

SMITH  
WILLIAM ~~SCOTT~~ HOUSE  
Corner of Mud Road &  
Penns Park Road  
Wrightstown  
Bucks County  
Pennsylvania

HABS NO. PA-5602

HABS  
PA  
9-WRT,  
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS AND  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

## ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

HABS  
PA  
9-WRIT,  
1-

|   |                               |                                 |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| STATE<br>Pennsylvania   | COUNTY<br>Bucks               | TOWN OR VICINITY<br>Wrightstown |
| HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME)<br>WILLIAM SMITH HOUSE   |                               | HABS NO.<br>PA-5602             |
| SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE  |                               |                                 |
| COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES)<br>Mud Road and Penns Park Road (southeast corner)   |                               |                                 |
| DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE)<br>ca. 1686-1720 (Penn. Hist. Museum survey)  | ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) |                                 |
| SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE)<br>This is among the oldest house extant in the county (some say the oldest). It is of log (walnut) construction and represents a house type that was prevalent in this area during the days of early settlement. Indeed, William Smith, a quaker from Yorkshire,* |                               |                                 |
| STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)<br>log vernacular which has been expanded over time.   |                               |                                 |
| MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)<br>walnut log, of varying sizes roughly cut with pegged joints; fieldstone section, and later frame sections  |                               |                                 |
| SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)<br>one-and-a-half story L-shaped structure  |                               |                                 |
| EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE<br>irregularly cut clapboard exterior siding on one section, plaster over fieldstone on another, shake roof   |                               |                                 |
| INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)<br>exposed log walls, pegged beams and doorways, large cook fireplace, corner fireplace (Rumford), exposed beams and log roof rafters, boxed winder stair in original section, random width pine flooring   |                               |                                 |
| MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES<br>Within a couple decades of the construction of the original log section, a fieldstone section (covered with stucco) was added. Later, in 1965, a one-story section (kitchen & bath) was added, and in 1968, a two-story section w/ living room and bedroom was added.                               |                               |                                 |
| PRESENT CONDITION AND USE<br>good condition, used as a private residence.   |                               |                                 |
| OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE<br>*England was among the first to settle this area. Legend has it the original section was built in 1686 with the stone section added in 1690, though it is believed by some to date to ca. 1720.   |                               |                                 |
| SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.)<br>Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, Register of Historic Sites & Landmarks form, prepared by Nancy S. Krewson, April 1973. Letter from C. Arthur Smith to Jeff Marshall, dated 15 June 1982 (gives ca. 1720 date).                             |                               |                                 |
| COMPILER, AFFILIATION<br>C. Lavoie, HABS historian  | DATE<br>March 1991            |                                 |