

WOODWARD-PENNOCK FARM, CORN CRIB  
741 Newark Road  
London Grove vicinity  
Chester County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5930-A

HABS  
PA  
15-LONGF.V.  
3A-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
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1849 C St. NW  
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WOODWARD-PENNOCK FARM, CORN CRIB

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Location: 741 Newark Road  
London Grove Vicinity  
Chester County, Pennsylvania

Significance: The Woodward-Pennock Corn Crib is significant as a rare earthfast outbuilding with well articulated braced framing. The early nineteenth-century building was probably erected along with the other Pennock improvements on the farm.

Description: The corn crib is a long, narrow, gable-roofed timber frame structure sheathed in openly spaced vertical wooden slats fastened with cut nails. The building faces east. The hewn oak sills are raised from the ground and set on short, tapered wooden posts set atop stone piers. The roof is clad in wooden shingles. Framing members are almost all hewn oak, with the exception of the plates, which are hewn tulip poplar. Interior framing consists of five bents enclosing four bays. Each bent typically measures about 8'-1" high and 5'-3" across; each interior bent is stiffened with two upbraces that are tenoned into the posts. Two sets of rails extend along each lateral wall; the rails are also tenoned into the posts. Floor joists are mortised into the sills. The rafters, which are also constructed of hewn oak, are lapped and pegged at the ridge and are notched over the plates. The roof extends approximately three feet beyond the front facade to protect the entrance. Fenestration consists of two openly-slatted, hinged wooden shutters located on the south facade near the roof.

History: The corn crib, which most likely dates to the first quarter of the nineteenth century, was probably built along with the other improvements on the Pennock farmstead, including a stone kitchen, a barn, a vaulted, earth-roofed stone root cellar, and a cart shed.

The Pennock farmstead, located in West Marlborough Township, is a significant representation of the evolution of the architecture of a Chester County, Pennsylvania farm complex during the mid-eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The surviving buildings on the farmstead date to two main periods of building activity, the first of which took place during the mid eighteenth century, and the last of which occurred in conjunction with several other agricultural improvements during the first quarter of the nineteenth century.

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Sources: Interpretive history of the corn crib based on field work undertaken by the Center for Historic Architecture and Engineering in 1991.

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