

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE: Pennsylvania
COUNTY: Lancaster
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS) (Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON: Elizabeth Farms
AND/OR HISTORIC: Stiegel-Coleman House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: RD #2, Lititz			
CITY OR TOWN: Pennsylvania, Rte. 501, N. of Brickerville		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Pennsylvania District 16	
STATE: Pennsylvania	CODE: 42	COUNTY: Lancaster	CODE: 71

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Francis Coleman/Bertram Coleman	STATE: Pennsylvania
STREET AND NUMBER: 3940 Fordham Road, NW. (Washington)/Rock Creek Road (Bryn Mawr)	
CITY OR TOWN: Washington and Bryn Mawr	
STATE: D.C. & Pennsylvania	
CODE: 11&42	COUNTY: Lancaster

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Recorder of Deeds	COUNTY: Lancaster
STREET AND NUMBER: Lancaster County Court House	
CITY OR TOWN: Lancaster	
STATE: Pennsylvania	
CODE: 42	FOR NPS USE ONLY

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:	ENTRY NUMBER
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN:	
STATE:	
CODE:	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A low stone wall, topped by an iron fence, encircles the front of the Stiegel-Coleman House. Huge old trees also surround the residence, partially blocking it from view from a distance. Little changed since the eighteenth century, the mansion is much as it was when it was the center of an industrial empire.

Stiegel built the southeastern section of the residence, which is on the right as you face the house, sometime between 1756-58. It is a two-story, gable-roofed stone structure. A long stone wing extends to the north behind the east end of the Stiegel House. A wood belfry sits on the south end of the wing, which ends in an icehouse. The wing also included the ironmaster's office, as well as the cell where the Hessian prisoners were kept.

The Coleman addition to the Stiegel House was erected sometime between 1776 and 1790, probably nearer the latter date than the former. The addition projects forward from the west end of the Stiegel section and is a two-story stone building that has been plastered. It has a gable roof, with one dormer window in front. A porch protects the front and two sides of the house.

Inside, the Coleman wing has been changed only by the addition of bathrooms. As you enter from the front, one can move into a parlor on the right from a hall that runs through the width of the building. The parlor is distinguished by its original handblocked French wallpaper. Also, the room, as do the house's other rooms, retains its original woodwork. The dining room is behind the parlor. Across the hallway from the parlor is the living room and behind it is a room that presently contains exhibits concerning Stiegel and Coleman. On the second floor there are three bedrooms, plus a bath that has been made out of a bedroom. The third floor contains additional rooms, probably servants' room originally.

A lovely terraced garden, dominated by ancient boxwood, sits behind the house. The garden was probably laid out between 1800-1810.

In addition to the Stiegel-Coleman House, there are several other buildings that date from the estate's active iron producing years. Huber's small one-story stone house is just east of the main house, and a large charcoal house is just beyond Huber's residence. In back of the Huber residence is a large stone stable. Unfortunately, Elizabeth Furnace has disappeared.

The preceding buildings may be visited only by special permission.

(Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1756-1790**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The William Henry Stiegel-Robert Coleman House, Lititz, Pennsylvania, is associated with two of the Country's early and significant industrialists, and over a century of early American iron manufacturing. Between 1756 and 1758, Stiegel built the original section of the house close by his Elizabeth Furnace where he produced the iron and glass manufactures that earned him his fortune and his fame. In 1776 the house and furnace were acquired by the young ironmaster, Robert Coleman, who eventually amassed one of the largest fortunes in post-Revolutionary Pennsylvania. Between 1776 and 1790, Coleman constructed a major addition to the original house, and between 1800 and 1810 he had a formal garden laid out. The house is still owned by the Coleman family, and is used as a private residence.

History

The Stiegel-Coleman House stands in an estate that was associated with iron manufacturing for over a century. In 1746, John Jacob Huber acquired 400 acres of land in Lancaster County and shortly after built a small stone house, which still stands near the Stiegel-Coleman residence. Huber, reputedly Pennsylvania's first German ironmaster, erected a furnace about 1750, and, among other products, manufactured five-plate stoves. But Huber is especially remembered because Stiegel married his daughter.

Little is known about Stiegel's earliest years. He was born on May 13, 1729, perhaps in Manheim, Germany. The eldest of six children, he apparently visited England sometime before travelling to Pennsylvania. He migrated from Europe in the summer of 1750, arriving in Philadelphia in August on the ship Nancy with his mother and younger brother.

A man of energy and ambition, the immigrant soon became an important colonial industrialist. He obtained employment at Huber's furnace about 1752 and subsequently married his employer's daughter, Elizabeth. Around 1756, Stiegel and several partners purchased Huber's furnace. The young ironmaster then built a new furnace and named it "Elizabeth" after his wife. Business boomed for the German. By 1763 he had decided to manufacture glass, so he erected a glass house at Elizabeth Furnace, and its success caused Stiegel to concentrate on glass making. Although retaining an interest in Elizabeth Furnace for several years, he by 1765 had

(Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Herbert H. Beck, "Elizabeth Furnace Plantation," Journal of the Lancaster County Historical Society, #69, (Hilarymas, 1965).  
 Arthur C. Bining, Pennsylvania Iron Manufacture in the Eighteenth Century (Harrisburg, 1938).

S. Sydney Bradford, "The Stiegel-Coleman House," National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings form 10-317, 2/20/1967.

(Continued)

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NW	UTM 18.389640	44.55160		0	' "	0 ' "
NE	18.390230	44.54870				
SE	18.390230	44.54470				
SW	18.389270	44.54470				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **85 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Richard E. Greenwood, Survey Historian, Landmark Review Task Force

ORGANIZATION: Historic Sites Surve, Landmark Review Project

DATE: 10/17/74

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 1100 L Street

CITY OR TOWN: Washington

STATE: D.C.

CODE: 11

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

Landmark Designated Nov 13, 1966

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

Caroline Lane 7-2-75

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Chief, Hist. & Arch. Surveys

ATTEST:

Boundary Affirmed:

*R. W. ...* 7/2/75

Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

date

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(NATIONAL HISTORIC  
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(Number all entries)

7. Description: (1)

Elizabeth Farms

Boundaries

Beginning at the junction of the entrance road with State Route 501, proceed S along the northern curb of the entrance road 400', thence along the 500' contour approximately 800', thence SE, continuing to follow the 500' contour for 2,000', thence S to the north curb of U.S. 76, thence W along the north curb of U.S. 76 to its intersection with the east curb of Rte. 501, thence N to the point of origin, along the east curb of Rte. 501.

These boundaries enclose the Stiegel-Coleman House and its outbuildings. The additional land has been include in an effort to enclose the potential archeological sites of the Elizabeth Furnace and other related structures. Further research is indicated for the documentation and development of these sites.

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8. Statement of Significance: (1)

Elizabeth Farms

established the village of Manheim as a glass producing center. But the "Baron," as he became known because of his expansive mode of living, ultimately failed and died in poverty on January 10, 1785.

Unlike Stiegel, Robert Coleman died a rich man. Born near Castle Finn, Donaghmore, County Donegal, Ireland, on November 4, 1748, he emigrated to the colony of Pennsylvania in 1764. He was sixteen, and supposedly landed in Philadelphia with three guineas in his purse. He also had some letters of introduction to friends of his father. He obtained a job in a store in Philadelphia, but soon moved to Reading, where he worked as a clerk for a legal official for two years. A better opportunity then arose and in 1766 Coleman became a bookkeeper at nearby Hopewell Forge at £100 a year. Within six months he had left that forge and had taken a job at Quitapahilla Forge, near Lebanon, Pennsylvania. This forge was owned by James Old, whose daughter, Ann, Coleman married on October 4, 1773. Shortly after his marriage, he rented Salford Forge near Norristown. While operating it during the next three years, he learned the art of cannon casting.

Near the end of his tenure at Salford Forge, the American Revolution began. It resulted in independence for the United States and a boom in the iron industry, and Coleman benefited from both.

The young ironmaster unhesitatingly supported the American cause. After leaving Salford Forge, Coleman first rented and then gradually became the sole owner of Stiegel's Elizabeth Furnace. Under Coleman's direction, the furnace concentrated on the production of war material during the Revolution. In order to enable the furnace to continue manufacturing shot, shells, and cannon as the labor supply dwindled, the Second Continental Congress permitted Coleman to use Hessian prisoners at his works. In 1783, the ironmaster counted seventy German captives at his furnace.

Following independence, Coleman's iron empire expanded dramatically. He purchased Speedwell Forge on Hammer Creek in 1784. This forge had been erected by Coleman's father-in-law in 1760. In 1791, he erected a furnace on Conewago Creek in Lebanon County. It cost £2,600 and in its first year of producing, April, 1791-April, 1792, was called Mt. Joy Furnace. In 1792, it was renamed "Colebrook Furnace." Six years later the affluent Coleman acquired historic Cornwall Furnace. This ironworks had been built in 1742 by Peter Grubb and was located on Furnace Creek in Lebanon County. The year 1798 is also significant in Coleman's career, because by June of that year he owned five-sixths of the rich Cornwall iron ore mines near Cornwall Furnace. The oldest continuously exploited iron mines in the United States, they furnished Coleman with high grade ore for his various ironworks.

As Coleman expanded and prospered, he used his sons to manage his forges and furnaces. They were initiated to the practical side of the business at some of their father's forges, usually at Hopewell or Speedwell Forge. If a son

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8. Statement of Significance: (2)

Elizabeth Farms

performed successfully at a forge for several years, he was then promoted to a furnace. As a result of his business acumen and his sons' skills, Coleman's works by 1809 annually manufactured about 2,000 tons of pig iron and 1,100 tons of bar iron.

The ironmaster also had an active public life. A member of the Pennsylvania militia, Coleman fought in the Battle of Brooklyn in September, 1776, and continued to serve until 1781. He sat as a member of the Commonwealth's General Assembly in 1783-1784; voted as a delegate to ratify the Federal constitution; and acted as a member of the Pennsylvania Constitutional Convention of 1789-1790. Other public services included an associate judgeship in Lancaster County between 1791 and 1796.

When Coleman died in 1825, he owned three furnaces, four forges, a rolling and slitting mill, and 22,000 acres of land. That large and valuable estate was inherited by his four sons, who continued to operate the various works for many years.

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(Continuation Sheet)

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Pennsylvania	
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(Number all entries)

9. Major Bibliographical References: (1) Elizabeth Farms

Joseph L. Delafield, "Notes on the Life and Work of Robert Coleman,"  
Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, XXXVI (April, 1951).

J. P. Lesley, The Iron Manufacturer's Guide to the Furnaces, Forges, and  
Rolling Mills of the United States (New York, 1859).

Frederic K. Miller, The Rise of an Iron Community, An Economic History of  
Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, from 1740 to 1865 (Unpublished Dissertation,  
University of Pennsylvania, 1956).

James M. Swank, History of the Manufacture of Iron in All Ages (Philadelphia,  
1892).

Carlton O. Wittenger, Early Manufacturing in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania  
(Unpublished Dissertation, University of Pennsylvania, 1953).



stone wall

Terraced Gardens

Built by Robert Coleman between 1776 & 1790

Built by William Henry Stiegel 1756-8

Stiegel's Office

Hessian prisoners wife confined here in the cellar

Ice-House  
Wood Shed

Entrance Road

Stable

1  
/m

Cabin Built by Jacob Huber 1740

Charcoal Shed

iron fence

not drawn to scale

LITITZE.  
Quad.

