glenside, Montgomery County; as well as Feasterville, Lower Southampton Township, in Bucks County. Zane is also attributed with involvement in a house in Westmont Borough, Cambria County, in western Pennsylvania.

The buildings on the Stewart Farmstead were constructed at a time when numerous farm planning and design books, farm building plan books, and agricultural advice journals and manuals were being published. A movement in American agriculture and rural living began in the mid to late 19th century, lasting into the 20th century, which emphasized aesthetics and the scientific design of farm landscapes and buildings. These concepts and plans were spread across the country by publishers, extension agents, etc. It would be ideal to find the exact plan and building pattern Marion Zane used for construction of the house, barn and other outbuildings, if in fact he did use pattern books for his building design. Many farm design and advice publications were perused for information regarding general plans of farms and architectural

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styles recommended for farm building construction in the early 20th century. An exact match for the Stewart Farmstead buildings was not found. However the layout of the Stewart Farmstead and the style and design of buildings on the farm closely resemble those in some farm design books. The design pattern books and house catalogs consulted are from the general time period from the mid-19th through the early 20th century. Efforts were made to find publications that correspond with the time period that the buildings on the Stewart Farmstead were built (1909-1940). The design books and catalogs were used to establish that the Stewart Farmstead was conceived and evolved during the rural and agricultural philosophical movement in the early 20th century focused on aesthetic landscapes and designed buildings. While there is no direct evidence that the builder of the Stewart Farmstead specifically referred to any of the design manuals published at the time, it seems quite likely. The overall look of the landscape and the buildings on the farmstead generally follows the philosophy of the rural and agricultural aesthetic movement, and differs strongly from the appearance of the vernacular barns and houses of the area.

For general information about barns built in the late 19th and early 20th century, the book *Barns of the Midwest* edited by Allen Noble and Hubert Wilhelm was consulted. This publication was used because few books about barns are available that have information about 20th century barns. Since the Mid-West region had an economic peak in farming later than the Eastern United States there are more barns constructed there in the early 20th century. *Barns of the Midwest* has several chapters that concentrate on 20th century barns. In addition the book explains the evolution of the barn roof. According to *Barns of the Midwest*, the gambrel, Gothic and rainbow roof designs were both aesthetic and practical. These roof types modernized the look of the barn and the rural landscape. Increased farm production resulting from more frequent use of machinery meant that the gable roof barn lacked the necessary space for increased grain production or hay storage. Modern, light frame building technology and materials of the early 20th century made it possible for barn builders to experiment not only with different roof design, but with new barn designs as a whole, such as round, hexagonal and octagonal barns.

One of the earliest farm plan and farm building design pattern books contributing to the rural aesthetic movement was *Rural Architecture: A Complete Description of Farm Houses, Cottages and Outbuildings* published in 1852. The publication openly criticizes previously-constructed farmsteads and their buildings: "our prevailing rural architecture is discordant in appearance; it may be added that it is uncouth; out of keeping with correct rules, and oft times offensive to the eye of any lover of rural harmony." *Rural Architecture* includes advice on virtually all aspects of farm building design emphasizing aesthetics. This was one of the publications that set the precedent for future farm design manuals.

A popular source for farm building design, farm planning and general advice about farming was the Farm Journal, founded in 1877. In southeastern Pennsylvania this publication was extremely popular. It was started by Wilmer Atkinson of Norristown, Pennsylvania, and published in Philadelphia. The 1895 to 1915 issues of the Farm Journal were viewed at the State Library of Pennsylvania. The publication includes many articles about planning farms and designing farm

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buildings, including general advice and drawings of suggested exterior designs and floor plans. Wilmer Atkinson Company also published a guide titled *How to do Things: A Compendium of New and Practical Farm and Household Devices*, which also contains plans and drawings of all types of farm buildings including advice on how to makeover and update old farm houses and barns for the 20th century.

The Wilmer Atkinson Company publication *How to do Things* also has many farm house design plans and it also has a recommended plan for the layout of the buildings on a farm. In contrast to the Stewart Farmstead, *How to do Things* recommends the house near the road with the other buildings in a linear arrangement alternating on both sides of the driveway. (See Figure 17) However other aspects of the recommended farm layout are present on the Stewart Farmstead. Text related to the idealized farm plan recommends taking into consideration the location of buildings for health and environmental reasons, such as protecting the wells on the property from runoff from the barn, piggeries, chicken houses and privies. It also recommends locating the house at least 100 feet from the animal facilities to keep odors from those buildings away from the farm house. On the Stewart Farmstead, the farm house is more than 100 feet from the cluster of farm buildings including the barn.

Farm Buildings: A Compilation of Plans for General Farm Barns, Cattle Barns, Horse Barns, Sheep Folds, Swine Pens, Poultry Houses, Silos, Feeding Racks, Etc by the Sanders Publishing Company also has a section about placement and arrangement of farm buildings. In general it states, like *How to do Things*, that the house should be a good distance from farm buildings and additionally located so that prevailing winds carry odors from the farm buildings that house animal away from the farm house. The arrangement of the Stewart Farmstead does follow this advice. The prevailing winds in this region are from the west. Looking at Figure 4, the winds would blow roughly from left to right, blowing odors from most of the farm buildings away from the house. *Farm Buildings* further recommends considering views from the house and the aesthetics of the orientation of the house. In the plan recommended in *Farm Buildings*, there are “lines of view” radiating from the house, none of which are directed toward the farm buildings. (See Figure 18.) The original entrance of the Stewart farm house did not face the farm buildings, but rather faced towards open farm fields, a more pleasant view. The porch of the Stewart farm house wraps around so a view can be taken in of the farm buildings, if desired. In addition, some of the second floor windows of the farm house lift up into the wall so that a person can walk out onto the porch roof. The porch roof once had a railing around it, thus allowing one to take in views of the farm fields and buildings from the porch roof.

One of the house building design books that was popular in the early 20th century is *The Book of Plans* by the Chicago House Wrecking Company. This publication was advertised regularly in the highly popular periodical, the Farm Journal. *The Book of Plans* includes many designs for late-Victorian, Craftsman and Prairie style farm houses and some barns plans are included as well. Some of the house plans in *The Book of Plans* are similar to the Stewart farm house, which is considered to reflect late-Victorian and early 20th century revival style influences, including Queen Anne, and has a prominent wrap-around porch. (See Figure 22.)

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The publication *Farm Buildings* shows farmers how to construct a steeper gambrel pitched roof with a schematic drawing showing a full pitch, “hipped” gambrel roof line, and normal gable roof line. (See Figure 19.) A full pitched roof is one where the height is equal to the width of the building. The text accompanying the drawing states the value of the full pitch is maximum water run-off, thus preventing damage from water that may gather under shingles on less steep roof designs. The drawing and the text in *Farm Buildings* further recommends making a roof “hip” or gambrel since a full pitched roof may be somewhat unstable in high winds. *The Book of Plans* published by the Chicago House Wrecking Company also has a recommended plan for a barn with a gambrel roof. (See Figure 20).

Farm Buildings also has a recommended design drawing for a basement barn which is similar to the Stewart Farmstead barn in that it shows two large entrance doors on the main façade. The Stewart Farmstead barn originally had two large entrance doors on its façade one to access the threshing floor, the other for the carriage. The design in *Farm Buildings* shows a cross gable roof with a large cupola ventilator, very similar to the design of the Stewart Farmstead barn which has a cross gambrel roof and a large central ventilating cupola. (See Figure 21.)

The building referred to as the garage on the Stewart Farmstead was likely used as a vehicle storage building with a second floor hay or grain loading door. Margaret Stewart Harvey refers to the building as the garage and a truck and sleigh were stored in it. It is possible that the garage’s original intended use was as a processing or packing building with tenant farm worker accommodations on the second floor. The Adams County Fruit Belt and the Lake Erie Fruit and Vegetable Belt region sections of *Historic Agriculture Resources of Pennsylvania*, as well as the Southeastern Pennsylvania section, were reviewed for possible similar buildings. However the buildings described and illustrated are not strongly similar to the garage on the Stewart Farmstead, and the Southeastern Pennsylvania section notes that packing houses in this region appear to be very rare. Tenant farmers were not commonly used in the Southeast Pennsylvania region in the early 20th century. The U.S. Census of Population for 1920, 1930 and 1940 were checked and no tenant farm workers were counted by the Federal Census on the Stewart Farmstead. The Stewart Farmstead was diversified in its production. It was not strictly an orchard, nor dairy or egg farm, rather it produced a variety of products including fruit, cider, eggs, vegetables, grains and milk. Evidence of this is found in the 1924 and 1927 Pennsylvania Agricultural Censuses and the 1942-1943 ledger from the farm. It is possible that the garage was intended for use in processing farm products that would be loaded into the upper floor and then sorted and packed on the first floor. The large windows in the garage support the processing theory as windows allow light into the building. The large open area on the first floor also provides some support for a processing use for the building as well, as does the fact that the interior of the garage features a small sink and stairs up to the second floor near the back of the building. The sink possibly used for workers to clean hands or for rinsing and cleaning produce. The stairs may have been used to bring products down from the second floor for processing, sorting and loading. None of the farm building catalogs viewed for this nomination show any building designs similar to the garage on the Stewart Farmstead. Some similar gable end wagon

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houses with second floor hay loft storage do exist locally, however they typically do not have windows along the eave sides. While the intended use of the building remains undetermined, the garage has unique architectural features and its large size makes it a notable part of the Stewart Farmstead landscape.

The equipment shed on the Stewart Farmstead may have also been used as a processing or sorting building, however it is more likely that the building was mainly used for mechanized farm implement storage. In fact, in the Lancaster Plain region section of *Historic Agriculture Resources of Pennsylvania*, there is a description of a machine shed that nearly matches that of the equipment shed on the Stewart Farmstead. "Machine sheds housed farm equipment. In the heavily mechanized Lancaster Plain, they were numerous and substantial. Most were rectangular, some quite elongated. They could be enclosed, with large gable ends or eaves side doors to admit machinery; or they might be open on one eave side and enclosed on the other three sides." As the preceding description states, there is an opening in the gable end of the equipment shed on the Stewart Farmstead and large openings on the eave side of the equipment shed for machinery access. The equipment shed is very elongated. The illustrations in the Lancaster Plain region document do not, however, show any machine sheds that are very similar to the one on the Stewart Farmstead. Evidence of possible other uses for the equipment shed on the Stewart Farmstead include a work bench in the front section that is about 15 ft long but only about two ft deep. In the very back of the building there is an overhead belt drive system that was attached to a gasoline powered engine that operated a pair of drill presses and a reciprocating saw. According to the current owner, there was a blacksmith shop in the equipment shed as well. The overhead garage door in the gable end of the equipment shed is not original and the shape of the original opening was altered as well. The original door to the equipment shed had two wooden leaves with iron strap hinges and it is now stored in the barn on the property. In addition, the door to the equipment shed was originally higher and was reduced in size for the current overhead garage door. The higher door opening would accommodate a truck pulling in to be loaded or unloaded.

The existence of the milk house on the Stewart Farmstead, a building designed specifically for sanitary reasons to keep milk separate from other farm operations, is significant. In the early 20th century the federal government for the first time began to inspect milk for quality and recommended that milk houses and other sanitary measures be taken to preserve the quality of milk. The federal government and private farm building companies published recommendations for the design of milk houses and for the use of concrete flooring and cement walls for dairy sections of barns. The milk house on the Stewart Farmstead is partially constructed of concrete, and the dairy cow section of the barn has a cement block wall. The milk house and the dairy cow section also retain white wash on the ceilings and walls also used to convey sanitary conditions. The web site <http://www.farmbuildingguide.org/milkhouse.html> has drawings, photographs and discussions of proper milk house design.

Another important feature that is retained on the Walter Stewart farm is the windmill that sits above a well near the milk house. Windmills quickly became obsolete on farms and were

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replaced with gas and electric powered pumps and subsequently removed from the farm landscape. The windmill on the Stewart Farmstead is one of two known windmills still standing in Hatfield Township. Another is located on Fairgrounds Road, near Cowpath Road, on a vacant property, the farm buildings associated with the Fairgrounds Road windmill have been demolished. The well beneath the windmill on the Stewart Farmstead has a round metal cover over the access hole that is marked "Heebner and Sons, Lansdale". Heebner and Sons was an important manufacturer of farm implements and equipment. The firm sold and installed wind mills and well pumps beginning c.1893. The most popular of the wind mills sold by Heebner and Sons was the Star windmill made by the Flint and Walling Manufacturing Company of Kendallville Indiana. Based on a perusal of a catalogue of Star windmills it is possible that the windmill on the Stewart Farmstead is a model 12 or 15 Star galvanized steel windmill. (See Figure 23 and Photo 32.) It has narrow curved wind blades the same as the Star windmill. In addition, the wind vane on the windmill is similar in shape and method of attachment, except the distinctive star symbol is missing from the vane.

Comparable Properties

A farmstead in southeastern Pennsylvania with all buildings and structures built in the early 20th century is relatively rare. Most local farmsteads were adapted over time, with at least a few earlier buildings that show later 20th century changes and remnants of earlier domestic life no longer in use (such as spring houses, summer kitchens, root cellars, etc). Typical farms in the area generally featured a Pennsylvania Barn or perhaps an English Lake District barn, and a Georgian or Federal style or later vernacular Pennsylvania German two-door house. To find comparable properties the historic resource surveys that have been conducted in Hatfield Township were searched. The most recent survey was conducted by the Conservancy of Montgomery County in 2003. This survey and the one conducted by the Clio Group in the 1980s show two other farms with predominantly 20th century farm buildings on them. One is the farmstead located at 706 Fairgrounds Road (at Koffel Road), documented as the Terry and Denise Booz Property (PHMC Key# 091234) in the Clio Group Survey. This farmstead has a unique gambrel roof barn with an overhang on the gambrel end of the barn. The barn was built c.1905. The farm house on the Booz property is also c.1905, is slate sided and is Late-Victorian in style. The Booz property is similarly documented in the Conservancy of Montgomery County survey. The Booz property is much smaller in size, both in terms of land area and the number of buildings, than the Stewart Farmstead. The barn is the only agricultural building on the property, closely encroached upon by suburban development. The buildings are in poor condition.

The other farmstead in Hatfield Township with 20th century buildings that was documented in the surveys conducted by the Conservancy of Montgomery County and the Clio Group is the Dr. J.C. Michener Farmstead (PHMC Key# 091245). It is located at 60 County Line Road (near Walnut St.). Michener was an important local veterinarian who demolished a traditional bank barn on his 19th century farmstead and built a 20th century octagonal barn to replace it. The octagonal barn was constructed c.1900, while the farm house is brick and appears to have been built c.1840. Unfortunately this octagonal barn was blown down by a wind storm and destroyed

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down to the stone foundation a few years ago (c.2008). It has been completely rebuilt of vertical wood siding with a standing seam metal roof matching the original material. The Michener octagonal barn is the only building other than the house that remains on the farmstead.

A farmstead outside of Montgomery County with buildings somewhat similar to the Stewart Farmstead is High Hill Farm in Delaware County, Pennsylvania (PHMC Key# 086391). The dominant building on High Hill Farm is the barn, which was built by prolific third-generation barn builder Lawrence Beebe c.1910, who is credited with building, re-building, or renovating approximately 100 barns in southeastern Pennsylvania (*Barns of Chester County*). The barn is 100 feet long and contains a cider press room, indicating that, like the Stewart Farmstead, the property had an orchard. The High Hill barn has two large ventilating cupolas, but its roof design is a much more conservative gable roof as compared to the cross gambrel roof of the Stewart barn. Beebe is credited with rebuilding the farmhouse c.1903 following a fire. The house has a locally traditional center-hall floor plan, while incorporating later Late Victorian and Shingle-style details. Evidently the original barn was also damaged by fire c.1910. It isn't clear how much of the c.1910 barn may have incorporated earlier portions, but evidently at least some of the foundation was reused. While many of Beebe's barns were intended to be "model" examples for the era, incorporating the latest in interior floor plans and dairy standards, for example, they often exhibit traditional construction techniques and exterior design elements. The High Hill case seems to be one of a barn of similar age, though larger, built to feature the same types of interior plans promoted in the latest publications but retaining more of a traditional exterior appearance than the Stewart barn. High Hill Farm was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): NA

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 24.9 acres

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____ (enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 40.276274 | Longitude: -75.273265 |
| 2. Latitude: 40.273909 | Longitude: -75.268772 |
| 3. Latitude: 40.271250 | Longitude: -75.272968 |
| 4. Latitude: 40.273118 | Longitude: -75.276478 |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The National Register boundary is shown on Figure 3, an aerial photograph of the property. The National Register boundary is part of Montgomery County tax map parcel 35063A006. Excluded from the tax parcel is a 225 ft by 200 ft rectangle (approximately one acre) that has a c.1972 house with associated buildings and structures. The buildings and structures in the excluded area do not contribute to the architectural significance of the property and post-date the period of significance.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary contains all of the resources historically related to the Stewart Farmstead that retain historic integrity. Former farmland that has been developed for residential properties has

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been excluded. The boundary excludes a noncontributing c.1972 Ranch style house and its related outbuildings and structures, which do not contribute to the architectural significance of the property and post-date the period by 30 +/- years. The boundary was chosen to include the historic farmstead as well as adjacent view sheds, open areas, former farm lanes and fields that retain integrity.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: David Kimmerly with BHP staff

organization: Mid-Atlantic Historic Preservation Services LLC

street & number: 1137 Park Ave. city or town: Lansdale state: PA zip code: 19446

e-mail: dkimmerly@midatlantichps.com telephone: 215-740-1650

date: 3/28/2015

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Stewart, Walter and Gertrude May, Farmstead
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Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Stewart, Walter and Gertrude May Farmstead
City or Vicinity: Hatfield Township
County: Montgomery County State: PA
Photographer: David Kimmerly
Date Photographed: June, July and November 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 34 Environmental view, camera direction west.
- 2 of 34 Lateral view of barn showing main (north) façade and east side, camera direction southwest.
- 3 of 34 Lateral view of barn showing main (north) façade and west side, camera direction south.
- 4 of 34 Lateral view of back (south side) of barn and west side, camera direction east.
- 5 of 34 Interior of barn showing construction details, camera direction southwest
- 6 of 34 Interior of barn showing dairy section camera direction northeast.
- 7 of 34 Interior of barn showing horse stables, camera direction north.
- 8 of 34 Lateral view of equipment shed, camera direction south.
- 9 of 34 Lateral view of equipment shed, camera direction northwest.
- 10 of 34 Interior view of equipment shed showing machinery, camera direction northeast.
- 11 of 34 Interior view of equipment shed showing machinery, camera direction northwest
- 12 of 34 Lateral view of garage, camera direction south.
- 13 of 34 Interior view of garage, camera direction northeast.
- 14 of 34 Environmental view of milk house, windmill and house, camera direction northwest.
- 15 of 34 Interior view of milk house, camera direction northwest.
- 16 of 34 View of house showing current main façade (east side), camera direction northwest.
- 17 of 34 View of former main façade (south side), camera direction north-northeast.
- 18 of 34 Lateral view of house showing north side, camera direction south.
- 19 of 34 Interior view of house showing dining room, camera direction east.
- 20 of 34 Interior view of bedroom, former entry parlor, camera direction south.
- 21 of 34 Interior view of house showing bedroom, former entry parlor, camera direction north.
- 22 of 34 View of well house and wood shed on west side of house, camera direction southwest.
- 23 of 34 View of chicken house, camera direction southwest.
- 24 of 34 View of corn crib, camera direction southwest.
- 25 of 34 Environmental view of corn crib showing former field access road in background, camera direction south-southwest.
- 26 of 34 Environmental view showing driveway toward house, camera direction northwest.
- 27 of 34 Environmental view of driveway with garage, barn and equipment shed, camera direction southeast.
- 28 of 34 View of privy, camera direction southeast.
- 29 of 34 Chicken house ruins, camera direction southwest.
- 30 of 34 Environmental view of former field, camera direction south.

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- 31 of 34 Environmental view of former field, trees in background mark location of former field access lane, camera direction east.
- 32 of 34 Detail view of wind mill, camera direction southwest.
- 33 of 34 Ruins of barnyard fence to the south of the barn, camera direction south.
- 34 of 34 Fence post with scars from barb wire, camera direction northeast.

Stewart, Walter and Gertrude May, Farmstead
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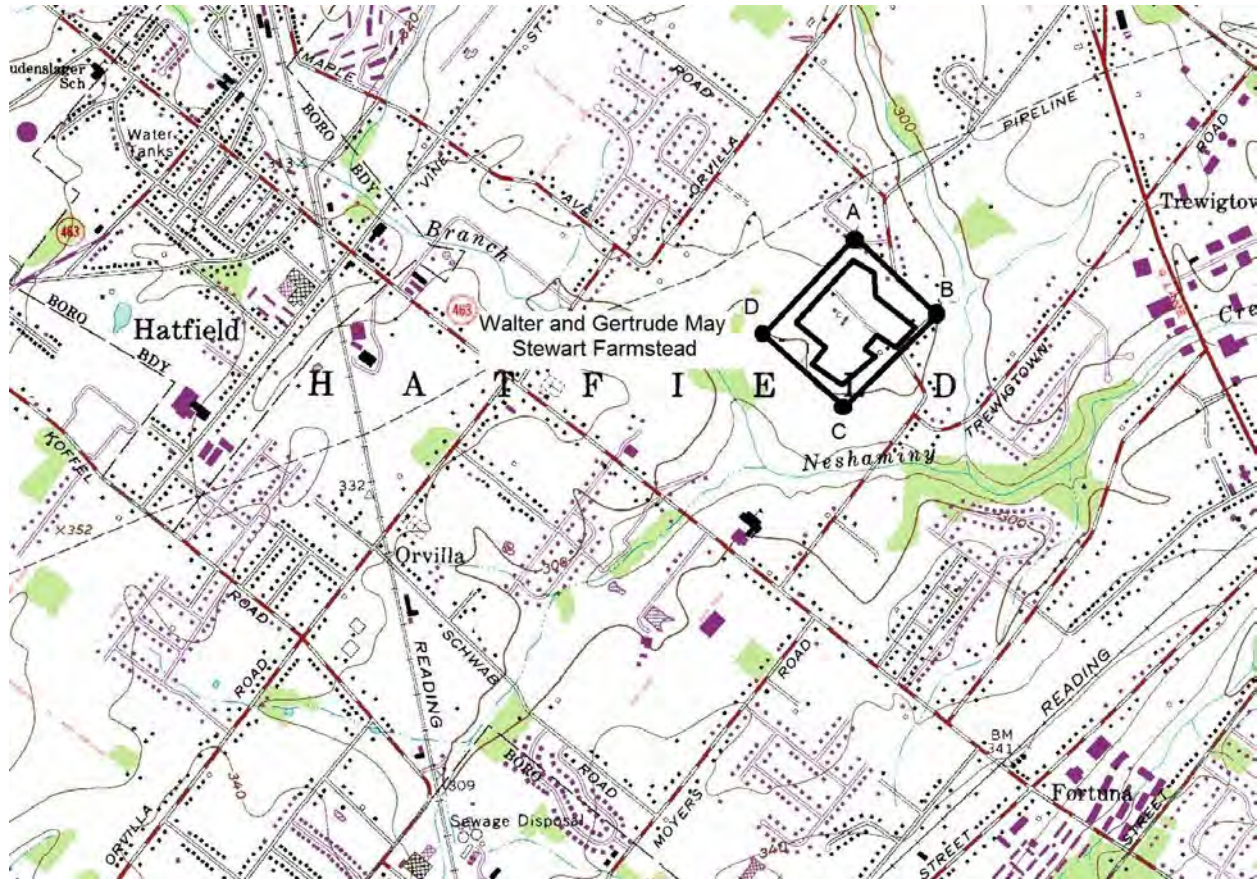


Figure 1
USGS Telford (PA) 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map 2000

Geographic Coordinates:

- Latitude/Longitude
- A. 40.276274 / -75.273265
 - B. 40.273909 / -75.268772
 - C. 40.271250 / -75.272968
 - D. 40.273118 / -75.276478

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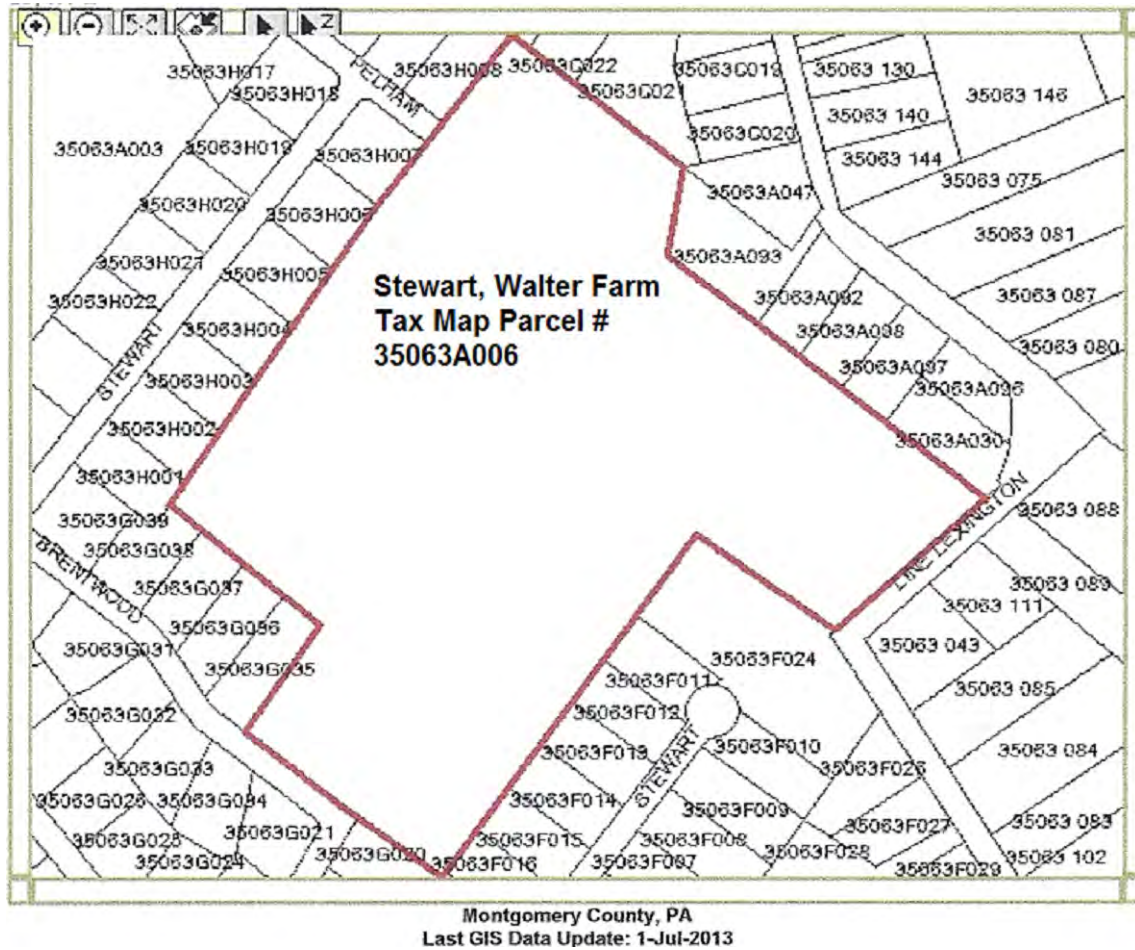


Figure 2
Montgomery County 2013 Tax Parcel Map
Source: www.propertyrecords.montcopa.org
Montgomery County Board of Assessment

Stewart, Walter and Gertrude May, Farmstead
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Figure 3
Aerial Photograph with National Register Boundary
Source: Google Earth, 2011

Note: The National Register boundary excludes an approximate one acre area that is part of the current tax parcel. This area consists of a c.1972 house and related buildings and structures.

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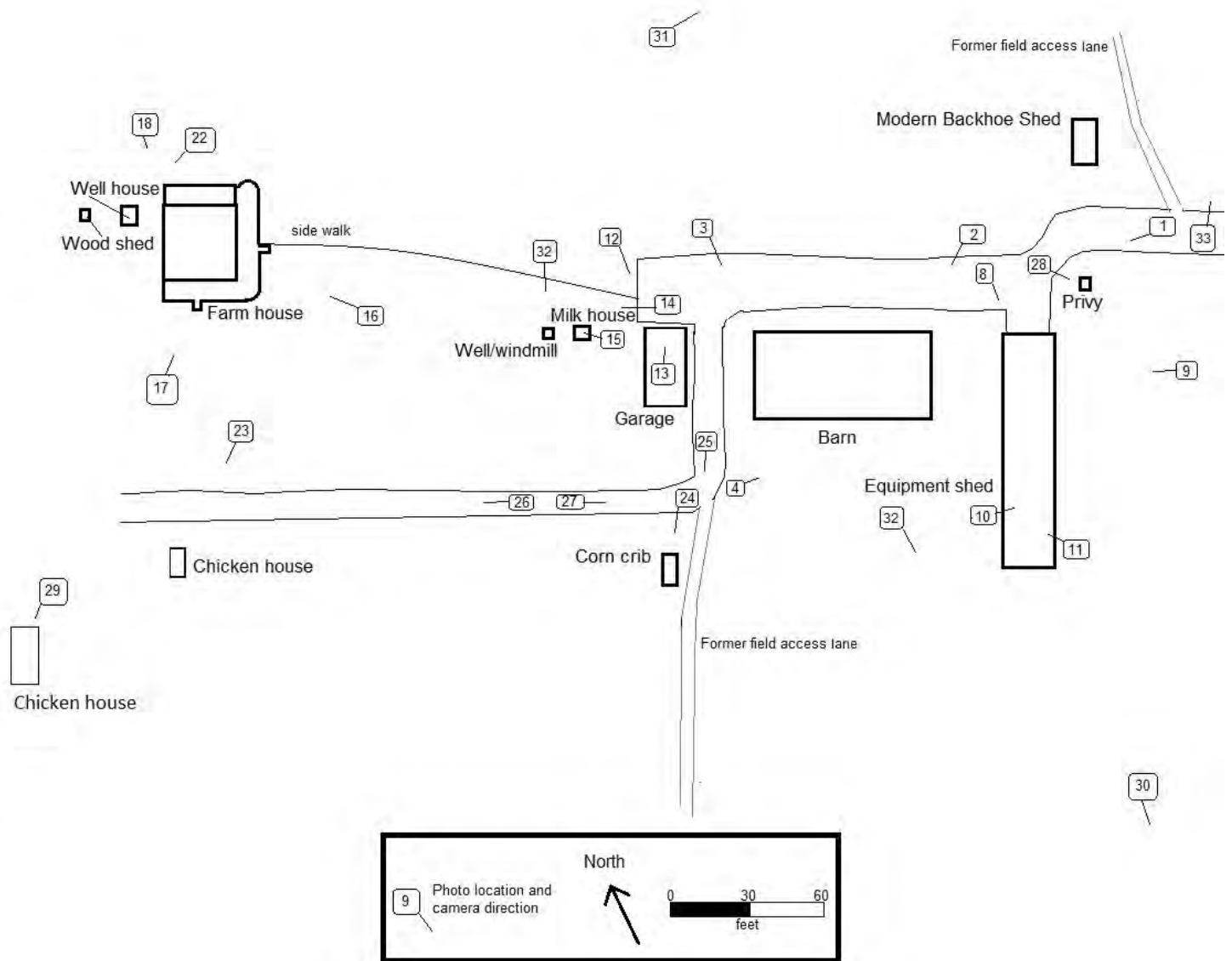


Figure 4
Farmstead Site Plan and Photo Key

Stewart, Walter and Gertrude May, Farmstead
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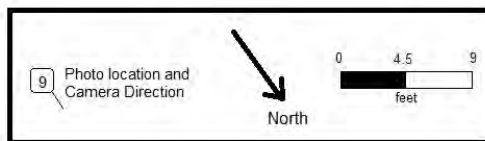
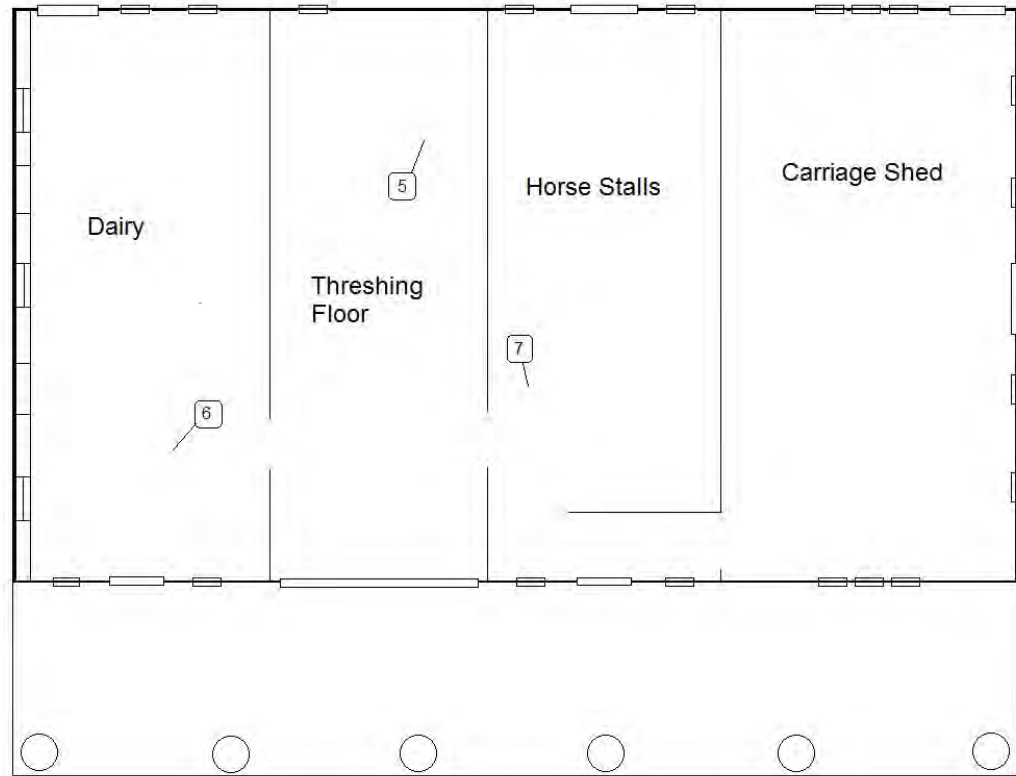


Figure 5
Barn Interior Photo Key

Room labels are past functions all areas of the barn are currently used as storage or vacant.

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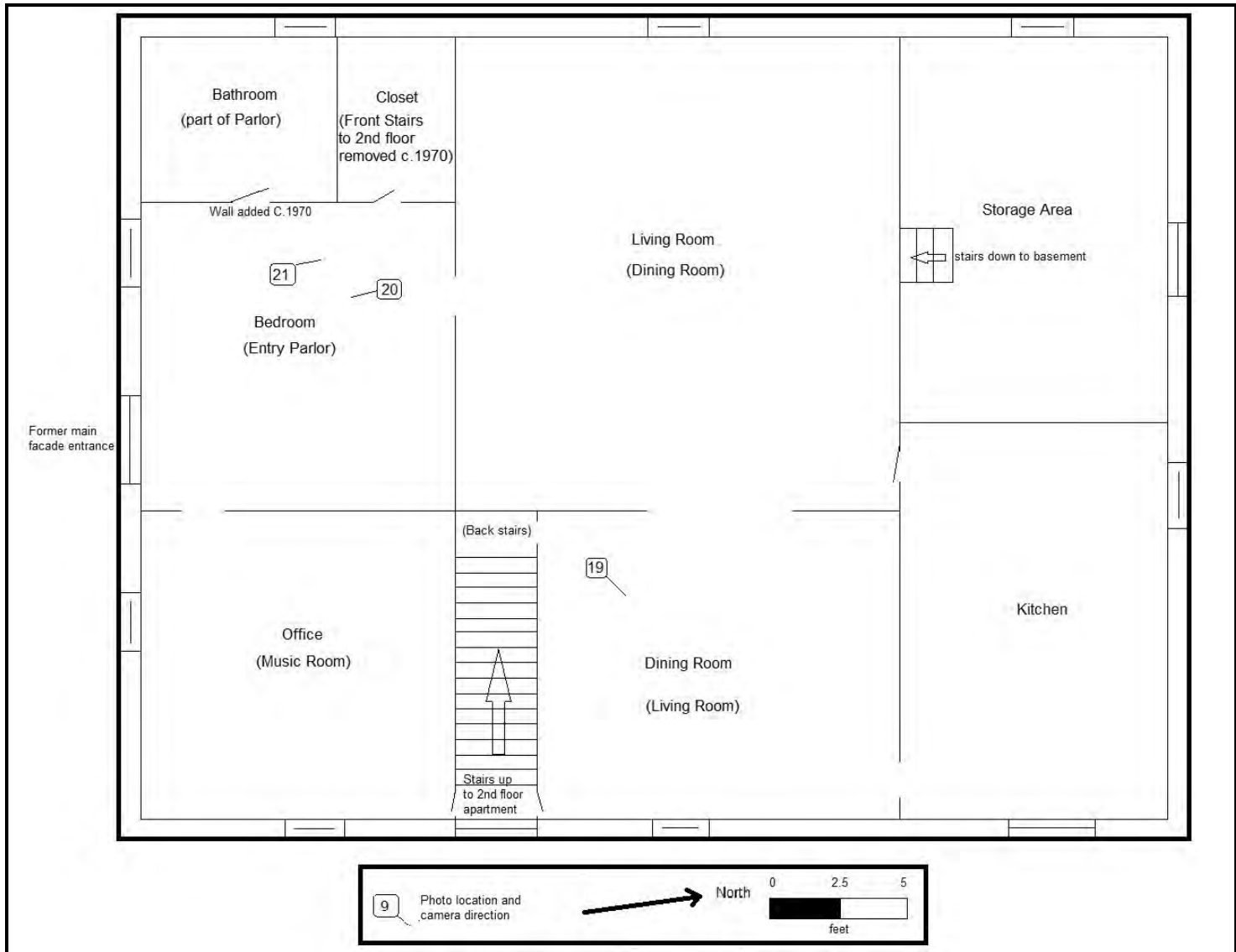


Figure 6
Farm House First Floor Plan
Former use of rooms in parenthesis ()

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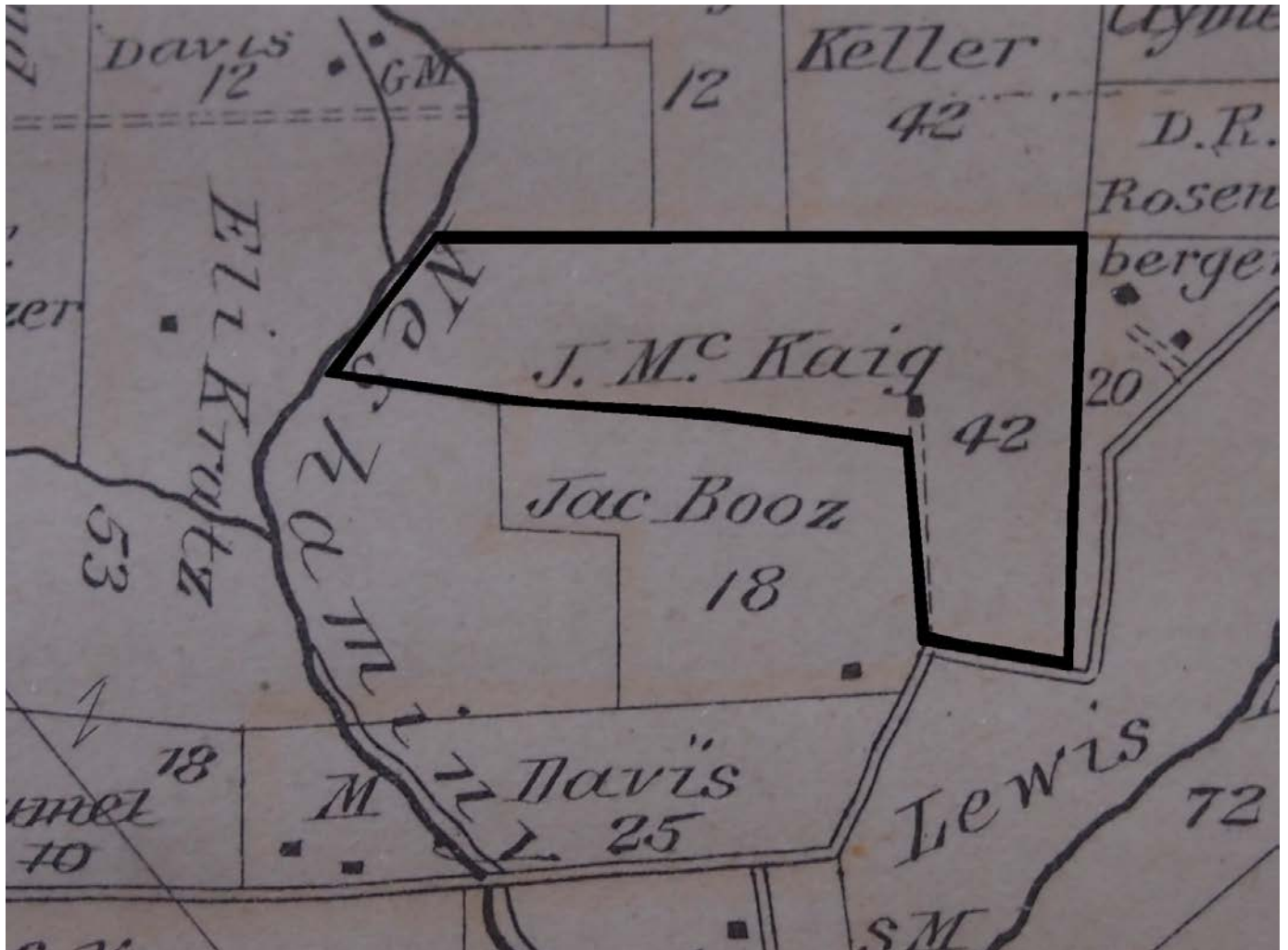


Figure 7
Property Atlas Map, Montgomery County PA, 1893

Walter and Gertrude May Stewart Farmstead
as owned by J. McKaig, approximately 42 acres

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Figure 8
Hatfield Township Map, 1950, by F.H.M. Klinge
Showing land owned by Walter H. and Gertrude May Stewart

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Figure 9
Aerial Photograph, 1938, Penn Pilot Historic Aerial Photos
Showing land owned by Walter and Gertrude May Stewart

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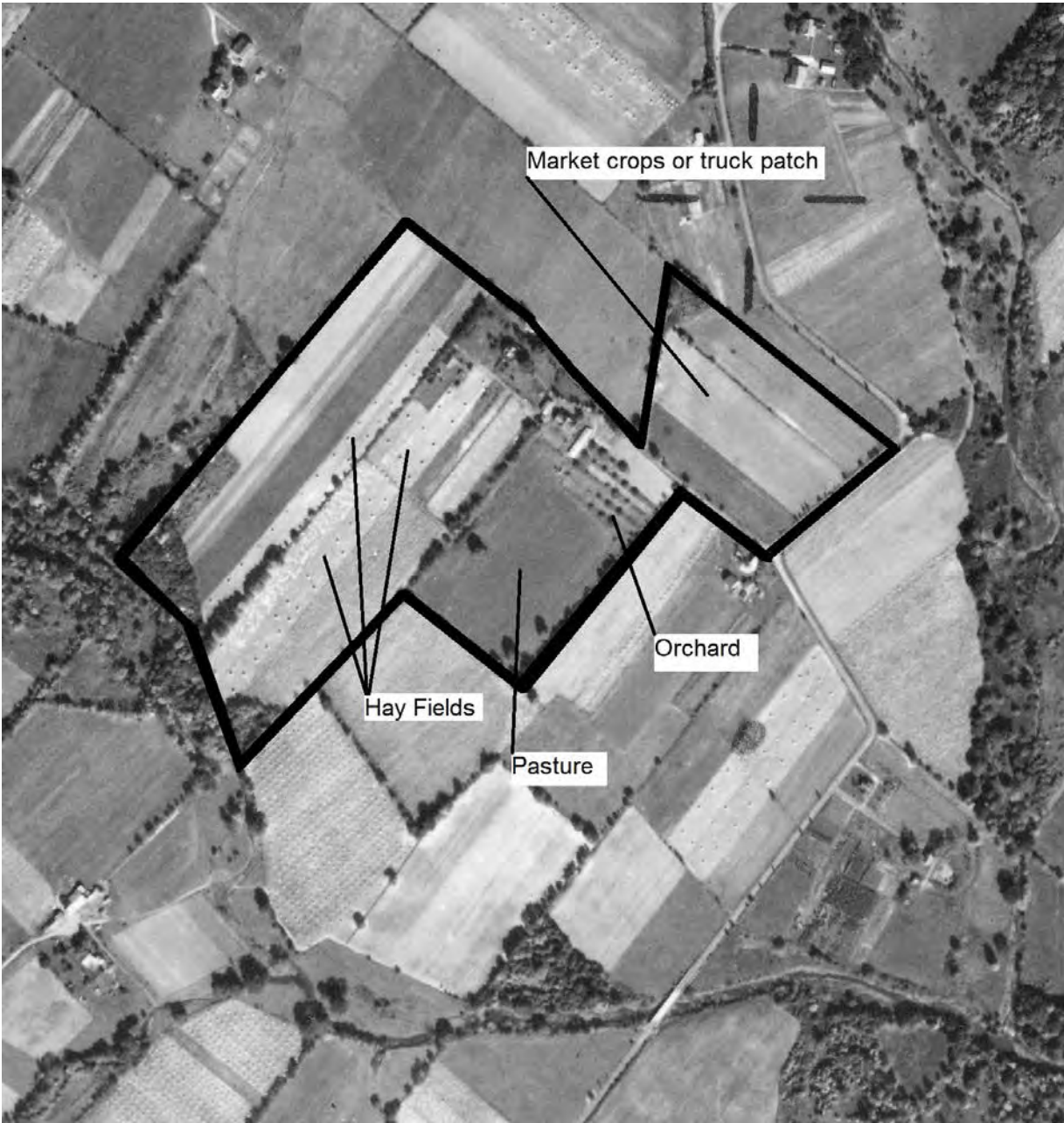


Figure 10
Aerial Photograph, 1942, Penn Pilot Historic Aerial Photos
Showing land owned by Walter and Gertrude May Stewart

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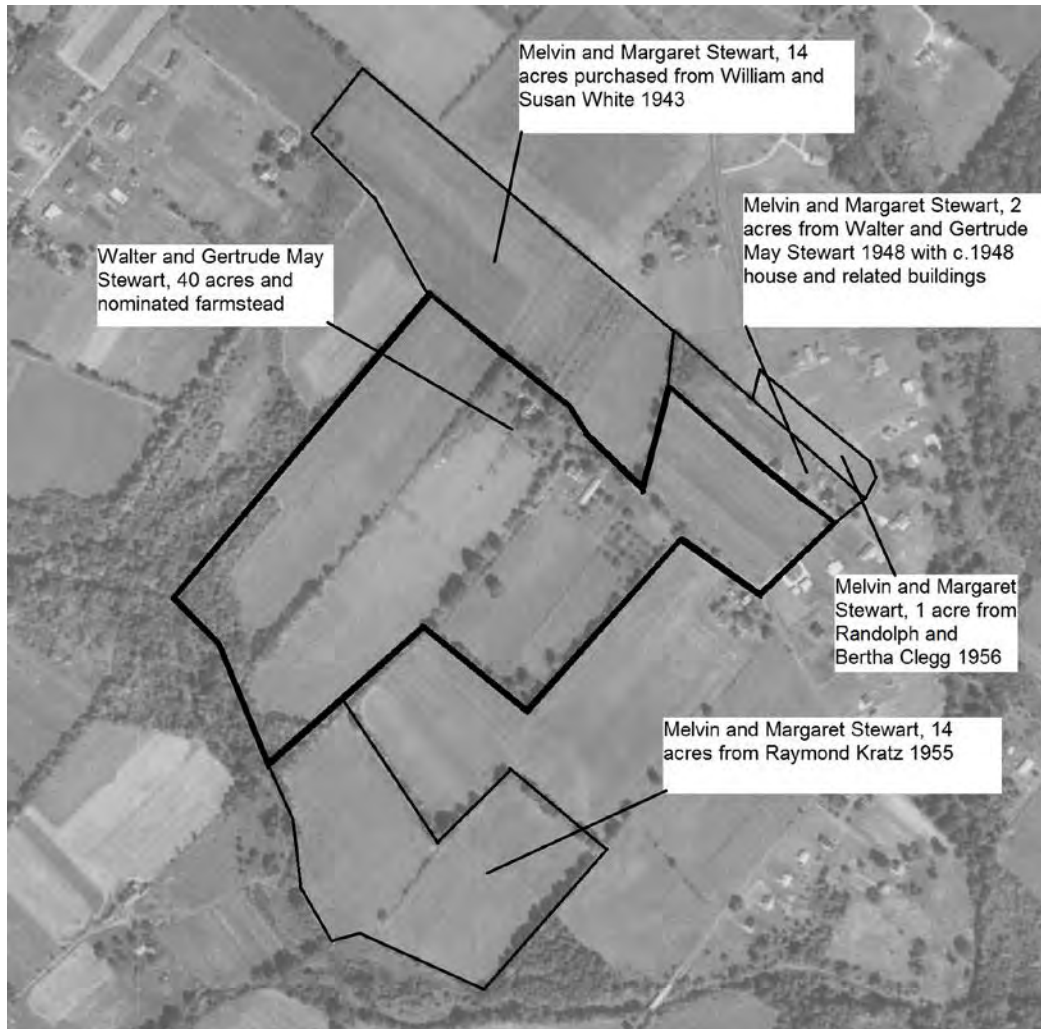


Figure 11

Aerial Photograph, 1958, Penn Pilot Historic Aerial Photos
Showing land owned by Walter H. and Gertrude May Stewart, approximately 40 acres and the nominated farmstead, excluding about two acres sold to Melvin and Margaret Stewart in 1948. Includes two parcels approximately 14 acres each adjacent to the farm acquired by Melvin Stewart.

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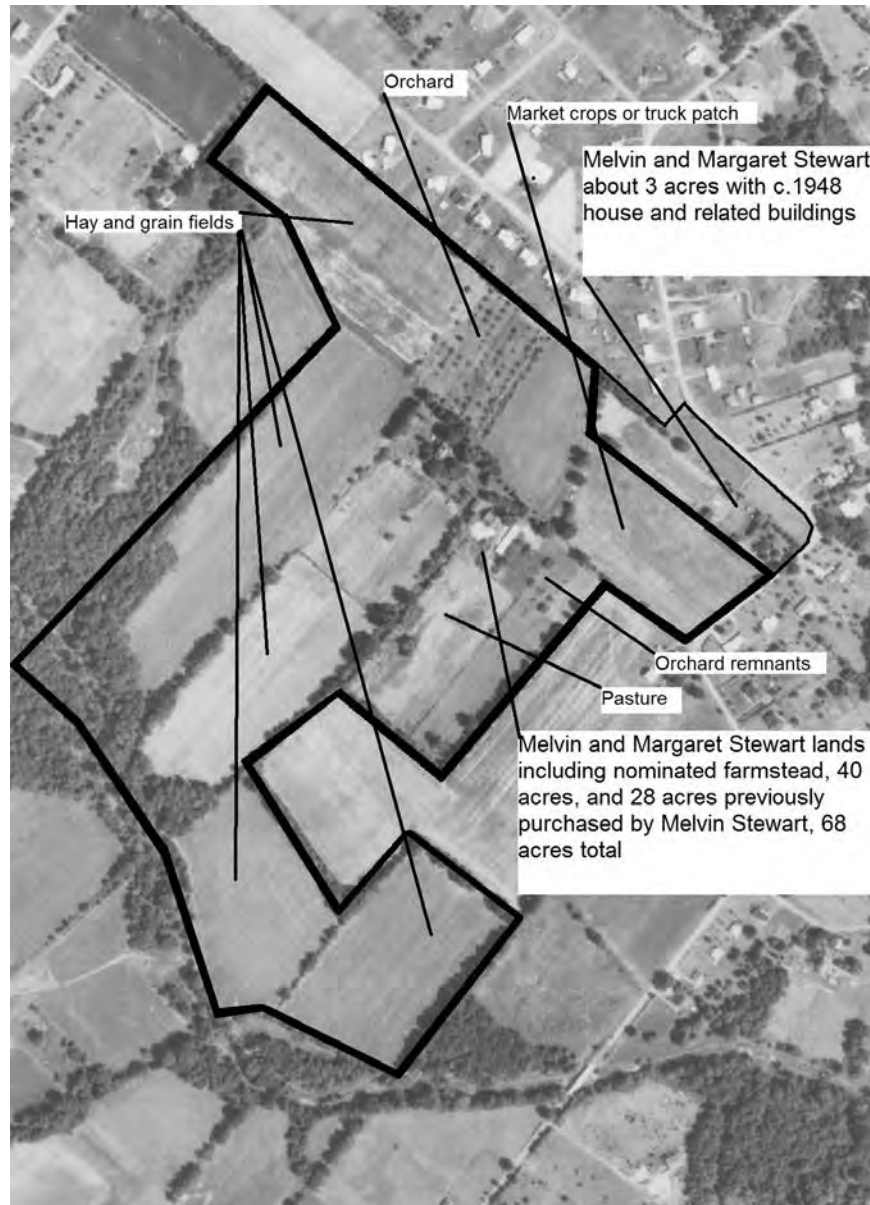


Figure 12

Aerial Photograph, 1971, Penn Pilot Historic Aerial Photos

Showing land owned by Melvin and Margaret Stewart, approximately 68 acres, including the nominated farmstead and 40 acres purchased from Walter and Gertrude May Stewart in 1967 and 28 acres Melvin and Margaret Stewart previously purchased. Also showing three acres of land previously obtained by Melvin and Margaret Stewart with their c.1948 house.

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Figure 13
Aerial Photograph, 2014, Bing Maps
Showing land formerly owned by Walter and Gertrude May Stewart, boundaries c.1923

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Figure 14

Aerial Photograph, 2014, Bing Maps

Showing land formerly owned by Melvin and Margaret Stewart, boundaries c.1967, 68 acres with c.1909 nominated farmstead. Additional three acres and c.1948 house and related buildings shown by dashed line (not included within nominated boundary).

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Figure 15
Aerial Photograph, 2014, Bing Maps
Showing the current tax parcel as owned by Ralph and Margaret (Stewart) Harvey, 26 acres.

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Figure 16
Aerial Photograph, 2014, Bing Maps
Showing the National Register boundary, about 25 acres. The National Register boundary excludes the c.1972 house and about one acre of land.

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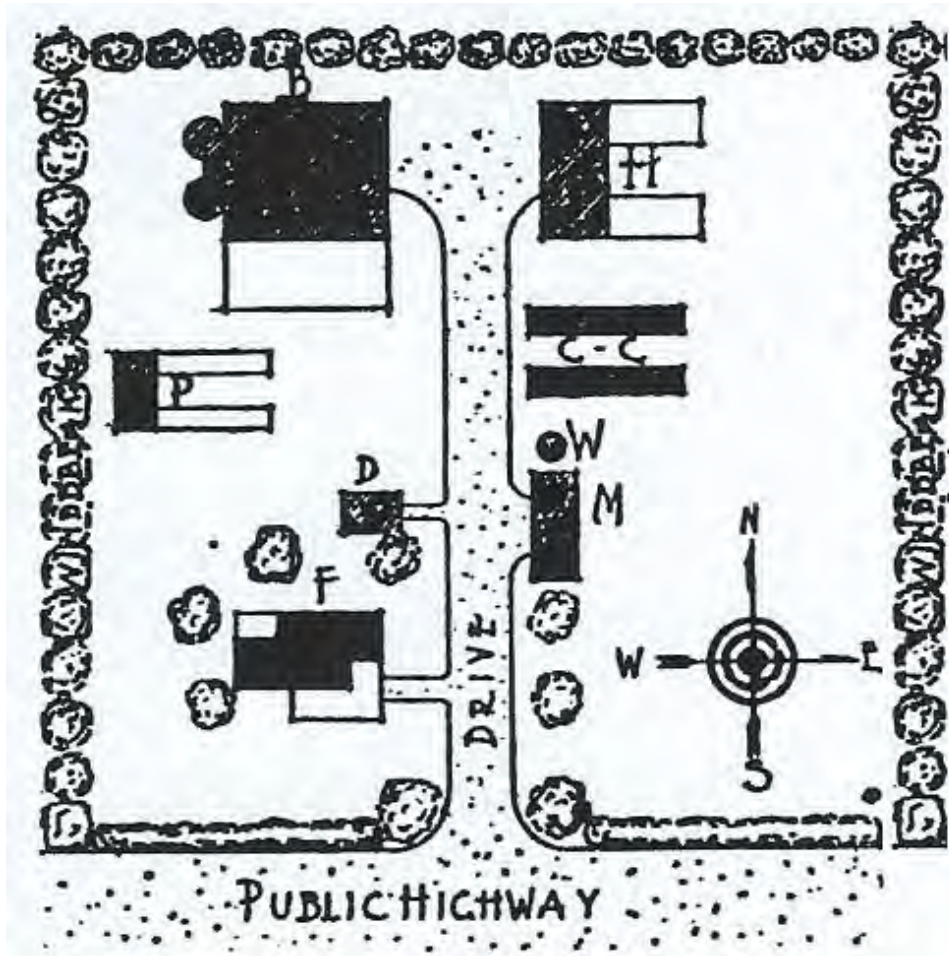


Figure 17

Recommended farm layout from *How to do Things*, 1919

F-Farmhouse, M-Machine shed, W-Well, D-Dairy, P-Poultry house, C-C Corn cribs, H-Hog house, B-Barn

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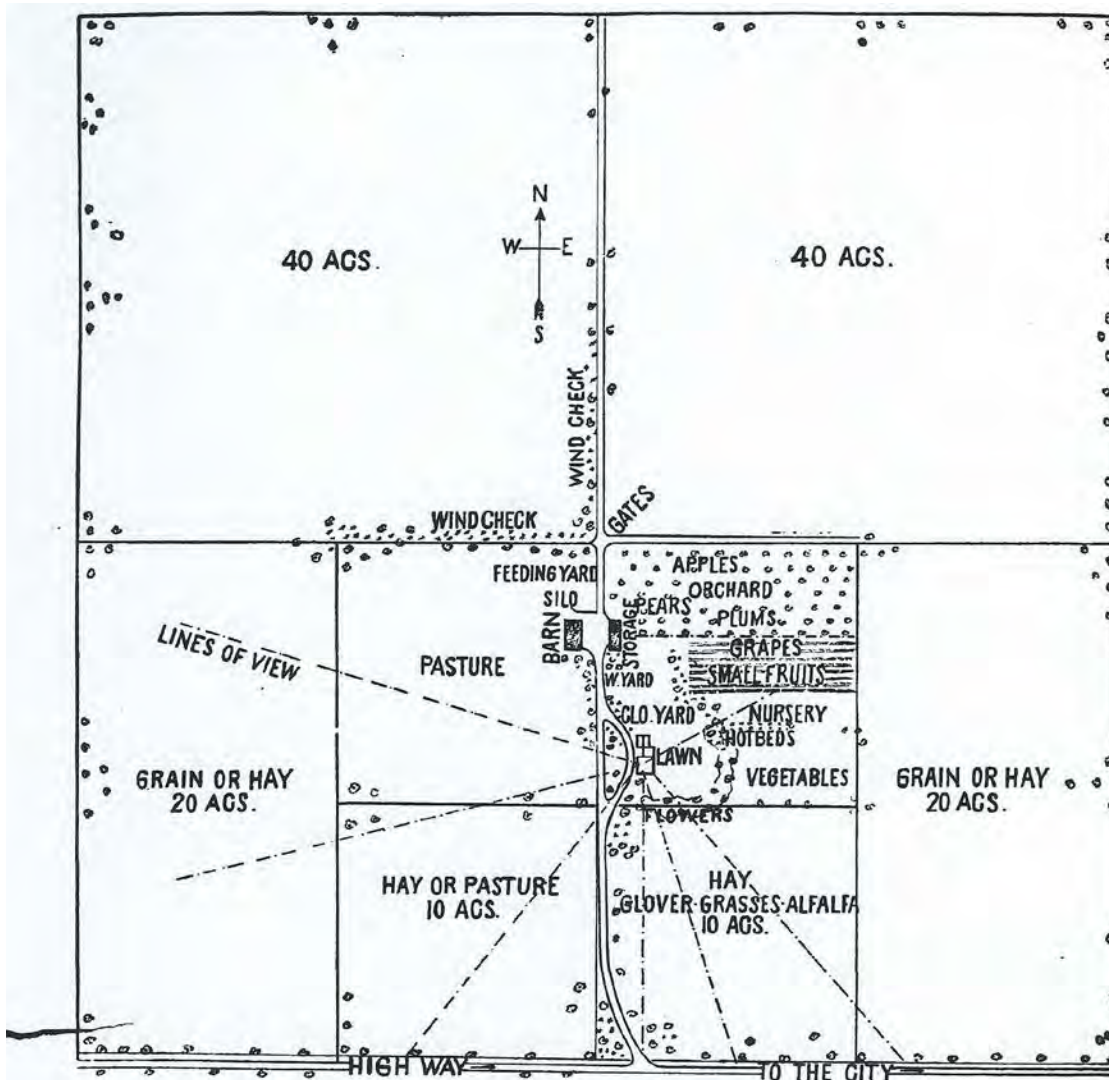


FIG. 1. PLAN FOR LAYING OUT A 160-ACRE FARM AND FARM HOME.

Figure 18

Recommended farm layout from *Farm Buildings, 1908*

Showing a plan for main building locations, field crops and orchard locations, as well as lines of view

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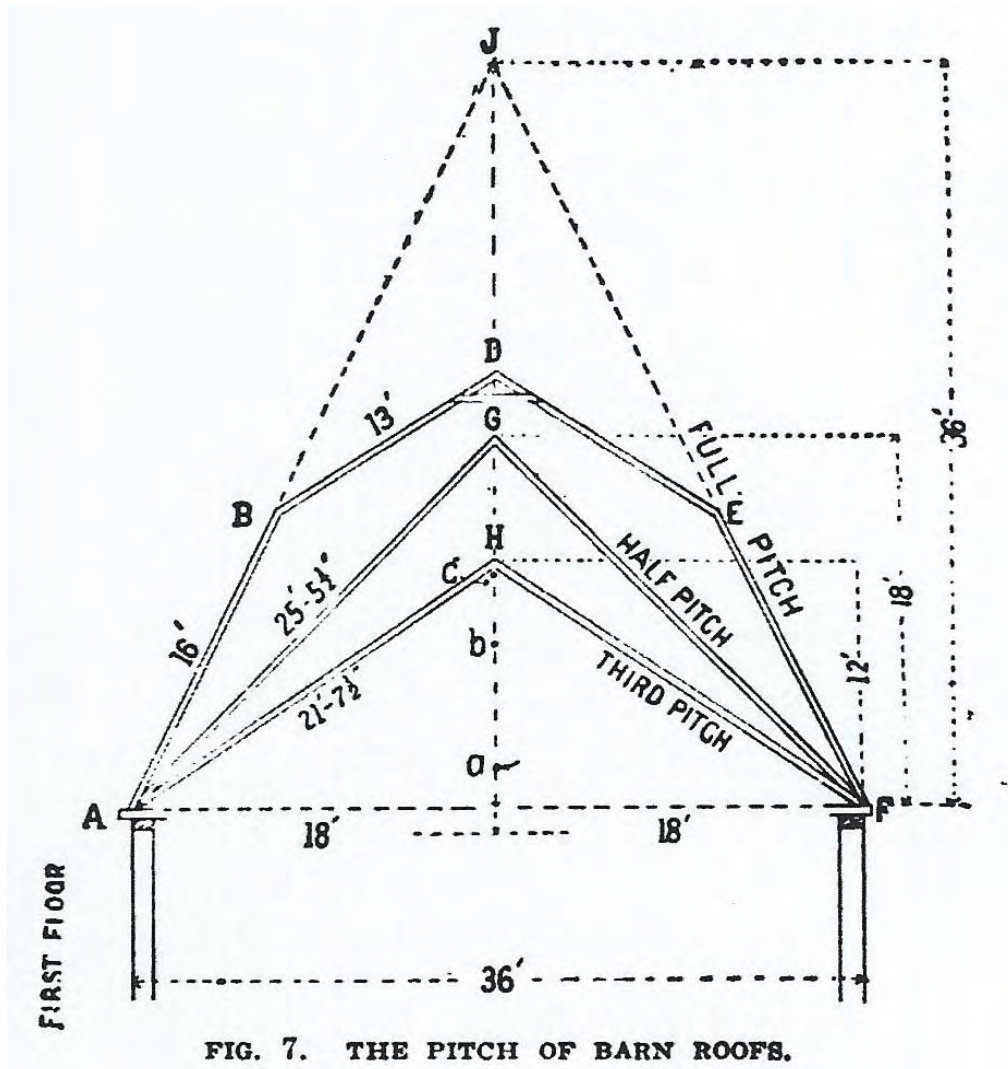


FIG. 7. THE PITCH OF BARN ROOFS.

Figure 19

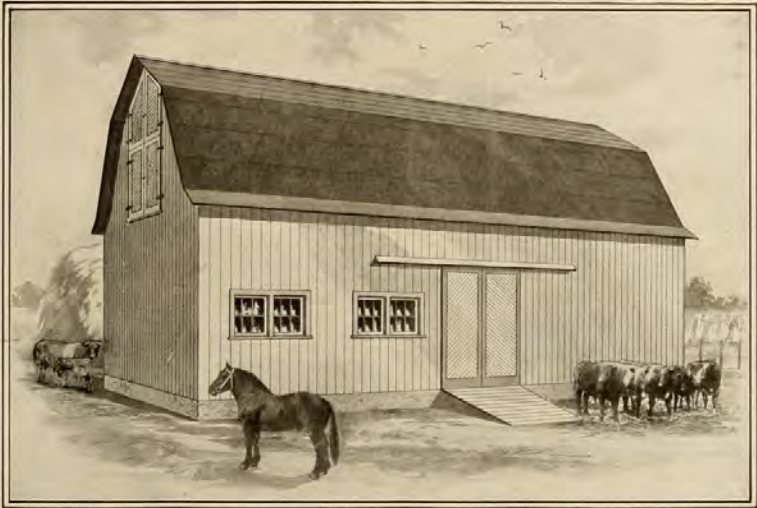
Instructions for creating a full pitch, “hipped” (gambrel) barn roof.

From *Farm Buildings*, 1908

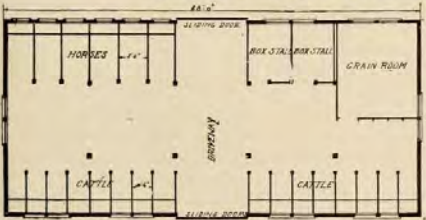
When the span of the building is 36 feet then the peak of the roof should be a full pitched, 36 feet in height, to ensure maximum water runoff. However a full pitched roof is not stable therefore a “hip” is created making the gambrel shape roof.

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OUR "SUPREME" BARN DESIGN



No. 212

THIS design follows the general construction of our "Majestic" design; is of the Joist Frame or built-construction. In our Supreme design, we show a barn 32 feet wide, 16 feet high to the top of the plate, and of the various lengths shown at the end of this description. The stable is intended to be 8 feet high in the clear and the hay loft extends the entire length of the building, giving a large hay capacity.

The driveway through the center of the barn, with the doors at each side of the building, makes it easy to bring fodder for the stock. These doors may be changed to the end of the barn and the driveway may be lengthwise through the structure, if preferred.

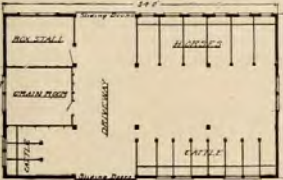
Inasmuch as this barn is only 32 feet wide, it will be more convenient to make the stock head towards the outside, as that will require less space than if they are placed with the heads towards the center, and our floor plans have been arranged with this end in view. This particular design is especially adapted to the small farmer where a large barn is not required, and we believe will answer every requirement of the modern up-to-date barn.

The building should be placed upon a concrete foundation extending about one foot above the stable floor. The latter should be made of cement and properly sloped to permit of easy drainage.

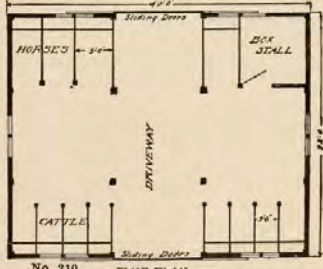
The material used in the construction of this barn is fully described in our Material specifications on a preceding page, and, if interested, we shall be pleased to supply you with Blue Prints, Specifications, together with a full list of material in accordance with our **Free Plan Proposition** as already outlined.

The various sizes and prices of this barn are as follows: Material for stable partitions not included. Same will be furnished to suit owner's individual requirements at lowest prices.

Name	No.	Size	Height to Eaves of Roof	Height to top	Price
"Supreme"	210	32x40	16 ft.	35 ft.	495.00
"	211	32x54	16 "	35 "	618.00
"	212	32x68	16 "	35 "	759.00



No. 211



No. 210

FLUNG PLAN
"SUPREME" BARN DESIGN

CHICAGO HOUSE WRECKING CO., 35th & IRON STREETS, CHICAGO.

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Figure 20
 A Gambrel Roof Barn design from the *Book of Plans No. 57* Chicago House Wrecking Co. 1910

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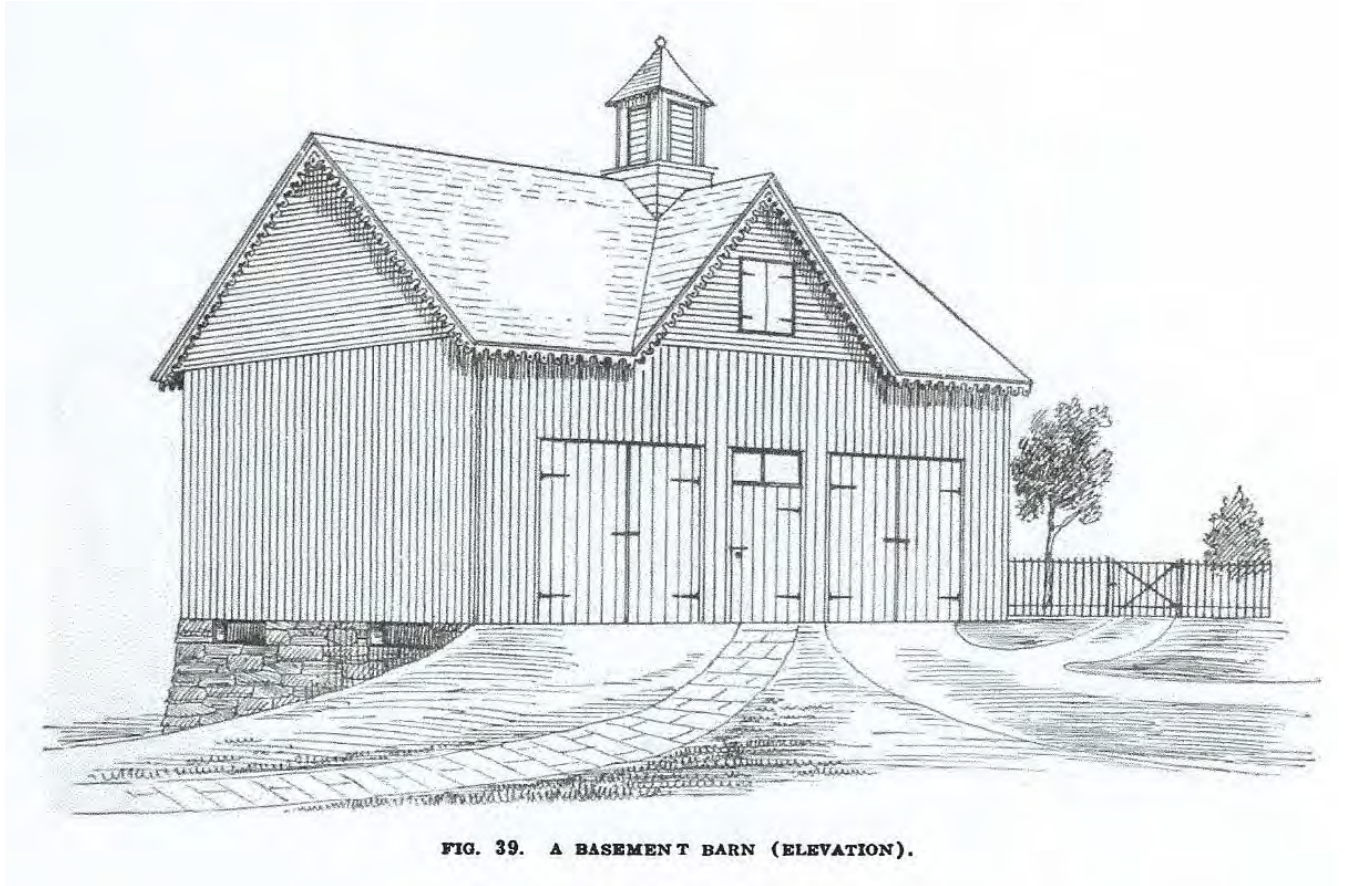


FIG. 39. A BASEMENT BARN (ELEVATION).

Figure 21

A barn with carriage shed entrance and cross gable roof with ventilated cupola from *Farm Buildings*, 1908.

A design similar to the barn on the Stewart Farmstead, which has a cross gambrel roof with cupola and had a carriage house entrance.

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HOUSE DESIGN No. 133



SIZE, 24' x 29'6" **PRICE** F.O.B. CARS **\$720.00** CHICAGO
 Write for Actual Delivered Price 7 ROOMS AND BATH

IN our Design No. 133, 24 ft. by 29 ft. 6 in. in size, we present a combination of country and city home. The distinguishing feature of this design is the large veranda extending across the front and along the side of the house. This feature appeals strongly to those who are fond of out-door life. In interior arrangements, this design has all the comforts of a modern home. Our chief aim has been to utilize every inch of available space to the best possible advantage, without unduly increasing the cost, and we believe we have succeeded. Though the house is of moderate size, the rooms are all comfortably large. There is no waste of room where not needed.

The main stairway is modern in design and construction and adds much to the general attractiveness of the interior. The large eared openings connecting the hall, living room and dining room, lend additional roominess to the already comfortable dimensions. The pantry is so placed as to be easy of access from both the kitchen and dining room. There are three chambers on the second floor, each provided with a closet, and opening directly into the center hall, with a linen closet also opening from the latter. The hall is lighted by a large window on the stairs and may be readily ventilated. There are no dark corners anywhere. The windows are large and placed to insure perfect light and ventilation and yet leave plenty of space for furniture.

Although our "Material Specifications" outline fully the general class of material that we furnish on all of our designs, the material list covering the above design will show exceptionally good qualities, in every way suitable and desirable for a first class job and will be an agreeable surprise for intending purchasers.

Our Free Plan Offer in the preceding pages describes fully how you can secure a set of plans, specifications and list of material Free of Charge. It will be well to read this interesting offer carefully.

Complete Hot Water Heating Plant	\$199.50
Complete Steam Heating Plant	176.50
Complete Hot Air Heating Plant	99.50

We will furnish complete plumbing system according to our Plumbing proposition No. 16 (see page 128 of our Big General Catalog No. 19) for this house as described, for **\$93.50**

Special Note. Complete, detailed specifications of above plumbing and heating systems furnished free on request.

Paint for all woodwork for entire job, two coat work, including hard oil finish for interior, porch floor paint, but no other floor or roof **\$25.00**



CHICAGO HOUSE WRECKING CO., 35th & IRON STREETS, CHICAGO.

Figure 22
 Late Victorian style house design with wrap-around porch from *Book of Plans No.57*, Chicago House Wrecking Co. 1910
 A design similar to the farm house on the Stewart Farmstead which is also late-Victorian style and has a wrap-around porch.

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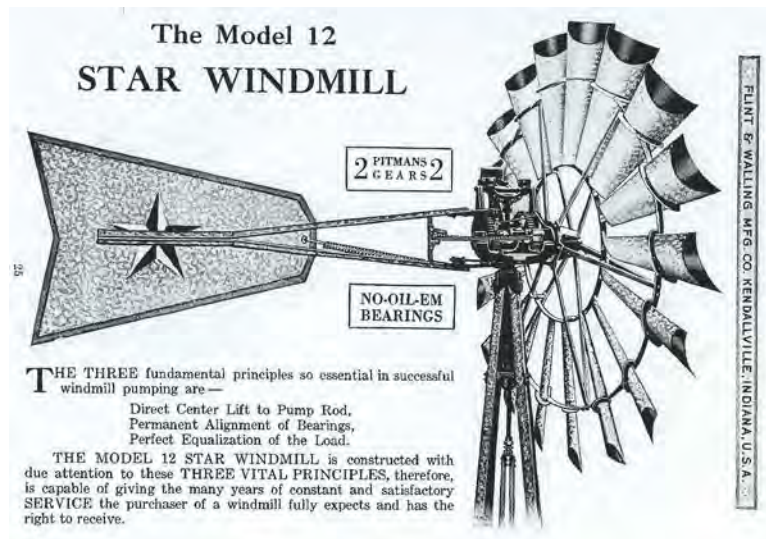


Figure 23
Flint & Walling Mfg. Co., *Star Windmill Catalog*, 1920
Model 12 and 15 windmills

Windmill on the Stewart Farmstead has similar size and shape blades, and the vane or rudder is attached in a similar manner. The Star logo is missing from the windmill on the Stewart Farmstead.





































































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Stewart, Walter and Gertrude May, Farmstead

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: PENNSYLVANIA, Montgomery

DATE RECEIVED: 4/03/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/24/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/11/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/19/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000241

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 5/19/15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*local level AOS Architecture
POS c.1909-c.1940 24.9 acre district*

RECOM./CRITERIA C
REVIEWER Winteline DISCIPLINE hist
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 5/19/15

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

Walter and Gertrude May Stewart Farmstead, Montgomery County, PA

Area(s) of Significance: C/Architecture
Period of Significance: c.1909-c.1940
Level of Significance: Local

Staff Comments provided to Historic Preservation Board prior to their February 3, 2015, meeting:

The Stewart Farmstead is being nominated for architectural significance as an important local example of a “modern” early 20th century farmstead, with catalog-inspired buildings and site plan. The period of significance captures the primary construction dates.

The nomination draws upon the statewide context for Agriculture and local agricultural trends. However, the farm isn’t exactly typical for the area and so we recommended that the nominator focus on Criterion C, Architecture, and not pursue Criterion A, Agriculture, under the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF). The purpose of an MPDF is to facilitate the nomination of similar resources, where this one is architecturally more of an exception. Context/comparisons provided don’t really establish how this farm compares in production or other agricultural trends, and the narrative doesn’t explain how it fit into the local economy. The MPDF context remains relevant, but it doesn’t readily serve this property as an “umbrella” for nomination.

The farm’s acreage is no longer intact and the integrity of the farmstead is not pristine. Overall, however, staff felt that the farmstead and remaining acreage presents an important example of early 20th century agricultural and architectural trends in building design and layout—perhaps not specific to the traditions of this agricultural region, but showing the national evolution of farming and guidance provided by agricultural professionals. Pennsylvania’s farming landscape is dominated by traditional building types, so it is unusual to see an *entire* farmstead designed entirely in the early 20th century, especially one that was not part of a gentrified hobby or specialty farm.

Information about the property was shared with Sally McMurray, author of the statewide Agriculture context, who agreed it was eligible and commented that the farmstead “is so very twee.” We agree that this is a very sweet and charming property, perhaps not what would be expected for the traditional farms of Montgomery County, but one that provides an interesting opportunity to better-understand agricultural and architectural trends of this era on a larger scale than Pennsylvania German-heavy Hatfield Township.

We hoped that more information would become available regarding the Zanes (who constructed the property) or the early use of the property by the Stewart family, but that information remains limited.

Staff agreed that the property is important, and that despite the loss of farmland and changes to some of the buildings the farmstead overall retains the integrity aspects necessary to convey significance.

Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Board Meeting, February 3, 2015

Excerpt from Draft Minutes, Summarized for Nomination Preparer

The Board members emphasized their admiration of and appreciation for the care that has been taken in maintaining the condition of the property multiple times, and hope that it will be protected and enjoyed by future generations.

As presented, they did not find the nomination made a convincing argument that the farmstead qualified for Criterion C, and also struggled to find a way that it might be eligible under Criterion A under the MPDF, if that option would be viable.

Board comments included:

- Struggled with this—interesting and unique, but found the argument lacking with too little substantiation. Based too much upon conjecture. Zane’s influence by catalogs is a reach—no basis.
- It’s a sweet survivor, but does not seem exemplary.
- Many of the supporting historic figures and citations actually post-date these buildings. Were there any catalogs or examples that pre-date 1910, but aren’t so much earlier like the 1852/55 one mentioned? That’s so early—what’s the relevance? The plan doesn’t actually seem consistent with some of the references cited.
- Much of the documentation didn’t really seem relevant.
- How was this farm perceived locally? Did everyone know and recognize it as something different, and special? Featured in local publications?
- The intact immediate setting helps, but that aspect wasn’t really developed in the nom.
- The significance of this unusual example of a farm for the area isn’t really established.
- The barn was heavily emphasized, but the description was problematic—there’s really nothing about it that suggests any relationship to a classic Pennsylvania barn—very different in appearance. That’s not a forebay. May serve a similar purpose, but doesn’t look like a forebay.
- Doesn’t seem to be significant for local trends in Agriculture, more of an anomaly than a good example of a typical Montgomery Co farm. Can they develop that the type of farming that took place here, the truck patch, that it’s a significant example of that?
- Should we ask them to resubmit? Does it lack significance, or is it just that they didn’t make a convincing argument?
- The architecture just doesn’t seem to be notable, not a significant designed farmstead—no evidence presented for that. And we still don’t know what it’s based upon.
- Clearly outside what’s covered in the MPDF, outside the cultural traditions of the area. They need to better-define what this actually is, how it functioned in the local ag community.
- Can’t say that there’s no potential, but significance isn’t proven yet.

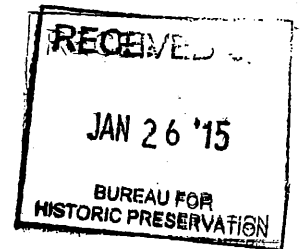
Staff comments following Board review:

Following the Board meeting, the preparer was provided with the opportunity to revise the nomination prior to sending it to the Keeper, to address Board comments. The preparer provided more detail about how the property was used by the Stewart family, removed references to the Barn as having a forebay-inspired overhang, and attempted to provide additional material about catalogs and farm building guidance of the period.

While this is not an outstanding nomination, our office believes that the property is indeed eligible for listing, and feels that the preparer provided sufficient context to show that the building is an important architectural example of early 20th century agricultural building and farmstead design. Most local farms exhibit strong traditional and cultural influences, with primarily vernacular buildings. This is an example of a different, “mainstream” type of farmstead, guided by scientific design and professional aesthetics, instead of local building traditions. Few such complete, early 20th century farmsteads were constructed in this region. It provides an interesting contrast to other local farms to understand how national trends differed from, or corresponded to, local trends of the same period.

January 15, 2015

Ralph and Peg Harvey
2550 Line Lexington Road
Hatfield, Pa. 19440



Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Bureau for Historical Preservation
Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2nd Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, Pa. 17120-0093

RE: Stewart Farmstead, 2600 Line Lexington Road, Hatfield Township.

Dear Ms. Frantz:

Thank you for considering our property as a National Historic Site. I have lived here all my life and have many great memories of the farm and its structures. This farm has existed in our family for over 90 years and was a working farm for my father, and grandparents Walter and Gertrude Stewart.

I was born in the late 40's and can remember the various activities on the property from the early morning cow milking to daily crop or produce gathering. As years passed, farms have been sold for housing developments. As a young married couple, my husband and I moved onto the property, just like my parents, Melvin and Margaret Stewart and my grandparents Walter and Gertrude Stewart. As time passed, my husband and myself felt it was important to maintain the farmstead to preserve it for future generations and keep it in its original state.

I have lived on this property my entire life and have the privilege to walk the fields and wonder through all of the buildings and reminisce the many phases of this farmstead. It was a truck farm, a dairy farm, and crop farm. As a pre-schooler I would ride in the front seat of the old Chevy truck with my grandfather to deliver eggs, vegetables, and milk to customers. I can remember many happenings on the farm, baling hay, picking apples to make homemade cider, harvesting produce, bringing in the oats and wheat, and even my adventure on the back of a corn planter. My job that day was to raise and lower the corn planter as my Dad, driving his Allis Chalmers tractor, would drive up and down each row. My Dad must have seen the storm clouds brewing on the horizon and sped up, I guess forgetting that I was sitting on the seat of the planter. As he got to the end of the row I raised the planter as directed. After he turned the corner he lined up for the next row and gunned it!! As you can guess..... I was thrown off! I could be seen running along side of the tractor to get him to stop. He stopped and said "what are you falling off for?".... a comment I will never forget. So many memories milking cows, baling hay, bagging a watermelon in a feed bag and watching my Dad drop it down the well to get it cold, riding my horse for hours through the fields, to walking up the long walk to the farmhouse to visit my grandparents.

As I sit and write this I can remember many things about our farm. The milk house was visited twice a day to strain the milk. One evening after milking and straining the milk my Dad decided to hide behind the honeysuckle along the long walk. Dad jumped out and scared me, and what did I do..... you got it, I dropped 2 quarts of milk and what did he say "why'd you drop the milk !!?"

The long garage on the property housed the horse drawn sleigh which we still own. After a good deep snow, we would harness up one of the horses and go sleigh riding through the hay fields. We would rest the horse frequently and head to the farmhouse for hot chocolate. We would spend hours riding through the fresh fallen snow.

The chicken coops were without a doubt not such a fond memory for my mother. You see my Mom was a, shall we say, "a city girl". She knew nothing of farming or its responsibilities. After she and Dad married and moved onto the farm, my Dad asked her if she would like to raise a few chickens. The new farmers wife said a shy "yes". Dad brought home 3000 chickens!! Yes..... 3000!! Imagine the amount of eggs.

January 15, 2015

After I was old enough it was my job to collect eggs everyday. To this day I can tell you I hated the job because I can still remember having to put my hand under a hen to collect her eggs and frequently be pecked by an uncooperating hen !! My mother would sit on a crate in the farmhouse basement and wash the eggs and grade them on a egg scale.

The barn had many fond memories for me. Being an only child I was my Dad's "farmhand". I would accompany my Dad to help with the daily tasks. I can remember milking cows, going up into the hay mow and rolling bales of hay down into the thrashing area of the barn. There was an old cast iron bath tub and my job was to turn on the water and fill the tub with fresh water for the animals. I would swing open the feed bin so my Dad could scoop up the grain mix for the cows. Then we'd cross over to the other side of the barn to feed the horses and ponies. In the evening, when the stock was out to pasture my Dad would go to the bottom barn door and bang on it with his hand and the herd would next to stampede to be the first ones at the barn door for dinner.

The machine shed still houses original and current farm equipment and implements used on the farm. It truly fits its name because all of the farm equipment that was needed was neatly tucked into each bay. It was the source of many repairs and projects. My father would do most of his farm repairs in the end of the building where the woodworking equipment, tools, and blacksmithing apparatus could be found. At times, I would pull out the 1957 Allis Chalmers tractor for my Dad to hitch up the plow or the disc in order to ready a field for various crops.

The outhouse stands today as an icon to the farm. It is as they say, a "2 holer". I rarely used it because it was dark and dreary and it was true..... the Sears catalog was sitting in a box in the corner! To this very day my Grandfather's black wool sweater is hanging on a hook on the wall, barely touched by any moths over all these years.

The farmhouse, which was home for my grandparents was so interesting and even intriguing to me because of its many rooms. There were shutters on most windows and I recall my grandmother would close all the shutters when impending storms were approaching because she was petrified of thunder and lightening. She would put on her rubber galoshes and we would return to the corner of the dining room till the storm had passed. She also kept these dark maroon velvet drapes at most of the first floor windows and would close them to keep the sun's heat out of the rooms. In one corner of the Parlor was the Grandfather clock and next to it, sat the family Bible on a special table. In my grandfather's later years he would sit in his rocking chair looking out the window, where he could see anyone coming up the walk. There was the back stairs entrance in that room and on several occasions he has been heard going up the back steps to go to bed. Once he was seen walking up the front walk, wearing his finest suit, with his cane and wearing his derby.

The windmill still stands and is to me, a landmark to the property. It is the first thing folks see when they enter the farmstead compound. It is nestled over an existing hand dug well.

There are numerous items from the 20th century, beside the buildings that still exist on the property. A sleigh, egg scale, oxen yoke, garden tools, original coal oil stove, feed bins, milk cans, furniture, tack, horse drawn wagon and plow, and even the old 1926 Chevy truck.

All of my memories of this farmstead and its happenings are because of the many buildings that still exist on the property. Buildings that have been maintained by my husband and our sons to keep it in its 20th Century condition. I have journaled these memories for my children and their children, so they too can see how the Stewart Farmstead evolved and existed over the many generations. This includes daily operation logs and journals from the 1920's. Other farms in Hatfield Township are now gone..... and maybe those memories are gone forever too, replaced by houses and condominiums. We wish to keep this farmstead a part of 20th Century of Hatfield Township.

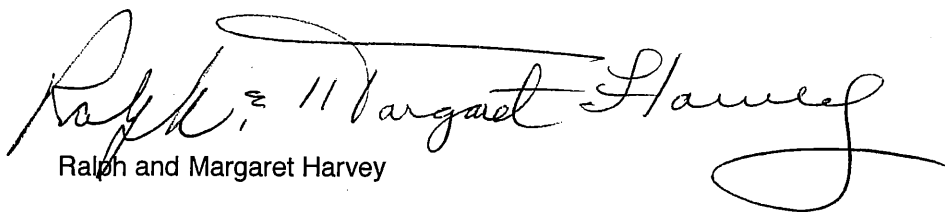
January 15, 2015

It has been a memorable journey that we have entered with the help and hard work of Mr. David Kimmerly.

Lastly.... my husband Ralph and myself would like to thank you for this opportunity. It has been an honor to live here all these years and raise our family here too. It would be a deeper honor if the commission would enter our property into the National Registry of Historical Sites.

I know my parents Melvin and Margaret Stewart and grandparents Walter and Gertrude Stewart, would be so pleased to know that their farm has been recognized for its historical value.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ralph & Margaret Harvey". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed names.

Ralph and Margaret Harvey



Pennsylvania
Historical & Museum
Commission



March 30, 2015

Stephanie Toothman, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service, US Department of Interior
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington D.C. 20005

Re: Walter and Gertrude May Stewart Farmstead National Register Nomination

Dear Ms Toothman:

A National Register nomination for the Walter and Gertrude May Stewart Farmstead, Montgomery County, PA, is being submitted for your review. Please note that while the SHPO continues to support the nomination, at their recent meeting the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Board members voted to reject the nomination. We are submitting this for your review under the federal regulations, Section 60.6(l). Enclosed please find a signed first page, a CD containing the true and correct copy of the nomination, correspondence, comments from SHPO staff and the Board, and a second CD with tif images.

If you have any questions regarding the nomination, please contact April Frantz at 717-783-9922 or afrantz@pa.gov. Thank you for your consideration of this property.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Andrea L. MacDonald'.

Andrea L. MacDonald
Manager, Preservation Services Division

ALM/aef

enc.

Historic Preservation Services
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093
www.phmc.state.pa.us
The Commonwealth's Official History Agency