

**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 #:	66-028	Historic / Other Name:	Eavenson, Richard, II, House
Tax Parcel #	66-2-23	Address:	1357 Westtown Thornton Rd.
County:	Chester 029	Municipality:	Thornbury Township

**1357 Westtown  
Thornton Rd.**

**Photographs:** South  
(front) Elevation, House

**Photographer:** J. Christopher  
Lang

**Date:** 4/16/2007

**Original Negative Location:**  
Thornbury

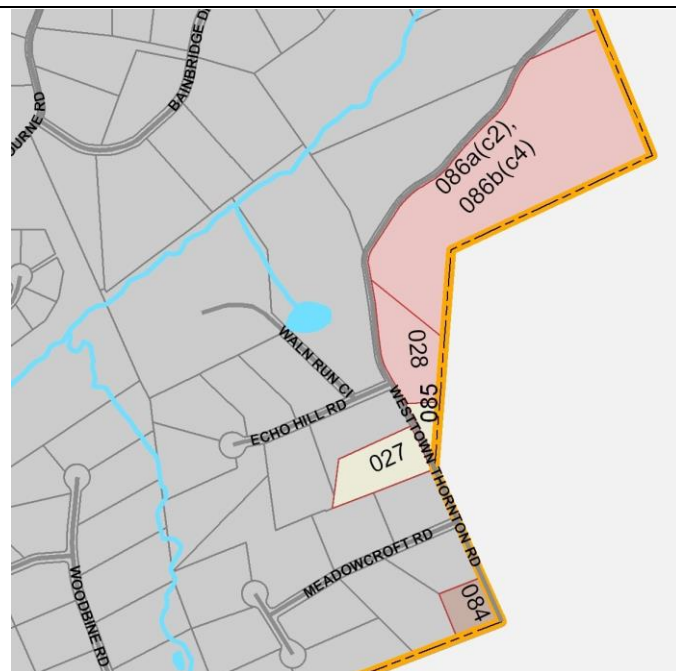


**Location Map**  
Thornbury Township  
Historic Resource  
Inventory GIS Map

**LOOK FOR: HR #028**

**MAP KEY**

- 028 = 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 #	66-028	Tax Parcel No.	66-2-23		
County	1. Chester 029	2.			
Municipality	1. Thornbury Township	2.			
Address	1357 Westtown Thornton Rd.				
Historic Name	Eavenson, Richard, II, House				
Other Name					
Owner Name / Address					
Owner Category	X Private	Public – local	Public – state	Public – Federal	
Resource Category	X Building	District	Site	Structure	Object
Number/Approximate Number of Resources Covered by This Form	3				
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.	Agriculture/Subsistence	Animal Facility	09 D
C.	Agriculture/Subsistence	Storage	09 B
D.			
Particular Type	A.	Farmhouse	
	B.	Barn and attached outbuildings	
	C.	Carriage Shed	
	D.		
Current Function Category		Subcategory	Code
A.	Domestic	Single Dwelling	01 A
B.	Domestic	Secondary Structure	01 C
C.	Domestic	Secondary Structure	01 C
D.			

<b>PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION</b>					
Architectural Classification	A. No Style		B. Other 80		C.
	D.		Other: Dornbusch Type J Barn		
Exterior Materials	Foundation	Stone 40		Roof	Asphalt 63
	Walls	Stucco 61		Walls	
	Other	Wood 20		Other	
Structural System		1. Masonry 20		2.	
Width 4 Bays D		Depth 2 Rooms B		Stories / Height 3 C	

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

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

Survey Code/Historic Resource #66-028 / Eavenson, Richard, II, House / 1357 Westtown Thornton Rd.

**HISTORICAL INFORMATION**Year Built: X c. 1830 Additions/Alterations Dates:Basis for Dating: X Documentary    Physical

Explain: According to the Tax Assessment Records, there was a log house on the property as late as 1811. In 1829, Richard Eavenson was taxed for a house, no materials were specified which may indicate a house in process.

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, 1805-1835. Microfilm.

Dorchester, Jane E. "Deed Lineage Historic Resource #028, Richard Eavenson [II] House." Thornbury Township, July 31, 2009.

Ensminger, Robert F. The Pennsylvania Barn, Its Origin, Evolution and Distribution in North America. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992.

**PREVIOUS SURVEY, DETERMINATIONS**

Included in the Chester County Historic Sites Survey as Thornbury Township Historic Site #30, 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:

<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 #065280		

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

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

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County	Chester 029	Municipality	Thornbury Township
Address	1357 Westtown Thornton Rd.	Historic / Other Name	Eavenson, Richard, II, House

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

The Richard Eavenson [II] House is a four-bay, three-story, side-gable, stucco, “T” shaped, bank-house. The upright of the “T” is offset from the center of the arm of the “T”, being nearer the south end of the arm. There is one interior chimney on the upright’s west gable. The house faces south and has a two-story, full-length, wood porch attached to its south elevation at the ground level. The second floor of the porch has been enclosed. The house nestles into the bank on its north elevation. There is one interior chimney located in the center of the arm’s roof ridge. There is a wood, enclosed porch on the first floor level of the north elevation of the arm of the “T”.

The property also includes a large, frame bank barn constructed on a stone foundation located to the west of the house and facing south. This barn is a Dornbusch Type J Barn with a forebay supported by extensions of the west and east gable stone foundation walls and a frame and stone cow shed on the west end of its south elevation. The front of the forebay has been enclosed with a stone and frame wall consisting mostly of windows. There is a stucco milk shed attached to the east corner of the south elevation of the cow shed. On the north (back) elevation, there is a wooden corn crib and a wooden chicken coop attached to the elevation on either side of the barn doors. The stone barnyard wall is still extant.

There is a five-bay, one-story, shed-roofed, stucco and wood carriage shed/office located immediately to the northeast of the barn.

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

The Richard Eavenson [II] House was probably built in c. 1830 for Richard Eavenson [II], son of George Eavenson. George bequeathed his farm, including a log house and a log barn, to his son Richard in 1816. Richard then sold 95 acres with his house and barn to Caleb Brinton in 1834. By 1879, Harris Elric Sproat had acquired the property which had been reduced to 78 acres. Sproat either erected a mansion house across the street from this property, or had a large Second Empire addition to an existing house constructed (HR #027).

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

This property is significant for two reasons. First, it is significant under Criterion C (architecture) because its barn is an interesting variation on the Dornbusch Type J Barn with its enclosed forebay and attached cow shed. And second, it is significant because of what it can tell us about the establishment and development of country estates 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

Survey Code/HR #	66-028	Historic / Other Name	Eavenson, Richard, II, House
Photographer	Jane E. Dorchester	Date	4/16/2007



North (back) and West Elevations, House



South (front) and East Elevations, House

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South (front) Elevation, Barn with Milk Shed and Stone Barnyard Wall



North (back) Elevation, Barn, with Chicken Coop and Corn Crib

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West and South (front) Elevations, Carriage Shed with West Elevation, Barn on Right



Close-up, Chicken Coop and Corn Crib, North (back) Elevation, Barn