

**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM – PHOTO/SITE PLAN SHEET**  
**Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission, Bureau of Historic Preservation**  
**Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1026**

Survey Code / HR #:	66-012	Historic / Other Name:	Lenape Stock Farm / Lenape
Tax Parcel #	66-2-4	Address:	740 East Street Rd.
County:	Chester 029	Municipality:	Thornbury Township

**740 East Street Rd.**

**Photographs**

Photo 1: North (front)  
Elevation, House

**Photographer:**

J. Christopher Lang

**Date:** 9/11/2007

**Negative Location:**

Thornbury Township



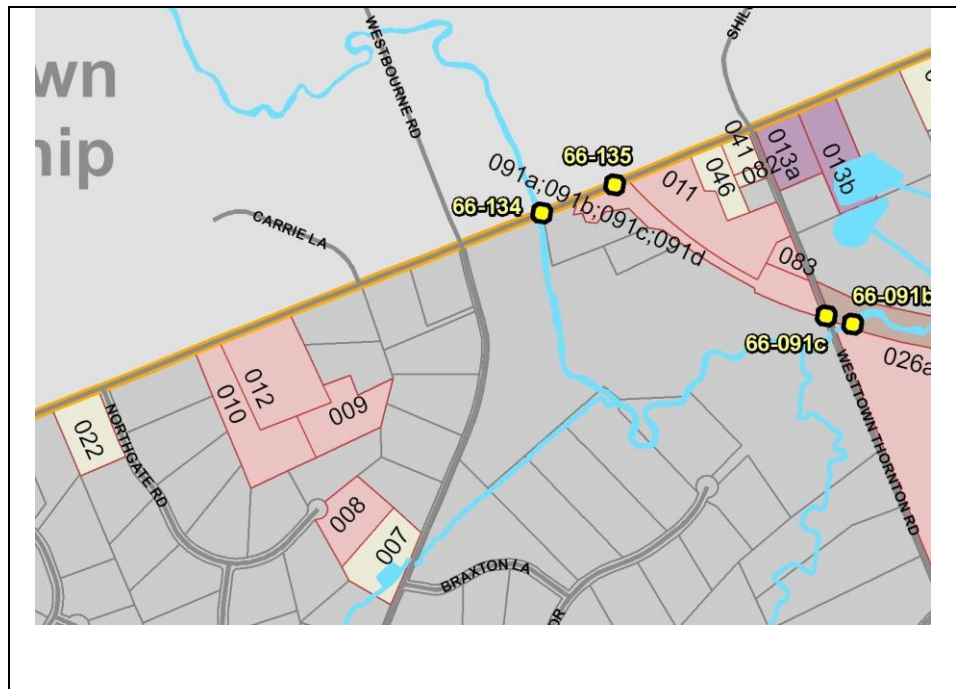
**Location Map**

Thornbury Township  
Historic Resource  
Inventory GIS Map

**LOOK FOR: HR #012**

**MAP KEY**

012 = HR Number  
Purple = Class 1  
Pink = Class 2  
Yellow = Class 3  
Med. Grey = Class 4



**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM – DATA SHEET**

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

<b>IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION</b>				
Survey Code/HR #	66-012	Tax Parcel No.	66-2-4	
County	1. Chester 029	2.		
Municipality	1. Thornbury Township	2.		
Address	740 East Street Rd.			
Historic Name	Lenape Stock Farm / Lenape			
Other Name				
Owner Name / Address				
Owner Category	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Public – local	<input type="checkbox"/> Public – state	<input type="checkbox"/> Public – Federal
Resource Category	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object
Number/Approximate Number of Resources Covered by This Form	2			
USGS Quad	1. West Chester	2.		
UTM References	A.	B.	C.	D.

<b>HISTORIC AND CURRENT FUNCTIONS</b>			
Historic Function Category		Subcategory	Code
A.	Domestic	Single Dwelling	01 A
B.	Domestic	Secondary Structure	01 C
C.			
D.			
Particular Type	A.	Mansion House	
	B.	Tenant House	
	C.		
	D.		
Current Function Category		Subcategory	Code
A.	Domestic	Single Dwelling	01 A
B.	Domestic	Secondary Structure	01 C
C.			
D.			

<b>PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
Architectural Classification	A.	Gothic Revival	B.	C.
		32		
	D.	Other		
Exterior Materials	Foundation		Roof	Slate 45
	Walls	Stone 40 (Serpentine)	Walls	Wood Shingle 22
	Other	Iron 51	Other	
Structural System	1. Masonry 20		2.	
Width 3 Bays D	Depth 2 Rooms B		Stories / Height 2.5 B	

**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM – NARRATIVE SHEET****89C**

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

Survey Code/Historic Resource #66-012 / Lenape Stock Farm / Lenape / 740 East Street Rd.

**HISTORICAL INFORMATION**Year Built: X c. 1865 Additions/Alterations Dates: c.Basis for Dating: \_\_\_ Documentary X Physical

Explain: Architecturally, the house dates from c. 1830 to c. 1880.

Cultural / Ethnic Affiliation	1. N/A	2.	Associated Individuals	1. N/A	2.
Associated Events	1. N/A	2.	Architects / Engineers	1. N/A	2.
Builders	1. N/A	2.			

**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Dorchester, Jane E. "Deed Lineage Historic Resource #012, Lenape Stock Farm / Lenape." Thornbury Township, July 31, 2009.

**PREVIOUS SURVEY, DETERMINATIONS**

Included in the Chester County Historic Sites Survey as Thornbury Township Historic Site #10b, 1979.

**EVALUATION (Survey Director/Consultants Only)**Individual NR Potential: X Yes \_\_\_ No Context(s):Contributes to Potential District X Yes \_\_\_ No District Name/Status: Serpentine Multiple Property Group/Potential

Class: 2

Justification: The Township of Thornbury has deemed this property to have the potential to be eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places either as an individual resource or as a contributing resource to a potential historic district.

**THREATS**Threats: 1 1. None 2. Public Development 3. Private Development 4. Neglect 5. Other

Explain:

<b>SURVEYOR INFORMATION</b>			
Surveyor Name / Title	Jane E. Dorchester	Date	8/2009
Project Name	Thornbury Township VPP Historic Resource Inventory & Survey		
Organization	Jane E. Dorchester, Historic Preservation Consultant	Telephone	610-431-3737
Street and No.	19 S. Church St.		
City, State	West Chester, Pa.	Zip Code	19382
Additional Survey Documentation			
Associated Survey Codes	PHMC Key #022606		

**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL RESOURCE SURVEY FORM – NARRATIVE SHEET 89C**

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**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

Lenape is a three-bay, two-and-a-half-story, truncated-hipped roofed, serpentine stone, Gothic Revival building that faces north. There are three interior chimneys placed at the northwest, southwest, and northeast corners of the house and a wood cupola located, more or less, in the center of the roof. The north (front) elevation features an off-set front-gable pavilion located on its west end and an off-set cross-gable on its east end with a small, front-gable dormer in between. A one-story, truncated-tent-roofed, iron porch wraps around the house on its north, east, and south elevations. The east elevation features two cross gables, one on its south end and one on its north end with a front-gable dormer between them. The south elevation features a center cross gable flanked by two front-gable dormers (one on each side). The west elevation features an off-set, front-gable, pavilion on its north end and a three-story, three-sided, serpentine and frame, Queen Anne tower capped by a tent roof on its south end. There is a small front-gable dormer squeezed in between the pavilion and the tower. The tower was added to the house, probably in the late 1890s or early 1900s.

There is a two-bay, two-story, front-gable, frame building located to the west of the house. It faces north and features an interior chimney on its south elevation and a full-length, one-story, shed-roofed, wood porch on its north elevation. This building may have been erected originally for use as a carriage shed/stable, wagon shed, or early garage.

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**HISTORICAL NARRATIVE** (including a brief statement of significance for Class 2 properties only):

The property that became Lenape Stock Farm was acquired by Samuel J. Sharpless from the heirs of Edward Shimer in 1859. This property was made up of two tracts located in Westtown and Thornbury Townships. The Thornbury Township tract consisted of 86 acres and included an existing farmhouse, barn, and spring house (HR #008). Sharpless proceeded to have a large, serpentine stone Gothic Revival mansion house and carriage house (HR #009) constructed on a rise of land to the north of and overlooking the existing farmstead. These two buildings were probably completed by c. 1865. Sharpless named his country estate “Lenape Stock Farm”. He retained ownership of his farm, adding to his acreage, selling off bits and pieces (see HR #011), and constructing at least one other house (HR #010), until his death in 1904. His children (his only heirs-at-law) Charlotte M. Waln, Elizabeth J. Sharpless, Samuel Franklin Sharpless [II], and Thomas Wilson Sharpless divided Lenape Stock Farm among themselves. Charlotte took a tract of land of approximately 53 acres upon which she had a mansion house (HR #086) constructed. In 1908, Elizabeth Sharpless took the 11 acres of the farm that included the mansion house and its carriage house. She then married Lucian Keith of Virginia and in 1911, she took the 189 acres that included the farmstead (HR #008), thereby gaining control of the total acreage that originally had made up Lenape Stock Farm. After her death in 1921, Lenape Stock Farm was broken up for the final time. The farmstead was sold out of the family and her brother Samuel took possession of the 11 acres with the mansion house, Lenape, on it. It is very possible that he had been living in the carriage house during his sister’s ownership. Lenape finally left the Sharpless family when Samuel’s widow sold it in 1948.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Lenape Stock Farm / Lenape is significant for three reasons. First, it is significant under Criterion C (architecture) because Lenape is an outstanding example of the Gothic Revival architecture fashionable in the mid-Nineteenth Century. The house is one of a collection of excellent examples of fashionable mid-Victorian architecture located in Thornbury Township. Second, it is significant for what it can tell us about the evolution of the use of serpentine stone as a construction material. And third, it is significant because of what it can tell us about the establishment and development of country estates and gentleman’s farms in Thornbury Township in the mid-Nineteenth Century through the early Twentieth Century.

**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL RESOURCE SURVEY FORM – PHOTOGRAPH SHEET**

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

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Photographer	J. Christopher Lang	Date	9/11/2007



East Elevation, House



South (back) Elevation, House

**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL RESOURCE SURVEY FORM – PHOTOGRAPH SHEET**

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North (front) and West Elevations, House



North (front) and West Elevations, Tenant House, with West Elevation, House in Background