

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

William Brinton 1704 House

AND/OR COMMON

1704 House or William Brinton House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Oakland Road near junction of U.S. 202 and County Route 15199

CITY, TOWN

Dilworthtown

 VICINITY OF

-- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th

STATE

Pennsylvania

CODE  
42

COUNTY

Delaware

CODE

045

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**

DISTRICT  
 BUILDING(S)  
 STRUCTURE  
 SITE  
 OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

PUBLIC  
 PRIVATE

 BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

IN PROCESS  
 BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

OCCUPIED  
 UNOCCUPIED  
 WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

YES: RESTRICTED  
 YES: UNRESTRICTED  
 NO

**PRESENT USE**

AGRICULTURE  MUSEUM  
 COMMERCIAL  PARK  
 EDUCATIONAL  PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
 ENTERTAINMENT  RELIGIOUS  
 GOVERNMENT  SCIENTIFIC  
 INDUSTRIAL  TRANSPORTATION  
 MILITARY  OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Chester County Historical Society

STREET &amp; NUMBER

225 North High Street

CITY, TOWN

West Chester

 VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Delaware County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Front and South Streets

CITY, TOWN

Media

STATE

Pennsylvania

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT-restored	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William Brinton 1704 House is a two story structure with stone walls, 22 inches thick, laid in courses of various widths. The steep gable roof has six dormers, three to a side and there are pent eaves over the first floor windows on the north and south sides and over the second story windows on the east and west ends. The 27 casement windows installed in the restoration all have diamond panes with leaded sash. There are brick chimneys set just within either end wall and a small one-and-a-half story frame service wing built on the same axis added to the east end of the stone house in the early 19th century.

On the interior, the first floor contains two rooms, a large living hall or room and a bedroom, each with a fireplace. The second floor has three bedrooms, one of which has a fireplace. Before William Brinton's death the east room had been divided into two smaller bedrooms creating the three which were kept in the restoration. The large kitchen, with a reconstructed hood fireplace and a built-in bake oven, and two smaller rooms for storage, are located in the cellar.

The 1704 House was greatly enlarged and altered by the addition of a large serpentine stone wing in 1881. The old stone house itself was also remodeled during the 19th century to include many Gothic Revival features.

A great deal of restoration and reconstruction was therefore necessary to return the house to its original appearance. This work involved the following steps; after removal of the large 1881 stone wing, and all of the other 19th century features, including wood and plaster, from the old stone house, the restoration architect, Mr. G. Edwin Brumbaugh, was able to study and evaluate all of the architectural evidence thus uncovered. The exact type, size and location of the 27 original leaded glass windows was revealed. The width of boards in the room partitions was also made clear. The location and size of the bake oven in the cellar, of the seats by the front door and of the stairways and closets were likewise disclosed. Where all evidence had vanished, local residences of the same period and type were studied and this information was used in the reconstruction and restoration. The main original extant portions of the house are now comprised of the stone walls, floor beams, most of the flooring, and the framing for the roof. The small 19th century frame wing at the east end of the old house has been adapted for use by the caretaker.

### Boundary

The 1704 House is just off of Oakland Road on the west, a narrow country road which forms a loop off the busy industrial Route 202 which passes not far to the east of the Brinton 1704 House. Although passing traffic can be glimpsed from the east side of the house, it is protected somewhat from the noise and visual intrusion of the highway by its site on a slight bluff which rises to the west of Route 202. Modern housing is adjacent to the property on the south and some light industry is located a short distance to the north. The boundary of the 1704 House has been drawn to include open fields around the house, excluding modern development in an effort to maintain some environment for the once rural farm house, beginning at the southern property line of the 1704 House which is marked by posts and trees, at the point of its intersection with Oakland Road then continuing north along Oakland Road to the rear of the house.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES                      1704                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed in 1704, this farmhouse, named for its date, was built of stone from a nearby quarry and serves as an illustration of the early manor house in the Delaware Valley. As restored, the house is an oblong two and a half story structure with a full cellar and a brick chimney at each end. The steep roof has six dormer windows and there are pent eaves over the first floor windows on the north and south sides of the house. As an example of a comfortable country house in the early Pennsylvania settlement, the 1704 House provides an interesting example of the blending of English 17th-century house design with local Pennsylvania building traditions.

### History

The house was built by William Brinton the younger for his growing family in 1704. After his death, the house was occupied by his son Edward, his grandson George, and his great-grandson Joseph. The house remained in the family until 1860. After several owners and alterations the house was purchased in 1947 by Mr. and Mrs. Francis D. Brinton, descendants of the original owners, and donated to the Chester County Historical Society. With money raised by the Brinton Family Association, extensive restoration was undertaken in 1954 to return the house to its original form.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Pratt, Dorothy and Richard, A Guide to Early American Houses--North,  
New York, 1956, p. 182.

The 1704 House, Leaflet published by the Chester County Historical Society,  
West Chester, Pennsylvania, 1967.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY c. 3

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	8
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4	5	2	0	4	0
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LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE **Patricia Heintzelman, Architectural Historian, Landmark Review Project;**  
**Original Form prepared by Charles W. Snell, 1967.**

ORGANIZATION **Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service** DATE **9/18/75**

STREET & NUMBER **1100 L Street NW** TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN **Washington** STATE **D.C.**

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS **Landmark** **Dec 24, 1967**

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL **Designated: .....**

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Pub. Law 89-665),  
I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the  
criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE **(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)** **date 12/5/78**

TITLE DATE

<b>FOR NPS USE ONLY</b>	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE <b>4/3/78</b>
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE
ATTEST	DATE
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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1704 House, Dilworthtown, Pennsylvania

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

rear or north line which is marked by trees, about 70 feet to the north of the house, then east along this line of trees in a straight line to the edge of the bluff at Route 202, then south along this bluff line to a point in line with the point of beginning, then west along this line to the point of beginning. There is also a small stone outbuilding to the northeast and two barn-like structures also to the northeast. The small stone building is included in the landmark but the two barn structures do not contribute to the national significance of the landmark and are not included in the boundary.