

SCHEETZ FARM, HOUSE
7161 Camp Hill Road
Fort Washington vicinity
Montgomery County
Pennsylvania

HABS PA-6666-A
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
PHILADELPHIA SUPPORT OFFICE
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Custom House, 3rd Floor
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

SCHEETZ FARM, HOUSE

HABS No. PA-6666-A

Location: 7161 Camp Hill Road, Fort Washington Vicinity, Montgomery County,
Pennsylvania

USGS Ambler and Germantown, PA, Quadrangles.
UTM Coordinates: 18.0482711.4441554

Present Owner: Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority
714 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Present Use: Vacant. The house is experiencing decay through neglect.

Significance: The Scheetz Farm is significant for its architecture and history. The vernacular house on the property demonstrates an additive construction history with portions dating to the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries. The original one-and-one-half-story portion of the house appears to date to the 1750s, representing a rare survival of a little known dwelling type from the Colonial period. Subsequent additions, all of them architecturally intact before recent decay, show a transition from traditional ethnic building techniques to nationally popular architectural trends. The additive character of the house reflects the growing agricultural and industrial prosperity of Montgomery County during the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and the local prominence of the Scheetz family, who were farmers, paper millers, public officials, and military veterans. The structure also conveys its more recent history as a dual occupancy residence, fulfilling the needs of both tenant farmers and suburban commuters.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. PHYSICAL HISTORY:

1. **Date of erection:** The oldest portion of the house, a one-and-one-half-story dwelling with exposed summer beams and beaded joists, appears to date to the third quarter of the eighteenth century. The exposed beaded joists, built-in cupboard, and half-cellar in the original house are German in character and similar if not identical to elements in the nearby Peter Wentz House, dated to 1758. Henry Scheetz purchased the Scheetz Farm in 1758 (Philadelphia Deed Book H9:109). Eleven years later he constructed a mill that once stood in front of the house (Hocker, Dec. 9, 1929; Magee, "Sheetz," 1934). His selection of a site for the mill may have predetermined the location of the house. Although earlier deeds for the property make reference to a messuage, Scheetz was the first owner of German heritage. Tax records do not pinpoint any abrupt changes in the value of the property, but a sizeable Federal-style addition was built against the southeast gable of the original house in the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century, followed shortly thereafter by a rear kitchen ell and a full second story over the original house. These additions were in place at least by 1848 (Scheetz, Scheetz and Day:1848).
2. **Architect:** This is a vernacular structure. The original house and later additions were designed and constructed by the owners or anonymous local builders.
3. **Original and subsequent owners:** The property currently occupies an irregular tax parcel comprising 12.19 acres (4.99 hectares), lying mostly in Whitemarsh Township and partly in Springfield Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Documents for the chain of title for the land on which the buildings stand are located either at the Philadelphia City Archives or at the Montgomery County Courthouse in Norristown, Pennsylvania, as indicated under each reference.

1690/1 Warrant, January 7, 1690/1, recorded in Warrant and Survey Volume I:875; on microfilm at the Philadelphia City Archives. Warrant from the Proprietor for 100 acres (40.47 hectares) to Nicholas Scull I, "out of the overplus of Maj.^f Jasper Farmers [*sic*] Land" which "lies about the Sandy run" in what became Whitemarsh Township, then in Philadelphia County.

1693 Patent, March 29, 1693, recorded in Philadelphia Patent Book A5:31, for 300 acres (121.41 hectares) patented to Nicholas Scull I, 200 acres (80.94 hectares) of which lie in the Manor of Springfield and 100 acres (40.47 hectares) of which are from the overplus of Major Jasper Farmar's land in what became Whitemarsh Township, then in Philadelphia County.

1703 Will, March 5, 1703, for Nicholas Scull (Sr.), deceased that year and recorded in Philadelphia Will Book B:456, bequeathing his "plantation at the Sandy Creek"

- containing 400 acres (161.88 hectares) to be divided equally among his six sons, the eldest being Nicholas Scull (Jr.) later General Surveyor of Pennsylvania from 1748 to 1761.
- 1721 Deed, December 25, 1721, recorded in Philadelphia Deed Book H9:157, from the six sons of Nicholas Scull (Sr.) conveying 180 acres (72.84 hectares) of their late father's estate located in Whitemarsh Township to Benjamin Charlesworth, yeoman, of Whitemarsh Township, County of Philadelphia, for the consideration of £110.
- 1729 Deed, August 15, 1729, recorded in Philadelphia Deed Book H9:159, by which Edward Farmar, with the consent of Nicholas Scull (Jr.), cleared the title to Benjamin Charlesworth of a tract of 100 acres (40.47 hectares) in Whitemarsh Township which Major Jasper Farmar, Edward's father, had granted but not actually conveyed to Nicholas Scull (Sr.). Charlesworth was to pay £70 to Farmar and 5 shillings to Nicholas Scull (Jr.). The deed refers to buildings.
- 1741 Deed, January 5, 1741, recorded in Philadelphia Deed Book G4:396, from Benjamin Charlesworth to four joint grantees including his nephew John Charlesworth, conveying a tract of 80 acres (32.38 hectares) comprising "a certain Messuage Plantation and Tract of Land" in Whitemarsh Township together with a tract of 20 acres (8.09 hectares) in Upper Dublin Township for the sum of £100.
- 1758 Deed, June 20, 1758, recorded in Philadelphia Deed Book H9:109, from four joint owners including John Charlesworth, conveying the same two tracts of 80 acres (32.38 hectares) in Whitemarsh Township and 20 acres (8.09 hectares) in Upper Dublin Township to Henry Scheetz Sr., papermaker of Springfield Township, Philadelphia County, for the sum of £290.
- 1769 Deed, February 3, 1769, recorded in Philadelphia Deed Book D4:185, from John Charlesworth to Henry Scheetz (the elder), conveying a small, triangular, 1.75-acre (0.71-hectare) tract of land on the northwest border of the Scheetz's 80-acre (32.38-hectare) tract in Whitemarsh Township, for the sum of £16.
- 1793 Will, September 12, 1793, for Henry Scheetz Sr. Located in the Montgomery County Archives, RW 6039. Henry bequeathed to his eldest son, Henry Scheetz Jr. (later General Henry Scheetz), the plantation, paper & grist mill, tenements, and messuage (everything that had been acquired in 1758 and 1769) where Henry the elder had lived.
- 1848 Will, January 22, 1848, for General Henry Scheetz (Henry Scheetz Jr.). Located in the Montgomery County Archives, RW 6063. The real estate was inventoried to be sold at public auction and the proceeds divided among his four living children. Among various tracts inventoried for the General after his death was the "Old farm House [and] Mill" on a tract of 60.04 acres (24.30 hectares), valued at \$6,800.

- 1850 Deed, June 11, 1850, recorded in Montgomery County Deed Book 78:59, from Jacob Scheetz, George Scheetz, and Jacob Day, executors of the late General Henry Scheetz, to John Shaffer, Jr., a merchant of Philadelphia County, conveying a tract of 58.16 acres (23.54 hectares) in Whitemarsh Township, for the sum of \$6,164.56.
- 1865 Deed, March 30, 1865, recorded in Montgomery County Deed Book 138:277, from John Shaffer, Jr., and his wife Deborah, to Joseph Gillingham Fell, gentleman of the City of Philadelphia, conveying a tract of 58.16 acres (23.54 hectares) in Whitemarsh Township, for the sum of \$10,661.50. The deed also noted that the metes and bounds encompassed two small parcels that had been sold out of this tract by Shaffer, namely: an arc-shaped parcel of 1 acre and 21 perches that had been sold as right-of-way to the North Pennsylvania Railroad in 1854 (Montgomery County Deed Book 95, p. 14), and a wedge-shaped parcel of 25 perches sold in 1864 to John Shaffer, Sr., for use as a small turnout for loading lime into railroad cars (Montgomery County Deed Book 136, p. 266).
- 1881 Deed, December 10, 1881, recorded in Montgomery County Deed Book 365:182, from Amanda R. Fell (widow of J.G. Fell), Avis Pardee, and Franklin A. Cowly, all executors of the estate of J.G. Fell, conveying to Henry C. Cochran two tracts in Whitemarsh Township. One tract encompassed 58.16 acres (23.54 hectares) (minus the two small pieces previously conveyed) and contained the buildings addressed in this recordation. The second tract encompassed 38.14 acres (15.44 hectares) and bordered the other tract to the southwest.
- 1881 Deed, December 12, 1881, recorded in Montgomery County Deed Book 365:188, from Henry C. Cochran to John R. Fell of Philadelphia, conveying the same two tracts as were conveyed two days earlier.
- 1889 Will, October 14, 1889, of John R. Fell, Montgomery County Will Book 182:338. John R. Fell devised his entire estate to be held in trust by The Pennsylvania Company for Insurances on Lives and Granting Annuities, subject to a life estate of his wife, Sarah, and distributed equally among his children when his youngest child reached age 21, at which point the shares of his sons were to be paid to them absolutely while the shares of his daughters were to be held in trust by the trustee.
- 1895 Will Probate, December 5, 1895, for John R. Fell, deceased, cited in Montgomery County Deed Book 1628:250. Subject to a life estate for the wife of the deceased, Sarah, the property is to be held in trust by The Pennsylvania Company for Insurances on Lives and Granting Annuities for four surviving children of John R. Fell, including three daughters and one son, John Gillingham Fell.

- 1911 Deed of trust, December 1, 1911, cited in Montgomery County Deed Book 1628:250, from John Gillingham Fell, son of John R. Fell, to The Pennsylvania Company for Insurances on Lives and Granting Annuities, conveying his remaining interest in trust. Since the interests of his three sisters were already held in trust by The Pennsylvania Company for Insurances on Lives and Granting Annuities, this company acquired full power of sale. In 1911, John G. Fell also legally changed his name to John R. Fell.
- 1933 Will dated September 30, 1932 and probated April 24, 1933, for John R. Fell (born John G. Fell). Located at the Montgomery County Archives, RW 48966. John R. Fell devised his powers of appointment over all his estate to The Pennsylvania Company for Insurances on Lives and Granting Annuities. Inventory itemizes numerous tracts of land, in most of which Fell holds $\frac{1}{4}$ interest, including the "Old Mill Farm," consisting of two tracts, one of 50 acres (20.23 hectares) of land with the buildings and improvements in Whitemarsh Township, and the other a contiguous tract of 7 acres (2.83 hectares) in Springfield Township.
- 1944 Deed, November 10, 1944, recorded in Montgomery County Deed Book 1628:250, from The Pennsylvania Company for Insurances on Lives and Granting Annuities to Irwin R. Hixson (or Hixon) and his wife Clyde, conveying a tract of 18.424 acres (7.456 hectares) containing the buildings, lying partly in Whitemarsh and partly in Springfield Townships, for the sum of \$13,500.
- 1970 Deed, May 8, 1970, recorded in Montgomery County Deed Book 3682:190, from Clyde Hixon to Derr Flooring Company, conveying a tract of 12.333 acres (4.991 hectares) containing the buildings, lying partly in Whitemarsh and partly in Springfield Townships, for the sum of \$175,000.
- 1990 Deed, July 3, 1990, recorded in Montgomery County Deed Book 4952:919, from Derr Flooring Company to the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, conveying a tract of 12.333 acres (4.991 hectares) containing the buildings, lying partly in Whitemarsh and partly in Springfield Townships, for the sum of \$925,000.

4. **Builder, contractor, suppliers:** Unknown.

5. **Original plans and construction:**

PERIOD ONE: The original dwelling on the property is encompassed within the northwest wing of the much larger extant house. The original dwelling was a one-and-one-half-story stone house with a side-gable roof, a possible lobby-type entry, a central chimney stack, and a half-cellar. Its original 40'-6" x 20'-6" (12.34 x 6.25 meter) dimensions were determined through examination of the masonry underneath the current exterior stucco. The pitch and height of the original one-and-one-half-story gable is evident in angled plaster cracks in the southeast upstairs room (see Photograph 20). The original dwelling retains four bays across

the main façade (facing southwest), four bays across the rear elevation, and one bay across each gable end. Two substantial unchamfered summer beams (8.5" [21.59 centimeters] square to the northwest and 12" x 8.5" [21.59 x 30.48 centimeters] to the southeast) lie parallel to the main façade on either side of the extant central stairwell. Heavy, beaded joists (3" x 8.5" [7.62 x 21.59 centimeters]) are also evident inside the present plaster, first-floor ceiling (see Photograph 16). The extant stairwell and closets at the center of the house were installed in the location of the original central chimney stack, greatly diminishing evidence of its existence. Evidence for the central chimney stack includes the relieving arch in the half cellar; the gap between the differently proportioned summer beams on either side of the stairwell; a corresponding gap in the spacing of original beaded joists; and the rough surface treatment of the interior end of the northwest summer beam, suggesting that it was anchored in the masonry stack (the opposing interior end of the larger southeast summer beam was sawn off to accommodate the stairs). Examination of the undersides of the upstairs floorboards reveals heavy smoke damage, indicating that the summer beams and joists were exposed to an open hearth (see Photograph 19). It is not impossible that the relieving arch in the cellar may have been a cooking fireplace (see Photograph 21-22).

The space on the southeast side of the central stack may have originally been partitioned into smaller rooms, but no evidence for partitions was found. If it was not partitioned, it would have been a very large, important room with interior dimensions of approximately 22'0" x 17'9" (6.71 x 5.41 meters), and symmetrically spaced windows, two to the front and two to the rear. The original windows appear to have been six-over-six, double-hung wood sash. Evidence of an original vertical board partition wall located 2'8" (0.81 meters) southeast of the front entrance, indicates that the southeast room was sheltered from the front entry. No evidence was found on the northwest side of the front door for a corresponding partition buffering the northwest room. Presently, the spaces just inside the front door and behind the stairwell have been reconstructed and their original configuration remains unclear. The original house appears to have had at least a partial lobby entry. The front door may have opened into the smaller northwest room, perhaps the kitchen originally, as would be the case in a Continental or German house type. The original location and method of access to the upper half-story, which would have been large enough to contain usable space, could not be determined. The foundation for the chimney stack does not appear to permit sufficient space on the first floor for a winder stair either inside the lobby-type entry or on the far side of the stack.

6. Alterations and additions

PERIOD TWO: Circa 1790-1810. In this period a large, stone, two-story, side-passage, Federal-style addition, approximately 26'-6" (8.08 meters) square and three bays wide by two bays deep, was constructed against the southeast gable end of the original one-and-one-half-story house, with its front façade placed flush with the earlier structure. The southeast, gable-end, stone wall of the original house was extended in depth and raised in height to become a common wall with the Federal-style addition. The southeast side of the original

gable wall, now inside the side passage of the Federal addition, reveals pointed fieldstone underneath the plaster, indicating that it was once an exposed exterior wall. The Federal-style addition was originally covered with gray stucco and penciled to simulate ashlar construction. On the main façade, this exterior treatment extends onto the older house beyond the masonry seam between the two parts, visually appropriating the southeast gable wall of the original house as part of the Federal-style house (see Photograph 6). A doorway was opened in the masonry wall between the older house and Federal addition, probably utilizing an existing window opening.

PERIOD THREE: In this period several changes and additions were made which cannot be firmly sequenced although they appear to have followed closely on the heels of the Federal-style addition.

Addition of second floor to original house (northwest wing): Subsequent to the construction of the Federal-era addition, the height of the original eighteenth-century house was raised to accommodate a full second story in place of the original half-story with garret ceilings. The builders attempted to disguise the additive construction history of the house by unifying the two-story main façade of the expanded structure under a continuous side-gable roof. Because the single-pile northwest wing is shallower than the Federal-style addition, this resulted in a cocked appearance to the northwest gable (see Photographs 1 and 23). The roof framing is eighteenth century in character. The new second floor made use of riven lath and hammered nails in its partition walls, suggesting an early date, shortly after the Federal addition.

Rear kitchen ell: A stone kitchen ell was constructed against the rear, or northeast elevation, of the Federal-style part of the house. One-and-one-half-stories tall, the kitchen ell contains one room on the ground floor and a garret overhead. A large cooking fireplace occupies most of the rear, northeast gable wall of the ground-floor room (see Photograph 13). This room also features exposed, chamfered ceiling joists and beaded loft floorboards. Only one area of the ceiling (visible in the west corner of the ground-floor room) shows disturbance and evidence of a trap-door. It remains unclear whether a stairway or ladder of some sort may have existed in this corner. Presently a doorway into the side-passage of the Federal-style section occupies this corner; it is unclear at what point this doorway was opened through the stone wall, or whether a doorway was also opened originally between the kitchen and the rear room of the Federal-style section. Previous researchers had hypothesized that the kitchen ell predated the Federal addition, due to the eighteenth-century character of the roof pitch, pinned oak door framing, and exposed joists. However, measured drawings and an examination of the masonry shows that the kitchen abuts the rear wall of the Federal-style section (rather than the other way around).

Rear extension of Federal-style addition: Subsequent to the construction of the kitchen, the owners decided to enlarge the Federal-style section by extending both the first- and second-floor rear rooms (but not the side-passage) to the rear, cutting into one corner of the kitchen

and kitchen chamber, which were thus transformed into L-shaped spaces. This new rear wall was constructed of frame rather than stone, and a noticeable break in the roof slope is evident in the southeast gable of the Federal section (see Photograph 2). The cellar underneath the Federal addition reflects the original depth of this section. The southeast gable and rear, or northeast elevation of the Federal addition are clad with horizontal wood drop siding, perhaps installed in an effort to disguise the changes. The rear extension was labor intensive for the small amount of interior space it created. The rear extension appears to date to the nineteenth century.

PERIOD FOUR: Circa 1900. A small, late nineteenth-century shed addition was built at the north corner of the northwest wing. This small addition appears on an atlas from 1909 and pictures from the 1930s in the possession of Mary Ellen Kirk-Sander (Mueller 1909). She noted that well water was obtained through a hand-pump in this addition. The small, extant shed addition with vertical board siding against the rear, or northeast gable end of the rear kitchen ell also appears to date to ca. 1900; it was present in 1930s photographs. Substantial interior renovations were also undertaken in the late nineteenth century. All of the window and door trim in the northwest wing dates to the late nineteenth century, suggesting that the central fireplace was removed in this period and a formal stairway, pantry, and closets were installed in its place.

PERIOD FIVE: Circa 1930s-1950s. In the late 1930s, a bathroom was installed at the front of the upstairs passage in the Federal addition, and the front downstairs room was converted into a modern kitchen with plumbing. In the late 1940s or 1950s, a side-gabled, one-story, concrete block addition was built against the northwest gable end of the house. This room served as a kitchen with modern appliances. An opening approximately 4'10" (1.47 meters) wide was cut through the original stone wall to create an archway between the eighteenth-century room and the modern kitchen (see Photograph 18). A new bathroom was carved out of the earlier addition at the north corner; one wall of the earlier addition retains vertical beaded board paneling. Additional concrete block, shed-roofed additions were also built against the northwest elevation of the northwest wing.

B. HISTORIC CONTEXT

The date of construction for the dwelling on the Scheetz Farm is a matter of some speculation. The evidence tends to suggest that the earliest portion of the extant structure, a one-and-one-half-story dwelling now encompassed in the larger building, was built by Henry Scheetz Sr. in the third quarter of the eighteenth century, after he acquired the land in 1758 (Philadelphia County Deed Book H9:109). However, there are earlier documentary references to buildings or a "Message" on the property.

Colonial records note that the first owner of the land, Nicholas Scull (Jr.) built a house somewhere on his property (Corcoran 1992:251-252; Bean 1884:1139; 1162). This property encompassed a much larger tract than that purchased by Scheetz, comprising a 400-acre (161.88-

hectare) “plantation about the Sandy Run” in both Whitemarsh and Springfield Townships, that Scull had assembled between 1685, when he first arrived in Pennsylvania from England, and 1703, when he died (Philadelphia County Will Book B:456). His six sons, including Nicholas Scull (Jr.) (1686-1761), inherited the property. Nicholas Scull (Jr.), an aspiring provincial citizen who became Surveyor General of Pennsylvania from 1748 to 1761, appears to have continued to live at the family homestead until the 1710s (Bean 1884:1140; Scull 1876:n.p.; Reed 1980: 93-114). By 1721, when a portion of the family land was sold to Benjamin Charlesworth, Scull (Jr.) was already living in the City of Philadelphia (Philadelphia Deed Book H9:157). The early Scull house may have stood near the extant Scheetz dwelling, if not on the same homestead, given that the old Scull family cemetery, last used by Nicholas Scull (Jr.) in the mid-eighteenth century, stands less than 900’ (274.32 meters) north of the house.

Benjamin Charlesworth, a yeoman reportedly of English origin, acquired a 280-acre (113.31 hectare) tract of Scull family land in Whitemarsh Township through deeds drawn up in 1721 and 1729 (Mathews, “Upper Dublin,” n.d.:100; Philadelphia Deed Book H9:157, 159). The deed of 1729 makes a standard reference to buildings and improvements on the property. In 1741, Charlesworth conveyed an 80-acre (32.38-hectare) parcel of this land touching the corner lines of Whitemarsh Township to his nephew John Charlesworth and three other joint owners, who evidently acted as absentee landlords. Although the deed drawn up in 1741 refers to a “Messuage” on this tract, it was not the Charlesworth family homestead, because this dwelling stood on the remainder of Benjamin Charlesworth’s property, which his nephew John had purchased three years earlier, in 1738 (Montgomery County Deed Book 144:1). The same 80-acre (32.38-hectare) tract conveyed in 1741 to joint owners for £100 was sold in 1758 for £290 to Henry Scheetz (Philadelphia County Deed Book H9:109). The deed drawn up in 1758 also mentioned a “Messuage” on the property. The increase in sale value may also have reflected improvements to the property made in the seventeen-year interval.

Given that a dwelling was associated with the transfer of the property as early as 1741 or 1729, the documentary record fails to illuminate a date of construction for the earliest portion of the extant dwelling. The original one-and-one-half-story, stone dwelling measured approximately 40’-6” (12.34 meters) wide and 20’-6” (6.25 meters) deep. It featured asymmetrical openings and an off-center stack that may have been fronted by a lobby-type entry. A cellar lay underneath half of the house. The interior spaces on either side of the central stack featured an exposed summer beam and heavily beaded ceiling joists, suggesting an interest in aesthetic display (see Photograph 16). Although now enclosed in a later plaster ceiling, the framing members bear evidence of smoke damage and the central chimney has been removed. The sturdy construction and fine interior character of the house suggest that it was not built for a mere tenant, as would appear to have been the case if it were built when the property was owned by absentee landlords between 1741 and 1758; nor was the house built by Benjamin Charlesworth for his own occupation. The character of the house may have been in keeping with the colonial aspirations of Nicholas Scull (Jr.), but this would imply an extremely early and unlikely date of construction. A longtime occupant of the property, Mrs. Van Horn, recently contended that the original part of the dwelling was constructed around 1710, but this

information could not be confirmed and the basis for her assertions was not noted at the time of the interview in 1995 (Czerwinski and Ruth 1995:74).

The oldest section of the house has also proved difficult to interpret in terms of traditional construction techniques and ethnic characteristics. Interior framing of the quality seen in the early dwelling was not specific to either English or German builders. Extant houses with similar beaded joists in Chester County, Pennsylvania (to the south), have been documented with dates of construction in the early eighteenth century by English settlers (Schiffer 1984:17, 32). In closer proximity, the Peter Wentz house, located 9 miles (14.48 kilometers) northwest of the Scheetz house in Worcester Township, Montgomery County, combines both German and Georgian architectural traits. Built in 1758 according to a central-hall Georgian plan, the house has front rooms finished in English fashion and rear rooms retaining more traditional German characteristics, such as exposed ceiling framing and built-in cupboards. The beaded joists in the Peter Wentz house are nearly identical to those in the Scheetz house. In addition to the exposed joists, the Scheetz house has other features typical of Pennsylvania German builders, including a built-in cupboard, central stack, and half-cellar (see Photographs 17 and 21) (Richard Moraux, pers. com., October 13, 2000).

Complicating the German association at the Scheetz house, however, is the long rectangular form of the initial dwelling, which lacks of comparative data. German-speaking settlers commonly built a type of three-room-plan house, often called either a "Continental" plan (after its central European antecedents) or a *Flurküchenhaus* (literally through-kitchen-house), that was more nearly square in proportion but, like the Scheetz house, had an interior chimney positioned slightly off-center. A cooking fireplace faced onto the kitchen (*Küche*), which extended the depth of the house and contained the front and rear doors. Two smaller rooms were usually located on the other side of the chimney stack, consisting of the parlor (or *Stube*), which was often heated by a stone or cast-iron stove, and the sleeping chamber (or *Kammer*), which was often unheated. In some instances, a smaller, fourth room was partitioned at the rear of the through-kitchen (Lanier and Herman 1997:21-24; Noble 1984:41-42, 45-46; Glassie 1986:407). Interior alterations in the oldest portion of the Scheetz house have made it difficult to identify original partitions. No evidence for room partitions could be found in the larger half of the house, on the southeast side of the interior stack, although if not partitioned this space would have been a sizeable room by eighteenth-century standards. However, evidence for a thin, vertical board partition wall remains on the southeast side of the front door, suggesting that the southeast room was not directly entered from outside. In contrast, no evidence for a partition remains on the northwest side of the front door, indicating that the northwest room may have been entered directly from outside although the door stood nearly opposite the stack, rather than in line with the rear door in the opposite wall. The unusual combination of the long rectangular form of the house, with the off-center chimney, exposed framing members, and partial lobby entry, has led one vernacular architectural historian to suggest a date as early as the 1720s, because after this date idiosyncratic manifestations such as the Scheetz house disappear and house types for the Delaware Valley become more standardized (Dr. Bernard Herman, pers. com., July 21, 2000).

Nevertheless, the evident Germanic traits of the early portion of the extant house tend to support the theory that it was built after 1758, when the property was acquired by Henry Scheetz, the first owner of German-speaking ancestry. At the time he bought the property, Scheetz had been living across the Springfield Township line, where he operated the Colliday paper mill (Macfarlan n.d.; Magee, *Wissahickon*, 1934:48, 52; Magee, "Scheetz," 1934:1,6). Since the Sandy Run crossed the Whitemarsh tract, Scheetz likely purchased the property with a view toward erecting his own paper mill, which he finally built in 1769 (Magee, "Scheetz," 1934:6; Mathews, "Whitemarsh," n.d.:101). Scheetz may have built a new house for his young family on the site he selected for the mill and millrace. He became a successful papermaker and one of the more wealthy individuals in the Township. He served in the Revolutionary War with his son, Henry Scheetz Jr., and eventually served Montgomery County in an official capacity (Scheetz Name File; Bean 1884:1142). In 1793 he died, leaving a substantial estate to his wife and children (Montgomery County Archives RW 6039). His son, Henry Scheetz Jr., inherited the Whitemarsh mill property and continued to make paper. Like his father, Henry Scheetz Jr. entered into public office, becoming a figure of some local prominence. His public stature was later bolstered by his service as a major general during the War of 1812, after which he was always known as "General Scheetz" (Bean 1884:1142; Hocker, "Fire," 1929:235; Auge 1879:62). When he died in 1848, General Scheetz bequeathed to his children an even greater accumulation of wealth than his father before him (Montgomery County Archives RW 6063). (For more detailed information about Henry Scheetz Sr. and Henry Scheetz Jr., see the associated report on the Scheetz Farm, HABS No. PA-6666).

Either Henry Scheetz Sr. or Henry Scheetz Jr. erected the large addition against the southeast gable of the initial house, more than doubling its size. This addition consisted of a two-story, side-passage, double-pile, stone addition. Formalized in appearance, the addition measured approximately 26'-6" (8.08 meters) square, and corresponded to a two-thirds Georgian or Federal type of plan. The exterior was clad with gray stucco and impressively penciled to simulate ashlar construction, in contrast to the pointed stone masonry of the earlier house, now reconstituted as the northwest wing (see Photograph 6). The addition has wood trim consistent with the Federal period, particularly the main staircase, a simulated mahogany interior door, and a fireplace mantel (now gone) in the rear first-floor room, which suggest a date roughly between 1790 and 1810. Despite its evident refinement, the interior also reused several older doors with HL hinges in the back and upstairs rooms. Although Henry Scheetz Sr.'s estate inventory from 1793 refers to a "front" room and "back" room (as in the new addition), the Federal Direct Tax of 1798 appears to describe only the 40' x 20' (12.19 x 6.10 meter) original house.

The Federal Direct Tax of 1798 provides puzzling information about the house. The record indicates that one dwelling stood on the property but that it consisted of two parts, each constructed of stone and measuring 20' (6.10 meters) square; one part was only one story in height with four windows and twelve lights, and the second part was two stories tall with four windows and fifteen lights. The abstruse phrase "Endadjoining Kitchen included in Each" was written under the entry for the house (only one rear kitchen remains extant, but it was built after the formalized side-passage addition). The dwelling had an assessed value of \$400. The two 20'

(6.10-meter) square sections put together measure 40' x 20' (12.19 x 6.10 meter), dimensions that correspond closely to those of the original house on the property. However, the reference to the different heights does not correspond to the original structure, which appears to have uniformly stood one-and-one-half-stories tall. The rationale for describing the house as two discreet sections may reflect its possible occupation by two separate households, but the interior of the original one-and-one-half-story house shows no evidence of physical segregation into separate units. Rather, the idea of two units and two different heights appears to correspond to the one-and-one-half-story original house *together with* the formalized, two-story, side-passage addition. However, the dimensions provided in the 1798 Direct Tax record are far too small to correspond to the enlarged structure.

Both Henry Scheetz Sr. and Henry Scheetz Jr. appear to have been financially capable of building the new addition. The Federal addition would have been suited for Henry Scheetz Jr.'s duties as a justice of the County at the turn of the nineteenth century, when he would have received taxables into his house to hear their appeals. The new addition would have emphasized Scheetz's relative authority, his social stature, and the continued prosperity of his family. The new part of the house represented a thorough-going acceptance of fashionable architectural trends based on an English standard. With its symmetrical openings, simulated ashlar façades, tall plaster ceilings, fine moldings, simulated interior wood graining, and formal entrance hall with ornamental staircase, the addition set itself apart from the old-fashioned, traditional German character of the original house (see Photographs 7-10). The new addition asserted Scheetz's cultural authority and identification with the rural elite, while the original house simply became the old wing, a reminder of the family's colonial toehold in Whitmarsh Township. Numerous other inhabitants of Montgomery County also built formalized additions against earlier, more traditional houses. Several examples can be seen in the vicinity of the Scheetz house. These enlarged structures established a pattern of evolutionary construction made possible by the agricultural prosperity of the region. Primarily of German descent, these residents may have been inspired by such dwellings as Hope Lodge, a particularly fine example of an English house located less than one mile (1.61 kilometers) to the west, which was built by Samuel Morris in the mid-eighteenth century.

General Scheetz continued operating the paper mill into the 1820s, when his son, also named Henry, appears to have assumed its operation. Retiring from papermaking, General Scheetz became increasingly involved with banking and state politics, living for a time in the village of Valley Green, located along Bethlehem Pike just over one mile (1.61 kilometers) southwest of the mill property (Bean 1884:1142; Mathews, "Whitmarsh," n.d.:101). Prior to his death in 1848, he had evidently moved back into the side-passage portion of the dwelling. His estate inventory suggests that he lived in finely appointed rooms (Montgomery County Archives RW 6063). Following his death, the mill property—reduced in size to 58.16 acres (23.54 hectares)—was sold at auction to John Shaffer Jr. in 1850 (Montgomery County Deed Book 78:59).

An advertisement for the sale of General Scheetz's real estate, published October 25, 1848, described the dwelling as "a large two-story stone Mansion-House, with 5 rooms on the first and 7 rooms on the second floor" (Scheetz, Scheetz and Day 1848). Given the number of rooms identified on the first and second floors, the description encompasses the entire enlarged structure. In addition, the existence of seven rooms on the second floor confirms the presence at least by this date of the extant rear kitchen ell and a full second story added over the eighteenth-century wing. General Scheetz had the financial means to enlarge the house—gradually or quickly—at any time during the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century, but documentary research has not yielded more specific dates for these two additions. Judging by their architectural character, they appear to have followed closely on the heels of the formalized side-passage addition.

The side-passage addition, rear kitchen ell, and second-floor addition all seem to exemplify the period straddling ca. 1800, in which there was tremendous flux and overlap in carpentry and construction, as older building methods gave way to newer techniques, making it difficult to precisely date architectural features (Richard Moraux, pers. com., October 13, 2000). The rear kitchen ell and new second floor exhibit early building characteristics, a fact which may argue for an eighteenth-century date of construction for the Federal addition. For example, researchers had initially assumed that the rear kitchen ell dated to the eighteenth century, based on the steep roof pitch, pointed masonry construction, exposed ceiling joists, and heavy pegged oak door framing (see Photographs 3, 5, and 13). Structural evidence proves, however, that the kitchen ell postdated the side-passage addition, because the rear of the side-passage addition featured a simulated ashlar exterior before the kitchen was built against it. Nevertheless, the eighteenth-century characteristics of the rear ell continue to suggest that it was built rather early and not long after the side-passage addition. The pointed masonry construction of the rear ell was increasingly outdated by the early nineteenth century, but it may have been employed in this case to provide visual correspondence between rear kitchen and the adjacent eighteenth-century wing, where the pointed masonry construction remained exposed until the wing was raised to two stories and stuccoed over to disguise the change.

To further confuse the question of dates, the continuous roof over both the Federal addition and the wing raised to two stories, exhibits a consistent method of construction that appears to have been built in one period but is eighteenth century in character. The roof framing features "fishmouth" collar beams rather than rafter purlins, which came into more common use as the nineteenth century commenced (see Photograph 23). The side-passage addition and full second floor were *not*, however, built at the same time, because the masonry wall of the side-passage addition once rose above the older one-and-one-half-story wing and featured an exposed simulated ashlar exterior, now covered by several layers of paint and plaster in an upstairs room (see Photograph 20).

Unless the entire roof was lifted from an older structure large enough to accommodate the number of necessary rafters for the expanded roof, two possibilities emerge. First, the full second story over the eighteenth-century wing may have been built very early, only shortly after the

side-passage addition, resulting in a continuity of technique. Second, it is possible that the roof over the one-and-one-half-story wing may have been replaced with the construction of the side-passage addition, and that when the wing was subsequently raised to two-stories, the roof was retrofitted at a greater height. The roof pitch of the one-and-one-half-story house—as revealed in the angled plaster cracks in a second-floor room—appears to be comparable to the pitch of the roof over the side-passage addition; and if the rafters of the one-and-one-half-story house had extended beyond the front façade to form a porch roof or pent eave, the rafters may have been of sufficient length to accommodate the longer front roof plane at the greater height. The longer front roof plane was required when the builders attempted to disguise the additive construction history of the dwelling by creating an even roofline over the entire structure. This effort resulted in a cocked gable over the older wing when viewed from the side. To further harmonize the various parts of the house, the new second-floor windows were symmetrically spaced and installed at a height level with those in the formalized side-passage addition, even though this placed them rather high above the floor in the new upstairs rooms.

The rear kitchen ell and full second floor were probably in place by the early nineteenth century, when the expanded house accommodated two households, both that of General Scheetz and his younger children, and that of Henry Scheetz Jr. and his family, along with a number of hired farm and mill laborers. The occupancy of the house and production of the mill appear to have reached a height in this period. One additional alteration may have occurred before the General's death. The rear of the Federal addition was extended in depth, so that it cut into a corner of the rear kitchen ell. The rear downstairs and upstairs rooms, which had formerly been rather shallow, thus acquired proportions similar to the more formal front room downstairs. Throughout its subsequent history, after the General's death in 1848, the sizeable dwelling appears to have continued to support double occupancy. John Shaffer's was the last owner-occupant of the property during the nineteenth century. He owned it from 1850 to 1865, when it was bought by John Gillingham Fell, a wealthy gentleman of the City of Philadelphia (Montgomery County Deed Book 138:277). Fell may have used the property as a summer residence or country retreat, but for the next sixty years the dwelling was occupied primarily by tenant farmers. As elite country estates and suburban residences emerged in the area in the early twentieth century, tenants at the Scheetz house included suburban commuters.

Major interior renovations were undertaken in the old wing of the house during the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, when the property was occupied by tenants under the Fell and Van Rensselaer families. The original central chimney was removed and a stairwell, closets, and a pantry were inserted in its place. The door and window surrounds were replaced with machine-sawn moldings consistent with the turn-of-the-twentieth-century. A shed addition to the rear, or northwest elevation, of the older wing may have served as a back kitchen or scullery. It contained a hand-pump for well water. Only a portion of this addition remains extant.

The Federal wing of the house was not modernized until the late 1930s, when it was occupied by the tenant family of an advertiser commuting to Philadelphia (Mary Ellen Kirk-Sander, pers. com., November 1, 2000). The insurance company handling the property for the

Fell estate installed a bathroom with modern plumbing at the front of the upstairs passage and converted the front downstairs room—once the most formal space in the dwelling—to a modern kitchen. The rear kitchen was then converted into a living room, where the walk-in fireplace would have resonated with colonial-era charm. All of the woodwork was whitewashed in keeping with Colonial Revival aesthetics. The original wood finishes remain underneath a single layer of primer and white paint.

The very last owner-occupants of the property were Irwin R. Hixon and his wife, Clyde, who bought the property in 1944, although they had lived there as tenant farmers for the previous decade or more (Montgomery County Deed Book 1628:250). Under their ownership, the last structural additions to the dwelling were made. A one-story, side-gable extension was built against the northwest gable end of the northwest wing, cutting into part of the older rear shed addition. A kitchen and bathroom with modern plumbing were installed in the new addition and a large hole was cut into the stone gable-end wall of the original eighteenth-century house to connect the two spaces. The Hixsons also built other one-story, concrete-block, shed additions against the rear of the house adjacent to the older shed addition.

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. GENERAL STATEMENT

1. **Architectural character:** The vernacular house on the Scheetz Farm demonstrates an additive construction history with portions dating to the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries. The structure shows an evolution from traditional building techniques to an acceptance of broadly fashionable architectural norms. The original one-and-one-half-story portion of the house appears to date to the 1750s, and although it exhibits German characteristics, it represents a rare survival of a little known dwelling type from the Colonial period. This early structure was long and rectangular in plan, with a central chimney stack and possible lobby-type entry. With exposed summer beams and beaded joists, the house was oriented toward display in a manner consistent with traditional Germanic craftsmanship. In contrast, the late eighteenth century, side-passage addition exhibits the formalized English character of a Georgian or Federal plan type, which had become popular across the eastern seaboard during the eighteenth century. This addition marked the ascension of the Scheetz family within the ranks of the rural elite. Later enlargements, including a rear kitchen ell and a full second floor over the original wing, reflect the requirements of a working farm and mill property, and the dual occupancy of the dwelling by two households.

2. **Condition of fabric:** The house is vacant and in a state of rapid deterioration due to neglect. The building appears to be structurally sound with the masonry in fair condition, but the majority of the windows are broken or missing, as are a number of the doors. Paint is flaking throughout the interior and layers of wallpaper are peeling to the floor. Exposure has resulted in mold and moisture damage. A thick layer of grime coats every surface. The fireplace mantels and several

other architectural elements have been removed or damaged by vandals. The floor has several holes and unstable areas. Pronounced settling has occurred, especially in the northwest wing.

B. DESCRIPTION OF EXTERIOR

1. **Overall dimensions:** The structure has an overall width of 73'-1" (22.25 meters) and at its greatest depth measures 56'-3" (17.15 meters). The unified two-story portion of the front façade measures 65'-8" (20.01 meters) wide. The northwestern half of the house, comprising 40'-6" (12.34 meters) of the two-story façade, measures only 20'-6" (6.25 meters) in depth. This section is only one room deep and contains three rooms on each floor, although the southeast first-floor room can now be accessed only from the Federal-style addition. In addition, a small pantry occupies the leftover space underneath and northeast of the first-floor stairway. The lower one-and-one-half stories of this section comprise the original dwelling on the property. A half-cellar lies underneath the southeast half of the original dwelling. A one-story addition, against the northwest gable measures 7'-5" x 27'-0" (2.29 x 8.23 meters). It contains a kitchen and bathroom. Other twentieth-century additions to the northeast elevation of the single-pile wing measure 26'-0" x 21'-6" (7.92 x 6.55 meters). A Federal-style addition abuts the southeast gable of the original house, adding 25'-2" (7.62 meters) to its width. This section originally measured 26'-6" (8.08 meters) in depth, but was later extended to its present depth of 29'-7" (8.99 meters). This section has a side-passage plan with front and rear rooms on both floors. A bathroom now occupies the front of the second-floor passage. A cellar lies underneath three-quarters of this section. A one-and-one-half-story kitchen ell, 17'-3" (5.26 meters) wide, extends from the rear of the Federal-style addition. The kitchen ell originally had a depth of 21'-6" (6.55 meters), which was partly reduced to 18'-5" (5.64 meters) when the Federal-style addition was increased in depth, cutting into a corner of the kitchen. The kitchen ell has one first-floor room and a garret chamber. A lean-to shed against the rear of the kitchen ell measures 10'-11" x 8'-3" (3.35 x 2.51 meters).

2. **Foundations:** The two-story portions of the house and the rear kitchen ell rest on a fieldstone foundation approximately 1'-6" (0.46 meters) thick. A series of 1.6' (0.49-meter) square niches in the cellar walls of the original house were probably used for placing candles. The one-story additions rest on concrete block foundations approximately 8" (20.32 centimeters) thick.

3. **Walls:** The original one-and-one-half-story part of the dwelling has pointed fieldstone walls that were originally exposed but are now clad with several layers of stucco and whitewash. The full second story constructed over the original house has fieldstone walls that were not pointed but stuccoed and whitewashed. The one-story addition against the northwest gable has concrete block walls, stuccoed and painted white. The one-story additions against the northeast elevation of the single-pile wing have concrete block walls, parts of which are exposed and parts of which are stuccoed and painted white. The Federal-style addition has stone walls that were originally clad with gray stucco that was penciled to simulate ashlar masonry (see Photograph 6). The simulated ashlar finish now lies underneath a later layer of stucco and whitewash. The entire southeast gable wall (which was historically extended in depth) is clad with horizontal wood

drop siding (see Photograph 2). The rear kitchen ell has pointed masonry walls (see Photograph 3). The southeast elevation of the kitchen has been stuccoed and whitewashed whereas the northwest side and northeast gable have been merely whitewashed. The lean-to against the rear kitchen ell has horizontal drop wood siding.

4. Structural systems, framing: The one-story additions against the northwest gable and northeast elevation are constructed of concrete block. The lean-to attached to the rear kitchen ell is a frame structure. The two-story portions of the house and the one-and-one-half-story kitchen ell are constructed of stone. The interior framing of the original one-and-one-half-story portion of the house consists of a 8.5" (21-centimeter) square summer beam extending from the northwest gable toward the central stack (since removed and replaced with a closet and stairway), and a 12" x 8.5" (30.48 x 21 centimeter) summer beam extending from the southeast gable toward the central stack. The second floor (originally just a loft) is supported on beaded joists measuring 3" x 8.5" (7.62 x 21 centimeters), mortised into the summer beams, and placed approximately 22" (55.88 centimeters) on centers to either side of the former central chimney (see Photograph 16). The summer beams and joists appear to have been hand planed. The joist ends continue through the stone walls to the exterior surface. The roof framing over the entire two-story extended house consists of uniform, pegged, bridge-joint oak rafters with "fishmouth" collar beams spaced approximately 29" (73.66 centimeters) on centers (see Photograph 23). The collar beams are attached with what appear to be hammered nails. The roof framing members exhibit vertical saw marks. Numerous splints were used to fit the joists ends into the masonry mortises in the roof over the northwest wing, suggesting that the joists, although eighteenth century in character, may have been retrofitted.

5. Porches and cellar entries: The dwelling has three porches and two cellar entries. A one-story porch spans the full width of the two-story front façade. The porch appears to date to the late nineteenth century. It has a wood tongue-and-groove deck. The shed roof rests on square wood posts. The northwestern two bays of the porch are enclosed with a vertical plank parapet wall surmounted by empty window frames; one porch entrance contains a broken door. Deteriorated strap-hinged, board-and-batten trap doors in the porch floor cover an exterior cellar entry. Probably original, the cellar entry has stone steps and retaining walls. A low brick terrace wall, dating to the mid-twentieth century, forms an enclosure outside of the rear door of the one-story addition against the northwest elevation of the original house. A rear porch supported on chamfered wood posts spans the southeast elevation of the rear kitchen ell. This porch has a slate deck. A sheet of plywood covers an opening in the porch floor where a cellar entry once provided access into the basement of the Federal-style section of the house. The cellar entry has stone steps and retaining walls and appears to be original to the Federal addition. A smaller shed porch supported on chamfered wood posts shelters a doorway on the northwest elevation of the rear ell. Both porches against the kitchen ell appear to date to the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

6. Chimneys: The dwelling has four chimneys. A small brick chimney, 1'-6" (0.47 meter) square, with a metal flue, rises off-center above the ridgeline over the northwest wing of the

house. This chimney is not original and appears to date to the late nineteenth century. This chimney did not vent fireplaces but was instead fed by stove flues. A concrete block chimney rises against the southeast wall of one of the northwest additions. A large stone, central chimney stack, 4' x 2.5' (1.22 x 0.76 meters), rises through the ridgeline of the Federal-style section of the house. This chimney vented fireplaces in the front and rear rooms on both floors. Short brick piers, not original, rest on top of the chimney to support a metal cap. A tall interior, brick, end chimney rises off-center above the northeast gable end of the rear kitchen ell, venting a walk-in, cooking fireplace inside the ell. This chimney rises approximately 8' (2.44 meters) above the height of the ridgeline of the rear ell. Short brick piers support a cap over the chimney.

7. Openings:

a. **Doorways and doors:** The house has four exterior doors and one interior door that was formerly an exterior door. The front façade of the house measures seven bays wide and has a door in the second bay from the northwest end (leading into the original one-and-one-half-story portion of the dwelling) and a door in the third bay from the southeast end (leading into the side passage of the Federal-style addition). The door to the original part of the house is missing and the doorway has been sealed with a sheet of plywood. The door opening has a molded surround consistent with most of the windows on the front façade of the house, dating to the period when this wing was raised to two stories or later. The front entrance to the Federal addition contains a six-panel door sheathed on the interior side with riveted vertical boards (see Photographs 6-7). The door is hung on cast-iron skew-type hinges and has a metal knob. The entrance has a molded surround, plain wood reveals and a four-pane transom with broken panes and mullions. The original one-and-one-half-story section of the house has a rear door in the northwestern bay of the northeast elevation that is now an interior door leading into a one-story addition. This doorway contains a broken pane-and-panel door, probably dating to the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, with plain knobs. The door is hung on decorative butt hinges featuring a raised floral design, identical to those throughout the interior in this half of the house. The one-story addition into which this door leads also has a rear exit, containing a pane-and-panel door with plain knobs, a deadbolt lock, and butt hinges. The remaining two exterior doors are located in the rear kitchen ell. The central bay of the southeast elevation contains a solid oak, pegged door frame bearing evidence of pintle holes. The masonry opening is canted on the interior. A pane-and-panel, board-and-batten door, probably late nineteenth century in date, once occupied the opening but now lies on the floor. The door has a rim lock. The door in the northwest elevation of the rear kitchen also features a solid oak, pegged door frame enclosed with fascia boards (see Photograph 5). A vertical beaded-board door with a plain knob occupies the opening. The doorway has been sealed on the inside with plasterboard.

b. **Windows and shutters:** The majority of the windows throughout the house are broken, but enough evidence exists to indicate the types of windows that were present. Shutters have been removed from the house and a large number of them are stacked in the barn ruin.

The original one-and-one-half-story section of the house has three windows across the front, one in the northwest gable end (now looking into the one-story addition), and three on the rear façade (one of which looks into another one-story addition). The interior doorway through the stone wall between the original house and the Federal addition may be in the location of an original window opening. Only the two windows in the southeast room of the original house (now accessible only from the Federal addition) appear to have their original surrounds (see Photographs 6 and 11). These surrounds are recessed a couple of inches from the masonry and consist of plain boards with a quarter-round edge and wood pins at the upper corners. A plain wood sill lies flush with the masonry. Six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash formerly occupied these openings but the mullions have been broken. The remaining first-floor windows in the original house have been altered. They have molded wood surrounds flush with the masonry and plain wood sills. Two-over-two, double-hung, wood sash replaced the original sash in these openings (see Photographs 15, 17-18). All of the first-floor windows in this section were flanked by two-panel wood shutters until recent years.

The second floor over the original one-and-one-half-story house has two-over-two, double-hung, wood sash windows in all the openings. The second-floor windows at the front of the house and in the northwest gable have plain wood sills and molded wood surrounds. The second-floor windows at the rear of the house have plain wood surrounds. An interior doorway leading from the southeast upstairs room through the stone wall into the Federal addition may be in the location of a former window opening in the original half-story garret. Historic photographs from the late 1930s indicate that original six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash windows continued to occupy the second-story openings even after the majority of the first-floor windows had been replaced with two-over-two sash. One attic window in the northwest gable end once contained a four-over-four, double-hung, wood sash window, but the frame and sash have collapsed onto the roof of the one-story addition.

The one-story addition against the northwest gable end contains three early twentieth-century, six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash windows meeting at the west corner, in addition to a large plate glass window in the northwest wall. The one-story additions against the rear, or northeast elevation contain two fixed, nine-pane, wood windows as well as modern sliding and plate glass windows.

The Federal addition has symmetrical openings on the first and second floor. All of the first-floor windows contain six-over-nine, double-hung, wood sash windows, although only one remains intact. Three-panel shutters once flanked the first-floor windows. All of the second-floor windows once contained six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash windows. The two attic windows in the southeast gable end contain four-over-four, double-hung, wood sash. All of the windows in the Federal addition have wood sills and molded wood surrounds. The first-floor front windows have plain wood sills and recessed, plain wood surrounds. The remaining windows in the Federal addition have plain wood sills and molded surrounds matching those in the northwest wing of the house.

The rear kitchen ell has asymmetrical openings. The first floor has three windows, two on the southeast façade and one on the northwest elevation. All three contain six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash, with wood sills and plain recessed wood surrounds. Four windows illuminate the garret; two two-over-four wood sash windows flank the chimney stack in the northeast gable end, and two six-pane casement windows occupy the shed dormers on the southeast and northwest elevations.

8. **Roof:**

a. **Shape, covering:** All of the roofs are sheathed with standing-seam metal. The long, two-story portion of the house has a side-gable roof with a continuous ridgeline. The continuous ridgeline was imposed when the second floor was built over the original one-and-one-half-story house which, because this part of the house was shallower in depth than the Federal addition, resulted in an off-center, or cocked appearance to the northwest gable (Photographs 1 and 23). The one-story addition against the northwest gable end of the house also has a side-gable roof. The one-story additions against the rear, or northwest, elevation of the original house have partially collapsed shed roofs. The rear kitchen ell has a gable roof at right angles with the main roof. The southeast roof slope of the kitchen ell encompasses the porch against this elevation. The northwest porch against the kitchen ell has a shed roof.

b. **Cornice, eaves:** The front side of the main two-story gable has boxed wood cornices ornamented with an ogee molding. The rear, or northwest side of the northwest wing has an open eave with projecting roof rafters. The rear, or northwest elevation of the Federal addition has a boxed wood cornice. Where the gable of the Federal addition projects beyond the northwest wing, joist ends project through the masonry, suggesting that a gable return or pent roof once projected in this location. Likewise, the ceiling joists of the original one-and-one-half-story house project through the stone. Although they are now flush with the masonry, they may have originally extended to meet the one-and-one-half-story roof rafters, creating a pent eave or porch roof. The one-story additions against the northwest gable end and northeast elevation have close eaves in the gable and exposed rafter ends to the rear. The rear kitchen ell has close eaves at the gable end but exposed rafters to either side. All three porches have exposed rafters in the eaves.

c. **Dormers:** The rear kitchen ell has a low shed dormer on the southeast façade directly opposite a shed dormer on the northwest elevation. These dormers are historic, but possibly not original; circular-sawn laths are evident on the interior.

C. DESCRIPTION OF INTERIOR:

1. **Floor plans:** See attached attic, cellar, first floor, and second floor plans. The attic shares the outline of the second floor, although it does not include the rear extension to the back room of the Federal addition. The attic has two large open spaces on either side of a vertical board partition wall.

2. **Stairways:** The house contains five stairways. The northwest wing of the house has a straight flight of twelve steps leading from the entry to the second floor. This stairway occupies the former location of the chimney stack of the original one-and-one-half-story house. Functional and lacking in ornamental detail, the stairway has plain wood risers and treads, with a molded stringer to either side. A simple railing is mounted on the southeast wall. Three-quarter-round vertical moldings line the edges of the stair opening. Directly above this stair, a second straight flight of eleven steps leads up to the attic. This plain stairway is accessed from the middle room of the second floor, through a door mounted on the front edge of the first step. A third plain stairway underneath the first two descends from the first-floor pantry to the cellar, having been fit into the former relieving arch of the original chimney stack. These three stairways appear to date to the late nineteenth century. In the Federal addition, an ornamental stairway occupies the side passage (see Photographs 8 and 12). This stairway consists of a flight of ten steps leading to a landing and an opposing flight of two additional steps leading to the level of the second floor. The wall beneath the stairway is clad with simple wood paneling, surmounted by a scalloped trim board beneath the end of each tread (see Photograph 10). Fascia boards with the same scalloped design line the stair opening at the second floor—these trim boards have a single layer of white or gray paint over a simulated wood grain finish. Two thin, turned wood balusters occupy each step. Additional balusters also line the second-floor stair opening. Larger balusters occupy the points where the stairway turns, but the newel post, which was larger still, was recently vandalized and removed. A continuous wood banister lines the entire stair, curving gracefully back upon itself at the stair landing and second-floor opening. A plain, enclosed 90-degree winder stairway ascends over the main staircase to the attic. The winder stair is accessed through a door mounted on the front edge of the second step, so that the lower step protrudes into the second-floor passage. A small closet occupies the space underneath the winder steps, over the first-floor stair cavity (see Photograph 12). Mortise holes for additional balusters are evident just inside the closet door, indicating that the attic steps were retrofitted in this location.

3. **Flooring:** The floors in all sections of the house consist of hard wood boards.

In the northwest wing of the house, the first-story floor framing and floorboards have been replaced with machine-sawn materials and narrow 2.5" (6.35-centimeter) floorboards. Early to mid-twentieth-century linoleum covers most of the floor in the northwest room. The second floor, still supported on the original beaded joists, consists of yellow pine floorboards 5" to 12" (12.7 x 30.48 centimeters) wide, installed with hammered T-head nails (see Photograph 19). This flooring is probably original to the loft over the initial one-and-one-half-story house. Lifting the floorboards shows that the undersides are heavily darkened by smoke, having been exposed to the first-floor rooms. The floor in the southeast upstairs room of this wing has a highly polished margin around the perimeter of the room, indicating that a carpet or floor covering once occupied the center. A raised 3" (7.62-centimeter) wide threshold board lies off-center in the doorway from the hallway, with 1.5' (0.46 meters) of the threshold extending into the doorway and the remainder continuing under the door jamb, perhaps indicating that the location of the door was shifted. Only the second-floor stair landing was rebuilt with new joists and narrow floorboards, probably when the stairway replaced with original central chimney stack. The one-story

additions against the northwest gable and northeast elevation have wood floors with narrow floorboards, parts of which are in a state of collapse.

In the Federal addition, the first-floor passage has wood floors with 10" (25.4-centimeter) wide floorboards. The first-floor front room has a plywood floor clad with deteriorated, square linoleum tiles. The first-floor rear room has a replacement hardwood floor with 3" (7.62-centimeter) wide floorboards. The second-floor passage has wide floorboards, as does the front room. The rear second-floor room also has replacement narrow floorboards. The bathroom installed at the front of the passage has a deteriorated linoleum tile floor. The attic over both the Federal addition and northwest wing has a wood floor with wide floorboards of various widths.

The rear kitchen ell has a wood floor with narrow 3.5" to 4" (8.9 to 10.16 centimeter) wide replacement floorboards. The kitchen chamber has narrow 2.5" (6.35-centimeter) wide floorboards installed over the original 8" to 10" (20.32 x 25.40 centimeter) wide floorboards, which are exposed to view in the kitchen ceiling.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: With two exceptions, all of the rooms have a lath and plaster ceiling. The exceptions are the northwest first-floor room in the original wing of the house, which has a modern, paneled, drop ceiling, and rear kitchen, which has exposed chamfered joists (3" x 7.5" [7.62 x 19.05 centimeter]) supporting wide beaded floorboards. The chamber over the rear kitchen has low garret ceilings. The Federal addition has 8' (2.44-meters) tall first-floor ceilings, whereas the older northwest wing of the house has 7'-tall (2.13 meters) first-floor ceilings. These ceilings in the northwest wing once had exposed beaded joists 8.5" (21.59 centimeters) deep and overhead floorboards. The first-floor room just southeast of the stairway in the northwest wing has been altered to disguise the settling of the house: the summer beam and joists were shaved to create a level surface for a new lath and plaster ceiling. The attic room over the northwest wing has lath marks on the collar beams, indicating that this space was once a finished room.

With the exception of one room, the walls throughout the northwest wing and the Federal addition have been furred out with lath and plaster to a depth of about 2" (5.08 centimeters) against the exterior stone walls, with no infill. The exception is the southeast room of the northwest wing (now accessible only from the Federal addition), where the front and rear walls of the room consist only of painted plaster over masonry. The reasons for furring out the walls remain unclear, but this work may have been done to hide alterations, or perhaps to provide an additional layer of insulation. The northwest wall of the rear kitchen ell was covered with modern plasterboard to seal over the exterior door in this wall. In some cases interior walls were also furred out, such as in the front second-floor room of the Federal addition, where the wall against the chimney stack was furred out with modern plasterboard, possibly to hide a fireplace opening or other changes to this wall. A sizeable void also occupies the lath and plaster walls between the first-floor stairway of the northwest wing and the room just southeast of it, probably to accommodate the installation of stove flues.

Most of the partition walls in the northwest wing reflect modern wall framing techniques employed in the late nineteenth century when the central chimney stack was removed. Evidence for an original vertical board partition wall exists behind the furred-out wall approximately 2'-10" (0.91 meters) southeast of the front door, where a 1" (2.54-centimeter) vertical gap in the original plaster reveals its location. No comparable evidence of an original partition wall could be found on the northwest side of the front door, suggesting that the northwest room may have initially been entered directly from outside, whereas the southeast room was set apart with a partition wall. The frame partition wall segregating the small, southeast first-floor room (now accessible only from the Federal addition; see Photograph 11) is clad with composition board held in place with thin vertical trim boards. The partition wall dividing the two southeast upstairs rooms may date to the raising of the second floor. This partition wall consists mostly of riven lath attached with what appear to be small hammered nails. Riven lath was used above the height of the original one-and-one-half story house, suggesting that it dates to the period when the second floor was added. An earlier doorway once stood at the opposite end of this partition wall from the present door, since an opening here has been closed with circular-sawn laths.

The masonry wall between the southeast upstairs room and the Federal addition displays plaster cracks revealing the height and pitch of the original one-and-one-half-story gable (see Photograph 20). When the Federal wing was built, the new masonry was raised up directly on top of the one-and-one-half-story roof, as indicated by pieces of wood and shingle in the crack. Evidence of a gray stucco surface underneath the plaster above the crack indicates that the simulated ashlar exterior of the Federal addition was carried around the northwest gable before the second floor was added over the northwest wing.

All of the first-floor rooms in the northwest wing are clad with several layers of wallpaper which appear to date to the early to mid-twentieth century. The first-floor entry, stairwell, and the two end rooms upstairs are painted, not wallpapered. The central upstairs room has several layers of wallpaper. The rooms throughout the northwest wing of the house have no cornices or chair rails, only a molded baseboard, consistent in design with that employed in most of the Federal wing and the rear kitchen ell.

In the Federal addition, original partition walls constructed of vertical planks sheathed with lath and plaster stand between the first-floor passage and the front and rear rooms, and between the upstairs passage and the rear room. The walls enclosing the bathroom at the front of the upstairs passage are thicker and reflect modern wall framing methods employing plasterboard. Originally, two rooms may have occupied the front half of the second floor. Behind the furred-out front wall of the front room, between the two windows, is a 1" (2.54-centimeter) wide, vertical gap in the original plaster, indicating where a thin, vertical board partition wall would have existed. This partition wall would have been in line with the edge of the vertical beaded-board closet on the opposite wall; in turn, the front wall of the closet is aligned with the vertical beaded-board side wall of the enclosed winder stair to the attic. Inside the small closet under the winder stairs, this beaded-board wall is painted yellow and has a painted black baseboard, indicating that the wall was present and exposed to view before the winder stairs were installed.

Thus, whereas the rear upstairs room was partitioned from the hall with a formal lath and plaster wall applied to vertical boards, the two rooms at the front of the house appear to have been partitioned with thin vertical board walls.

All of the rooms in the Federal addition, with the exception of the front room, display several layers of wallpaper which appear to date to the early to mid-twentieth century. The front room has painted plaster walls. The Federal addition also reflects a large number of ornamental wood moldings. In addition to the ornamental detail of the main staircase, noted above, the side passage contains a thin molded ceiling cornice, a boldly molded chair rail, a raking chair rail continuing up the stairs, and a molded baseboard. The baseboard in the first-floor passage and upstairs hallway have a more restrained molding profile than the baseboard installed throughout the rest of the house, suggesting that it is probably original. The upstairs hallway has a modern ceiling cornice. The front first-floor room has a molded baseboard, evidence of a chair rail that has been removed, and no ceiling cornice. The walls at the east corner of the room are clad with ceramic tiles. The rear first-floor room retains a baseboard and a chair rail. The absence of a chair rail in the rear room on the walls between the passage door and the built-in cupboard, and between the door to the front room and the fireplace, suggest that the chair rail may have been added later or adjusted after the room was expanded in depth—the profile is slightly less bold than the chair rail in the passage. The front and rear upstairs rooms each have only molded baseboards.

The kitchen and chamber in the rear ell have a molded baseboard identical to that installed throughout most of the house. These two rooms have painted plaster walls, but wallpaper had been applied to the rear, or southwest wall in each room.

5. Openings:

a. **Doorways and doors:** The northwestern wing of the house has matching, machine sawn moldings around all of the windows and doors and the built-in cupboard in the central first-floor room, suggesting that the interior of this section was remodeled in the late nineteenth century. With the exception of the closet door in the southeast upstairs room, which contains a five-panel wood door, all of the interior doors are simple four-panel wood doors with metal knobs and skeleton key locks. Most of the doors are hung on butt hinges with decorative, molded plates.

The interior doors in the Federal addition vary considerably. The doorways from the passage into the first-floor front room, and between the front and rear first-floor rooms, contain wood doors with six raised panels. The door between the passage and front room has a simulated mahogany finish underneath one layer of paint (see Photograph 9). Each panel in the door is surrounded by a thin inlaid wood border with concave corners. The door to the closet (now powder room) underneath the main stairway has a paneled door hung on cast iron butt hinges, opened by an iron thumb latch attached with screws. The door from the passage to the rear first-floor room is now missing but was a raised four-panel door hung on HL hinges (which still remain; see Photograph 10), with a rim-lock and porcelain knobs. A raised four-panel door also

hung on HL hinges (all gone) once occupied the doorway between the second-floor passage and the rear upstairs room. The entrances to the rear rooms on both floors thus appear to have employed reused eighteenth-century materials that pre-date the Federal period. The doorway from the second-floor hall to the kitchen chamber has a four-panel door. The door (now gone) into the winder stair was a beaded vertical board door, opened with a thumb latch. The door (now gone) to the upstairs hall closet (with access into the northwest wing of the house) was also a beaded board-and-batten door hung on HL hinges. The upstairs bathroom entrance contains a four-panel door with a metal knob. The door from the upstairs passage into the front room is missing, but evidence of an HL hinge remains. Both the doors to the bathroom and front room have modern surrounds. The closets in the front and rear upstairs room have vertical beaded board doors. The door between the front and rear room is a beaded board-and-batten door. With several exceptions, the majority of doorways have identical or similar molded surrounds with an outer quarter-round trim consistent with the Federal period. The doorways leading from the rear downstairs room into the rear kitchen and from the upstairs hall into the kitchen chamber have a three-quarter-round trim.

b. **Windows:** With the exception of the southeast room, the first-floor windows in the northwest wing are set in slightly canted wood reveals with plain sills and late nineteenth-century molded surrounds identical to the door surrounds. The windows in the southeast first-floor room (which can now be accessed only from the Federal addition) have straight plaster reveals, plain sills, and simple window frames with quarter-round trim. The windows in the upstairs rooms of the northwest wing have plaster reveals, and plain sills and lintels. The windows in the southeast upstairs room have wood reveals, and plain sills and surrounds. The first-floor windows in the Federal section have slightly canted wood reveals with plain sills and molded surrounds. The second-floor windows in the Federal section have slightly canted plaster reveals and plain sills. The rear kitchen has two windows in the southeast elevation with canted plaster reveals and plain wood sills and lintels. The window in the northwest elevation has only a wood sill. The kitchen chamber windows have plaster reveals and simple wood sills and lintels.

6. **Decorative features and trim:** The northwest wing of the house has one built-in cabinet in the first-floor room on the southeast side of the stairway (see Photograph 17). The wood-paneled cabinet is set into the masonry wall; it has a molded surround identical with the window and door surrounds in this part of the house. Additional plain wood and metal cabinets are built into a pantry underneath the main stairs in the northwest wing. The southeast first-floor room of the northwest wing (accessed only from the Federal addition) shows the paint ghosts of a corner cabinet in the south corner (see Photograph 11). This cabinet is now in the possession of the Plymouth Meeting Historical Society. The cabinet, although eighteenth century in date, was not original to the mid-eighteenth-century house because it was retrofitted after a plaster ceiling had been installed underneath the formerly exposed ceiling joists.

The Federal addition has two cupboards placed back-to-back beside the chimney stack, with one facing the front room and the other facing the rear room (see Photographs 9-10). The cupboard in the front room has a molded surround with quarter-round trim, but is missing its

doors. The cupboard in the rear room is a floor-to-ceiling cupboard with a lower pair of raised single-panel cupboard doors and an upper pair of raised six-panel cupboard doors; the cupboard doors are now missing. The rear room cupboard also has a molded surround with quarter-round trim. A kitchen hutch, likely dating to the late nineteenth century but probably retrofitted into the front room, has an upper pair of glass cupboard doors, and drawers and cupboards in the lower half. In the side passage, a small cupboard with a single-panel door is located underneath the winder stairs.

The front downstairs room of the Federal addition bears evidence of a former fireplace opening with a jack arch lintel, later filled in (see Photograph 9). The rear downstairs room has the same type of fireplace opening but is not filled in (see Photograph 10). The fireplace mantel and surround in the rear room have been removed, but the opening formerly had a molded surround surmounted by simple pilaster capitals supporting a mantel. If a fireplace opening once existed in the upstairs front room, it has since been plastered over. The fireplace opening in the rear upstairs room has a smaller opening than the one below, and originally had a simple molded wood surround, now missing.

The rear kitchen has a cupboard with beaded-board sides built into the northwest masonry wall; the cupboard door is missing. A second cupboard, likely dating to the late nineteenth century, occupies the gable end beside the walk-in fireplace. The plain cupboard had paired upper and lower doors with a set of drawers between them, all of which are now missing. The walk-in fireplace has a large marble lintel. The fireplace is faced with early twentieth-century beaded board and older vertical planks. A plain mantel board rests on two nineteenth-century wooden scroll brackets. The fireplace in the kitchen chamber may not be original. This fireplace opening is much smaller than that below, but a plain mantel resting on two scroll brackets spans the entire stack.

7. **Hardware:** See section 5a.

8. **Mechanical Equipment:**

a. **Heating, air conditioning, ventilation:** The original one-and-one-half-story portion of the house was heated by the central chimney and fireplace(s) which are no longer extant, and possibly also by stoves. The Federal addition was heated by fireplaces facing onto the front and rear rooms and by stoves. Stoves were noted on household inventories prepared for Henry Scheetz Sr. in 1793 and Henry Scheetz Jr. in 1848 (Montgomery County Archives, RW 6039, RW 6063). A later heating system in the northwest wing consists of stove flues connecting the rooms on either side of the stairway and the northwest upstairs room to the small, late nineteenth-century brick stack. The remaining upstairs rooms were heated by floor grates. A third generation of heating consists of an oil furnace located in the northwest downstairs room. The extant heating system in the Federal addition consists of cast iron radiators located beneath the window openings.

b. **Lighting:** Throughout the entire house, most rooms have central ceiling light fixtures, most of which have been removed, revealing a former gas system converted to electricity. A fluorescent circular light fixture is located in the northwest first-floor room (see Photograph 18). Other extant ceiling lights consist of pressed metal fixtures with two bulb sockets, consistent with a 1930s or 1940s date (see Photograph 20).

c. **Plumbing:** The northwest section of the house originally had no plumbing, only a hand-pump for well water in a rear shed addition. In the 1940s, when a one-story addition was built against the northwest gable, modern plumbing was installed for a kitchen and bathroom in this location. The Federal addition likewise had no interior plumbing until the 1930s, when a bathroom was installed in the second-floor passage and the front first-floor room was converted to a modern kitchen. A half-bath was also inserted into the closet beneath the main stairway.

9. **Original furnishings:** All furnishings have been removed, with the exception of four iron hooks in the ceiling of the first-floor room of the northwest wing (now accessed only from the Federal addition). These hooks occupy the east corner of the room and mark the four points of a rectangle measuring 3'-6" x 6'-0" (1.07 x 1.83 meters). The hooks were presumably used to hang bed fixtures.

D. SITE

1. **General setting and orientation:** The Scheetz Farm lies within the easternmost corner of Whitemarsh Township, near the borders of Upper Dublin and Springfield Townships. All three townships lie in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. The property occupies a wedge-shaped, 12.33-acre (4.99-hectare) tract of land within the curve of Camp Hill Road to the southeast and southwest, the S.R. 0309 expressway to the northwest, and the SEPTA R5 commuter line to the northeast, beyond which stands the elevation known as Camp Hill. The tax parcel lies mostly in Whitemarsh Township. The southeastern corner of the tract lies in Springfield Township, having been annexed to the property after the northern segment of Valley Green Road was vacated in the early 1930s, at which time Camp Hill Road was erected. Just southwest of the property on the far side of Camp Hill Road, a branch of the Sandy Run flows west and north toward a confluence with Wissahickon Creek. Historically, the property was accessed from Dreshertown Road to the west; this was the main road leading from Bethlehem Pike to the northeast, past the northwest limits of the property toward Dreshertown. The portion of Dreshertown Road located just northwest of the property was vacated when Camp Hill Road was erected.

The long façade of the dwelling faces southwest and stands askew from the cardinal points. An asphalt driveway leads into the property from Camp Hill Road to the south of the house, continuing parallel to the main façade and then northwest toward the outbuildings. A large Buttonwood tree stands in front of the Federal portion of the main façade. The Scheetz mill, built in 1769 and burned in 1929, once stood in front of the house adjacent to the Buttonwood tree, which bears the scars of the fire that destroyed the mill.

2. **Historic landscape design:** Originally the property was accessed from the west rather than the south. In the 1930s, broad lawns flanked the house and open fields stood east of the house and south across Camp Hill Road. A meadow once extended west of the house down to the edge of Sandy Run (before S.R. 0309 was built in the 1950s). The pasture had a split rail fence. The millrace once traversed the front yard but was infilled soon after the mill burned. A large number of low dry-laid stone terrace walls built in the 1940s or later, occupy the grounds to the northeast, northwest, and southwest of the house. Most of the walls are hidden by vegetation that has overgrown the abandoned property. It is possible that the terrace walls were built with remains of the mill or the barn that was condemned for S.R. 0309.

3. **Outbuildings:** Five outbuildings or ruins stand on the property. A concrete block ruin stands just northwest of the rear kitchen ell and probably served as a garage. A frame garage and shed complex stand at a turn in the driveway northwest of the house. The driveway continues north toward a frame poultry shed standing in front of the stone ruins of a barn, just one wing of the larger barn complex that stood here before S.R. 0309 was built.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Architectural Drawings:

No historic architectural drawings exist for this vernacular structure.

B. Historic Views:

A historic view of the Scheetz paper mill was published in James F. Magee, Jr., "Sheetz Paper – Fell Grist Mill Constitutes Part of Industrial Plant History," *The Suburban Press*, 8 February 1934, which can be viewed on microfilm at the Free Library of Philadelphia, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The quality of the photograph was not sufficient to reproduce in this document. A historic aerial photograph showing the property was taken by the United States Department of Commerce in 1942. The photograph rests in the collection of the Pennsylvania State Archives in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Photographs of the house and its interior taken just prior to vandalization that occurred in the late 1990s are in the possession of Richard Emile Moraux, of the Montgomery County Department of History & Cultural Arts. Photographs of the house and property taken in the late 1930s are in the possession of Mary Ellen Kirk-Sander, of Brookhaven, Pennsylvania.

C. Interviews:

A tenant, Mrs. Van Horn, who had lived in the house for many years, was interviewed in 1995 in conjunction with the historic resources survey for the S.R. 0309, Section 100 Roadway Improvement Project. The tenant provided minimal information that could not be independently verified. Information about the character of the property in the late 1930s was obtained from

Mary Ellen Kirk-Sander, now of Brookhaven, Pennsylvania, who lived in the house as a child from 1935 to 1940. She was interviewed in November 2000, when she visited the property.

D. Bibliography:

Primary and unpublished sources:

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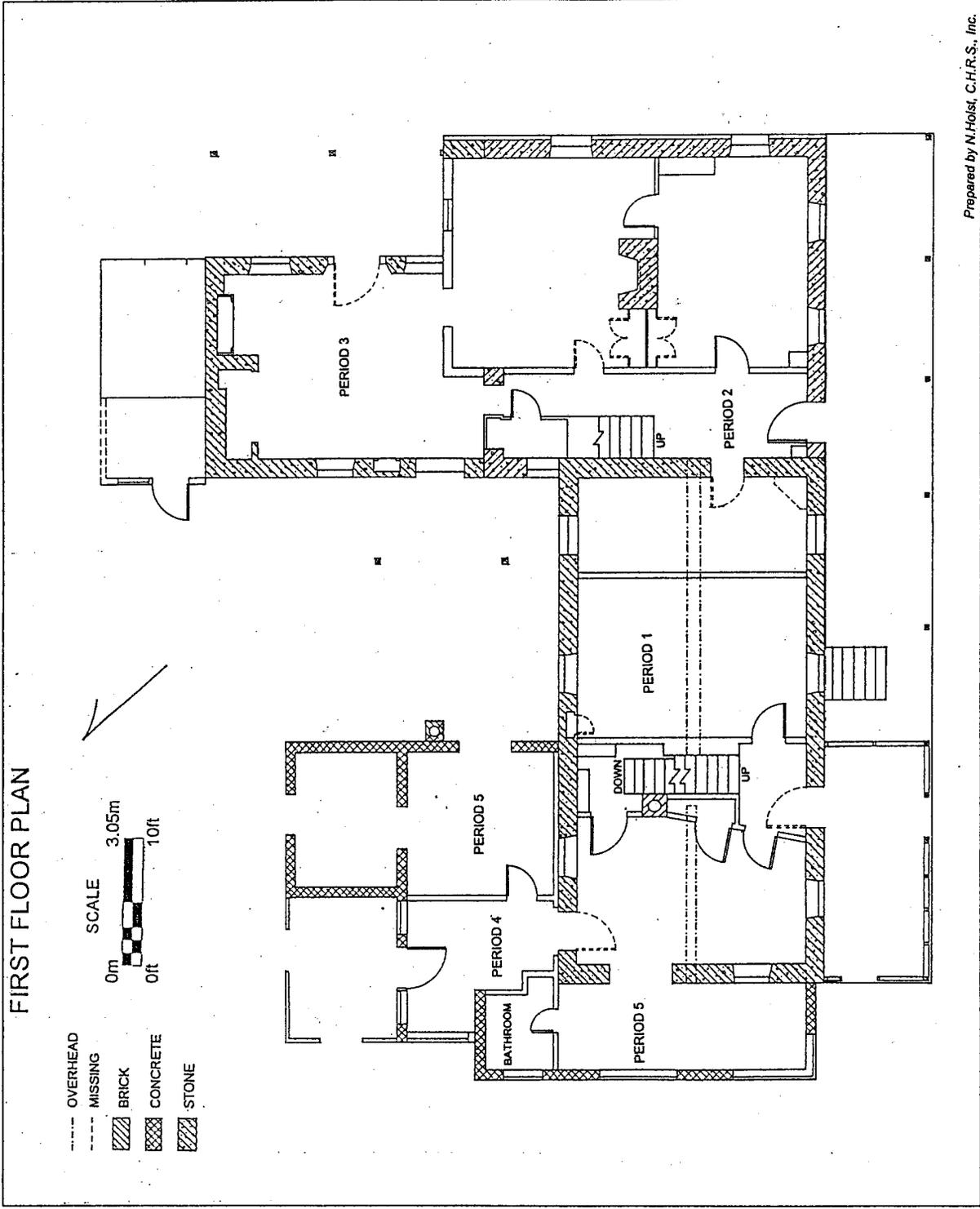
Schiffer, Margaret Berwind. *Survey of Chester County, Pennsylvania, Architecture: 17th, 18th, and 19th Centuries*. Exton, PA: Schiffer Publishing Ltd., 1984.

PROJECT INFORMATION

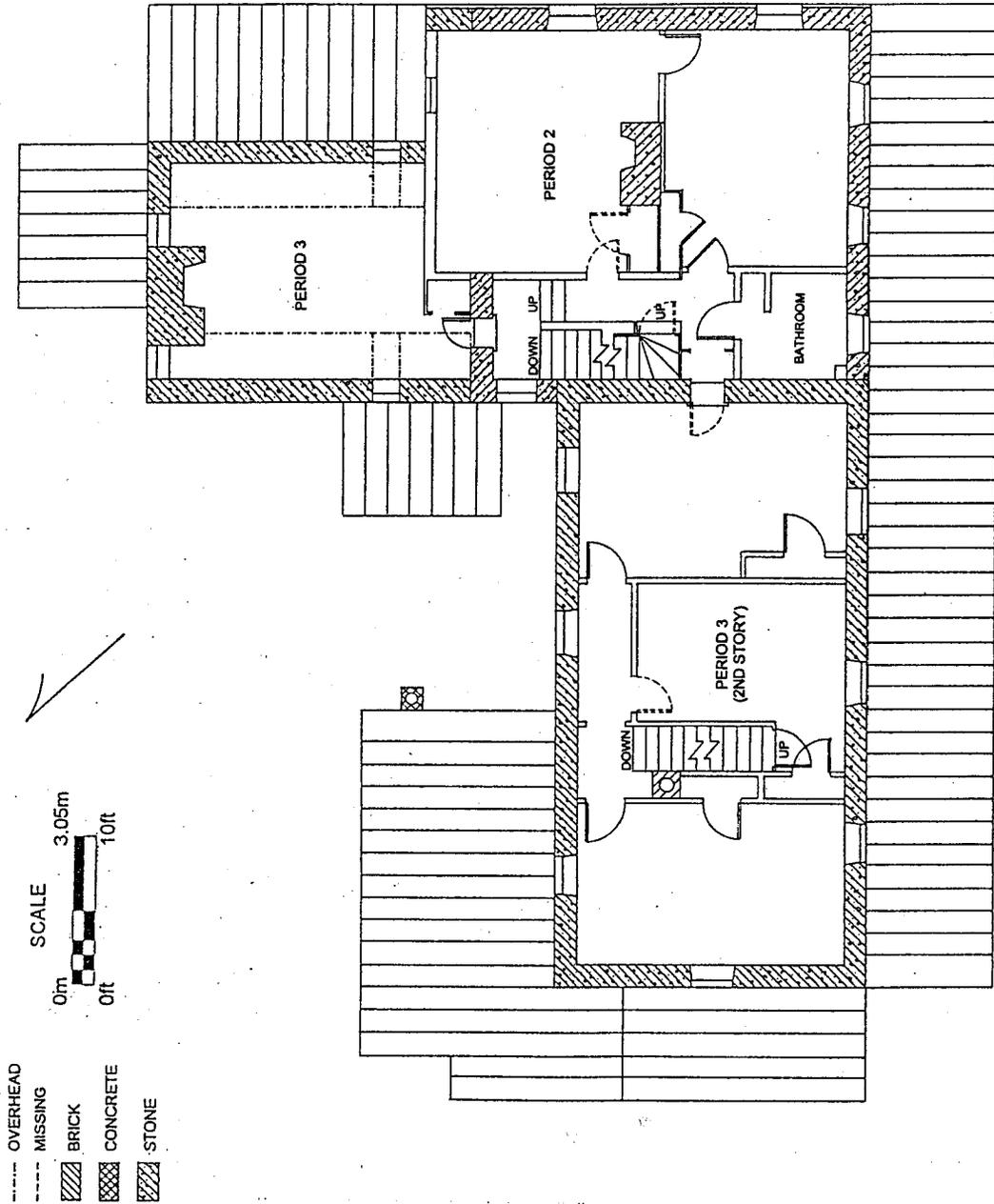
This documentation was prepared in order to mitigate an adverse effect to the property that will result from planned improvements to Fort Washington Expressway, S.R. 0309, Section 100 in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. The project involves the rehabilitation or reconstruction of the 9-mile (14.5-kilometer) length of the expressway, especially in the interchange areas. The

purpose of the project is to improve safety, rehabilitate the structures and pavement, and bring the expressway into conformance with current design standards. Previous reports that addressed the Scheetz Farm include a *Historic Resources Survey and Determination of Eligibility Report* (Czerwinski and Ruth 1995) and a *Criteria of Effects Report* (Czerwinski 1997). Both of these reports misidentified the historic Scheetz Farm as the historic Lukens Property. This work was performed for the U.S. Department of Transportation

Prepared by: Nancy A. Holst
Title: Project Manager
Affiliation: Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc.
Date: April 3, 2001



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



CELLAR PLAN

- OVERHEAD
- MISSING
- BRICK
- CONCRETE
- STONE

