

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

Survey Code / HR #:	66-025a & b	Historic / Other Name:	Meadowcroft
Tax Parcel #	66-2-34.1	Address:	1269 South Westtown Rd.
County:	Chester 029	Municipality:	Thornbury Township

1269 South Westtown Rd.

Photographs: South (front) Elevation, House

Photographer: J. Christopher Lang

Date: 4/25/2007

Original Negative Location: Thornbury



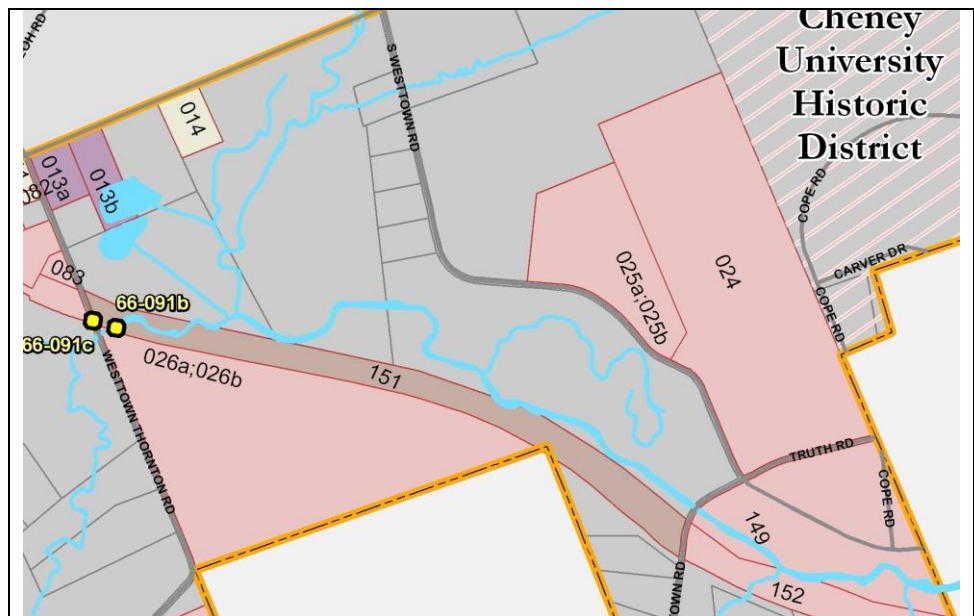
Location Map

Thornbury Township
 Historic Resource
 Inventory GIS Map

**LOOK FOR: HR
 #025a, 025b**

MAP KEY

025a = 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

IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION					
Survey Code/HR #	66-025	Tax Parcel No.	66-2-34.1		
County	1. Chester 029	2.			
Municipality	1. Thornbury Township	2.			
Address	1269 South Westtown Rd.				
Historic Name	Meadowcroft				
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	5				
USGS Quad	1. West Chester		2.		
UTM References	A.	B.	C.	D.	

HISTORIC AND CURRENT FUNCTIONS			
Historic Function Category		Subcategory	Code
A.	Domestic	Single Dwelling	01 A
B.	Domestic	Single Dwelling	01 A
C.	Agriculture/Subsistence	Animal Facility	09 D
D.	Agriculture/Subsistence	Animal Facility	09 D
Particular Type	A.	Farmhouse	
	B.	Tenant House	
	C.	Barn	
	D.	Stable	
Current Function Category		Subcategory	Code
A.	Domestic	Single Dwelling	01 A
B.	Domestic	Single Dwelling	01 A
C.	Other	Conference Center	99
D.	Domestic	Single Dwelling	01 A

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION					
Architectural Classification	A. No Style		B.		C.
	D.		Other:		
Exterior Materials	Foundation	Stone 40		Roof	Asphalt 63
	Walls	Stone 40		Walls	
	Other	Wood 20		Other	
Structural System	1. Masonry 20			2.	
Width 5 Bays E	Depth 2 Rooms B			Stories / Height 2.5 B	

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation
 Survey Code/Historic Resource #66-025 / Meadowcroft / 1269 South Westtown Rd.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Year Built: X c. 1795 Additions/Alterations Dates:

Basis for Dating: X Documentary ___ Physical

Explain: According to the Tax Assessment Records, there is a stone house on the property in 1796.

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

Chester County Tax Records, Chester County Triennial Tax Assessments, Thornbury Township, 1796-1802. Photocopy.

Dorchester, Jane E. "Deed Lineage Historic Resource #025a & b, Meadowcroft." Thornbury Township, July 31, 2009.

PREVIOUS SURVEY, DETERMINATIONS

Included in the Chester County Historic Sites Survey as Thornbury Township Historic Site #26, 1979.

EVALUATION (Survey Director/Consultants Only)

Individual NR Potential: X Yes ___ No Context(s):

Contributes to Potential District ___ Yes X No District Name/Status:

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:

SURVEYOR INFORMATION			
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 #065277		

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL RESOURCE SURVEY FORM – NARRATIVE SHEET 89C

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

Survey Code/HR #	66-025	Tax Parcel / Other No.	66-2-34.1
County	Chester 029	Municipality	Thornbury Township
Address	1269 South Westtown Rd.	Historic / Other Name	Meadowcroft

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The house at Meadowcroft is a five-bay, two-and-a-half-story, side-gable, stone Pennsylvania Farmhouse that faces south. It has four dormers evenly spaced across the roof's south face and two interior chimneys, one on each gable. There is a deep, full-length, one-story, colonnaded, wood porch attached to the east elevation. The house has been added on to several times. The stone core was probably built in two sections and shows evidence (drip course) of having had a pent roof along its south elevation. There is a two-bay, two-story, frame addition attached to the eastern two-bays of the north elevation of the core. This addition connects the house's core with a two-bay wide, four-bay deep, two-story, front-gable, stucco and frame structure that may have been constructed originally as a free-standing structure such as a summer kitchen. This last addition has a small chimney on the west side of its north elevation.

There are four other resources on the property. This first one is a large, "U"-shaped, frame and stone dairy barn located west of the house. The barn features deeply pitched gambrel roofs. It is being rehabilitated into a conference center (2009).

The second resource is a five-bay, two-story, front-gable, frame garage located northeast of the house. It features two three-bay, shed dormers, one on each roof face. It has apartments on the second floor.

The third resource is a three-bay, two-story, frame tenant house with an off-set cross gable. It is located east of the garage and features a pent roof across its south (front) elevation.

And the fourth resource is a three-bay, three-story, side-gable, stone and frame bank-house that nestles into the bank on its north side. It features a full-length, two-story, frame porch at the ground level of its north elevation. The second story of this porch is screened-in. This house may have been constructed originally as a small bank barn or stable.

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

In 1755, Robert Mercer sold 155 acres of land with no buildings on it to John Townsend. This 155 acres stayed in the Townsend family until 1909, when it was finally sold out of the family. In that time period, the first section of the stone house was built, possibly by John Townsend [II], John's son. The next several generations of Townsends added to the house, finally creating a mansion house and a gentleman's farm with a large, "modern," dairy barn.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

This property is significant for two reasons. First, it is significant under Criterion C (architecture) for its large dairy barn, the last in the Township and one of the few remaining in Chester County, and for its house, which is a good example of how simple farmhouses evolved into mansion houses. It is also significant that a secondary domestic structure that may have been a summer kitchen has survived. And second, it is significant because it is one of the few remaining farmsteads in Thornbury Township.

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL RESOURCE SURVEY FORM – PHOTOGRAPH SHEET

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

Survey Code/HR #	66-025	Historic / Other Name	Meadowcroft
Photographer	J. Christopher Lang	Date	4/25/2007



West Elevation, House



North (back) and West Elevations, House

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL RESOURCE SURVEY FORM – PHOTOGRAPH SHEET

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

Survey Code/HR #	66-025	Historic / Other Name	Meadowcroft
Photographer	J. Christopher Lang	Date	4/25/2007



East Elevation, House



South (front) Elevation, Barn

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL RESOURCE SURVEY FORM – PHOTOGRAPH SHEET

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

Survey Code/HR #	66-025	Historic / Other Name	Meadowcroft
Photographer	J. Christopher Lang	Date	4/25/2007



East Elevation, Barn



West Elevation, Garage with Apartments

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL RESOURCE SURVEY FORM – PHOTOGRAPH SHEET

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

Survey Code/HR #	66-025	Historic / Other Name	Meadowcroft
Photographer	J. Christopher Lang	Date	9/22/2007



South and East Elevations, Garage with Apartments



West and South (front) Elevations, Tenant House

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL RESOURCE SURVEY FORM – PHOTOGRAPH SHEET

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

Survey Code/HR #	66-025	Historic / Other Name	Meadowcroft
Photographer	J. Christopher Lang	Date	9/22/2009



North Elevation, Bank-house / Barn



North Elevation, Bank-house / Barn