

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

466

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: Nantmeal Village Historic District

Other names/site number: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

2. Location

Street & number: Extending from the intersections of Nantmeal, Fairview, Horeshoe Trail, and Coventryville Roads Not For Publication: NA Vicinity: NA

City or town: East Nantmeal Township State: PA County: Chester

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X 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 X local

Applicable National Register Criteria: X A B C D

<u>Andrea McDonald</u>	<u>6/18/2014</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):

Joe Olson H. Beall 8.1.14
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

69

7

2

78

Noncontributing

44

4

48

buildings

sites

structures

objects

Total

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

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single dwelling

COMMERCE: Specialty store

EDUCATION: School

RELIGION: Religious facility

AGRICULTURE: Animal facility

DOMESTIC: Secondary structure

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single dwelling

RELIGION: Religious facility

AGRICULTURE: Animal facility

DOMESTIC: Secondary structure

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7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)

COLONIAL

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival

LATE VICTORIAN

OTHER

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Stone, Wood, Brick, Stucco

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

Nantmeal Village Historic District¹ (the District) is a rural area consisting of a village and the immediate agricultural surroundings, including some working farms. While the name suggests that this nomination pertains only to a denser village setting, the interactions and interdependence of those living in the village and those living on the surrounding farms are essential to the District's significance and integrity. The District features 18th, 19th, and early 20th century historic resources extending from the intersections of Nantmeal, Fairview, Coventryville, and Horseshoe Trail Roads in the east-central portion of East Nantmeal Township in northern Chester County, extending less than a mile in any direction from the District's center. The village portion of the District contains residential, religious, commercial and educational resources, while the remainder of the district (roughly 740 acres total) is primarily agricultural or wooded. The District is located in the hilly northern part of the county, 40 miles northwest of Philadelphia and 25 miles southeast of Reading. The core of the village is located on high ground at the main intersection of Nantmeal and Fairview Roads, with the Methodist Church, a former cabinet shop, and the former general store being the most prominent resources. Other historic resources line the narrow, twisty rural roads that meet at this intersection. The District contains 126 resources, of which 78 are contributing. Most resources are located close to the District's three principal roads: Nantmeal, Fairview, and Coventryville. Contributing resources include 28 houses, 15 barns, 20 outbuildings (garages, sheds, privies, etc.), 6 buildings used or formerly used for commercial, trade, or "public" use (store, blacksmith shop, cabinet shop, two schools, and church), 2 structures (mill dam and head race), and 7 sites (2 cemeteries and ruins of 4 buildings). The District has 48 noncontributing resources: 21 houses, 2 barns, 21

¹ The name of the village is "Nantmeal Village." The name "Nantmeal" is only used today to refer to the former Nantmeal Township, which encompassed today's townships of East Nantmeal, West Nantmeal, Warwick, and Honey Brook.

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outbuildings, and 4 structures (electric towers). The District's historic resources largely reflect local vernacular building traditions of regional farms and small rural market villages, and the prevailing Colonial, Federal, Greek Revival and Victorian styles of the periods. Taken together, they reflect the District's history from its early beginnings in the 1730s but particularly its history as a small rural agricultural center from 1834 to c.1934. Today it is one of the few former rural market villages and farming areas in Chester County whose 19th and early 20th century appearance survives intact. Largely bypassed by suburban development, the District's historic resources, landscape and topography—for both the farm areas surrounding the village and the village itself—appear not unlike they did 100-150 years ago.

Narrative Description

Note: In the following narrative, reference information is provided in brackets. Numbers in brackets indicate the inventory resource number, which is based on tax parcel numbers; a "P" followed by a number indicates photograph numbers. Construction dates are sometimes included in the brackets.

Overview

The Nantmeal Village Historic District, composed of rural village lots in the village center surrounded by farms, is a crucial part of the rural character of East Nantmeal Township. The township is a mixture of open farmland, woodland, and meandering creeks situated amongst its hilly topography. With a population of just over 1,800, it is one of the least populated municipalities in Chester County (population 506,000). The Township center is Nantmeal Village, which straddles the intersections of several small roads. While few villages would be found on such topography in the central or southern areas of Chester County, the District's topography is consistent with that of other village setting found in northern Chester County. This topography may have also helped keep the Village's rural feeling intact.

The landscape includes open fields, wooded areas near the northwest and southwest boundaries, as well as the village core in the center of the District. A small creek (Beaver Run) flows eastward through the southern portion of the District. The relative openness of the landscape, similar to historic towns and villages before planted trees matured or other changes were made, enables fine views of historic resources throughout the area. The varied property sizes and types point to Nantmeal Village's organic growth as a small rural market village.

Narrow two-lane country roads undulate and turn as they navigate the District's varied topography. The two primary roads are Fairview Road (running roughly southwest/northeast) and Nantmeal Road (running roughly north/south), which intersect in the center of the village. Several other roads intersect with these roads in the district, including Coventryville Road, Prizer Road, Horseshoe Trail, and Loomis Road. The confluence of these early roads, Beaver Run, and the surrounding arable farmland made Nantmeal Village an ideal location for an early rural market village supported by and helping support the surrounding farms.

Historic Resources

Nantmeal Village Historic District consists of a village center [P1 to P4] surrounded by farms [P5 to P8]. Historic resources in the village core were constructed on small rural lots set close the road system; most buildings are located just off the road. On the surrounding farms, the

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siting of the historic resources varies: some are located near the center of the farm properties, accessed by lanes, while in other cases the farmsteads were constructed just off the road.

The description will begin with the buildings at the main intersection in the village center, followed by a description of resources along each road from the village center to the surrounding farms.

The four buildings located near the main intersection of Nantmeal and Fairview Roads [P1 to P3] are the Village Store [51, c.1820], the Methodist Church [50, 1852], the Murray Cabinet Shop [94, c.1780], and the George Dunlap House [93, c.1800].

The Village Store [51, now a residence] is a four-part building facing east onto Nantmeal Road in the center of the village. Its three-story, five-bay vernacular core (constructed c. 1820) has additions on its north and west elevations. The store's current end-gabled roof is clad with corrugated tin, and its walls are clad with wide wooden siding. Windows are mostly 6x6 double hung sash units, and a fine Federal style door is located in the second bay opening under a 4-pane transom and opening between sidelights. One feature found on many 19th century general stores is the elevated loading dock that dominates the main elevation and facilitated the loading of wagons with goods purchased at the store. Stairs lead up from the grade of the road to the store's main entrance on the loading dock. The north portion of the loading dock has been enclosed, and the remainder of the dock is outlined by a railing.

The primary architectural feature of the south end wall of the Store, facing onto Fairview Road, is a 1-story, 3-panel bay window with a thick molded cornice, paired brackets, and a 2x2 window on each panel. The building's rear ell, which faces south onto Fairview Road, is a two-story, three-bay section that appears to date to the mid-19th century. It has an end-gabled roof clad with standing seam tin and frame walls with 6x6 windows. A shed roofed porch along the main elevation of the ell has a standing seam tin roof; it protects a Federal entrance near the center of the ell (a paneled door here opens under a 4-pane transom). A small 2-story addition has been added onto the west end of the ell. A 1-story wing off the north end of the store core has a low-pitched, gabled roof clad with asphalt shingles, stuccoed walls, and a variety of window types. The wing has a historic rubble stone foundation that incorporates a secondary loading dock; stone steps lead up over a passageway into the basement. A simple modern railing lines the perimeter of the dock.

The Nantmeal United Methodist Church [50, P12] has been the religious center of Nantmeal Village since its construction in 1852. Its size, height and location make it the most visible resource in the district. Although constructed in the nonconformist traditions of early Methodism as a dual gable entry chapel plan building, it was renovated in 1902 to its current Gothic Revival-style appearance. The stuccoed rectangular core retains its original three-bay window configuration on its south elevation. The east elevation, facing Nantmeal Road, has a large pointed arch Gothic window outlined with stone voussoirs. A two-story tower on the northeast corner has a pyramidal spire and a stained glass ocular window on the east elevation with the words "Nantmeal M.E. Church." The building has two small gabled additions on the north elevation, each with an asphalt shingled gabled roof and stuccoed walls. The east addition is the entry wing; its paired door opens under a stained glass transom and has noticeable stone quoins rising up the jambs. The section's north end wall has three windows facing the gravel

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parking lot. The west addition faces the burial ground to the west; it features a chimney on the north end and tripartite windows on the north and east elevations.

The Murray Cabinet Shop [94, P3, right] is a Colonial style building (c. 1760) located on the southeast corner of the village center, facing the general store across the intersection. The two-part, semi-coursed rubble stone building has an overall two-story, six-bay appearance facing west onto Nantmeal Road. It features an end-gabled roof clad with standing seam tin and featuring rebuilt brick end chimneys. The south section of the main block is symmetrical; fenestration varies on the north half. Windows include 6x6 and 8x8 on the second floor and 6x9 and 8x12 on the first floor. The two front doors have four-light transoms under a stone lintel; they include a Dutch door to the north and a paneled door to the south. Each door has a braced, shed-roofed hood. On the rear of the building is a 1-story frame addition.

The George Dunlap House [93] is located immediately south of the Murray Cabinet Shop. The core of this two-story, three-bay vernacular residence (c. 1800) faces west onto Nantmeal Road and has small additions on its north and east elevations. The core has an end-gabled roof clad with wood shingles. The historic chimneys have been removed, and a new attached chimney is centered on the south end wall. The stuccoed walls have a symmetrical fenestration, with 6x6 windows (old, if not original) and replacement paneled shutters. The door in the center bay opens onto a Victorian porch with a shed roof clad with standing seam tin and resting on four turned columns. The house was likely constructed as a tenant house for the earlier Murray Farm, either for field hands or for laborers who worked in one of the village businesses. The additions are 1-story sections.

Fairview Road is the main east-to-west road through the district. Heading west from the center of the village, the road extends past several village lots and larger parcels, many with historic resources. The first building west of the store is "The Hall" [51.1, P13], a two-and-a-half story, four-bay stone building constructed c.1820 on the north side of the road and later extended to the east. The west half of the building was originally built to serve as the Friends Schoolhouse; it was later enlarged to serve as a clubhouse for a cornet band, then became the clubhouse of the Patriotic Order of the Sons of America before being converted to apartments. It has a gabled roof with two through-the-cornice dormers on the main elevation; a stuccoed second floor with small 6x6 windows; a pent skirt; and an exposed, rubble stone first floor.

Across the road from the Hall is the William Evans House [77, P10], a late Gothic Revival style residence (c.1890) with thin delicate brackets and a centered cross gable. The 2.5-story, 3-bay house has several late 19th century elements, including a decorative king's post truss in the cross gable, slightly pointed lintels over the 2x2 windows, and a decorative frieze under the eaves of the front porch. On the south side of the road just west of the William Evans House is its associated bank barn, which features large doors opening directly onto Fairview Road.

Just west of the barn are the former Nantmeal Village schoolhouse [78, P14] (now a residence) and its associated privy. The 1-story, 3-bay schoolhouse, constructed in 1861, is a front end gabled vernacular building facing the road. The stucco-over-stone building has an open belfry containing its original working bell, facing over a hipped front porch. Other features of note are its triangular datestone above the porch and its 6x6 windows. The residential conversion of the schoolhouse was completed with a minimum of alteration to interior features, retaining the interior plan as well as many built-in school features.

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On the north side of the road is the John Rettew House [53.1], a 2.5-story, 3-bay vernacular frame house built in 1883 and its three outbuildings. Key features of the house include its small centered dormer with paired 1x1 double hung sash windows, its 2x2 windows with inoperable shutters and pointed lintels, its front porch supported by turned columns, and its entrance featuring a paneled door opening under a full transom and between sidelights.

Opposite the schoolhouse is the site of the Friends meeting house and the burial ground [54, P18]. When the meeting house was demolished c.1885, its stone was used to wall the building site. A noncontributing residence [53 NC] was constructed behind the meeting house site in 2010. The burial ground, measuring 150x100 feet, is also enclosed with a stone wall 3 to 5 feet high. The tombstones within are small limestone markers that face east and west.

West of the burial ground is the Theodore Wheatley House [56], a 2-story, 3-bay vernacular residence constructed c.1920. The house has an end-gabled roof clad with asphalt shingles, an attached brick chimney on the east end, frame walls with a front porch. The door in the center bay opens between paired windows onto the front porch, a shed-roofed element with four turned columns attached by a simple railing. Just east of the house is a 2-story outbuilding with a front end gabled orientation and a pent roof over an overhead garage door.

Northwest of the Theodore Wheatley House, well up on the rising wooded hillside, is a noncontributing house not visible from the road [53.2].

Just 100 feet further west is the Henry Hoeffcker Farm [58], which includes a Federal style farmhouse (built c.1800) and its barn, located behind a farm pond. The barn, which dates to the 19th century, was greatly enlarged in the early 20th century to a Wisconsin type (Prairie) barn. On the east side of the property drive are remnants of the mill headrace along Beaver Run. On the opposite side of the road are the remnants of the former mill dam, located on parcel [77].

Continuing west, Fairview Road crosses a small wooden bridge over Beaver Run, and the next house to be encountered is the Jacob Lowry House [76, P7], a 3-story, 3-bay Greek Revival style house (c.1835) with a dominant 1-story front porch featuring four columns supporting the ends of the porch roof. Associated with the house are a small frame bank barn and a garage facing each other on opposite sides of Fairview Road [P16]. The garage is a vernacular, two-story frame building clad in pressed tin; it is located on its own small tax parcel [76.1].

Two houses are located on the north side of Fairview Road west of the Jacob Lowry House and east of Loomis Road. The first is a Ranch style house located at 1777 Fairview Road [59 NC], shielded from the road by a wooden fence and mature trees. The second, located just east of the intersection with Loomis Road, is the Loomis/Garvine House [60, c. 1800], a vernacular two-story, three-bay building with a hall and parlor plan. The Solomon Lupold Farmstead [74.1A] is located on Fairview Road near the historic district's southern boundary. The 10-acre property consists of a 2-story Federal style house (c.1800) and its stone bank barn, both contributing.

Loomis Road [P5] is a spur running northwest from Fairview Road near the Loomis/Garvine House [60] to two clusters of historic resources associated with the historic Elizabeth Strickland

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Farm (now partitioned) and the Mary Beckley Farm. The Elizabeth Strickland House [61.6, c.1775 with additions] and its associated barn are flanked by two associated resources now subdivided, each with a late 20th century house, a Jamesway-brand barn [c.1970, 61 NC] and a small stone springhouse [61.6A].

The Elizabeth Strickland House [P11] is one of the older buildings in the historic district. It is comprised of three 2-story sections. The core is a 2-story, 2-bay Penn Plan section forming the west end of the main block. It has a large brick chimney on the west end wall (with a walk-in kitchen hearth on the interior). The walls are rubble stone, although the west end is stuccoed. Windows are 6x6 units, and the front door is a paneled unit opening onto the front porch. The east section (1789 datestone) completes the main block. The semi-coursed stone on this section is larger than that found on the core particularly on the main elevation. The east end addition is slightly deeper than the core and has a slightly higher ridge. It has a large brick chimney on its east side (with back-to-back corner fireplaces on the interior), stuccoed walls, and 6x6 windows. The 20th Century rear wing is a 2-story, 2-bay section. Two smaller additions have also been attached: a gabled porch on the west elevation that faces the property drive and a small 1-story shed-roofed entrance section on the north gable end. The south-facing bank barn, with its 3-story rubble stone wall c.1820 and standing seam tin roof, is an enclosed forebay Standard Barn. The small stone springhouse associated with the Strickland house has been partitioned onto a flag lot [61.6A]. Behind it is another flag lot containing a new house [61.5].

The Mary Beckley Farm [62] is at the current terminus of Loomis Road. Located here are a multi-additive vernacular residence built c.1830 and its associated stone-posted forebay standard barn and associated noncontributing outbuildings. The farm fields associated with the property include a parcel to the south extending to Wynn Hollow Road, the western boundary of the historic district, where the stone ruins of a house remain [62.1].

Returning to the village center, Nantmeal Road, heading south passes several excellent examples of 19th century architecture as it proceeds downhill. The first residence encountered is the Ann Hall House [79, P4, right], a two-story, three-bay stone building dating to c.1800. The house's main block has two doors opening onto the front porch. The house has two small additions on its west end. The associated frame barn has been converted into a residence; it is considered to be noncontributing due to its loss of architectural integrity.

South of the Ann Hall House is the John Loomis House [80, P4, center], one of two excellent examples of front-end-gabled Italianate style houses in the village. The Methodist Parsonage located diagonally across the road [90, P9, c.1874] is the other Italianate house. The parsonage has decorative brackets, arched hoods over the windows and doors, and window/door units on the first floor opening onto the front porch, but otherwise is very similar in appearance to the John Loomis House. Loomis, a carpenter, may have constructed both houses.

Three adjacent properties south of the John Loomis House are related to the former blacksmith operation. The former blacksmith's house and shop [P17] are located on the same tax parcel [81]. The house is a two-story, four-bay building built c.1830. It is an example of a house type sometimes called a "four over three" because it has four windows on the second floor and only three bays on the first floor. The house has a stone rear ell off its west elevation and a stone

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wing off its north elevation. The shop is a one-story, three-bay stone building with a stone end wall facing onto Nantmeal Road and a stone and frame main elevation facing south.

The David Longackus House [83] is a two-story, three-bay stucco over stone building dating to c.1800; it has several historic additions on its west and south elevations. A narrow lane leading west past the David Longackus House was an earlier public road leading to a long-demolished sawmill. It currently ends at the John Danfield House [82], a multi-additive stucco-over-stone worker's house constructed c. 1840. A nearby carriage house and shed associated with the John Danfield House and currently located on the blacksmith parcel [81]; both date to the late 19th century.

Horseshoe Trail (a road) joins Nantmeal Road just south of the David Longackus House and forms a portion of the boundary of the historic district. The northeast side of the road contains two farms that contribute to the historic district and one noncontributing house. The Warren Wynn House [89] is located near the intersection. It is a 2-story, 5-bay center hall Federal house with a wood shingled roof, brick end chimneys, and stuccoed walls. The windows are 6x6 double hung sash units with the appropriate shutters. The house has four rear additions: a 2-story stuccoed section adjacent to the core, a 2-story frame section, and two 1-story frame sections. When the property was partitioned from the larger tract, the farmhouse was constructed near the road, while the barn was constructed near the center of the parcel. The barn is a stone posted forebay bank barn that dates to the mid-19th century; the stone barn yard wall has a small stone building built into one corner (but considered to be part of the barn complex in this nomination).

Four properties of approximately 20 acres each are located southeast of the Warren Wynn House, a 21st century subdivision of the Daniel Walleigh Farm. A noncontributing house [101.3 NC] is located on the first property; it was constructed in the rear of the property, behind woodland, and is not visible from Horseshoe Trail. The next two 20-acre parcels are vacant. The Daniel Walleigh Farm [101, P6] is located on the fourth parcel. It consists of a stone farmhouse, stone barn, and a noncontributing outbuilding, with the farmstead surrounded by farm fields. The farmhouse (c.1770 plus additions) is a 2-story, Colonial style stone bank building facing south. The main block was constructed in three campaigns; it has a standing seam tin roof, two large stone chimneys, and asymmetrical fenestration. The house's main block consists of two 2-story stone bank sections that form a 2-story, 4-bay section plus a 2-story frame section off the west end. Its basement door opens under its front porch into a front yard defined by stone walls. The double threshing floor barn (sometimes called an extended barn) has a posted forebay, an outshed, and a small frame wing. The two vacant outparcels to the northwest that are included in the district are associated with this farmstead.

Three historic properties are located on Nantmeal Road north of the village center. The Emma Murray House, a Victorian Gothic style building [49, c.1895], is a two-and-a-half story, five-bay building with a wide centered cross-gable on its main elevation. The house has a standing seam tin roof, small brick end chimneys, a pointed arch window in the front gable, a 2-story octagonal bay on the south end, and a classic Queen Anne porch with turned columns, decorative brackets, and scroll-sawn eave decoration. The shed south of the house has been greatly enlarged to the appearance of a barn and is thus considered to be noncontributing.

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Nantmeal Road turns west north of the Emma Murray House and runs between the Levi Murray House and Barn. This Federal-style house [48] is a 1.5-story "hall plan" stone building dating to 1797. It has a 2.5-story, 3-bay addition dating to 1840 and a small kitchen wing dating to 1900. Three buildings associated with the farmhouse are located on the north side of the road: a barn [27, P15], wagon house, and shed [P20]. The barn is a posted forebay bank barn consisting of a stone core with a frame attached forebay supported by conical stone pillars at the corners and square posts in between. The wagon shed reflects a typical design found throughout Chester County. The two side walls are rubble stone, with frame end walls. The building has a batten sliding door on its south side (facing Nantmeal Road) and two garage doors in the frame east end wall (facing the barn). The shed is a 2-part building consisting of a small 1-story stucco over stone building and a shed-roofed frame building built into a stone wall; the latter section appears to be the entrance into a root cellar.

The northernmost property on Nantmeal Road contains the Levi Murray House and Barn [20], two stone buildings dating to the mid-19th century. The house consists of a 2-story, 3-bay rubble stone core with additions off its east and west ends. The core appears to have a hall and parlor plan; other features include a small brick chimney on the east end of the wood shingled roof, 6x6 double hung sash windows, and a pent roof extending across the main elevation to shade the centered, paneled door. The barn, located northeast of the house, is a stone bank building with an outshed west of the ramp.

Coventryville Road leads from Nantmeal Road at the Levi Murray Barn to the northeast. Heading north, there are two adjacent historic houses located on the west side of the road. The Abraham Prizer House [26] is a two-story, five-bay stucco over stone building constructed in 1838 with an earlier one-room log section to the west. Stone foundation ruins west of the house are of a wheelwright shop, an icehouse with a stone-lined cylindrical shaped pit (the building was later converted into a butcher shop), and an early saddler's shop.

The Manlove Essick House [25] is just northeast of the Abraham Prizer House. Constructed in 1887, the two-story, three-bay Italianate style building has molded, pointed window and door lintels and a thick molded cornice. Continuing north, the John Wilson House and barn [24] are located on the west side of the road. The house is a 2-story stone building facing south; it has a stone bank barn and two noncontributing outbuildings.

Just south of the intersection of Coventryville and Essick Roads is the W.H. Murray farmstead [29], which consists of a stone farmhouse and barn divided by the road. The house has a 2-story, 2-bay Penn Plan core that was mirrored to form a 2-story, 4-bay main block. It has large stuccoed chimneys, a 1-story front porch, and a 2-story stuccoed addition off its east end. Just north of the house is an unusual outbuilding that is half stone and half frame and features a large stone chimney [P19]. The barn [159] is a large stone bank building with a noncontributing shed to the northwest.

Prizer Road extends from a point on Coventryville Road across from the Abraham Prizer House [26] east, partially along a patent boundary. On the north side of Prizer Road is the 35-acre Mary Wynn Farm [32.1, P7]. It contains a farmhouse (built close to the road), a barn, and a noncontributing garage. The house is a 3-story, 4-bay building reflecting the Late Federal style. It has a small brick chimney at the west end of the ridge, friezeband windows, rubble stone

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walls, a hipped roof front porch with four chamfered posts, and two front doors opening under transoms. West of the house is a Chester County stone posted forebay barn, which consists of a stone core with a frame forebay supported by conical pillars.

Fairview Road heading east from the intersection contains the district's highest concentration of noncontributing resources. Eleven noncontributing residences and four vacant building lots are located just off the road, with nine on the north side. One parcel contains a historic tenant house and a modern house on the same tax parcel [96].

At the east border of the District is the John Scholl Farm [P8, 1993 Fairview Road]. Located on both sides of the road, it consists of a house, a bank barn, and two contributing outbuildings. The farmhouse [40] is a 2-part stone building consisting of a 2-story, 3-bay core on the east end and a 2-story, 3-bay end addition to the west. The addition is deeper than the core, but the sections are aligned on the main elevation. The building has brick end chimneys, doors opening under transoms, and multi-light windows. The stone barn was constructed in two sections, which appear to be a bank barn with a double decker addition on the west end. An entrance ramp on the north elevation facing onto Fairview Road leads to large paired barn doors, over the passageway accessing the main interior floor. The east section, constructed on a lower grade, features two large sliding doors ride on tracks to access a double threshing floor, with a hay mow to the east. The east sliding door has a wicket door (a human-scaled inset door). Both sections of the barn have a standing seam tin roof and rubble stone walls. Northeast of the barn is a poured concrete silo; its cap is missing. West of the barn is a frame shed with a standing seam tin roof, walls of flush vertical siding, and a shed-roofed addition on the north elevation with the same cladding as the core. West of the barn are a stone wagon shed and springhouse.

The District's historic setting is augmented by several late 19th and early 20th century outbuildings, typical of a rural village. Outbuildings vary widely in shape and plan, though they are primarily one-story buildings with gabled roofs. The wagon shed on the Levi Murray Farm [27, P20] and that on the John Scholl Farm [97] have two stone side walls with frame gable end walls, a typical design for wagon sheds in the county. Most other sheds are frame buildings, often built on stone foundations. The siting of the outbuildings in the village varies widely, with some located in the rear of the lots but others, particularly those along Fairview Road, being sited laterally with the houses.

Integrity

Nantmeal Village Historic District retains a high degree of integrity as a strong example of a northern Chester County rural agricultural area anchored by a market village. Roads have been paved but not substantially widened. The District has lost few historic resources; the foundation of one demolished stone house on Fairview Road [52] indicates the site of the only historic resource lost in recent years. Limited new construction has occurred, but is not prominent from the public's viewpoints. Alterations to historic resources have been limited, with additions located mainly on the rear of buildings. Moreover, the village's variety of historic resources and their concentrated placement makes evident its former role as a small rural market village. The District's working farms contribute to the sense of place and illustrate who was served by the village businesses, trades, cultural resources.

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The integrity of the District is particularly remarkable when considering the suburban encroachment occurring along Routes 100 and 401 approximately one mile to the east and southeast. Development pressure has brought drastic changes to Chester County in the last few decades. Since 1980 its population has increased by 200,000 to over 500,000. Changes wrought by the population increase include road improvements; demolition of historic resources; construction of buildings such as convenience stores, parking, and infrastructure; and increases in vehicular traffic. Whole villages and hundreds of acres of farmland have been lost or vastly altered in this ever-changing landscape. Nantmeal Village and its surrounding farmland, given its isolated location on small rural roads, has generally escaped these changes and survives with its sense of place.² Per National Register regulations, historic integrity is defined as "the composite of seven qualities," specifically location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The District currently possesses all of these qualities:

1. **Location.** The District retains this aspect of integrity, as no historic resources have been relocated and there have been no major changes to the district that could otherwise undermine its historic appearance.
2. **Design.** The historic and largely random layout of the village remains intact, with a concentration of buildings at the village core, then scattered buildings (mostly residences and farm buildings) as one moves away from the core, and then farmland and open space as one moves further from the core. The narrow, winding road system continues to serve the village, with historic resources located on mainly village lots. The spatial relationship among the historic resources has not materially changed since the end of the period of significance. New construction is generally compatible and concentrated along Fairview Road east of the main intersection; most new construction is buffered by trees, and some new residences are not visible from the road system.
3. **Setting.** Nantmeal Village retains its rural village character. Located on the side of a hill at the intersection of two roads, the village mostly retains its relationship to surrounding properties. The historic farms and fields surrounding the village remain to the northwest, west, and south. New residences constructed in the district are buffered by vegetation and do not detract from the historic appearance of the District. Historic aerial maps indicate a similar amount of woodland throughout the 20th century. The setting has not been altered through the construction of modern infrastructure or commercial buildings.
4. **Materials.** The village retains a high degree of original materials. Changes in cladding materials since the end of the period of significance have been minimal. For example, the exterior of the Nantmeal Village Store was recently replaced in-kind with wide wooden siding, similar to its historic siding. The c.1890 Emma Murray House [49] has had composite cladding for approximately two decades, but when viewed from the road, the siding appears to be wood cladding. The outlying farms also retain their historic materials, which is increasingly rare in Chester County.
5. **Workmanship.** The physical evidence of the craftsmanship of the historic resources is intact. Some buildings in the District were built as vernacular resources and continue to

² An active land conservation movement in East Nantmeal Township has helped preserve thousands of acres of open space near the village and throughout the Township.

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convey a rural feeling. Other buildings constructed with influences of particular styles retain those features, including decorative brackets, cross-gables, and multi-light windows. Many maintenance decisions appear to have chosen replacement in-kind when necessary.

- 6. Feeling.** Nantmeal Village retains its historic feeling as a small rural market village. (It makes evident its historic community “type” and development “stage” discussed in Section 8.) Its historic feeling has not been undermined by new construction. Its principal buildings and meandering roads that traverse the hilly countryside and converge in the center of the village are critical features of the district’s integrity: many such villages have either disappeared, been severely altered with new or newer construction, have had their historic resources heavily altered or demolished, were severely altered by changes to the road network, or were simply consumed as the village grew into a larger town or city or by the changes immediately around the village. In contrast, Nantmeal Village retained its rural, mainly 19th century feeling. The surrounding farmland continues to convey the traditional farming practices of the region. The buildings are typical for the period and production trends, and while some aspects of the field patterns may have changed, the fact that many of the farms continue to be “working” farms and not estates is an important aspect of the District’s integrity.
- 7. Association.** The District retains the physical features that link it to its 19th century, small rural market village and agricultural past. These features are mainly its many intact architectural resources and landscapes which continue to convey their past use.

Summary

While many rural market type villages in Chester County have been altered with modern gas stations, convenience stores, widened and/or straightened roads, loss of historic resources and suburban development, Nantmeal Village has not undergone such a transformation. The village has neither waxed nor waned in size since its period of significance. Its roads, though macadamized, retain their narrow and winding nature. Major changes since the period of significance ended are not the loss of historic resources or the construction of new resources, but changes in use. Having been largely bypassed but not abandoned, its commercial buildings are now residences. The Methodist Church, however, remains active, and several direct descendants of the original settlers continue to live in the village homes their ancestors built. The farms clearly convey their agricultural past, and their proximity to the village core illustrates how the local residents may have interacted, creating a local economy and a cultural center of activity together. Individually and collectively, the District’s resources form an intact rural landscape that is highly representative of, and a great example of, northern Chester County’s historic agricultural and small rural market village communities.

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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.)

Social History

Period of Significance

c.1740-c.1934

Significant Dates

1834

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

NA

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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 Nantmeal Village Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A as a locally important, traditional example of a rural historic district containing a small village surrounded by farms. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a certain type of community and stage of community development whereby its architectural components and setting represent a significant and distinguishable entity defined here as a "small, rural market village." This type of a rural village can be considered to be more of an area, than a strictly defined, limited dense development. The village residents and the surrounding farms were dependent on each other economically, and supported one another culturally by sharing schools, churches, and social activities. Community "type" and "stage" are defined in this nomination as a context for community development in Chester County, Pennsylvania; these two elements are clearly demonstrated by Nantmeal Village and are essential in identifying and determining the context and significance of a community. Of the three major community types in Chester County, Nantmeal Village District is a representative example of a "rural market community," as residents within the community and the surrounding countryside relied on the central village for commerce, communication, religious and social activities. The people and entities providing the goods, services, activities and manpower in Nantmeal Village formed a symbiotic relationship with the outlying residents (mainly farmers) on which they relied. Of the seven stages of community development identified here, Nantmeal Village is significant as a representative example of Stage Two, or "small village": a nearly self-sustained center of economic, social and residential activity whose resulting concentration of the built environment and historic resource type created a sense of place that defined the larger community as "Nantmeal Village." The history and setting that defines the historic district is made evident by its collection of mainly vernacular residences, commercial, educational, industrial, agricultural, and religious buildings existing in an organic rural setting that is largely unchanged since the period of significance ended c.1934. Economic and transportation changes outside of the district stunted Nantmeal Village's growth and development, indirectly but effectively helping to keep its historic setting and appearance intact. In rapidly growing Chester County³, Nantmeal Village is one of only a handful of remaining small, rural market village communities that, as a defined entity, clearly demonstrate their historic context within their periods of significance.

³ The US census reports that the population of Chester County grew from 433,501 in 2000 to 498,886 in 2010; East Nantmeal Township's population is 1,803 (2010 census, an increase from 1,787 in 2000).

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

Criterion A Significance: Social History / Rural History

Nantmeal Village Historic District is significant under National Register Criterion A as a locally important, traditional example of a rural community with a small village at its center anchoring a surrounding network of farms. Northern Chester County is within the Southeastern Pennsylvania Agricultural Region, as defined in the recent Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) completed for the development of a statewide agricultural context.⁴ The MPDF covers the cultural influences and production trends of Chester County and highlights typical building types and landscape features found in the region. The resources in and around Nantmeal Village exhibit the typical building types and trends for the region, including regional variations on the Pennsylvania Barn type. While some of the individual farms in the area may be individually eligible for their Agricultural significance, the theme for this nomination is broader in focus, and includes the agricultural heritage of the region as it relates to the community surrounding Nantmeal Village. In the 19th century, three main types of communities emerged based on the prevailing influences: industrial/extraction, transportation, and market. These influences often overlapped and changed through time. The following paragraphs outline a context of community types in northern Chester County.

Industrial Communities

Northern Chester County, given its uneven terrain, rocky soil, iron and mineral deposits, and much of its location along the Schuylkill River, developed first around its industrial and extraction centers. In the early to mid-18th century, yeoman farmers found much of the land less desirable because of the hilly, rocky terrain and remote location. Simultaneously, some of the earliest settlers were associated with the iron forge owned by Samuel Nutt on French Creek (Coventryville [NR 1978]) and later nearby industrial concerns (such as Warwick village). Industrial villages were self-contained population centers characterized by multiple houses for the workers and a few commercial concerns such as a general store; often, the housing and the commercial operation were owned by the industrial concern. Industrial/extraction villages continued to be built through the 19th century; an intact example is St. Peters Village [NR 2003]. Nutt and some other early industrialists (and mill owners) paid for the construction of roads to connect their forges to the Schuylkill River and with towns and settlements elsewhere in the county. One of these roads was Coventryville/Nantmeal Road, which led south from Coventryville through what would become Nantmeal Village and on into the center of Chester County.

Transportation Communities

A second major type of community was influenced by transportation. Places serving travelers and the local community began to emerge after the Revolution along major roads, then in the mid-19th century around railroad stations. In the early 19th century, improved roads such as the Lancaster Turnpike (Route 30), Conestoga Road (Route 401) and Horseshoe Pike (Route 322) attracted travelers away from the older, less well-constructed roads and paths. Businesses were established to serve the needs of travelers (the presence of many travelers being the chief

⁴ *Southeastern Pennsylvania Historic Agricultural Region, c. 1750-1960*, NPS National Register MPDF.

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difference with rural market villages, discussed below), in addition to providing markets for local farmers. Transportation influenced villages in Chester County included Pughtown [DOE 1988], Bucktown, and Parker's Ford [NR 1983]. In the latter half of the 19th century, the advent of the railroad resulted in a new layer of development. Railroads opened new markets in distant cities (in this case, Philadelphia) and prompted the establishment of co-operative businesses such as creameries and warehouses to collect and mass market quantities of rural Pennsylvania goods in urban markets. Railroad stations fostered completely new villages (such as Byers Station [NR 2002] and Avondale) and a second development phase of other villages (including Glenmoore [NR 2011], Honey Brook [DOE 2002], and Kimberton [NR 1976]).

Market Communities

A third major type of community was the market community. Nantmeal Village is an excellent example of such a community. As farms were established along the early road networks throughout the 18th century, businesses emerged to offer goods and services to farmers, other residents, and, to a lesser extent, travelers and passersby along the roads. The distinction is important: while industrial-based settlements and transportation-influenced communities relied mainly on a single economic factor, market communities, and particularly rural market communities such as Nantmeal Village, based their economic survival on meeting the needs of residents, mainly farmers, in the surrounding countryside. Nantmeal Village provided many goods and services, including blacksmithing, milling, retail via a general store, education (school), post office, religious activities (Quaker meetinghouse and a Methodist Church), and related social activities. Residents throughout East Nantmeal Township relied on Nantmeal Village for these products and services in exchange for both money and produce. The ideal location to offer these goods and services was at a crossroads, especially if water power were located nearby for a mill, as was the case with Nantmeal Village. The concentration of these services and residents developed into rural market type communities. For a time, Nantmeal Village, nearby Birchrunville [NR 1992], and the original section of Glenmoore [NR 2012] were among the largest rural market villages in the area, each with a wide range of goods and services.

Two documentary sources demonstrate the importance of Nantmeal Village (and Chester County villages in general) to the surrounding community: Boyd's Directory, a business directory which grouped listings under communities of importance and Breou's Atlas of Chester County, which included inset maps for the more important communities [Figures 7 and 8]. Boyd's was the prime business directory for southeast Pennsylvania in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and was a forerunner of the telephone book. Boyd's 1884 Directory (chosen because it is contemporary with the 1883 Breou's Atlas) includes the following businesses under the heading for Nantmeal Village: general store/postmaster, meat market (the butcher), tinner, shoemaker, carpenter, undertaker, painter, wagonmaker, saw mill, and blacksmith. Altogether, Boyd listed 68 communities with fewer business concerns than Nantmeal Village and 56 with more (including towns and boroughs). The 1904 Directory indicated that Nantmeal Village offered the widest breadth of goods (wheelwright, blacksmith, butcher, cabinet maker, tinner, etc.) and services (government, religious, trades, social and education) to comparable villages in Chester County. Similar offerings were available in Birchrunville (West Vincent Township) and Harmonyville (Warwick Township). Many other rural market villages, such as Font (Upper Uwchlan Township) and Loag's Corner (West Nantmeal Township) offered far fewer goods and services. Breou's Atlas of 1883 shows maps of all municipalities in Chester County along with

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the owners of parcels of land. In addition to the maps for the townships, Breou included maps for 14 boroughs and maps for 42 villages. Breou thus mapped the 56 most important local communities (out of the 137 listed by Boyd). Nantmeal Village is one of the 56 villages mapped by Breou.

Nantmeal Village served as a rural community providing goods and services to the surrounding community for nearly 100 years until changes in transportation, communication, product needs and options of other market destinations reduced its importance as a rural market; most historic resources in the district were constructed during the time when Nantmeal Village was a thriving market village.

Significance: Community Development Stage

Nantmeal Village is significant as a “small village” in the context of the seven stages of community development in Chester County. “Community” is defined here as a place where goods and services are offered, products are made, government is dispensed, and religious, education and social activities are offered. In short, a community is a destination for surrounding residents, travelers, visitors, and, depending on the stage of development, residents of the community itself. It can offer one or all of the goods, services and activities mentioned above. Note that a community differs from an outlying farm or residence, as those do not necessarily constitute a destination other than for the people residing there. As farmers and others moved into an area, small businesses and other entities opened to provide rudimentary goods and services to the surrounding farms. These businesses and activities (and their associated buildings) included retail establishments (general stores, blacksmith shops, or saddlers), industrial buildings (mills), religious buildings (churches, meeting houses), government buildings (including post offices), and educational buildings (schools). In short, these establishments became *destinations* for residents in the surrounding countryside, for travelers along the nascent road system, or visitors. Sometimes these destinations existed as a single building, such as a general store at a crossroads, and would remain that way. Sometimes other establishments would open nearby, additional residences were built, and the community would grow into a village, town, or city. For this nomination, the surrounding farms add so much value in enabling an understanding of who the village served, illustrating the interdependence of the village and farm residents, and contributing to the setting, feeling, and association aspects of integrity, that the decision was made to expand the district boundary beyond the village to include the larger, interactive area.

The context of settlement/development outlined below establishes seven stages of communities, with an overview of the common characteristics of each stage. Each place is unique, hence there is no time or expectation that a particular place has or will ever evolve into the next stage. Nantmeal Village is a classic example of the “small village” or second stage of community development.

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Community Development Stages:⁵

Stage One: **Pre-Village Destination:** Stage One communities are differentiated from a farm or residence in that they are a local destination offering a very limited offering of goods, services or activities. An example would be a general store, perhaps in conjunction with a blacksmith shop. In terms of goods, services and activities offered, the Pre-Village Destination would not sustain the surrounding populace, particularly in the 19th and early 20th century. Nor would the destination contain enough buildings or concentration thereof to form a sense of place.

Chester County Examples: Wilson's Corner [West Vincent Twp.], Ludwig's Corner [West Vincent Twp.], Sheeder [East Vincent Twp.], White Horse [Willistown Twp., NR 2001], Waterloo Mills [Easttown Twp., NR 1995]

Stage Two: **Small Village:** Stage Two communities offered a variety of goods, services and activities, in which the resulting built environment and concentrated layout creates a destination with a distinct sense of place. They offer enough goods, services and activities to nearly sustain the requirements of the surrounding populace, travelers and villagers, and thus are a vital destination. The totally random feeling of the stage one Pre-Village Destination begins to give way to a more concentrated development of property and buildings. Relatively small village lots are created for close proximity for people living and working there. The architecture is mainly vernacular, still reflecting the surrounding environment, with mixed use buildings (residences with cottage industries), workers' houses, and educational, religious, industrial and commercial buildings. The village, with several trade offerings, social activities and outside communication (post office) has become a place to live and work for an increasing number of people.

Chester County Examples: Nantmeal Village, Birchrunville [NR 1992], Fairville [Pennsbury Twp., NR 1996], Byers Station [Upper Uwchlan Twp., NR 2002], Harmonyville [Warwick Twp., unlisted].

Stage Three: **Mature Village:** Communities in this stage have reached a critical mass of buildings and population and have a strong sense of place. These self-sustained or nearly self-sustained destinations offered many goods and services to surrounding residents, travelers and villagers. They featured at least one major economic driver, such as a major railroad station or industry. The landscape and associated topography is increasingly altered. For example, railroad tracks might be laid and roads straightened and widened to accommodate transportation needs or facilitate efficient use of space. Village lots become increasingly narrow to foster proximity and density for residents and workers in the village. Construction is more cohesive, with increasingly uniform building setbacks. Larger buildings are designed in prevailing architectural styles to promote businesses or indicate wealth.

⁵ The use of the term "stages" does not necessarily imply that one stage will progress into the next stage. Nantmeal Village, for example, never grew past its "stage two" definition.

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Chester County Examples: Glenmoore [NR 2011], New London [New London Twp., DOE 1990], Kimberton [NR 1976], Marshallton [West Bradford Twp., NR 1986]

Stage Four: **Small Town/Borough:** A community that has grown into a small town/borough has reached a self-sustained level of growth as a result of at least one major economic influence (such as a railroad or industry). Increased density and population are reflected in an increasingly reworked or designed landscape, with smaller village lots and the beginnings of a grid-type development pattern (although most development is concentrated along the major roads). A central business district has emerged, some of which is second-growth. Government functions are being introduced, bringing with it infrastructure such as sewer and water systems, and planning.

Chester County Examples: Avondale [Borough, DOE 2001], West Grove [Borough], Honey Brook [Borough; DOE 2002]

Stage Five: **Town/Borough:** Communities in Stage Five have grown into a clearly defined location. They have two major transportation influences (such as a major road / turnpike and a railroad). The central business district is more pronounced than in Stage Four, with an increasing number of second-growth buildings and perhaps loss of the original village settlement. Residential construction is increasingly stylish, including some large and high style houses for wealthy residents. Industry or a major form of commerce is vital to the economic well-being of the community. The community may be divided into wards for political purposes, and areas of the locality are becoming associated with immigrant groups (such as Polish, Portuguese, or Italian).

Chester County Examples: Kennett Square [Borough, NR 1989], Oxford [Borough, NR 2007], West Chester [Borough, NR 1985], Downingtown [Borough, NR 1979]

Stage Six: **City:** Continued economic vitality leads some localities to grow into cities. An increasing degree of public planning is taking place as the needs of transportation, industry, and commerce are accommodated into the existing landscape. The central business district is extended as the original central business district experiences second and third growth buildings; some original central business districts change in nature as economic forces shape the City. Population pressure leads to a variety of residential construction ranging from high-density blocks of rowhouses to low-density rows of high-style mansions.

Chester County Examples: Coatesville [Reading, Philadelphia]

Stage Seven: **Suburban Infill development:** In Stage Seven, the advent of improved transportation leads to the extension of the City into the surrounding (formerly agricultural) landscape. Although the earliest suburban infill was the result of horse cars in Philadelphia and later trolleys and railroads, the advent of the

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automobile accelerates the process exponentially. Suburban infill begins with construction of single residential units along existing roads, but within a generation commercial resources follow. Eventually, farms are being completely developed with houses lining new loop roads or cul-de-sacs. The formerly agricultural landscape is transformed into a gentrified landscape, with residents completely dependent on the automobile.

Chester County Examples: Occurring throughout the County.

“Small” villages, such as Nantmeal, were the second stage of settlement/development in Chester County. Small villages differed from stage one destinations (pre-villages) by offering a greater amount of goods and services, more buildings in close proximity to provide these goods and services, and residences for people working in these entities. Meanwhile, the randomness of stage one, in terms of building location, was reduced by the subdivision of land into smaller building lots concentrated in or near the center of the village. These lots, quite large compared to mature village or town standards, accommodated tradesmen who kept gardens to grow their own food but small enough to be centrally located in the village near other residents or businesses. Characteristics of the small village stage found at Nantmeal Village include the winding road system (not straightened as found in later stage communities), mainly vernacular architecture, and several non-residential buildings built to convey goods, services and activities to the surrounding countryside. Like most stage two small villages, Nantmeal Village’s resources and their juxtapositions amongst one another along the roadways formed a sense of place and important destination. The vast majority of buildings in this hilly village survives and continues to denote the place still called “Nantmeal Village.” The blacksmith shop, the church, the general store/post office, the cabinet maker’s shop, the school, the parsonage, the many residences and the cemetery, with few modern intrusions, demonstrate the former vibrancy of this small rural market village that never evolved into anything more, or regressed into anything less. The district’s adjacent farms directly relied on the goods and services offered here, as the owners of the village businesses relied on the farms. Nantmeal Village’s architecture is significant not as being reflective of stylistic influences or wealth, but more as a vernacular reflection of the variety of goods, services and activity offerings of an intact, small rural market village. This significance is augmented by its still intact rural landscape setting. An examination of paintings by Pennsylvania Impressionists in the early 1900s of similar villages helps demonstrate Nantmeal Village’s integrity of a small rural market village, and thus the significance of the historic built environment and setting found there. The result is critical mass of residential and non-residential buildings in the rural landscape, creating a clearly defined sense of place and not simply a destination, per stage one.

As noted, a community in a given stage of development did not necessarily evolve or progress into a higher stage. Some stage two villages grew to become mature villages (Glenmoore), towns or boroughs (Downingtown), or cities (Coatesville). Nearby villages of Glenmoore and Kimberton, for example, were similar to Nantmeal Village in the mid-1800s, but both expanded following the arrival of the railroad in the 1860s and 1870s to become representative examples of stage three mature transportation type villages. Other stage two villages, such as Gallagherville and Corner Store, were absorbed into suburban type development (stage seven) occurring throughout Chester County over the last 70 years. Finally, some village-stage communities sustained major changes or losses of resources that severely undermined their

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integrity, some disappearing altogether (including Valley Store, where all historic resources were demolished, and Reiley's Banks, where only the schoolhouse survives). Nantmeal Village, as a representative example of a stage two small, rural market village, has remained remarkably intact.

Historic Overview

The history of Nantmeal Village falls into three general historic eras: an extended settlement/early development phase prior to the beginning of the period of significance (1730s to 1833); village development (1834 to c. 1934); and the automobile age (c. 1934 to 2014). During the settlement phase, yeoman farmers purchased vacant land along the roads connecting the established iron concerns in northern Chester County to markets further south. The second era, which defines the period of significance, begins in 1834 with the first partitioning of village lots and ends c. 1934 with the end of historic residential construction in the district and the full onslaught of the automobile. Resources dating to this era include the earliest commercial operations (general store/post office and blacksmith shop), the Methodist Church, a new public school, "the Hall" for the village cornet band, and houses for settlers and tradesmen. The term "Nantmeal Village" first appeared in the 1860s. During the third and last era (the automobile era), the village, having been bypassed by major roads and railways, ceased growing. Reliance on the automobile and socio-economic changes slowly facilitated the shift of commerce away from the village. Nantmeal Village is now mainly a residential community with a highly intact historic rural village setting.

Early Development

European settlement in the northernmost parts of Chester County began soon after the first surveys of the area were completed in 1715. Much of northern Chester County was settled through the establishment of farms along early roads laid out to the iron mines and forges. A road was laid out in 1727 running from Coventry Forge through the future Nantmeal Village and south to Lionville as the first north-to-south road connecting the iron industry in northern Chester County to the other settlements further south in the county; this road is today's Coventryville Road entering the village from the north; it follows the path of Nantmeal Road through the village southeast to Pottstown Pike/Route 100. The district's earliest settlers were farmers who felled trees for sale to nearby iron forges; they later planted second growth trees that were harvested when they reached a diameter of four inches to be converted into charcoal for the forges. Additional roads converged here, often along patent lines: Hockley (1764 and now part of Fairview Road), Prizer Road (1770s), Fairview Road, eastern section (1815), and Nantmeal Road, western section (1818). Horseshoe Trail, which ran to Yellow Springs, came in just south of the district by 1816. Thus by the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Nantmeal Village sat atop the intersection of an important early road system connecting Chester County's industrial north to farmland and markets to the south. It was thus a likely location for a rural market village.

The earliest land transfers were made between the colonial Proprietors and the settlers in the form of individual land warrants and patents. In 1720, Simon Meredith received a patent for 235 acres which included the north portion of the future village (and historic district). David Stephens, a large landowner in northern Chester County and a county assessor in the 1730s, purchased this land in 1735. The log section of the Abraham Prizer House [28, P5, c.1735] is the oldest historic resource in the district and appears to date to David Stephens' ownership.

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Stephens later purchased a 131-acre tract to the west that had been warranted to Simeon Woodrow; this irregular-shaped tract, sometimes called “the chair tract” today due to its slight zigzag shape, included what would become the heart of Nantmeal Village. The western portion of the village (along Fairview Road) was owned by the “Pennsylvania Land Company” in the 1750s and by the Pugh family after 1762. Nantmeal Township was organized in 1723, named for Nantmel, a settlement in Radnorshire, Wales. At the time, Nantmeal Township stretched west to the Lancaster County line and north to the Schuylkill River. East Nantmeal Township was organized from the larger township in 1739.⁶

Many of the earliest settlers in the historic district who harvested trees while converting the forested land into farms were Quakers. They include Simon Meredith, who owned the northern part of the district in the early 18th century; Joseph Meredith, who owned the eastern tract; Timothy Kirk, who owned the western tract; and James Pugh, who came to own a small parcel adjacent to “the chair” (the original Simeon Woodrow tract). Local Quakers began to meet for worship in 1739. They constructed a small meeting house by 1741, although its exact location is uncertain. In 1773, the Guest family purchased five acres along Fairview Road from James Pugh to build a new and larger meeting house on parcel [53]. The meeting house, completed by 1777, was a gray stone building with a half-acre burial ground [54].⁷ It burned in 1795, and a third meeting house was constructed on the same location. Oddly, just as the village emerged in the 1840s, the meeting house was abandoned and eventually demolished c.1885. The stone from the building was used to build a wall around the former building site, as a wall had already been constructed around the adjacent Friends burial ground [54].⁸

In 1797, John Murray purchased 218 acres (including the “chair tract”) for £1,250. The purchase included the bulk of what would become Nantmeal Village. Murray immediately began the construction of a stone house [48], as the township tax records of 1797 record that he had an unfinished stone house. In the federal direct tax of 1798, his house is described as a two-story stone building. The house was enlarged in 1840 when the main block was built and again in 1900 when the kitchen wing was built.

Village Coalesces

Most early properties in the district retained their large acreage size for several generations. The first patented property to be partitioned was the western parcel, which was warranted to Timothy Kirk in 1741 and patented to Daniel Griffith in 1762. Griffith partitioned the 185-acre farm into two smaller farms that existed through the 19th century. The original patented property warranted to Simon Meredith in 1720 was partitioned in the late 18th century; in the early 19th century, a carpenter named Elias Hall purchased four of these parcels to create a 56-acre farm. The other four large patented properties remained mostly intact into the 19th century. The parcel John Murray purchased in 1797 (the “chair tract”) was finally partitioned in 1834. The parcels owned by Joseph Meredith and Nicholas Reed were not partitioned until the 20th century; they

⁶ J. Smith Futhey and Gilbert Cope, *History of Chester County, Pennsylvania* (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1881), pp. 185-187, 377.

⁷ *Inventory of Church Archives, Society of Friends in Pennsylvania* (Friends Historical Association, 1941), pp. 171, 265.

⁸ *Inventory of Church Archives, Society of Friends in Pennsylvania* (Friends Historical Association, 1941), pp. 171, 265; Jack Eckert, *Guide to the Records of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting* (Philadelphia: 1989), p. 140; Deed Book C6-125-361, Q9-77; *Daily Local News*, 3/14/1882.

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contributed to the hilly landscape east of the village in the 19th and 20th centuries.⁹ Note: The map in Figure 4 shows the original warranted properties discussed here.

An important event in the development of the Village was the partitioning of the “chair”-shaped tract. John Murray died intestate in 1834, leaving 218 acres including the heart of what was slowly developing into a village. His property was divided into five lots. His son Levi Murray purchased a lot containing the original farmhouse [48 and 27], the village general store building [51] (the retail operation may not yet have opened), and the cabinet maker’s shop [94]. Abraham Prizer purchased a lot to the northeast, where he constructed a stone addition in 1838 onto the earlier log house [26]; a saddler shop (now a ruin) was already located on the property. Other houses constructed during the early 19th century on the Murray property include the Ann Hall House [79], the George Dunlap House [93], and a blacksmith house and shop [81]. The southern portion of the “chair” was a vacant 71-acre tract [89] where the Warren Wynn House and barn were constructed c. 1845.¹⁰

Much of the village commerce revolved around the Nantmeal General Store [51]. The Store, strategically located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Nantmeal and Fairview Roads, was the longest-lived business in the village. It was in operation as early as 1847, when the Painter & Bowen Atlas shows “Yost’s Store” in this location. When the Murray family sold the store in 1854 to a later storekeeper, the building was described in the deed as “the Old Store House.” The deed mentions an underground lead pipe providing running water to the store, fed by a ram pump near the barn [27]. Historic research shows that the store changed hands many times. In 1876, Davis K. Loomis purchased the store and successfully applied to open a post office as part of the store operations. In 1882, William Bishop purchased the store and remodeled it. He may have also constructed the large dock attached to the front of the store for loading wagons with goods, a common feature on general stores in Chester County in the late 19th century. Bishop operated the store for twenty years, the longest period of ownership in the 19th century. (The store continued in operation until the 1970s.)¹¹

Two different schools operated in Nantmeal Village. The first school was the Quaker school held in the Hall [51.1] on the north side of Fairview Road. After East Nantmeal Township adopted the Common School Law in 1839, the original Quaker school became a public school; the Painter & Bowen Atlas of 1847 shows the school in the Hall. In 1861, the local school board purchased land from John Liggett across the road and constructed a one-room schoolhouse [78]. Classes were held there until 1958, although following consolidation (1956), only first and second grades were taught here. The building became private property in 1962. In 1974 it was purchased and converted into a residence, with minimal change to the exterior or interior fabric.¹²

The Nantmeal Methodist Church was organized in the Village in the 1840s. In 1852, the congregation purchased a lot north of the village store and constructed a house of worship [50]. It was originally constructed with a dual front gable entry, a typical Methodist meeting house type of that time. Its interior was remodeled in 1885, when a new roof was installed and the floor

⁹ Historic research completed for this nomination established a chain of title for selected properties throughout the district. This information is located in the files of Wise Preservation Planning LLC.

¹⁰ Deed research.

¹¹ *Daily Local News*, 6/7/1882; Deed Book W5-119-9, S8-190-309.

¹² Deed research; historic information from the current owner and the historical commission.

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and wainscoting were replaced. The building was then heavily renovated in 1902, at which time several Gothic Revival elements were added. The *Daily Local News* reported: "The interior of the church is being refurbished, new pews being introduced, and the walls frescoed. Besides an addition, a tower and steeple are being built." Stained glass windows were installed at this time. The church parsonage [90] on Nantmeal Road was constructed on land purchased from John Loomis in 1874.¹³

In addition to the store, Nantmeal Village contained numerous business enterprises. A sawmill was constructed near Beaver Run c. 1840 (remnants of the mill dam remain on the southwest border of [77]). This mill is shown on the 1847 Painter & Bowen Atlas as the "M. Evans sawmill." David Scholl purchased the mill soon after the Civil War and added a cider works in 1874; in 1880, the *Daily Local News* described the building as a cider, saw, and clover mill. The presence of the mill helped influence growth in the Village in the mid-19th century. The mill burned in 1888 and was never rebuilt. The remains of the mill head race are found on the Henry Hoffecker Farm [58], and Beaver Run, the small stream flowing northeast through property [81], includes the remnant of the mill's tail race.¹⁴

In the mid to late 1800s, the Village was a local center for trades. Census data and other records indicate the presence of several tradesmen in the village, many of whom worked out of their homes. Jacob Lowry, the village carpenter, is indicated on Witmer's Atlas (1873) and Breou's Atlas (1883) as occupying a house on the west end of the village [76]. In 1883, William Garvine moved into a nearby house [60] and opened a tin shop. His son Charles A. Garvine continued the shop into the 20th century. Other tradesmen included a butcher Stephen Cloud (succeeded in business by Manlove Essick, whose house is [25]); a second wheelwright, John Danfield (later John Murphy); a harness shop operated by James Essick; a cobbler, Joseph Kirkpatrick; a carpenter, A.C. Liggett; an insurance agent, D.K. Loomis; and another carpenter, Charles A. Loomis [80]. Abraham Prizer worked as the village's wheelwright and wagon maker for 62 years. The wheelwright shop was located on parcel [91]. His son Frank Prizer continued the business from 1850 until his death at age 99 in 1912. After the wheelwright business closed in the 1920s, the building was demolished, with no visible remains.¹⁵

The former blacksmith shop [81] stands on the west side of Nantmeal Road as it heads south out of Nantmeal Village. It was in operation as early as 1846, when John Loomis purchased it on a parcel of 13 acres of land. The blacksmith house and shop were located on a typical village lot that allowed a tradesman to operate a business and grow a limited amount of food. The Loomises do not appear on the federal agricultural census records because they only grew crops for their own consumption. When John Loomis died, his son Allen Loomis continued to operate the blacksmith business until he died in 1880. The two succeeding blacksmiths were E. Morris Strickland (1882-1917) and William Wagoner (1917-1947).¹⁶

James R. Murray operated the furniture making and undertaking business in the cabinet shop [94] located at the intersection of Fairview and Nantmeal Roads. He operated the business here

¹³ *Daily Local News*, 6/5/1874, 4/29/1885, 10/11/1902.

¹⁴ *Daily Local News*, 4/4/1874, 3/11/1880, 5/10/1888.

¹⁵ *Daily Local News*, 3/11/1880; *Downingtown Record*, 11/26/1940; *Boyd's Chester County Directory*, editions of 1882 and 1904.

¹⁶ Deed Book C5-100-471, N9-210-512, K15-357-204, D24-576-34.

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as early as 1855 and is identified on the Lake & Beers Atlas (1860). Murray's obituary in the *Daily Local News* (7/24/1906) reported that he had been in the business for over 50 years and was "a well-known funeral director." Murray constructed the pulpit for the Coventryville Methodist Episcopal Church in 1902 as one of his last projects. His son Maurice Murray was well-known for his carpentry and cabinet making skills; he owned a special scroll saw that made decorative brackets with three-dimensional details. After assuming the business following his father's death, Maurice Murray developed a regional reputation for his care and trade in antiques. The business closed when he died in 1939.¹⁷

The Village assumed its current name around the time of the Civil War. The first evidence of a name is given on the Lake & Beers Atlas (1860), which identifies it as "Nantmeal." The first documented use of the name "Nantmeal Village" is found in an article in the *Village Record* in 1865, which states that David Longaker had just purchased the Nantmeal Village Store. Witmer's Atlas (1873) also identified the Village simply as "Nantmeal." Breou's Atlas of 1883 used the current name and included an inset map, as it did for major villages and towns in the County.¹⁸ Subsequent maps have indicated the name as "Nantmeal Village" to this day.

On July 5, 1873, the *American Republican* newspaper carried a short article on Nantmeal Village. The article stated that sixty people lived there. The article continued:

It boasts one store, kept by L. H. Platt; coachmaker, wheelwright, blacksmith, cabinetmaker, shoemaker, tinner, butcher, church, school house, sawmill, and a commodious hall – the property of the Cornet Band, used for concerts, public meetings, etc... John Loomis is erecting a fine dwelling in the centre of the village [90], which will be quite an ornament.¹⁹

An important social organization in the village was the Nantmeal Cornet Band, organized in 1866. Brass bands were important social organizations in American villages and towns in the 19th century, and the Nantmeal Cornet Band was no different. It was originally called the "Ringgold Cornet Band" and operated under that name from 1866 to at least 1871. The band performed "dialogues, declamations, recitations, and tableaux," in addition to organizing parades. The band operated out of "the Hall" [51.1], the former Quaker schoolhouse on the north side of Fairview Road. In 1909, after the organization ended, the Patriotic Order of the Sons of America purchased the building and used it until that organization ended in 1947. Chester G. Kirkhoff, storekeeper at the time, purchased the Hall in 1947 and owned it until 1961. The Hall was then converted into its present use as apartments.²⁰

The arrival of the railroad in the third quarter of the 19th century played a major role in the economy of Chester County. Opening new markets for agricultural goods brought a remarkable increase in wealth to rural areas. Several rural towns and villages experienced a second wave of growth (such as Glenmoore and Kimberton), and other villages emerged at this time. The East Brandywine & Waynesburg Railroad opened up the railroad station at Glenmoore in 1861, and the Pickering Valley Railroad opened up its western terminus at Byers Station in 1872.

¹⁷ *Daily Local News*, 9/23/1879, 7/24/1906.

¹⁸ *Village Record*, 1/7/1865.

¹⁹ *American Republican*, 7/5/1873.

²⁰ Deed Books Z9-222-218, V9-218-233, T13-316-258, Y22-546-198, V32-151.

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Farmers shifted their output to emphasize products that were easier to transport to market, as shown by comparing data from the U.S. Agricultural Census of 1850 with that of 1880. One specific change in agricultural output resulting from the arrival of the railroad was the increase in production of butter. While in the U.S. Agricultural Census schedules for 1850 the average production of butter averaged 300 pounds per farm; this number increased to 900 pounds per farm in the 1880 agricultural census schedules. The agricultural census data shows that the production of products sold on the basis of volume rather than weight increased dramatically: the output of Irish potatoes increased from an average of 35 bushels to an average of 124 bushels (an increase of 254%), and the production of grains increased as well: Indian corn by 47%, wheat by 34%, and oats by 24%. By way of comparison, hay (which was sold by weight) increased by only 14%.

The farms surrounding the Village center were rather typical for East Nantmeal Township at the time. The agricultural schedule of the U.S. Census of 1880 provides interesting information about these farms. Five farms are identifiable, each with the same owner as identified through deed research and on Breou's atlas (Daniel Walleigh [101], Elizabeth Strickland [61.6], Henry Hoffecker [58], Mary Wynn [32.1], and Solomon Lupold [74.1A]). Each of these farms surrounding Nantmeal Village had more horses per acre under cultivation than the township average and a higher overall average value of farm machinery than the township average. The farms only produced one crop in excess of the township average per acre – Irish potatoes – mostly due to the Solomon Lupold farm. The Lupolds also had a higher proportion of poultry and swine than the township average; the Wynn farm had a higher proportion of poultry, and the Hoffecker farm had a higher proportion of swine than the township average. Overall, the farms did not produce as many crops per acre as the average on all township farms, partially because one farm in the historic district was lying fallow at that time. The Wynn farm produced more Indian corn, oats, and wheat than the average; each other farm in the district produced a higher proportion of crops in at least one category, but the five farms collectively failed to meet the township averages except for Irish potatoes. Each farm grew a wide variety of crops, each with a slightly different emphasis.

Increased availability to markets helped spur a degree of creation of wealth in Nantmeal Village, where four houses were constructed during the years 1885-1895: the Manlove Essick House [25], the Emma Murray House [49], the William Evans House [77] and the John Rettew House [53.1]. This addition of four houses represented modest growth when compared to villages with train stations – Byers Station (NR 2001), Glenmoore (NR 2010) and Kimberton (NR 1976).

The historic farms surrounding the Village center continued to be highly productive into the early 20th century. The 1927 Pennsylvania Triennial Agricultural Census provides evidence of the output of farms in the township. Four outlying farms reporting are the W.F. Strickland Farm [74.1A], the Stephen Keen Farm [40/97], James Templin [32.1], and the John R. Loomis Farm [61.6]. The output of the surrounding farms has some interesting trends. They produced a higher amount of wheat and alfalfa per acre compared to 1880 but a lower amount of oats and Irish potatoes. The surrounding farms raised a higher proportion of apples, pears, and peaches. The number of horses on the farms was halved, partly because one farm [Keen] had a tractor; only 14 tractors were in use in the entire township. The number of milk cows increased from an average of four per farm in 1880 in the district's farms to an average of nine in 1927; the

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average number of pigs was nearly halved. The number of chickens in the township as a whole and in the farms surrounding Nantmeal Village had tripled since 1880.

Automobile Age

The automobile set the stage for the last historic era of Nantmeal Village. Automobile use accelerated the process of shifting growth and business away from the Village. Pottstown Pike (Route 100, one mile to the east) became the major north/south automotive route through northern Chester County, while Conestoga Road (Route 401) channeled east/west traffic a mile to the south. Over the years business and residents gravitated to such roads prompting the growth of towns and shopping centers there. Historic villages along those roads were visibly altered to accommodate the automobile (particularly Ludwig's Corner at the intersection of Routes 100 and 401), a phenomenon that continues. The Nantmeal Village store installed a small gas pump at the intersection to keep itself current with the needs of automobiles and tractors.

Though the uses of some buildings changed, Nantmeal Village itself changed little in the latter years of its period of significance. The last historic house constructed was the Theodore Wheatley House [56], constructed c.1920; agricultural outbuildings that appear to date to the 1920s were the last historic resources built in the district. The atlas of 1934 shows the buildings that contribute to the district [Figure 10]. Without an increase in traffic, the narrow, winding rural roads in Nantmeal Village were not straightened or widened to accommodate increased traffic. Moreover, historic buildings were not altered or demolished for suburban use (such as supermarkets, pharmacies, and gas stations). Business and customers gravitated away from Nantmeal Village to larger commercial centers on nearby major roads, changing the village into a residential community as commercial activities in the buildings were phased out: examples include the butcher shop [25], the cabinet maker's shop [94], the general store [51], the Hall [51.1], and the schoolhouse [78]. This transition enabled the district to maintain its 18th and 19th century appearance throughout the 20th century. After the general store closed c.1976, the only building with non-residential functions in the village proper was the Methodist Church.

New construction in the historic district has been limited, and mainly concentrated along Fairview Road. In the past half century, ten residences were constructed along the road east of the village core; these houses are somewhat buffered from the historic resources by mature trees. These parcels and three on the south side of Prizer Road were subdivided from the Joseph Meredith Farm after 1945. The original Nicholas Reed Farm [101], which was owned by several generations of the Walleigh family in the 19th century, remained intact until the early 21st century. In 2005, new 20-acre building lots were created along Horseshoe Trail, although only one residence has been constructed inside the proposed district boundary [101.3]. The most recent residence constructed in the district was built in 2010 [53] on the parcel where the Friends Meeting House stood until the 1880s. This limited amount of residential development in the historic district stands in contrast with the dramatic suburbanization of the Chester County countryside that has been taking place over the past two decades.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance for the historic district begins c.1740, with the oldest identified buildings in the district. The 1834 subdivision of the original Stephens/Murray Farm into small

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lots creating what is now Nantmeal Village, and the opening of the first commercial operation (the Yost General Store), was the pivotal year in transforming the area into the rural community it still reflects today. The period of significance ends c.1934, just after the construction of the last historic residence in the village and the emergence of the automobile, which had a marked influence on the relevance and viability of rural market communities. A map produced in 1934 (Figure 10) shows the area around the District at that time.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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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: Chester Co. Historical Society

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property approximately 740

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

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

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 40.134552 | Longitude: 75.726083 |
| 2. Latitude: 40.156128 | Longitude: 75.706644 |
| 3. Latitude: 40.142084 | Longitude: 75.683832 |
| 4. Latitude: 40.123497 | Longitude: 75.699763 |

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

The following boundary description begins at the north corner and proceeds clockwise. See also Figure 2.

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(Northeast Portion)

Beginning at a point on the southwest corner of the intersection of Essick Road and Coventryville Road, the boundary proceeds south 250 feet on the west side of Coventryville Road, then crosses the road, running the following distances around tax parcel 24-5-29: east 375 feet, southeast 400 feet, and southwest 500 feet to a point on the west side of Coventryville Road. The boundary then proceeds south 400 feet on the west side of the road. It then proceeds east 620 feet along the north border of tax parcel 24-5-28 and then southeast 1,000 feet to a point on the north side of tax parcel 24-5-32.1. From there, the boundary runs 1,600 feet to a point on the north side of Prizer Road and runs southwest 600 feet along the north side of the road. It then crosses the road, running 1,770 feet along the east side of tax parcel 24-5-40.12 to a point on the north side of tax parcel 24-5-40. The boundary then runs the following metes along the perimeter of 24-5-40: east 1,000 feet; south 80 feet; southwest 400 feet; and south 400 feet to a point on the south side of Fairview Road.

(Southeast portion)

Beginning at the aforementioned point, the boundary runs the following metes around tax parcel 24-5-97: 1,100 feet east along the south side of Fairview Road; southeast 1,100 feet to a point on the west side of Pa. Route 100; southwest 500 feet along the west side of Route 100; northwest 260 feet; and southwest 750 feet. The boundary then runs southeast 200 feet to a point on the west side of Route 100 and runs south 1,200 feet along the west side of the road. It then runs west 300 feet along the south side of tax parcel 24-5-98 and then south 1,950 feet to the township line. It then runs southwest along the township line 700 feet to the southeast corner of the district. From here, the district boundary proceeds northwest along the northeast side of Horseshoe Trail 4,200 feet. From there, it crosses the road and proceeds southwest 800 feet to the south point of tax parcel 24-5-82. It then proceeds north 600 feet to the southeast corner of tax parcel 24-5-77.

(West portion)

From the aforementioned point, the boundary proceeds west along the southern boundary of tax parcel 24-5-77 in three courses 1,400 feet and the runs the following metes around tax parcel 24-5-76: south 220 feet, west 100 feet, southwest 550 feet, and northwest 300 feet to a point on the north side of Fairview Road. The boundary runs generally southwest along the north side of Fairview Road 1,400 feet to a point on the south side of tax parcel 24-5-62. From there, the boundary runs around tax parcel 24-5-74.1A the following metes: southeast 800 feet, southwest 750 feet, and northwest 650 feet. It then runs around tax parcel 24-5-62.1 the following metes: southwest 120 feet, west along the north side of Wynn Hollow Road 1,000 feet; and northwest 1,000 feet. The boundary then runs around tax parcel 24-5-62 the following metes: northwest 950 feet, northeast 800 feet, east 200 feet, and southeast 200 feet. The boundary then runs northeast 1,600 feet along the northwest side of tax parcel 24-5-61, then around tax parcel 24-5-58 northwest 500 feet, northeast 700 feet, and southeast 600 feet. It then proceeds along the northwest side of tax parcel 24-5-48 northeast 1,000 feet to a point on the north side of Nantmeal Road. The boundary proceeds west along the north side of Nantmeal Road in several courses 1,000 feet. It then runs north 600 feet and northeast 700 feet to the north point of tax parcel 24-5-20. It then runs southeast 1,000 feet to a point on the west side of tax parcel 24-5-24. The boundary then proceeds northwest 1,600 feet to a point on the south side of Essick Road and then along the south side of the road northeast 1,400 feet to the point of beginning.

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Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The Nantmeal Village Historic District includes the historic commercial and residential core of the village and surrounding farms historically associated with the village's establishment and viability. Open space or vacant legal parcels without buildings or structures visually contribute to the integrity of the District, as they retain their historic appearance and functions.

The southern boundary was drawn to exclude the Camphill Special School, a largely wooded property which has constructed multiple new buildings on the landscape south of the historic district in the past 50 years. The boundary to the north and east was drawn to emphasize historic properties focused on the main intersection of Nantmeal Village. Properties to the east of the historic district boundary were oriented to the village of Ludwig's Corner in the 19th century, as they were located along SR 100 (Pottstown Pike) or SR 401 (Conestoga Road). Properties to the north mostly face north into the French Creek valley and are not oriented to Nantmeal Village. The historic atlas of 1883 indicates that all residents within the district boundary picked up mail at Nantmeal Village.

1. Form Prepared By

name/title: Robert J. Wise Jr. and Seth Hinshaw
organization: Wise Preservation Planning LLC
street & number: 1480 Hilltop Road
city or town: Chester Springs state: PA zip code: 19425
e-mail: bwise@wisepres.com, shinshaw@wisepres.com
telephone: (484) 202-8187 date: 4/2/2014

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.)

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: Nantmeal Village Historic District
City or Vicinity: East Nantmeal Township County: Chester State: Pennsylvania
Photographer: Wise Preservation Planning LLC
Date Photographed: December 4, 2013; March 27, 2014; and April 2 and 3, 2014

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

Photo 1 of 20. Nantmeal Village, facing southwest along Fairview Road towards the Nantmeal Village Store [51].

Photo 2 of 20. Nantmeal Village, facing south along Nantmeal Road. Visible resources are (L to R) the Murray Cabinet Shop [94], the Ann Hall Barn [79], the Village Store [51], and the Methodist Church [50].

Photo 3 of 20. View of Nantmeal Village, facing northeast along Fairview Road towards the center of the village. The Village Store [51] is on the left, and the Murray Cabinet Shop [50] is on the right.

Photo 4 of 20. View of the south central portion of the district, facing north up Nantmeal Road. Resources on the left are the John Loomis House (frame, 80) and the Ann Hall House (stone, 79), right.

Photo 5 of 20. Western portion of Nantmeal Village Historic District, facing north from Fairview Road. Visible resources are the Mary Beckley House and Barn (left, 62), the Elizabeth Strickland Barn (center, 61.6) and the Elizabeth Strickland House (right, 61.6).

Photo 6 of 20. Daniel Walleigh Farm [101], facing northeast.

Photo 7 of 20. Mary Wynn Farmstead [32.1], facing northwest. Visible resources are the barn (left) and farmhouse (right).

Photo 8 of 20. John Scholl Farmstead, facing east along Fairview Road. Visible resources are the farmhouse (left, 40) and the barn and outbuildings (right, 97).

Photo 9 of 20. Methodist Parsonage [90], facing east from Nantmeal Road.

Photo 10 of 20. William Evans House [77], facing south from Fairview Road.

Photo 11 of 20. Elizabeth Strickland House, facing north from Loomis Road.

Photo 12 of 20. Nantmeal Methodist Episcopal Church [50], facing west from Nantmeal Road.

Photo 13 of 20. The Hall [51.1], facing west from Fairview Road.

Photo 14 of 20. Nantmeal Village Schoolhouse [78], facing south from the Friends Burial Ground on the north side of Fairview Road.

Photo 15 of 20. Levi Murray Barn [27], facing northeast from Nantmeal Road.

Photo 16 of 20. Outbuildings associated with the Jacob Lowry House, facing southwest down Fairview Road. Visible resources are the Jacob Lowry Barn (left, 76) and an outbuilding on the Henry Hoffecker Farm property (right, 58)].

Photo 17 of 20. Blacksmith shop [81], facing west from Nantmeal Road.

Photo 18 of 20. Friends Burial Ground [54], facing northeast from Fairview Road. A noncontributing house is located in the background [53].

Nantmeal Village Historic District
Name of Property

Chester Co., PA
County and State

Photo 19 of 20. Domestic outbuilding adjacent to the W.H. Murray House [29], facing southeast.

Photo 20 of 20. Outbuildings associated with the Levi Murray Barn [27], facing northwest from Nantmeal Road.

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.

Nantmeal Village Historic District
Name of Property

Chester Co., PA
County and State

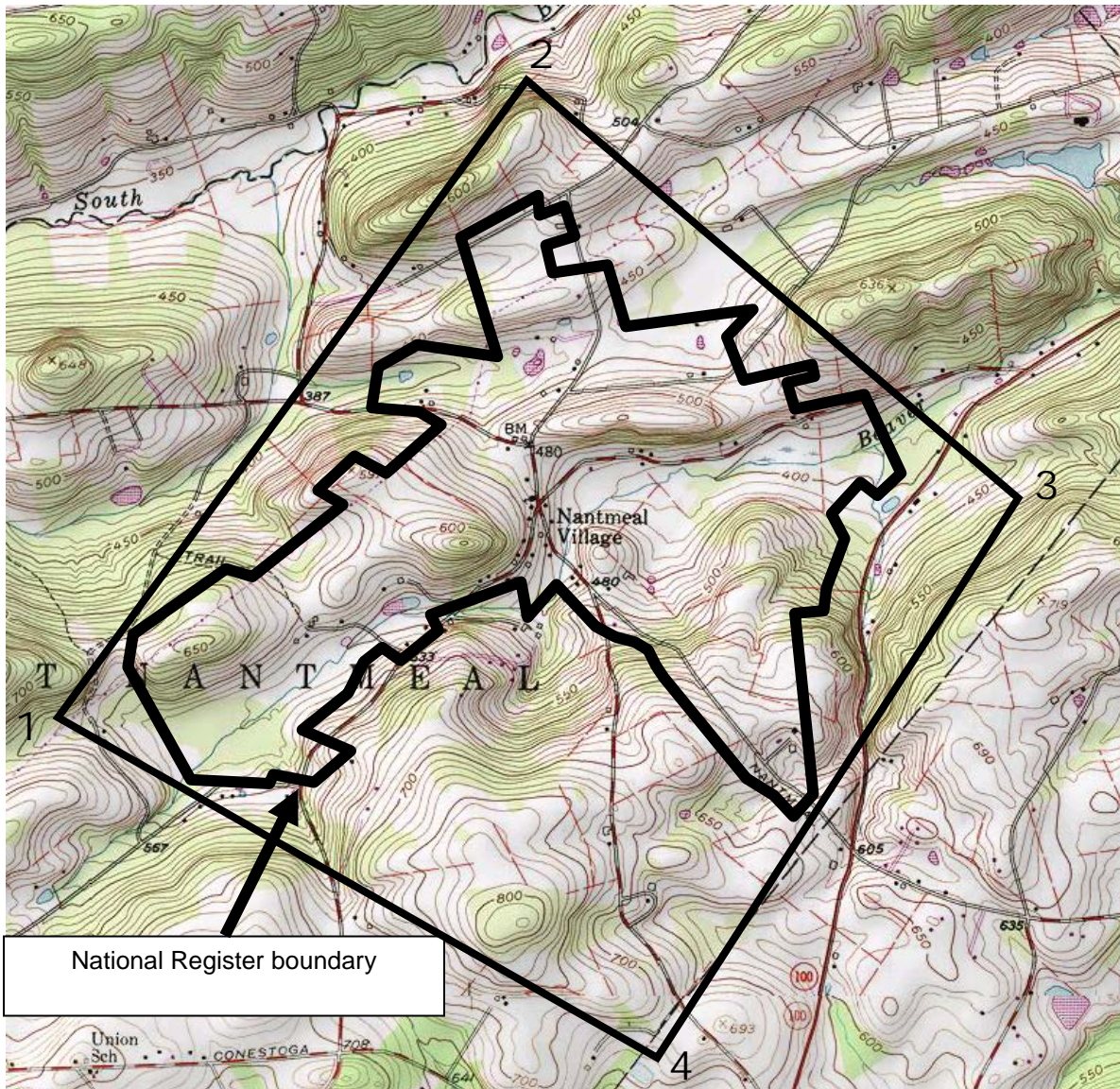


Figure 1: Nantmeal Village Historic District, drawn on a U.S.G.S. Quad Map, Pottstown Quad (1999).

Nantmeal Village Historic District
Name of Property

Chester Co., PA
County and State

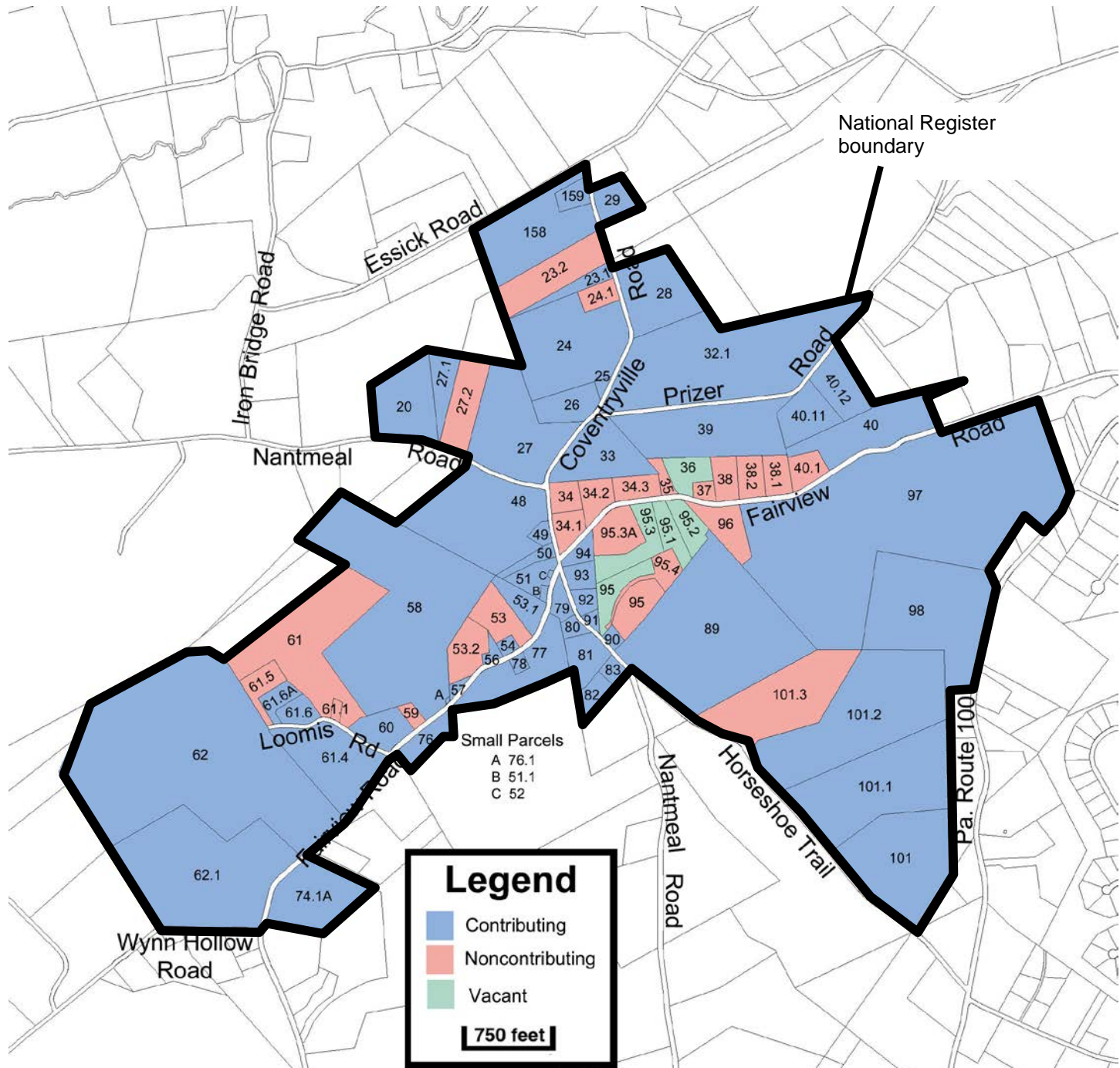


Figure 2: Tax Parcel Map. All parcels have the prefix 24-5, such as 24-5-101 for the southeastern property. Note that property 24-5-95 has been split in two noncontiguous parts; the southeast part has a noncontributing resource, but the northwest part is vacant. As such, the number shown for each property is the last number in the sequence.

Nantmeal Village Historic District
Name of Property

Chester Co., PA
County and State

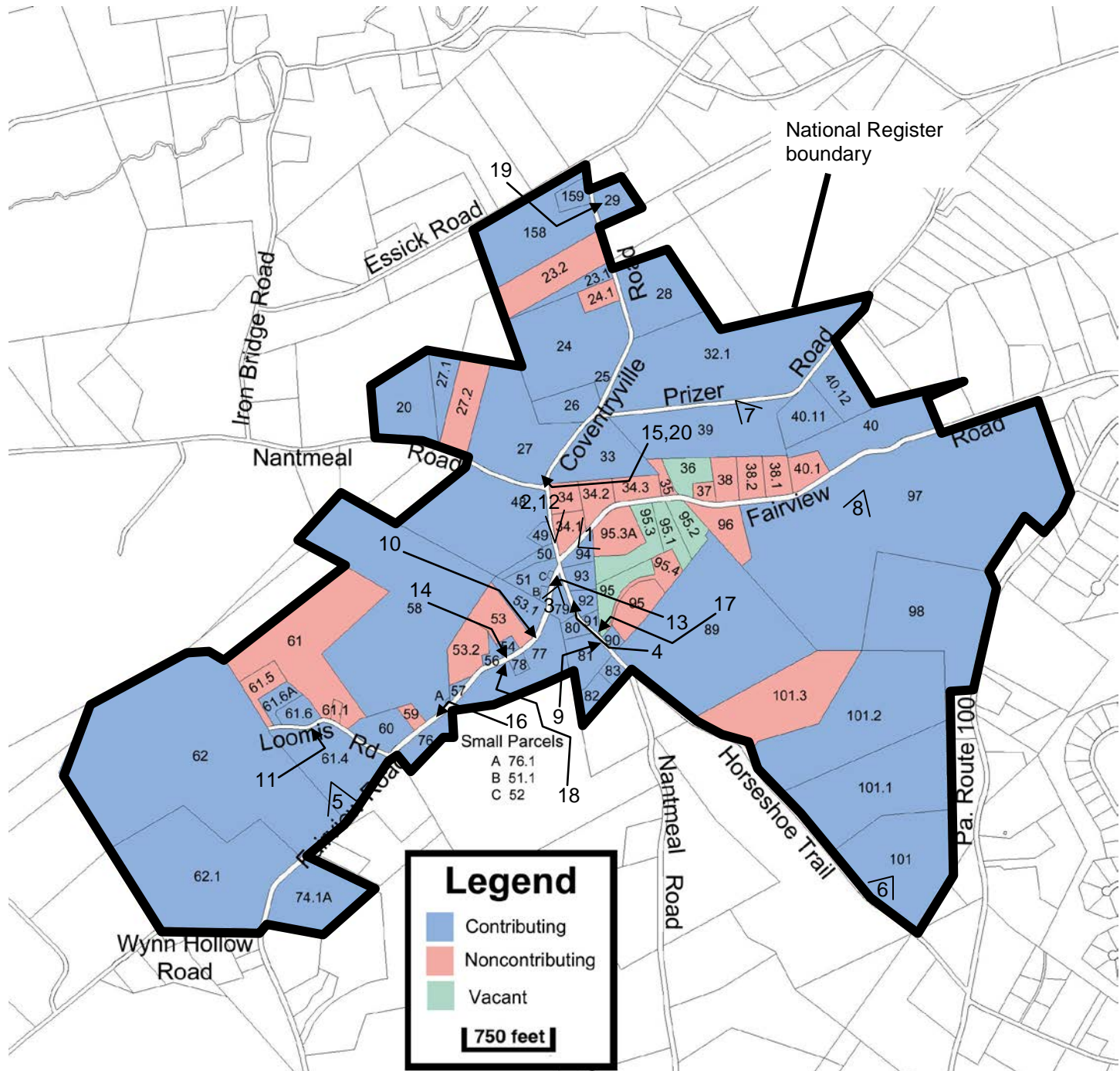


Figure 3: Photo Key.

Nantmeal Village Historic District
Name of Property

Chester Co., PA
County and State

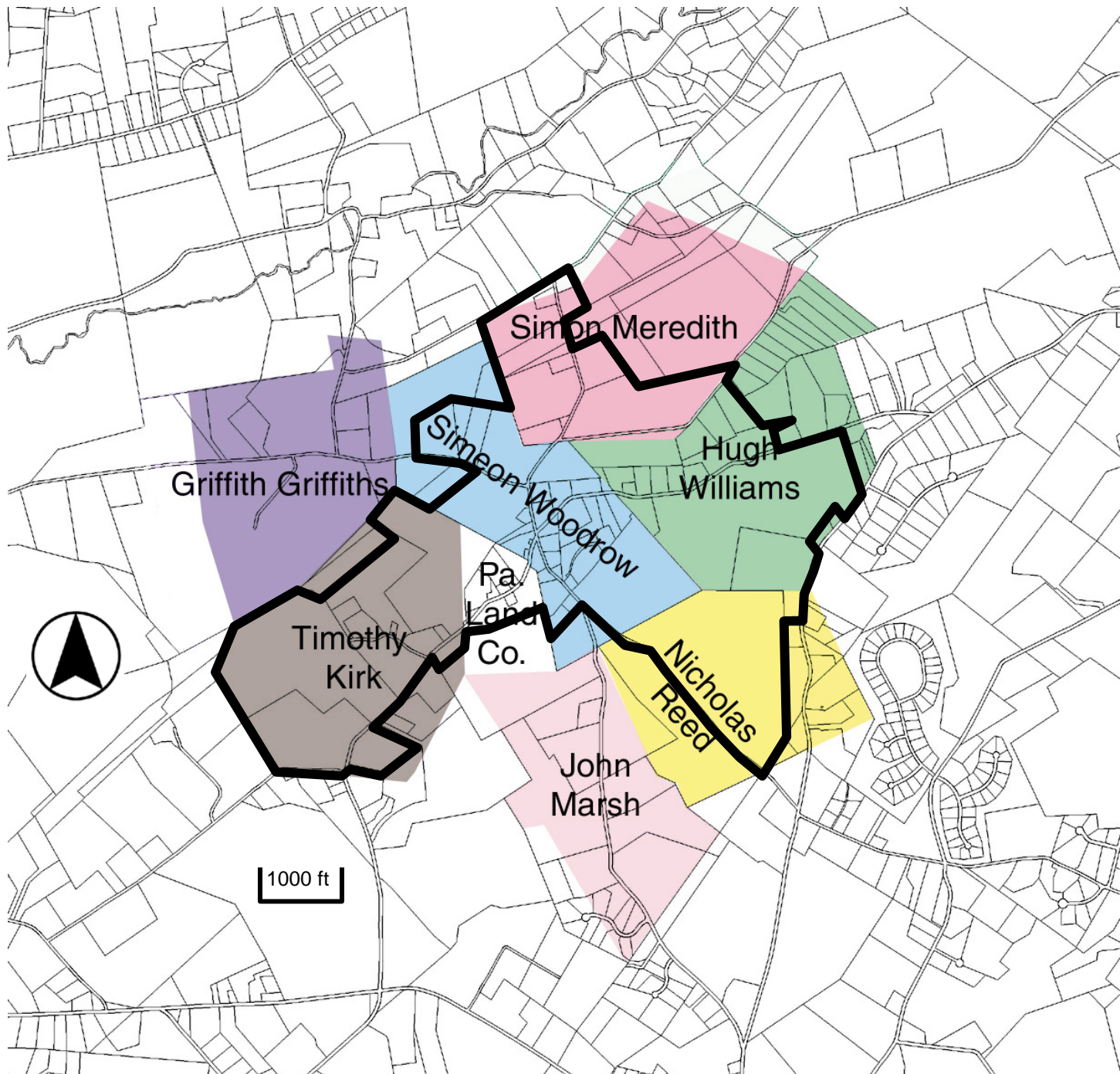


Figure 4: Early Residents Map, showing the warrants or patentees of the lands in the historic district. Black line indicates the historic district boundary.

Nantmeal Village Historic District
Name of Property

Chester Co., PA
County and State

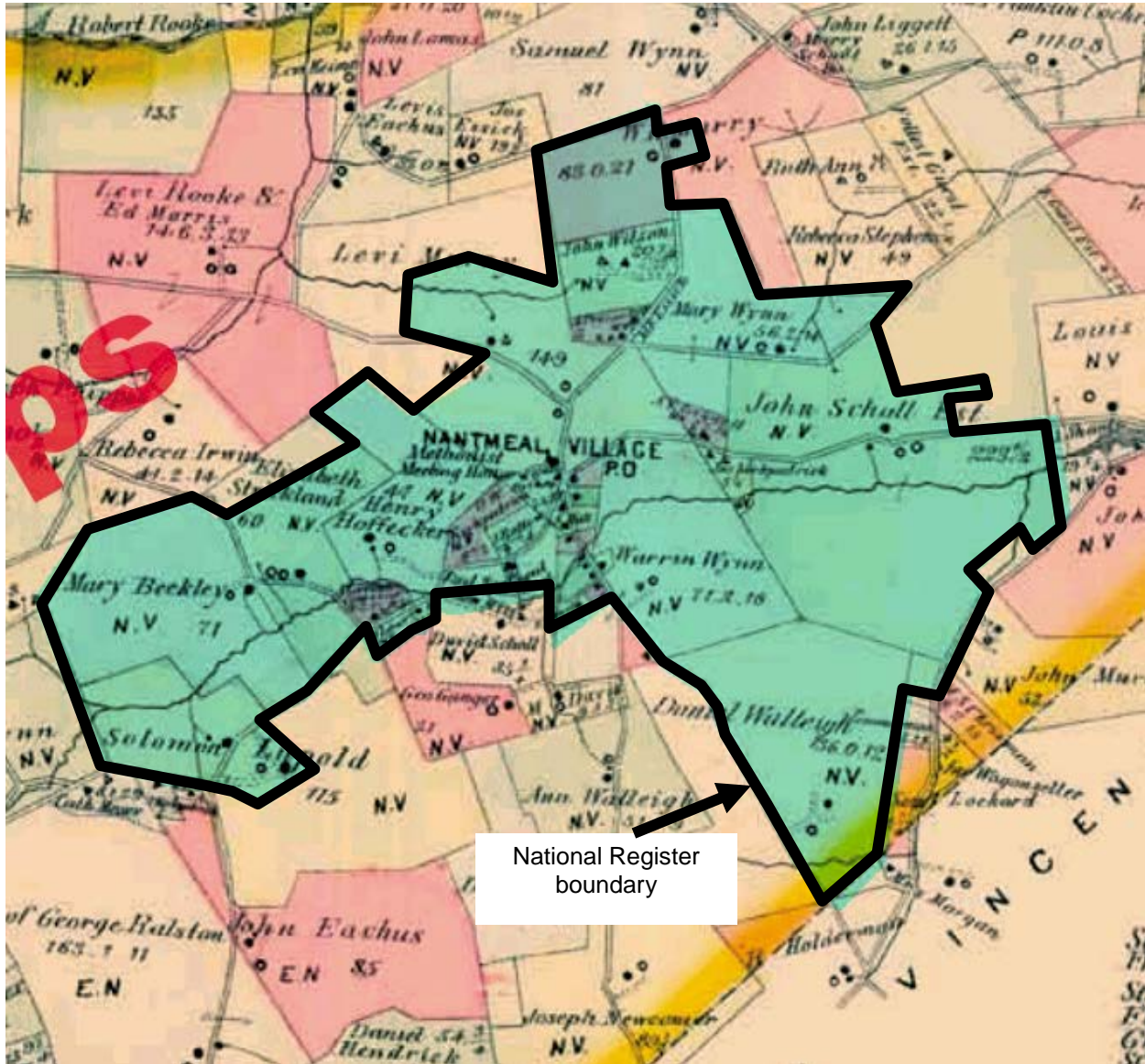


Figure 7. Detail of Breou's Atlas of 1883, East Nantmeal Township plate, with the Nantmeal Village Historic District indicated. Owners picked up their mail at Nantmeal Village if the property is marked "NV."

Nantmeal Village Historic District
Name of Property

Chester Co., PA
County and State

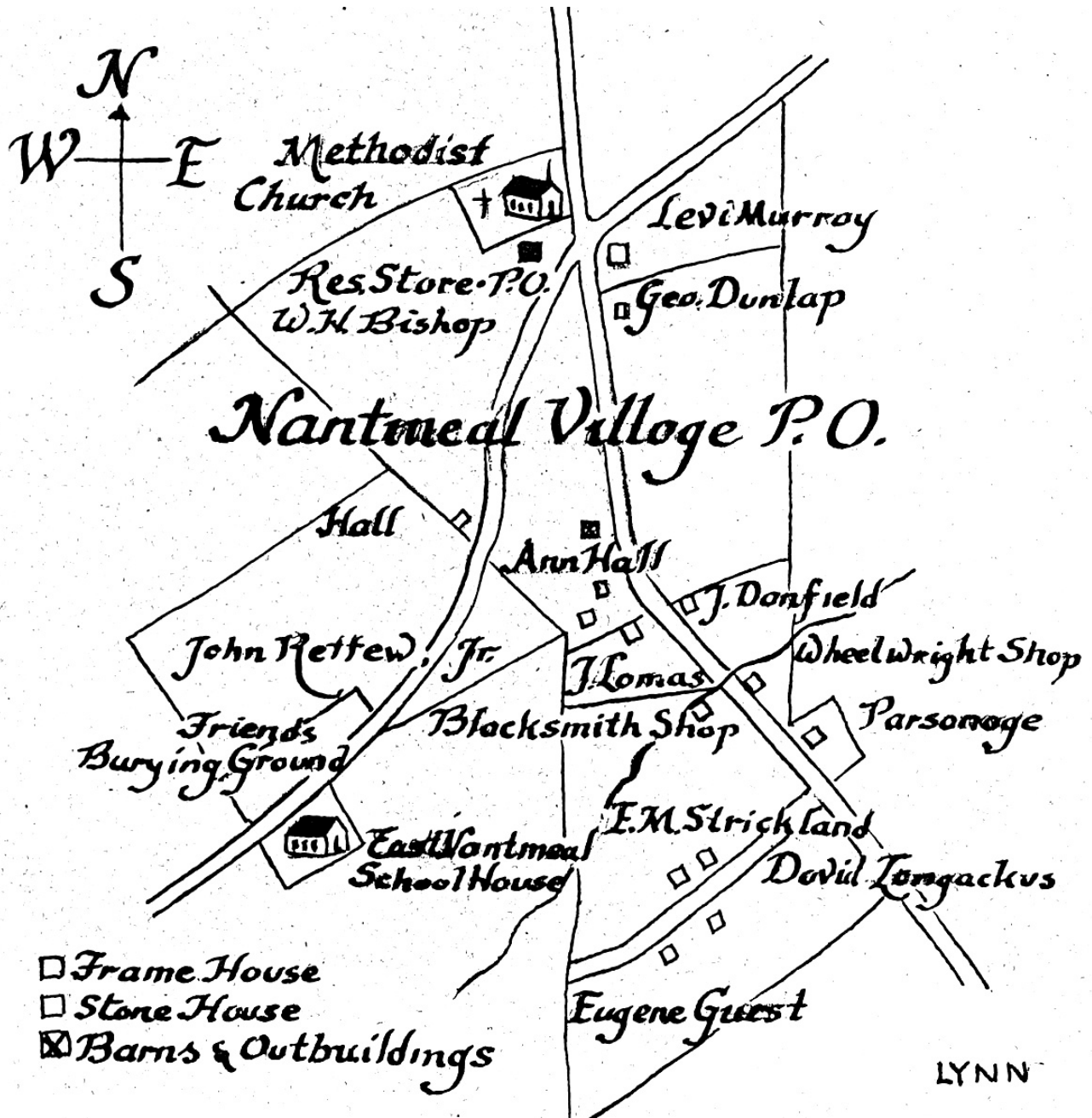


Figure 8. Detail map of Nantmeal Village from Forsey Breou, *Breou's Official Series of Farm Maps of Chester County, Pa.* (1883), showing village center at intersection of Fairview (left) and Nantmeal (right) Roads.

Nantmeal Village Historic District
Name of Property

Chester Co., PA
County and State

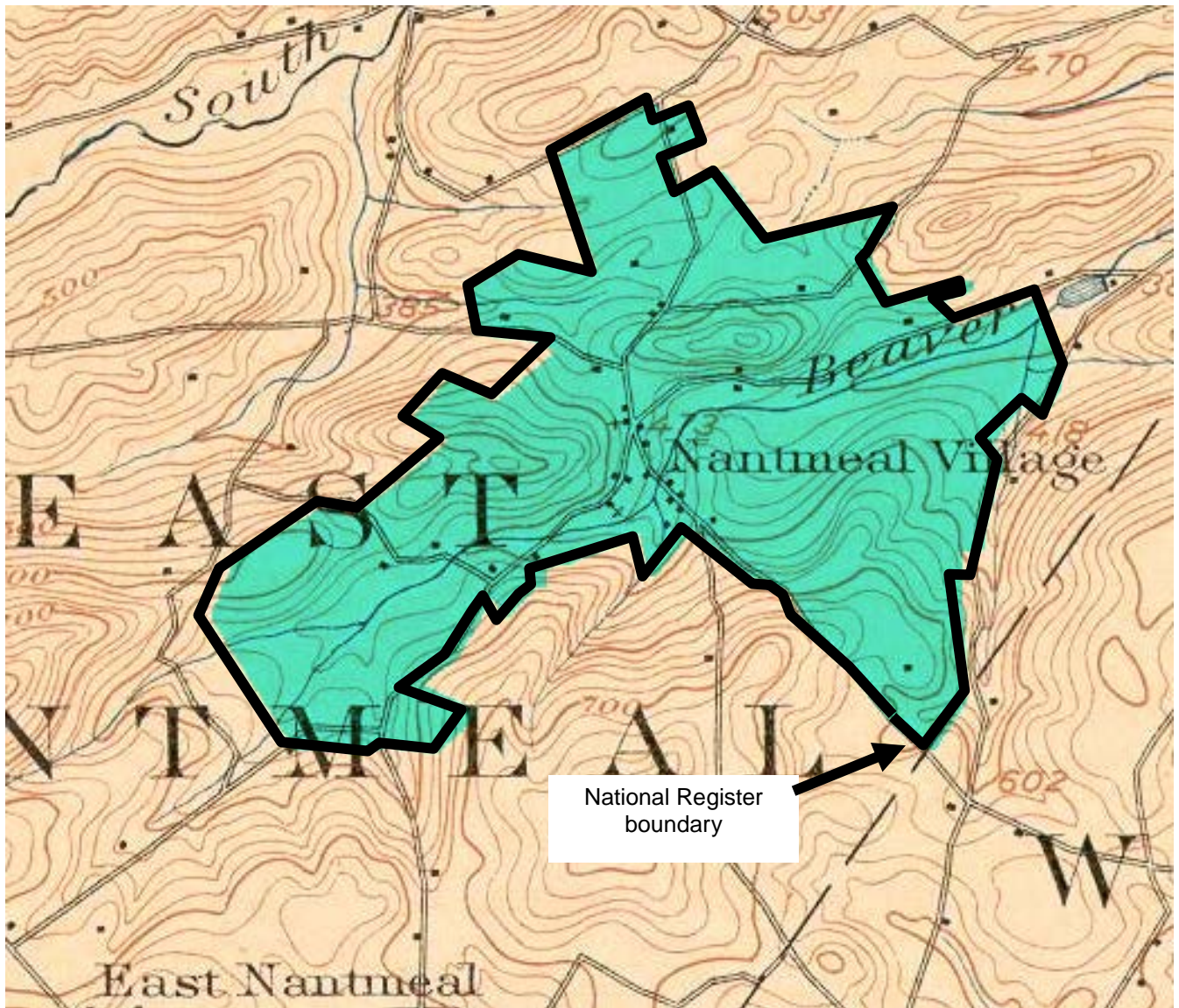


Figure 9. Phoenixville USGS Quad Map (1903), with the Nantmeal Village Historic District shaded.

Nantmeal Village Historic District
Name of Property

Chester Co., PA
County and State



Figure 10. Detail of the *Property Atlas of Chester County, Pennsylvania* (Philadelphia: Franklin Survey Co., 1934).

Nantmeal Village Historic District
Name of Property

Chester Co., PA
County and State

Inventory

* C = Contributing; NC = Noncontributing

#	Address	Name	Date	Style [or Type]	Function	Resource type	C/NC*
20	446 Nantmeal Road	Levi Murry House	c. 1750	Federal	Domestic	Building	C
		Barn	c. 1840	Bank barn	Agriculture	Building	C
23.2	Coventryville Road	Electric tower	c. 1960	No style	Other	Structure	NC
24	3951 Coventryville Road	John Wilson House	c. 1840	Federal	Domestic	Building	C
		Barn	c. 1840	Bank barn	Agriculture	Building	C
		Outbuilding	c. 1975	No Style	Agriculture	Building	NC
		Outbuilding	c. 1975	No Style	Agriculture	Building	NC
24.1	3917 Coventryville Road	3917 Coventryville Rd	c. 1960	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
25	3973 Coventryville Road	Manlove Essick House	1887	Italianate	Domestic	Building	C
26	3987 Coventryville Road	Abraham Prizer House	1735/1835	Vernacular	Domestic	Building	C
		Saddler shop ruin	c. 1800	No Style	Industry	Site	C
		Ice House ruin	c. 1800	No Style	Domestic	Site	C
		Wheelwright Shop ruin	c. 1800	No Style	Industry	Site	C
27	Nantmeal Road	Levi Murray Barn	c. 1820	Bank Barn	Agriculture	Building	C
		Wagon Shed	c. 1800	No Style	Agriculture	Building	C
		Shed	c. 1850	No Style	Agriculture	Building	C
27.2	Nantmeal Road	Electric tower	c. 1960	No Style	Other	Structure	NC
29	3904 Coventryville Road	W.H. Murray House	c. 1800	Federal	Domestic	Building	C
		Outbuilding	c. 1800	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
		Garage	c. 1980	No Style	Domestic	Building	NC
		Shed	c. 1980	No Style	Agriculture	Building	NC
32.1	1091 Prizer Road	Mary Wynn House	c. 1820	Late Federal	Domestic	Building	C
		Barn	c. 1820	Chester County stone posted forebay barn	Agriculture	Building	C
		Garage	c. 1980	No Style	Domestic	Building	NC
34	384 Nantmeal Road	384 Nantmeal Rd	c. 1980	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
34.1	1885 Fairview Road	1885 Fairview Rd	c. 1980	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
34.2	1905 Fairview Road	1905 Fairview Rd	c. 1980	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
34.3	1915 Fairview Road	1915 Fairview Rd	c. 1980	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
35	1927 Fairview Road	1927 Fairview Rd	c. 1960	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
		Garage	c. 1960	No Style	Domestic	Building	NC

Nantmeal Village Historic District

Name of Property

Chester Co., PA

County and State

#	Address	Name	Date	Style [or Type]	Function	Resource type	C/NC
37	1941 Fairview Road	1941 Fairview Rd	c. 1960	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
		Garage	c. 1960	No Style	Domestic	Building	NC
38	1953 Fairview Road	1953 Fairview Rd	c. 1980	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
38.1	1967 Fairview Road	1967 Fairview Rd	c. 1980	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
38.2	1945 Fairview Road	1945 Fairview Rd	c. 1948	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
40	1993 Fairview Road	John Scholl House	c. 1740	Federal	Domestic	Building	C
		Outbuilding	c. 2010	No style	Domestic	Building	NC
40.1	1983 Fairview Road	1983 Fairview Rd	c. 1950	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
48	405 Nantmeal Road	Levi Murray House	c. 1797	Federal	Domestic	Building	C
		Outbuilding	c. 1945	No Style	Domestic	Building	NC
49	365 Nantmeal Road	Emma Murray House	c. 1895	Gothic Revival	Domestic	Building	C
		Privy	c. 1920	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
		Stable	c. 1920	No Style	Domestic	Building	NC
50	359 Nantmeal Road	Nantmeal Methodist Church	1852	Gothic Revival	Religion	Building	C
		Burial Ground	1852	No Style	Funerary	Site	C
51	1855 Fairview Road	Nantmeal Village General Store	c. 1820	No Style	Commerce	Building	C
		Block Shed	c. 1970	No Style	Commerce	Building	NC
51.1	1845 Fairview Road	The Hall	c. 1820	Vernacular	Education	Building	C
52	Fairview Road	Martha Reed House Ruin		No Style	Domestic	Site	C
53	1825 Fairview Road	1825 Fairview Rd	2010	Colonial Revival	Domestic	Building	NC
53.1	1835 Fairview Road	John Rettew House	1883	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
		3 Sheds	c. 1920	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
53.2	1809 Fairview Road	1809 Fairview Rd	c. 1980	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
54	Fairview Road	Friends Burial Ground and stone wall	1777	No Style	Funerary	Site	C
56	1815 Fairview Road	Theodore Wheatley House	c. 1920	Colonial Revival	Domestic	Building	C
		Garage	c. 1920	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
		Shed	c. 1920	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
58	1787 Fairview Road	Henry Hoffecker House	c. 1800	Federal	Domestic	Building	C
		Barn	c. 1920	Wisconsin/Prairie	Agriculture	Building	C
		Mill Head Race	c. 1800	No Style	Industry	Structure	C
		3 Outbuildings	c. 1980	No Style	Agriculture	Building	NC

Nantmeal Village Historic District
Name of Property

Chester Co., PA
County and State

#	Address	Name	Date	Style [or Type]	Function	Resource type	C/NC
59	1777 Fairview Road	1777 Fairview Rd	c.1947	Ranch	Domestic	Building	NC
60	1771 Fairview Road	Loomis / Garvine House	c.1800	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
61	118 Loomis Road	118 Loomis Road	c.1980	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
		Barn	c.1970	Jamesway brand	Agriculture	Building	NC
61.1	120 Loomis Road	Small outbuilding	c.1960	No Style	Domestic	Building	NC
61.5	132 Loomis Road	132 Loomis Road	c.1980	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
		2 outbuildings	c.1980	No style	Domestic	Building	NC
61.6	124 Loomis Road	Elizabeth Strickland House	c.1775	Federal	Domestic	Building	C
		Barn	c.1820	Enclosed forebay Standard Barn	Agriculture	Building	C
61.6A	Loomis Road	Springhouse	c.1800	No style	Domestic	Building	C
62	139 Loomis Road	Mary Beckley House	c.1830	Federal	Domestic	Building	C
		Barn	c.1830	Bank Barn	Agriculture	Building	C
		Shed	c.1980	No Style	Agriculture	Building	NC
		2 towers	c.1960	No Style	Other	Structure	NC
62.1	Fairview Road	Stone house ruin	c.1800	No Style	Vacant	Site	C
74.1A	1642 Fairview Road	Solomon Lupold House	c.1780	Federal	Domestic	Building	C
		Barn	c.1830	Bank Barn	Agriculture	Building	C
		Outbuilding	c.1945	No Style	Agriculture	Building	NC
76	1780 Fairview Road	Jacob Lowry House	c.1835	Greek Revival	Domestic	Building	C
		Barn	c.1850	Bank Barn	Agriculture	Building	C
76.1	Fairview Road	Outbuilding	c.1900	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
77	1830 Fairview Road	William Evans House	c.1900	Gothic Revival	Domestic	Building	C
		Barn	c.1880	Bank Barn	Agriculture	Building	C
		Shed	c.1920	No style	Agriculture	Building	C
		Mill Dam	c.1800	No Style	Industry	Structure	C
78	1824 Fairview Road	Nantmeal Village School	1861	No Style	Education	Building	C
		Privy	c.1900	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
79	337 Nantmeal Road	Ann Hall House	c.1800	Federal	Domestic	Building	C
		Barn	c.1830	Bank Barn	Agriculture	Building	NC
		Shed	c.1920	No Style	Agriculture	Building	C

Nantmeal Village Historic District
Name of Property

Chester Co., PA
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#	Address	Name	Date	Style	Function	Resource type	C/NC
80	327 Nantmeal Road	John Loomis House	1873	Italianate	Domestic	Building	C
81	325 Nantmeal Road	Blacksmith House	c.1830	Federal	Domestic	Building	C
		Blacksmith Shop	c.1830	No Style	Commerce	Building	C
		Wagon shed	c.1850	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
		Shed	c.1890	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
82	315 Nantmeal Road	John Danfield House	c.1840	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
83	311 Nantmeal Road	David Longacker House	c.1800	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
		Shed	c.1890	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
89	3225 Horseshoe Trail	Warren Wynn House	c.1845	Federal	Domestic	Building	C
		Barn	c.1845	Stone Posted Forebay Bank Barn	Agriculture	Building	C
90	320 Nantmeal Road	Methodist Parsonage	1874	Italianate	Domestic	Building	C
		Garage	c.1920	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
93	354 Nantmeal Road	George Dunlap House	c.1840	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
		Garage	c.1920	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
		Shed	c.1890	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
94	358 Nantmeal Road	Murray Cabinet Shop	c.1750	Federal	Commerce	Building	C
		Garage	c.1970	No Style	Domestic	Building	NC
95	324 Nantmeal Road	324 Nantmeal Road	c.1980	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
95.3A	1900 Fairview Road	1900 Fairview Rd	c.1970	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
95.4	326 Nantmeal Road	326 Nantmeal Rd	c.1980	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
96	1938 Fairview Road	James Kirkpatrick House	c.1850	No Style	Domestic	Building	C
		new house	c.1980	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
97	1958 Fairview Road	John Scholl Barn	c.1820	Double Decker Barn	Agriculture	Building	C
		Frame Shed	c.1900	No Style	Agriculture	Building	C
		Outbuilding	c.1920	No Style	Agriculture	Building	C

Nantmeal Village Historic District
 Name of Property

Chester Co., PA
 County and State

#	Address	Name	Date	Style	Function	Resource type	C/NC
101	3111 Horseshoe Trail	Daniel Walleigh House	c.1770	Colonial	Domestic	Building	C
		Barn	c.1870	Double Threshing Floor Barn	Agriculture	Building	C
		Shed	c.1960	No Style	Agriculture	Building	NC
101.3	3131 Horseshoe Trail	3131 Horseshoe Trail	c.2010	Modern	Domestic	Building	NC
159	3885 Coventryville Road	W.H. Murray Barn	c.1800	Bank Barn	Agriculture	Building	C
		Ag outbuilding	c.1980	No Style	Domestic	Building	NC

The following are vacant parcels (containing no evident historic buildings, structures, sites, or objects) that contribute to the rural character, setting, and feeling of the historic district:

#	Address
23.1	Coventryville Road
27.1	Nantmeal Road
28	Coventryville Road
33	Coventryville Road
36	Fairview Road
39	Fairview Road
40.11	Prizer Road
40.12	Prizer Road
57	Fairview Road
61.4	Loomis Road
91	Nantmeal Road
92	Nantmeal Road
95.1	Fairview Road
95.2	Fairview Road
95.3	Fairview Road
98	Pottstown Pike
101.1	Horseshoe Trail
101.2	Horseshoe Trail
158	Coventryville Road



Photo 1 of 20. Nantmeal Village, facing southwest along Fairview Road towards the Nantmeal Village Store [51].



Photo 2 of 20. Nantmeal Village, facing south along Nantmeal Road. Visible resources are (L to R) the Murray Cabinet Shop [94], the Ann Hall Barn [79], the Village Store [51], and the Methodist Church [50].



Photo 3 of 20. View of Nantmeal Village, facing northeast along Fairview Road towards the center of the village. The Village Store [51] is on the left, and the Murray Cabinet Shop [50] is on the right.



Photo 4 of 20. View of the south central portion of the district, facing north up Nantmeal Road. Resources on the left are the John Loomis House (frame, 80) and the Ann Hall House (stone, 79), right.



Photo 5 of 20. Western portion of Nantmeal Village Historic District, facing north from Fairview Road. Visible resources are the Mary Beckley House and Barn (left, 62), the Elizabeth Strickland Barn (center, 61.6) and the Elizabeth Strickland House (right, 61.6).



Photo 6 of 20. Daniel Walleigh Farm [101], facing northeast.



Photo 7 of 20. Mary Wynn Farmstead [32.1], facing northwest. Visible resources are the barn (left) and farmhouse (right).



Photo 8 of 20. John Scholl Farmstead, facing east along Fairview Road. Visible resources are the farmhouse (left, 40) and the barn and outbuildings (right, 97).



Photo 9 of 20. Methodist Parsonage [90], facing east from Nantmeal Road.



Photo 10 of 20. William Evans House [77], facing south from Fairview Road.



Photo 11 of 20. Elizabeth Strickland House, facing north from Loomis Road.



Photo 12 of 20. Nantmeal Methodist Episcopal Church [50], facing west from Nantmeal Road.



Photo 13 of 20. The Hall [51.1], facing west from Fairview Road.



Photo 14 of 20. Nantmeal Village Schoolhouse [78], facing south from the Friends Burial Ground on the north side of Fairview Road.



Photo 15 of 20. Levi Murray Barn [27], facing northeast from Nantmeal Road. The cylindrical piers under the forebay were a common feature in this region.



Photo 16 of 20. Outbuildings associated with the Jacob Lowry House, facing southwest down Fairview Road. Visible resources are the Jacob Lowry Barn (left, 76) and an outbuilding on the Henry Hoffecker Farm property (right, 58)].



Photo 17 of 20. Blacksmith shop [81], facing west from Nantmeal Road.



Photo 18 of 20. Friends Burial Ground [54], facing northeast from Fairview Road. A noncontributing house is located in the background [53].



Photo 19 of 20. Domestic outbuilding adjacent to the W.H. Murray House [29], facing southeast.



Photo 20 of 20. Outbuildings associated with the Levi Murray Barn [27], facing northwest from Nantmeal Road.



Nantmeal Village area, current aerial view



END
SPEED
LIMIT
40











POSTED

















HASTON
ESTABLISHED 1850

STOP
PIPELINES
HERE!
NoPipelines.org













National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Nantmeal Village Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: PENNSYLVANIA, Chester

DATE RECEIVED: 6/20/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/11/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/28/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/06/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000466

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: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 8.1.14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

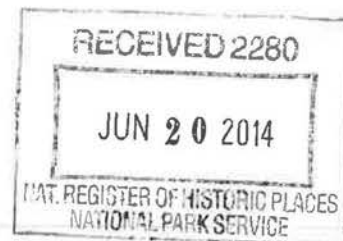
TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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.



Pennsylvania
Historical & Museum
Commission



June 17, 2014

Carol Shull, 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: National Register Nominations

Dear Ms Shull:

The following National Register nominations are being submitted for your review:

1. **Bangor Historic District**, Northampton Co., PA. Enclosed please find a signed first page, a CD containing the true and correct copy of the nomination and correspondence, and a second CD with tif images.
2. **Henry F. Ortlieb Company Bottling House**, Philadelphia Co., PA. Enclosed please find a signed first page, a CD containing the true and correct copy of the nomination and correspondence, and a second CD with tif images.
3. **John Berger & Son Company Tobacco Warehouse**, Lancaster Co., PA. Enclosed please find a signed first page, a CD containing the true and correct copy of the nomination and correspondence, and a second CD with tif images.
4. **Nantmeal Village Historic District**, Chester Co., PA. Enclosed please find a signed first page, a CD containing the true and correct copy of the nomination, and a DVD with tif images.
5. **William Penn Memorial Museum and State Archives Building**, Dauphin Co., PA. Enclosed please find a signed first page, a CD containing the true and correct copy of the nomination and correspondence, and a second CD with tif images.

The proposed action for each of the above nominations is listing in the National Register. Our staff and Board fully support each nomination, with one exception. Please note that our Board has a differing opinion regarding the eligibility of the Ortlieb Company Bottling House, and rejected that nomination. Our staff continues to support the nomination; our opinion for the Ortlieb building and relevant draft minutes from the recent Board meeting are enclosed for your reference.

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

Also, please note that notarized objection letters have been received from Nantmeal Village Historic District property owners. The original copies of those letters are also enclosed with the nomination materials for your reference. We have spoken with several of those owners, and their opposition appears to be based on property-rights concerns, not the merits of the proposed district or nomination.

If you have any questions regarding the nominations please contact me at 717-783-9922 or afrantz@pa.gov. Thank you for your consideration of these properties.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Frantz', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

April E. Frantz
National Register Reviewer/Eastern Region

enc.

NANTMEAL
VILLAGE H.D.

LETTERS/
EMAILS OF
SUPPORT

TOWNSHIP OF EAST NANTMEAL

3383 Conestoga Road
Glenmoore, PA 19343
(610) 458-5780
(610) 458-1970 (Fax)

May 28, 2014

April E. Frantz
National Register Program/Eastern Region
Bureau for Historic Preservation/PHMC
Keystone Building, 2nd Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093



Re: **Nantmeal Village Area National Register Historic District**

Dear Ms. Frantz:

On behalf of our Board of Supervisors, I write to advise you that East Nantmeal Township supports the pending application to your Commission for the nomination of the proposed Nantmeal Village Area Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places.

This application reflects a six year public/private effort by our Township and its citizens to obtain this well-deserved recognition for the historic Village and its surrounding farms. The nomination will further our six decade effort to preserve our Township's historic resources and conserve its farm land and open space.

Thank you for consideration of our position in support of this important nomination.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tyler E. Wren".

Tyler E. Wren
Vice Chair

East Nantmeal Board of Supervisors

Frantz, April

From: Martha Edwards <bidedwards@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 01, 2014 11:24 AM
To: Frantz, April
Subject: Enthusiastic approval of Nantmeal Villiage Historic District

Dear April Frantz:

My husband, George and I own a farm that is still active after approximately 300 years. We are part of the Nantmeal Historic District. Our farm is still active in the community. With the original springs still watering our property we continue to depend on historic and sustainable farm practices. We are excited to work toward being part of an effort to recognize these values and attending history.

Sincerely, Martha M. Edwards

TIM HENNESSEY, MEMBER
HARRISBURG OFFICE:
ROOM 312, MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
PO BOX 202026
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2026
PHONE: (717) 787-3431
FAX: (717) 787-9864

DISTRICT OFFICES:
1038 EAST LINCOLN HIGHWAY
COATESVILLE, PA 19320
PHONE: (610) 380-8600
FAX: (610) 380-1777

OLD ELVERSON TRAIN STATION
PO BOX 255
ELVERSON, PA 19520
PHONE: (610) 286-1922
FAX: (610) 286-1922

(610) 326-2626 POTTSTOWN



House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

COMMITTEES:

AGING & OLDER ADULT SERVICES
REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
POLICY

thenness@pahousegop.com
rephennessey.com

June 2, 2014

*Bureau for Historic Preservation/PHMC
Keystone Bldg, 2nd Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093*

Dear Ms. Frantz,

On Tuesday June 10th the Historic Preservation Board will consider nominating the Nantmeal Village Area Historic District for addition to the Nantmeal Register of Historic Places. I support the request that Nantmeal Village (in East Nantmeal Township, Chester County, PA) be added to the National Register.

Nantmeal Village is a fine example of a rural market-type village – one of only a few remaining in Chester County. It remains largely intact, much as it was over 100 years ago. Being on the National Register will highlight the village's importance in the Township's overall preservation efforts, which have been very successful and long-standing. Some of the farm buildings being preserved are almost 280 years old, dating from the 1740's.

I support the request for nomination to the Nantmeal Register, and urge the Board to approve this request at its meeting on June 10th.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Tim Hennessey'.

*Tim Hennessey
State Representative
26th Legislative District*

TH/wlk



THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



COMMISSIONERS

Ryan Costello
Kathi Cozzone
Terence Farrell

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS

313 W. Market Street, Suite 6202
P.O. Box 2748
West Chester, PA 19380-0991
(610) 344-6100

June 2, 2014

Ms. April E. Frantz
National Register Program/Eastern Region
Bureau for Historic Preservation/PHMC
Keystone Building, 2nd Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093

Re: Nantmeal Village Area National Register Historic District

Dear Ms. Frantz:

We are writing to register our support for the East Nantmeal History Society's application to nominate the addition of Nantmeal Village Area Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places.

East Nantmeal's application reflects a six year public/private effort by the township and its citizens to obtain this well-deserved recognition for the historic village and its surrounding farms. The nomination will further East Nantmeal Township's efforts to preserve its historic resources and conserve its farmland and open space.

Thank you for your consideration of this important application.

Sincerely,

Ryan Costello
Chairman

Kathi Cozzone
Commissioner

Terence Farrell
Commissioner

Frantz, April

From: Scott Traphagen <thehorsedoc1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 02, 2014 2:59 PM
To: Frantz, April
Cc: John And Lisa Hevner
Subject: Ms. April Frantz

Ms. April Frantz
afrantz@pa.gov

Dear Ms Frantz;

I am writing in support of the Village of Nantmeal's Nomination to become listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

As an owner of a historic home within the boundaries of Nantmeal Village I am very pleased and supportive of the proposal and truly Hope that our lovely quaint village meets the criterion to be listed.

Sincerely,
Dr. D. Scott Traphagen MFH

Sent from my iPhone Have a great day . SCOTT

44TH DISTRICT
JOHN C. RAFFERTY, JR.

SENATE BOX 203044
20 EAST WING
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3044
(717) 787-1398
FAX (717) 783-4587

3818 GERMANTOWN PIKE, SUITE B
COLLEGEVILLE, PA 19426
610-831-8830
FAX 610-831-8837

THE SHOPPES AT PUGHTOWN
2325 POTTSTOWN PIKE
POTTSTOWN, PA 19465
610-469-8390
FAX 610-469-8394

INTERNET EMAIL ADDRESS:
jrafferty@psen.gov

WEBSITE:
senatorrafferty.com



Senate of Pennsylvania

June 5, 2014

COMMITTEES

TRANSPORTATION, CHAIRMAN
JUDICIARY, VICE CHAIRMAN
APPROPRIATIONS
BANKING & INSURANCE
CONSUMER PROTECTION &
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE
LAW AND JUSTICE

ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE SOUTHEASTERN
VETERANS' CENTER
JOINT STATE GOVERNMENT COMMISSION,
VICE CHAIRMAN
PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON
CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON
SENTENCING
TARGETED COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION
AND CRIME PREVENTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

April E. Frantz
National Register Program/Eastern Region
Bureau for Historic Preservation
Keystone Building, 2nd Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093

Re: Nantmeal Village Area National Register Historic District

Dear Ms. Frantz:

I write to convey my support for a recent application submitted by the East Nantmeal Historical Society for the nomination of the proposed Nantmeal Village Area Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places.

The designation of this area in the National Registry is long overdue and is critical to preserving this area for future generations. Your approval of this application will further serve to validate the hard work of both the East Nantmeal Historical Society as well as East Nantmeal Township officials in preserving the open space and farmland necessary to keep this historic village area intact. This effort to preserve this area is decades in the making and it is my hope that you recognize the significance of this area and its historical value.

I respectfully request your favorable consideration of this application. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Rafferty, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

John C. Rafferty, Jr.

Frantz, April

From: ccrunch <ccrunch@ptd.net>
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 3:39 PM
To: Frantz, April
Subject: E. Nantmeal

Dear Ms Frantz,

We live on Essick Rd. very near Nantmeal Village. We are in full support of the nomination for Nantmeal Village to be declared a National Historic District and hope that it meets the criterion.

Sincerely,
Dr. & Mrs. Edward F. Baird

Frantz, April

From: johnhevner <johnhevner@ptd.net>
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2014 3:24 PM
To: Frantz, April
Cc: thehorsedoc1@gmail.com
Subject: Village of Nantmeal

Dear Ms. Frantz:

I understand that the Village of Nantmeal has been nominated for listing in the National Registry of Historic Places. I am writing you to express our support for the nomination proposal. Our historic home is located in East Nantmeal Township, within walking distance of the Village, and we sincerely hope that the Village meets the required criteria for listing and is awarded this important designation. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Hevner

East Nantmeal Historical Commission
3383 Conestoga Road
Glenmoore, PA 19343

June 9, 2014

April E. Frantz
National Register Program/Eastern Region
Bureau for Historic Preservation
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093

Dear Ms. Frantz,

The East Nantmeal Historical Commission is excited that Nantmeal Village has come before your board to be judged on eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. Our community overwhelmingly supports National Register Status for Nantmeal Village.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristine Gordon-Watson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and "W".

Kristine Gordon-Watson, Chair

Frantz, April

From: Robison, Carlena <carlena.robison@av.abbott.com>
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2014 2:57 PM
To: Frantz, April
Subject: FW: East Nantmeal nomination for the National Register

Dear Ms. Franz,

My home is in the center of the village that has been nominated to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Every evening as I drive home, from any direction, I see the most beautiful landscape, homes and farms. I treasure this place and the people who have chosen to live here, it is our common bond and we are very lucky. I want to acknowledge all the effort and time invested by many to see this process to this critical point.

Please know that I am in full support of the proposal to list the special place as a historic resource, I hope it meets the criteria, it truly exceeds mine every day.

Carlena Robison
Clinical and Sales Integration Manager
Abbott Vascular
484-919-9145 cell
610-469-1754 office
carlena.robison@av.abbott.com
www.abbottvascular.com

JIM GERLACH

6TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT REVENUE MEASURES

HOUSE LAND CONSERVATION CAUCUS
CO-CHAIR

2442 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4315
FAX: (202) 225-8440

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3806

www.gerlach.house.gov
twitter.com/jimgerlach
www.facebook.com/repjimgerlach

June 5, 2014

Ms. April E. Frantz
National Register Program-Eastern Region
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Bureau for Historical Preservation
Keystone Building, 2nd Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093



Re: Nantmeal Village Area National Register Historic District

Dear Ms. Frantz:

I write today to express my wholehearted support for the East Nantmeal Historic Society's application to nominate the addition of Nantmeal Village Area Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places.

The nomination of Nantmeal Village will further the significant efforts East Nantmeal Township has made to preserve its historic resources and to pursue the open space preservation of the surrounding farmlands, some of which include stone farmhouses and barns dating from the 1740's.

East Nantmeal's application details the importance of achieving this nomination. I believe their application is most worthy and hope that you will give it your most serious consideration.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Gerlach".

Jim Gerlach
Member of Congress

JG/gbf

cc. Mr. Tyler E. Wren
East Nantmeal Historical Society

DISTRICT OFFICES:

BERKS COUNTY
840 NORTH PARK ROAD
WYOMISSING, PA 19610
(610) 376-7630
FAX: (610) 376-7633

CHESTER COUNTY
111 EAST UWCHLAN AVENUE
EXTON, PA 19341
(610) 594-1415
FAX: (610) 594-1419

LEBANON COUNTY
400 SOUTH 8TH STREET, ROOM 110
LEBANON, PA 17042
(717) 454-0462
FAX: (717) 454-0496

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
580 MAIN STREET, SUITE 4
TRAPPE, PA 19426
(610) 409-2780
FAX: (610) 409-7988

NANTMEAL
VILLAGE HD

LETTERS OF
OBJECTION

- NOTARIZED -

TO Serena Bellew
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

6/2/14

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
County of Chester



My name is Debra Shaw
(Debra Morgan) I own 337
Nantmeal Rd and also 339

Nantmeal Rd Glenmoore Pa. 19343

This property is in the village
of East Nantmeal. I understand
one supervisor and others are
trying to make the village and
other farm land into a Historic
Village and or district. I am
not ever interested in this please
let this be my NO VOTE.
Thank you.

Debra Shaw
(AKA Debra Morgan)
over for not interested

Sworn to and subscribed before me

this 2nd day of June, 2014



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Notarial Seal
Theresa C. DiLibero, Notary Public
West Vincent Twp., Chester County
My Commission Expires May 23, 2017
MEMBER, PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF NOTARIES



6-5-14

To the Bureau of Historic Preservation

We the owners of Parcels UPI: 24-5-40
24-5-97

Donna Kay Keen
Lane S. Keen Sr.
1993 Fairview Rd.
Glen Moore, Pa. 1934
E. Nantmeal Twp. Chester Co. Pa.

We do NOT want to be part of the
Proposed Historic District of E. Nantmeal Twp.

Donna Kay Keen
Donna Kay Keen

Lane S Keen Sr.
Lane S. Keen Sr.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

County of Montgomery

Sworn to and subscribed before me

this 5th day of June, 2014.

Tammy L. Antush
Notary Public



RECEIVED ON
JUN 09 '14
BUREAU FOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

John R. Silknitter
242 Bertolet School Rd.
Spring City, PA 19475
June 6, 2014

Ms. Serena Bellew
Bureau for Historical Preservation/PHMC
400 North Street, Second Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093

Dear Ms. Bellew,

Subject: **The National Register of Historic Places
Proposed Nantmeal Village Area (Chester County, PA) National
Historic District**

As a property owner in the village of Nantmeal (1845 Fairview Road, Glenmoore, PA), I wish to advise you that **I am against the proposal** to include the Nantmeal Village Area in the National Register of Historic Places. This proposal is scheduled to be voted upon at your June 10th meeting.

Please mark your records accordingly. Thank you for your considerations.

Sincerely,



John R. Silknitter

Sworn to and subscribed
before me this 6th day
of June, 2014.


Notary Public

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Notarial Seal
Karen S. Huss, Notary Public
Pottstown Boro, Montgomery County
My Commission Expires Jan. 14, 2015
MEMBER, PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF NOTARIES

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

County of Chester



June ⁹~~8~~ 2014

Serena Bellew
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
400 North Street 2nd Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093

I have lived in Nantmeal Village for many years and love it here. I am objecting to the proposed Historic District designation of Nantmeal Village. I do not want my property designated as such, nor do I support the designation of the village as historic.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Gladys Smith

327 Nantmeal Village Rd.

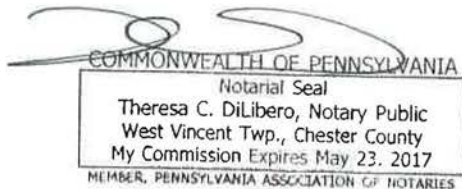
Glenmoore, PA 19343

Sworn to and subscribed before me

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

this 9th day of June, 2014

County of Chester



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

County of Chester

Serena Bellew

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

400 North Street 2nd Floor

Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093



This letter is official notification that I do not support the designation of Nantmeal Village as a historic district. I object to the proposed Historic District designation of Nantmeal Village.

I live in the heart of Nantmeal Village at 354 Nantmeal Rd., Glenmoore, PA and want to make sure my voice is heard against this proposal. My long time neighbors who have lived in the village for many years, do not support this designation. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debra Bill".

Debra Bill

354 Nantmeal Rd.

Nantmeal Village

Glenmoore, PA 19343

Sworn to and subscribed before me

this 9th day of June, 2014.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely belonging to the Notary Public.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Notarial Seal
Theresa C. DiLibero, Notary Public
West Vincent Twp., Chester County
My Commission Expires May 23, 2017
MEMBER, PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF NOTARIES

RECEIVED ON
JUN 10 '14
BUREAU FOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Deputy Bellew ;

re; Nantmeal Historic district

my name is Jeff Morton 325 Nantmeal road Glenmoore Pa, I own my residence , it was obtained thru much hard work and sacrifice to myself and family , I treasure it deeply , I am a peaceable man and greatly enjoy the liberties of a free nation , I wish to enjoy my freedom and property without interference from others , but recently my liberties have been threatened by outsiders who wish to impose upon myself and others the desires they have for my property, this historic register attempt did not originate with local homeowners but with those outside our village , when it first was proposed my property was on the original list , upon my vehement objections to our twp supervisor to be registered the issue died for a while , then it resurfaced in another form , since many village homeowners objected this new plan surfaced to include @ 1000 acres therby hoping to bypass the objections of the village residents it is a deceptive ploy to gain power over the rights of many to the pleasure of few ! let me make myself clear I OBJECT TO THE PROPOSED "HISTORIC REGISTER" IN EAST

NANTMEAL TWP PENNA

Sincerely JEFF MORTON

NANTMEAL
VILLAGE HD
LETTER OBJECTING
- NOT
NOTARIZED