National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2002

Revised: 2/2024




# Valley Forge Farms

Valley Forge National Historical Park

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# Introduction

## The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the National Park System. Landscapes that are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources and in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire, legal interest are included in the inventory. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, and condition. Cultural landscapes have approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS-CL) database. In addition, for landscapes not currently listed on the National Register and/or without adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or the Keeper of the National Register.

### Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is compiled from primary and secondary sources and through on-site surveys of the landscape. The level of investigation is dependent upon scoping the need for information. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's integrity and an assessment of the landscape's condition. The CLI also includes historic maps, drawings, and images; photographs of existing conditions; and a site plan that indicates major features. The CLI documents the existing condition of park landscape resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to stabilize condition. This information can be used to develop strategies for improved stewardship. Unlike a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape, but it may identify stabilization measures.

### The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) replaces three legacy inventory systems: ASMIS (archeology), CLI (cultural landscapes), and LCS (historic structures); and it reinstates the former ERI (ethnographic resources). This Cultural Landscape Inventory document reflects the information in a corresponding CRIS Cultural Landscape record.

### Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directives for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)) Sec. 110
- Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3 (a and c)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs
- Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Std. 2
- Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22; issued pursuant to Director's Order #28 (DO-28)

The NHPA requires the identification, evaluation, and nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the maintenance and expansion of an inventory of cultural resources. DO-28 requires a cyclic assessment of the current condition of cultural landscapes based on an assessment interval, with a default of six years.

### Use

Beyond fulfilling legal and policy requirements, park staff can use the Cultural Landscape Inventory in the following ways:

- To learn about park cultural landscapes (all staff)
- To inform management decisions (park managers)
- To inform project planning and development (park managers, facility managers, project managers, compliance specialists)
- To monitor the condition of the cultural landscape and take measures to protect its significance and integrity (cultural resource managers, facility managers)
- To recognize the stabilization and treatment needs of landscape features and plan work within cultural landscapes to address the needs (facility managers, cultural resource managers)
- To understand the cultural value of natural systems in a cultural landscape (natural resource managers)
- To create programming and educational materials based on site history (interpretation and education specialists)
- To recognize impacts within cultural landscapes and enforce protection measures (visitor and resources protection staff)

# General Information

## Property Level and CLI Numbers

**Inventory Unit Name:** Valley Forge Farms

**Resource Classification:** Component Landscape

**CLI Identification Number:** 300020

**Parent Landscape:** 300015

**Inventory Status:** Complete

### Park Information

**Park Name:** Valley Forge National Historical Park

**Alpha Code:** VAFO

**Park Organization Code:** 4860

**Park District:** VAFO

**Region:** Northeast

**Restricted:** Yes

### Landscape Description:

The Valley Forge Farms is part of Valley Forge National Historical Park (NHP), which preserves and commemorates the site of the 1777–1778 winter encampment of the main body of the Continental Army under the command of General George Washington. The park is located in southeastern Pennsylvania, approximately 20 miles northwest of Philadelphia. It straddles the Schuylkill River and contains land in two counties (Chester and Montgomery) and five municipalities (Lower Providence, Schuylkill, Tredyffrin, Upper Merion, and West Norriton). Originally established as Pennsylvania's first state park in 1893, the park has been managed by the National Park Service since 1976 and now encompasses approximately 3,452 acres.

The land to the north of the Schuylkill River is generally referred to as the North Side and that to the south, as the South Side. Seventy-five percent of the park lies on the South Side, which is composed of three distinct landforms: the dolomite limestone valley, quartzite hills, and red sandstone and shale river terraces. The twin peaks known as Mounts Joy and Misery visually and physically anchor the west-central portion of the South Side. These two prominent landforms were important defensive elements of the Revolutionary War encampment, providing opportunities for long views across open areas and presenting challenging terrain to intruders. The North Side covers much of the southern half of the Perkiomen Peninsula formed by the confluence of Perkiomen Creek with the Schuylkill River, and its landform is characterized by a series of fertile river terraces formed on red sandstone and shale. The pastoral landscape of this area, with open fields surrounded by forest, encompasses several former multi-generational farms.

The 355-acre Valley Forge Farms area occupies the southwestern corner of the park, straddling Valley Creek. Today, several eighteenth-century farm buildings that housed General Lord William Alexander Stirling, Brigadier General Henry Knox, and Major-General Marquis de Lafayette during the encampment remain. These log, stone, and stucco buildings and their associated outbuildings anchor the site's historic farmsteads, set amongst rolling fields, hedgerows, farm lanes. Other features are associated with late nineteenth and early twentieth century estate development, including that of Philander Chase Knox, who held cabinet positions in three administrations and served as a U.S. Senator for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The estate features ornamental plantings and pleasure garden features and structures; traces of recreational features such as a swimming pool, pool house, tennis court, and former horse track; and resources representative of the tenants and hired hands that managed the estate. Prominent

features associated with historical park development include access roads and routes, trails, parking facilities, interpretive signage, and the establishment or maintenance of meadows on historically cultivated fields and tree lines along historic property lines to depict encampment-era ownership patterns.

The landscape also bears evidence of regional circulation history; a reconstructed covered bridge structure spans Valley Creek, and road traces, including an abandoned ford site, exist that likely were utilized by the Continental Army during its encampment at Valley Forge. Baptist Road, also known as Route 252, was established by the earliest European settlers of the region. More contemporary routes that edge or traverse the component landscape include Yellow Springs Road, and the Pennsylvania Turnpike. The turnpike, constructed in the 1950s, forms the southern boundary of the park and the component landscape. The sound of traveling vehicles is audible from portions of the area, although the highway is barely visible due to screening vegetation and topography.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Valley Forge NHP was originally designated as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1961 when it was known as Valley Forge State Park (the Valley Forge Farms area was added to the NHL in 1975). As a component landscape of Valley Forge NHP, Valley Forge Farms is significant under National Register of Historic Places Criteria A, B, C, and D at national and local levels.

Valley Forge Farms is primarily significant at the national level in the area of Military History as the location of the Continental Army's encampment during the winter of 1777–1778, which ranks among the most famous events of the Revolutionary War. The property has additional national-level significance in the area of Military History for associations with formative events in the life of Major-General Marquis de Lafayette (1757–1834) who became a military hero in the American and French revolutions, and in the area of Politics/Government for association with Philander Chase Knox (1853–1921) during the early twentieth century when he became a nationally prominent political figure. The property also possesses national-level significance in the area of Historic: Non-Aboriginal Archeology for its realized and potential ability to contribute substantive data regarding the form and function of the 1777–1778 winter encampment. Valley Forge Farms possesses local-level significance in the area of Agriculture for the establishment of and improvements to farmsteads that typify the agricultural development of the region, and in the area of Architecture for its eighteenth- and nineteenth-century domestic buildings that provide valuable information regarding the regional construction practices and aesthetic trends of the period.

The Valley Forge Farms component landscape shares the same period of significance as the larger Valley Forge NHP: ca.1710–1949. The period includes the years when property achieved its primary national significance as the site of the Continental Army's encampment during the winter and spring of 1777–1778. The years between ca.1710 and 1777–1778 and through the late nineteenth century, represent locally significant periods of agricultural and industrial development of Valley Forge and include the construction dates for a number of architecturally significant resources, as well as the overlapping period between 1876 and 1949 during which the nationally significant events associated with the conservation and commemoration of the Valley Forge encampment site occurred. The 1949 end date of significance corresponds to the year that the restoration-focused development program laid out by the Valley Forge Park Commission in 1936 and overseen by preservation architect George Edwin Brumbaugh was completed.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

The Valley Forge Farms component landscape is predominantly characterized by its long-standing agricultural heritage. While extant features reflect various periods of landscape history, overall it most closely reflects its late nineteenth and early twentieth century appearance as a collection of gentleman farms and estates. By the second quarter of the twentieth century, the majority of the extant landscape features were established. These features, including roads, drives, trails, dwellings, outbuildings, woodlands, hedgerows, ornamental plantings, bridges, open fields, fencing, lime kilns, charcoal hearths, span the eighteenth century European settlement period, the Revolutionary War encampment period, the nineteenth century, and part of the twentieth century. Features pre-dating these cultural features, such as landform and topography and water resources, have remained relatively consistent throughout the historic periods that are the focus of this study. Since the 1960s, land uses within the component landscape shifted from agriculture to interpretation and recreation as the area was incorporated into Valley Forge State Park, and later Valley Forge National Historical Park. Landscape features that have been developed in support of park development include visitor parking areas, trails, signage, and recreational areas.

While the agricultural character of the landscape has diminished during the twentieth century, it still retains integrity to

its nineteenth agricultural period of significance, and its early twentieth century significant association with resident Philander Chase Knox. Various features survive within the landscape that have known or predicted associations with the encampment and support our understanding of the period. Thus, the component landscape contributes to the park's overall integrity even though it has undergone considerable changes during the period of significance and since its end.

Condition:
The Valley Forge Farms component landscape is in fair condition. Historic buildings and structures are generally well-maintained with the goal of leasing the properties to avoid ongoing deferred maintenance. The Philander Knox Estate has been leased to a private company and is currently used as an events venue, offsetting maintenance costs for the park. The Knox-Tindle House has been fully rehabilitated and is being targeted for leasing as well. However, some historic structures present persistent challenges, such as Stirling's Quarters which was recently stabilized, but now requires additional maintenance to avoid deteriorating to poor condition. Large areas of non-historic, successional woody vegetation have overtaken open fields present in the 1970s between the Knox-Tindle House and Knox's Quarters. The non-historic vegetation pattern diminishes the landscape's agricultural character and obscures the visual connection between these two residences. New trail installation along the road near the covered bridge facilitates safer pedestrian access to the landscape, aiding in historic interpretation.

**Landscape Hierarchy Description:**

To support CLI documentation, the CLI Professional Procedures Guide has established a hierarchy of landscapes and component landscapes. A landscape is a site or district that is listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and includes landscape characteristics and features that define the historic character of the cultural landscape. Complex landscapes can be subdivided into distinct component landscape areas that contribute to the significance of the landscape, and may also be individually listed on or eligible for the National Register. Component landscapes warrant individual documentation to adequately record the physical character or assemblage of related features. Examples of component landscapes include a campground, farmstead, garden, cemetery, or road system.

One overall landscape and five component landscapes have been identified for Valley Forge National Historical Park. The overall Valley Forge NHP Landscape is coterminous with the park boundary and includes all natural and cultural features related to the encampment, agriculture, industrial, commemoration, and recreation uses that are contributing to the National Register. Due to the large and complex nature of the NHP Landscape, analysis and evaluation of these resources are addressed in five component landscapes: Other Encampment Areas, Port Kennedy, Valley Forge Farms, Village of Valley Forge, and Walnut Hill.

**Landscape Type:**

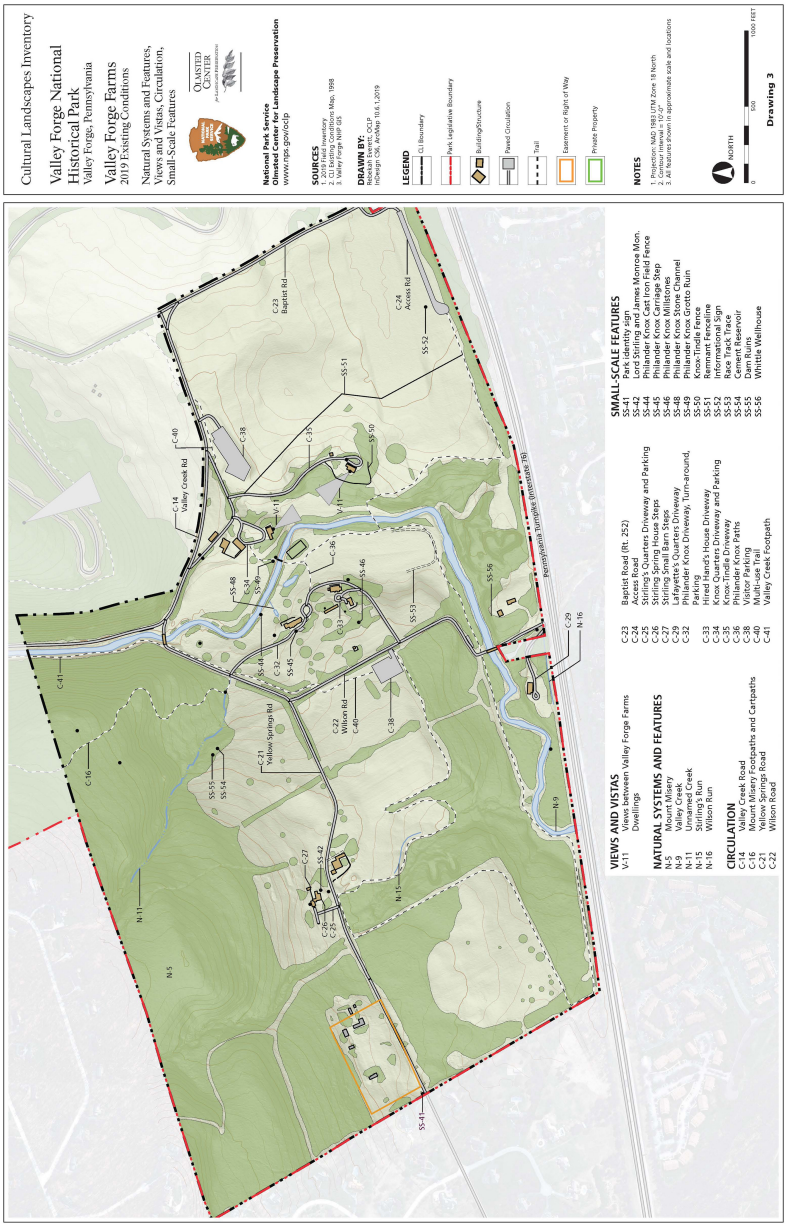
Historic Site

Historic Vernacular Landscape

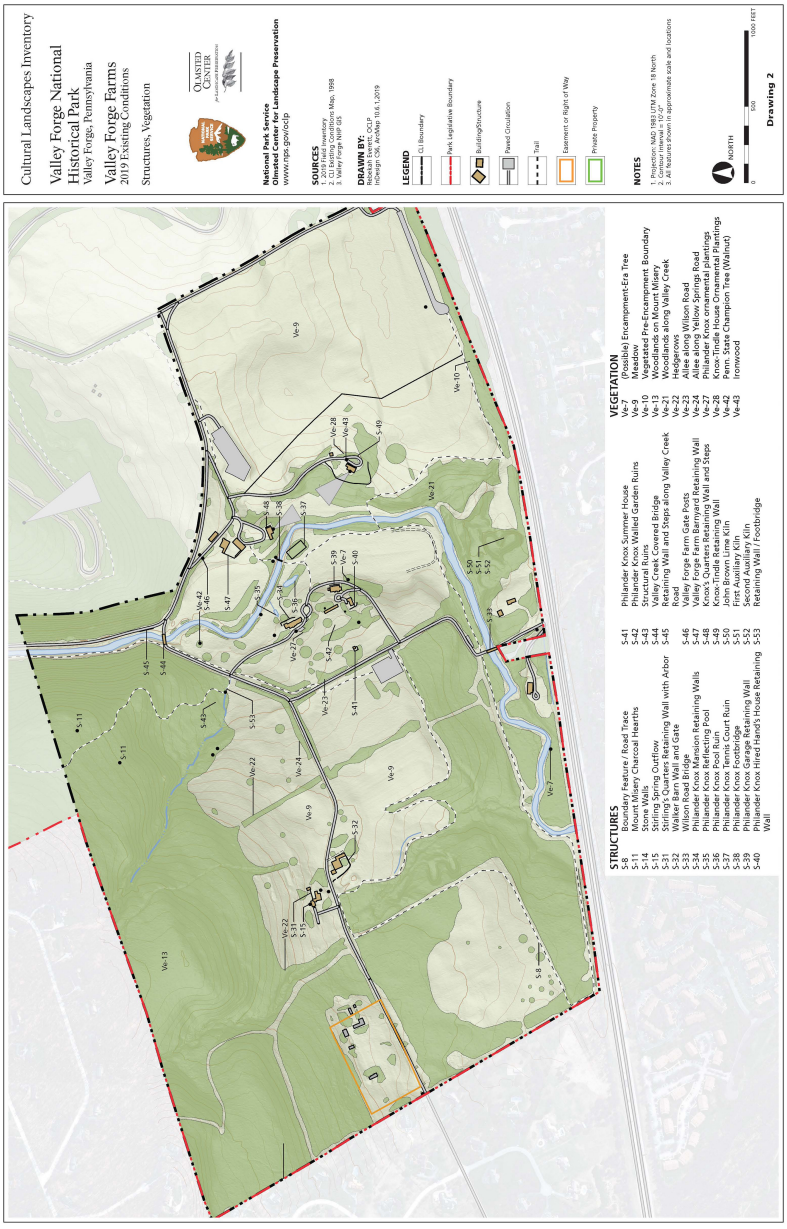
**Other Names:**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Other Name:** | General Knox's Quarters | **Other Name Type:** | Both Current And Historic |
| **Other Name:** | John Brown Limekiln | **Other Name Type:** | Historic |
| **Other Name:** | Lafayette's Quarters | **Other Name Type:** | Historic |
| **Other Name:** | Lesmore, Elsmore | **Other Name Type:** | Historic |
| **Other Name:** | Lord Stirling's Quarters | **Other Name Type:** | Both Current And Historic |
| **Other Name:** | Maxwell's Quarters | **Other Name Type:** | Both Current And Historic |
| **Other Name:** | Philander Chase Knox Estate | **Other Name Type:** | Both Current And Historic |
| **Other Name:** | Valley Forge Farm | **Other Name Type:** | Historic |
| **Other Name:** | Valley Forge Farms | **Other Name Type:** | Current |
| **Other Name:** | Valley Forge National Historical Park | **Other Name Type:** | Current |

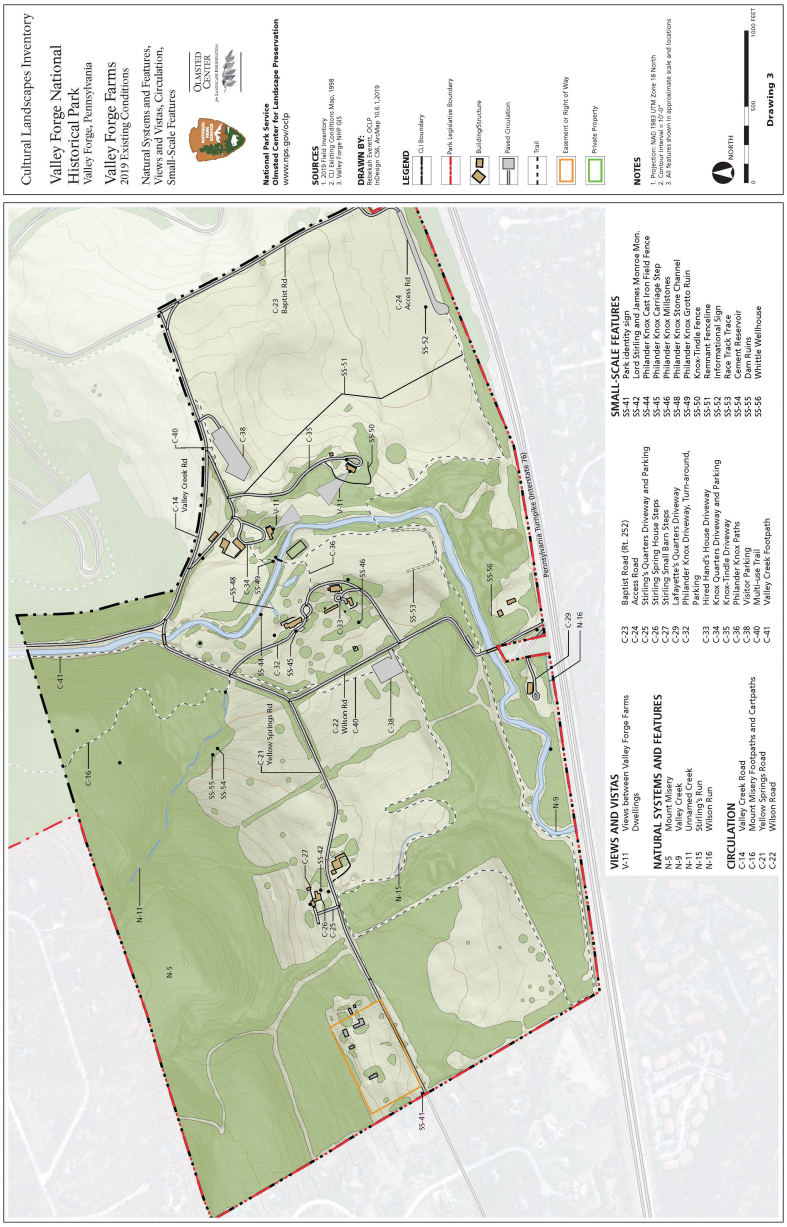
**Site Plan**




*Site map, 2024, Drawing 1 of 3.*

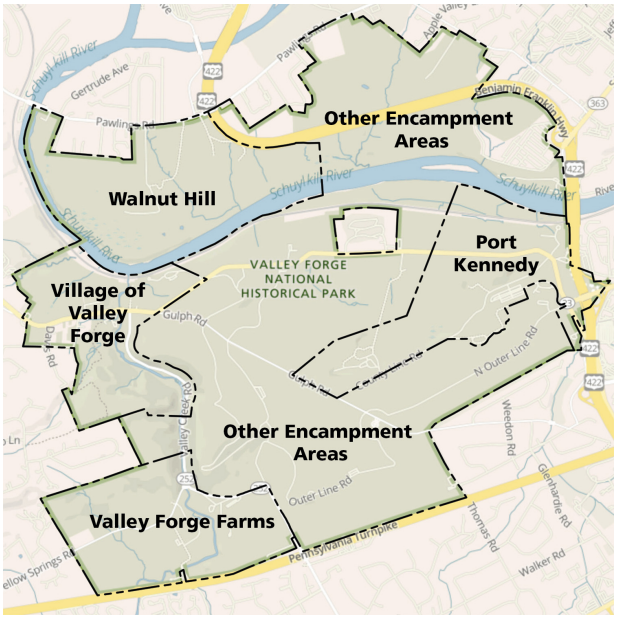



*Site map, 2024, Drawing 2 of 3.*




*Site map, 2024, Drawing 3 of 3.*

**Hierarchy Description Graphic:**




*Map showing the five landscapes at Valley Forge National Historical Park--hereafter NHP. (Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation--hereafter OCLP--2022)*

# Concurrence Information

## Concurrence Status:

**Park Superintendent Concurrence:** Yes

**Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:** 09/05/2002

**Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:**

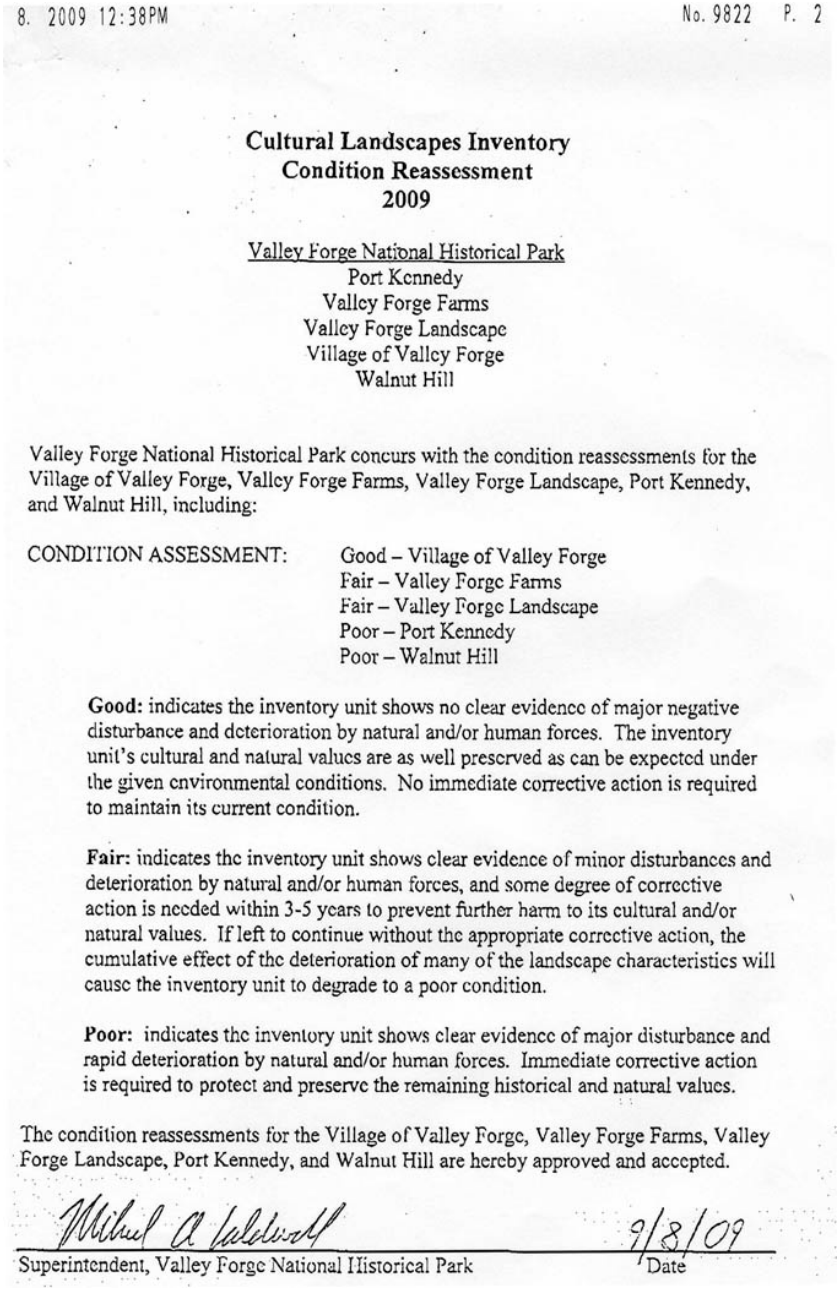
The original CLI for Valley Forge Farms was approved by the Superintendent on September 5, 2002 and the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on September 16, 2004. Condition reassessments for the farms area were approved by the superintendent on September 26, 2003 and September 8, 2009. The original CLI relied upon the primary and secondary source material available at Valley Forge National Historical Park. It was written by Liz Sargent and entered into the CLI database by Lanae Brown. N.J. Brown prepared the report for the 2004 SHPO review. Field work and site plan revisions for this CLI update were completed by Tim Layton and Rebekah Everett in the summer of 2019. Text and graphics were finalized by Tim Layton and Jeff Killion.

SUMMARY OF CLI REVISIONS, 2024

Updates that have made to the Valley Forge Farms CLI since the 2004 and 2009 versions include revisions to the National Register section to reflect updated National Register documentation that was completed in 2016 (including additional areas of significance and extension of the period of significance to 1949); updating the Chronology and Physical History sections to document changes in the landscape since 2004; updating the site plans; updating the Analysis and Evaluation chapter with expansion of the inventoried features; updated photographs; and assessment of the overall landscape condition. Field work for this update was completed in 2019 by Tim Layton and Rebekah Everett, and editing was completed by Tim Layton and Jeff Killion in 2022. Upon approval by the Park Superintendent, this update will supersede all previous versions of the Valley Forge Farms CLI.

## Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path



8. 2009 12:38PM No. 9822 P. 2

**Cultural Landscapes Inventory**
**Condition Reassessment**
**2009**

Valley Forge National Historical Park
Port Kennedy
Valley Forge Farms
Valley Forge Landscape
Village of Valley Forge
Walnut Hill

Valley Forge National Historical Park concurs with the condition reassessments for the Village of Valley Forge, Valley Forge Farms, Valley Forge Landscape, Port Kennedy, and Walnut Hill, including:

CONDITION ASSESSMENT:
Good – Village of Valley Forge
Fair – Valley Forge Farms
Fair – Valley Forge Landscape
Poor – Port Kennedy
Poor – Walnut Hill

**Good:** indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

**Fair:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the landscape characteristics will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

**Poor:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The condition reassessments for the Village of Valley Forge, Valley Forge Farms, Valley Forge Landscape, Port Kennedy, and Walnut Hill are hereby approved and accepted.

Michael A Caldwell 9/8/09
Superintendent, Valley Forge National Historical Park Date

*CLI condition reassessment form, September 8, 2009.*

Cultural Landscapes Inventories
Level II

Valley Forge National Historical Park:
Valley Forge Landscape
Port Kennedy
Valley Forge Farms
Village of Valley Forge
Walnut Hill

Valley Forge National Historical Park concurs with the findings of the Level II inventories for the Valley Forge Landscape, Port Kennedy, Valley Forge Farms, Village of Valley Forge, and Walnut Hill, including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Not specified

CONDITION ASSESSMENT:

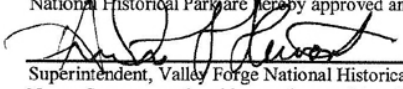
Valley Forge Landscape: Fair
Port Kennedy: Poor
Valley Forge Farms: Fair
Village of Valley Forge: Fair
Walnut Hill: Fair

**Good:** indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

**Fair:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

**Poor:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Level II Cultural Landscapes Inventories for the Valley Forge Landscape, Port Kennedy, Valley Forge Farms, Village of Valley Forge, and Walnut Hill in Valley Forge National Historical Park are hereby approved and accepted.



Superintendent, Valley Forge National Historical Park — 9/5/02 Date

Note: Concurrence is subject to the condition that the conditions are re-evaluated within one calendar year of the signature date.

*CLI concurrence form, September 5, 2002.*

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Northeast Region
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106-2878

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H30 (NER-RS&S)

August 20, 2004

Ms. Jean Cutler
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission
Bureau for Historic Preservation
Commonwealth Keystone Bldg, 2nd Floor
440 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093

Dear Ms. Cutler:

Enclosed you will find a copy of five Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) reports for Valley Forge National Historical Park. They provide detailed landscape information on the following landscapes:

Valley Forge Landscape
Port Kennedy
Valley Forge Farms
Village of Valley Forge
Walnut Hill

Your office received copies of this information in its original form soon after it was prepared by the National Park Service (NPS) and Oculus in 1998 and 2000, but we do not have a record of your response. Since then this information has been entered into the NPS cultural landscapes database and we are now sending you the reports from the database. We now request a consensus determination regarding our findings of significance for the property, specifically which landscape characteristics and associated features contribute to the significance (see the attached lists). In order to meet agency inventory goals, we need your response prior to September 15, 2004.

Through the CLI program, the NPS is currently in the midst of a nationwide effort to inventory its cultural landscapes. The CLI is conducted in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). It is an inventory of baseline information for all culturally and historically significant landscapes within the national park system, and it examines multiple landscape features that contribute to the significance of historic properties. The CLI process includes gathering information from existing secondary sources, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the properties' overall significance. For landscapes found potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the evaluation describes their characteristics

*SHPO concurrence letter, September 16, 2004, page 1 of 3.*

and associated features and assesses the landscape's overall historical integrity. It also raises questions about the landscape that require further study.

It is important to note that the CLI reports are not intended as comprehensive inventory reports for any one property, although for some districts and sites, they provide fuller documentation than for others. For example, the reports do not include a full architectural description of structures, but document structures as elements of the overall landscape, and similarly document other characteristics such as vegetation, spatial organization, and views and vistas. The CLI is one component of the NPS inventory effort. The NPS List of Classified Structures (LCS) inventory, for example, includes structural features of cultural landscapes, but the CLI takes a more comprehensive approach to the properties, inventorying all above-ground resources in each park in which the NPS has a legal or mandated interest. As of August, 2004, there are several findings on structures in this CLI that differ from early LCS findings. The LCS will be updated in the next fiscal year to resolve discrepancies.

Valley Forge State Park was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) on January 20, 1961 and listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966. On July 4, 1976, Congress enacted Public Law 94-337 authorizing Valley Forge National Historical Park... "to preserve and commemorate for the people of the United States the area associated with the heroic suffering, hardship, and determination and resolve of General Washington's Continental Army during the winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge." Valley Forge National Historical Park National Register documentation was accepted by the Keeper on February 26, 1988, with a Supplemental Listing Record signed by the Keeper on October 28, 1988. The park's National Register documentation is currently being revised, and when this is complete this CLI will also be updated to reflect any changes.

The 1988 National Register documentation lists Valley Forge National Historical Park as significant in five areas:

I. The Revolution: The Beginnings of the American Army, 1777-1778
II. Sculpture and Monuments, 1901-1938
III. Industry, 18th to early 20th century
IV. Architecture, 18th and early 20th century
V. Ruins, early 18th to mid-19th century

The park derives significance under Criterion A for the encampment of the continental army and its post-war commemoration. It is also significant under Criterion B for its association with individuals important to our history, such as George Washington and Friedrich von Steuben. Buildings related to the encampment and commemoration, industry, and agriculture are significant under Criterion C, architecture. Ruins and archeological sites of the area are significant under Criterion D. The 1988 National Register documentation established 1742 as the beginning date for the period of significance. The end date, established by the Supplement Listing Record, is 1938.

The post-encampment agricultural associations and the association with recreation during its years as a state park may achieve significance at the state or local level. Some landscape characteristics of the site, such as spatial organization and vegetation are not discussed in the existing National Register documentation, and are documented in these CLIs. These issues will be resolved in the updated National Register documentation, which may also extend the period of significance.

Within each CLI, we call your particular attention to the Statement of Significance (end of Part 1), the Analysis and Evaluation Summary (beginning of Part 3) and the National Register Information (near the beginning of Part 4).

*SHPO concurrence letter, September 16, 2004, page 2 of 3.*

**Cultural Landscapes Inventories**
**Condition Reassessment 2003**

Valley Forge National Historical Park:
Valley Forge Landscape
Port Kennedy
Valley Forge Farms
Village of Valley Forge
Walnut Hill

Valley Forge National Historical Park concurs with the following condition reassessments for the Valley Forge Landscape, Port Kennedy, Valley Forge Farms, Village of Valley Forge, and Walnut Hill:

CONDITION REASSESSMENT:

Valley Forge Landscape: Fair
Port Kennedy: Poor
Valley Forge Farms: Fair
Village of Valley Forge: Fair
Walnut Hill: Poor

**Good:** indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

**Fair:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

**Poor:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The condition reassessments for the Valley Forge Landscape, Port Kennedy, Valley Forge Farms, Village of Valley Forge, and Walnut Hill in Valley Forge National Historical Park are hereby approved and accepted.

Superintendent, Valley Forge National Historical Park — Date 9/26/03

*CLI condition reassessment form, September 26, 2003.*

ER# 01-4112-091-B



Based on the enclosed CLI reports, we seek your concurrence on the following:

- the landscapes of Valley Forge, and the component landscapes of Port Kennedy, Valley Forge Farms, Village of Valley Forge, and Walnut Hill contribute to the significance of the park in the following areas:

- Valley Forge Landscape: Military, Conservation, Architecture, Agriculture, Industry, Entertainment/Recreation
- Port Kennedy: Military, Industry, Architecture, Archeology (Prehistoric), Conservation
- Valley Forge Farms: Military, Agriculture, Politics/Government, Archeology (Historic-Non-Aboriginal and Prehistoric), Architecture, Conservation, Industry, Exploration/Settlement
- Village of Valley Forge: Military, Conservation, Industry, Archeology (Historic-Non-Aboriginal and Prehistoric), Entertainment/Recreation, Architecture, Transportation
- Walnut Hill: Agriculture, Military, Archeology (Historic-Non-Aboriginal and Prehistoric), Architecture

- that certain landscape characteristics and features contribute to the significance of the property (see enclosed lists).

If you concur with our evaluation of the Valley Forge landscape resources, please sign on the spaces provided below, and return prior to September 15, 2004. Please return the letter and any inquiries or comments to:

Nancy J. Brown
Co-CLI Program Coordinator
National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation
200 Chestnut St., 3rd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Brown at (215) 597-8863. We appreciate any efforts you can make to expedite this review.

Sincerely,

for Marie Rust
Regional Director

Enclosures

cc:
Arthur Stewart, Superintendent

I concur with the above-stated evaluation and contributing and non-contributing landscape features of the Valley Forge Landscape, Port Kennedy, Valley Forge Farms, Village of Valley Forge, and Walnut Hill in Valley Forge National Historical Park.

Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Officer

9/16/04
Date

*SHPO concurrence letter, September 16, 2004, page 3 of 3.*

**Cultural Landscapes Inventory**
**CLI Updates Certification Form**
**2024**

Valley Forge National Historical Park
Core Encampment Area, Port Kennedy, Valley Forge Farms, Village of Valley Forge, and Walnut Hill

Valley Forge National Historical Park certifies the CLI updates for the Core Encampment Area, Port Kennedy, Valley Forge Farms, Village of Valley Forge, and Walnut Hill including:

CONDITION ASSESSMENT:
Fair – Core Encampment Area
Poor – Port Kennedy
Fair – Valley Forge Farms
Good – Village of Valley Forge
Fair – Walnut Hill

**Good:** indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

**Fair:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements, will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

**Poor:** indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values

The CLI updates for Core Encampment Area, Port Kennedy, Valley Forge Farms, Village of Valley Forge, and Walnut Hill at Valley Forge National Historical Park are hereby approved and accepted.

Digitally signed by ROSALYN FENNELL
Date: 2024.02.20 17:04:59 -05'00'

February 20, 2024

Superintendent, Valley Forge National Historical Park — Date

*CLI certification form, February 20, 2024.*

## Revision:

| Revised By | Type of Revision | Revision Date | Revision Narrative |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lisa Nowak | Change in Condition | 09/08/2009 | Condition reassessment completed as scheduled. |
| Jeff Killion | Other | 02/20/2024 | Three levels of effort have been developed for CLI Updates: A, B, and C. Level C is limited to a condition reassessment of the landscape; Level B includes C and is a targeted update of select data fields; Level A includes C and is a comprehensive update of all data fields. This 2024 update to the Valley Forge Farms CLI has been conducted at a Level A effort. |

# Geographic Information

**State and County:**

| State | County |
|---|---|
| Pennsylvania | Chester County |

**Size (Acres):** 354.98

**Land Tract Number(s)**

101-13, 3.76 acres;
101-14, 65.49;
101-17, 5.51;
101-18, 2.29;
101-30, 1,683.30 (portion of 1,683-acre tract is in CLI boundary);
101-33, 721.36 (portion of 721-acre tract is in CLI boundary);
101-56, 60.69.

**Boundary Description:**

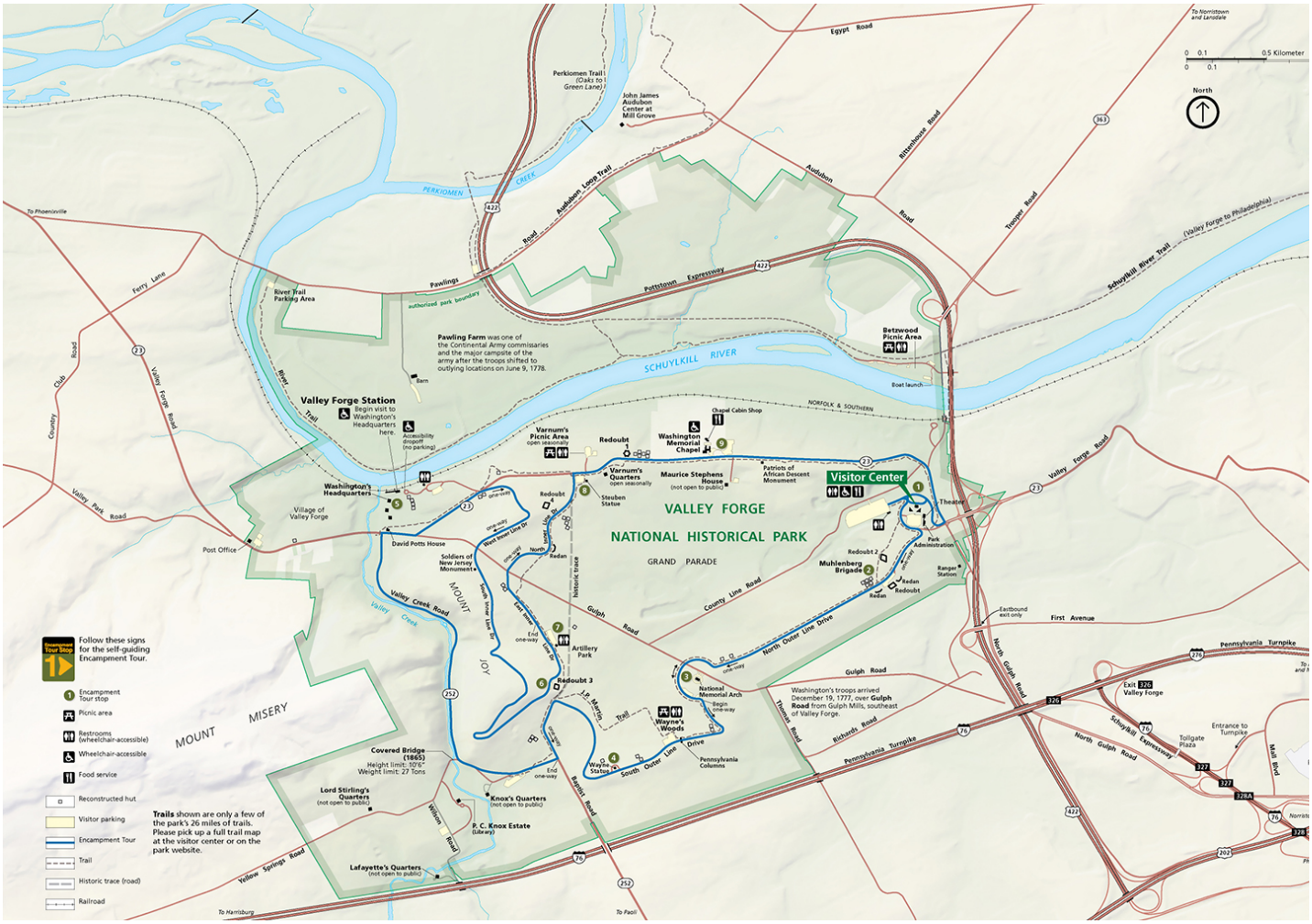
The Valley Forge Farms component landscape boundary has been configured to encompass the extent of historic farmstead ownership to the south of Mounts Joy and Misery that falls within park boundaries. The eastern boundary of the component landscape, the only boundary not formed either by landform or the park boundary, is comprised of Baptist Road. This road also marks the edge of the outer line of defenses established during the encampment period, suggesting an additional justification for establishing a boundary line in this location.

In more detail, the component landscape boundary is comprised of the following:
It is edged to the northwest by the park boundary as it traverses the southern slopes of Mount Misery. The component landscape boundary diverges from the park boundary by following the line of the boundary through the park, once the park boundary turns to the northwest. Once the component landscape boundary line reaches Route 252, it then follows the eastern edge of the roadway in a southerly, and then southeasterly direction, until Route 252 joins Baptist Road. The boundary follows the eastern margin of Baptist Road in a southerly direction until it intersects the park boundary. The component landscape boundary parallels the park's southern boundary adjoining the Pennsylvania Turnpike in a westerly direction, and turns with the park boundary to the north. The park and component landscape boundaries cross Yellow Springs Road, and then rejoin the initial, northwestern park and component landscape boundary described above.

**Boundary Coordinates**

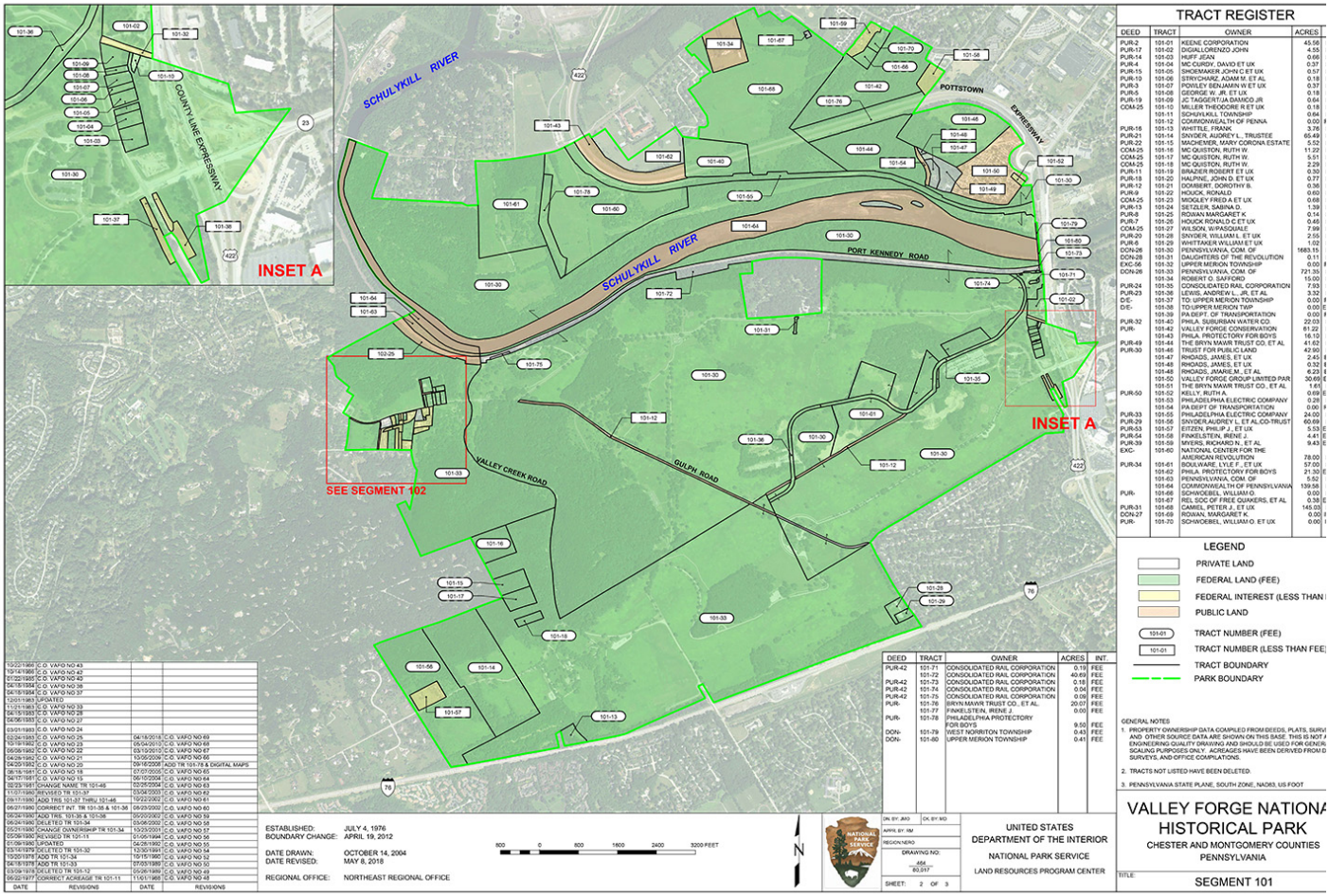
| Source | Type of Point | Latitude | Longitude | Narrative |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| GIS | Area | 40.089891 | -75.455831 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.088546 | -75.45572 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.087024 | -75.455214 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.086552 | -75.452845 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.08658 | -75.451646 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.087393 | -75.448639 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.08364 | -75.445999 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.083504 | -75.446317 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.082841 | -75.445843 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.080937 | -75.451787 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.08036 | -75.456236 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.081211 | -75.4565 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.081053 | -75.456851 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.080281 | -75.45665 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.079336 | -75.464591 | |
| GIS | Area | 40.086305 | -75.470009 | |

**Location Map:**



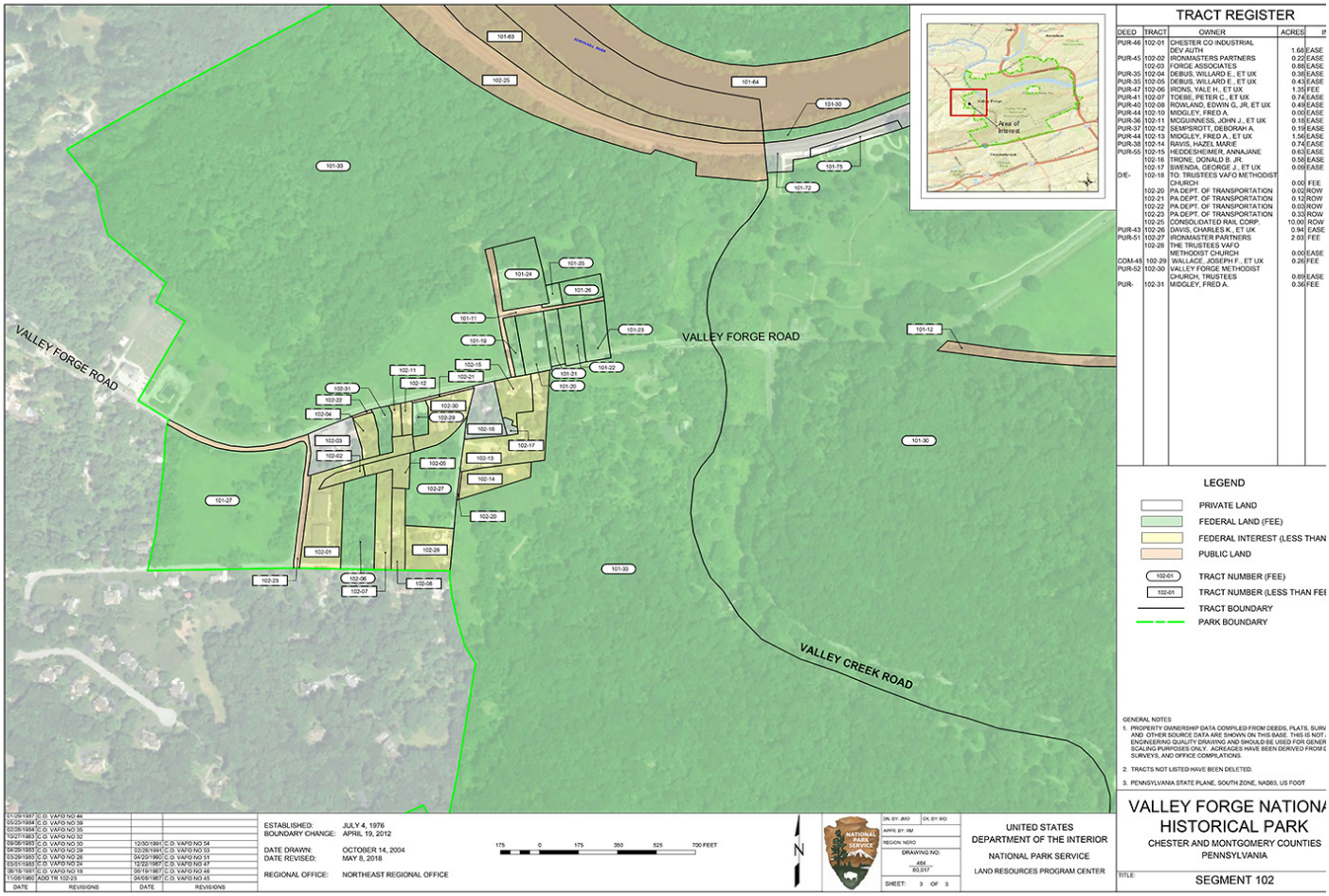

*Map of Valley Forge NHP. (NPS Harpers Ferry Center, https://www.nps.gov/carto/app/#!/maps/alphacode/VAFO)*


0.5 Mile
KING
OF
PRUSSIA
MALL




*Land tract map, 2018. (NPS, Land Resources Program Center)*






*Land tract map, 2018. (NPS, Land Resources Program Center)*



**Regional Landscape Contexts:**

**Type of Context:** Cultural

**Description:**

Since the 1970s and 1980s, this component landscape has been part of Valley Forge National Historical Park, a popular regional attraction that draws many thousands of visitors each year. It is located some eighteen miles from the City of Philadelphia on the western outskirts of a heavily developed suburban and commercial corridor known as King of Prussia. The corridor includes one of the region's largest shopping malls, various conference centers and commercial developments, numerous large residential subdivisions, office parks, and primary commuter thoroughfares that provide access to the Pennsylvania Turnpike and the Schuylkill Expressway.

**Type of Context:** Physiographic

**Description:**

Valley Forge National Historical Park is located within the Piedmont Province of the Appalachian Highlands and borders the Chester or Great Valley of Southeastern Pennsylvania. The Piedmont Province is characterized by gently rolling uplands underlain by limestone, and low hills underlain by quartzite rocks. The Valley Forge Farms component landscape occupies portions of the broad dolomite valley underlain by a limestone substrate that exists to the south and east of the quartzite hills of Mount Joy and Mount Misery. The component landscape encompasses a portion of the southern slopes of Mount Misery. Elevations range from 100 feet above mean sea level at Valley Creek, to more than 400 feet above mean sea level along the lower slopes of Mount Misery.

**Type of Context:** Political

**Description:**

The Valley Forge Farms component landscape is located within Tredyffrin Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. It falls within the boundaries of Valley Forge National Historical Park, and is administered by the National Park Service.

# Management Information

**General Management Information**

**Management Category:** Must be Preserved and Maintained

**Management Category Date:** 09/05/2002

**Management Category Explanatory Narrative:**

As approved by the Park Superintendent on September 5, 2002, the Valley Forge Farms component landscape meets the "Must be Preserved and Maintained" management category because the component landscape is nationally significant as defined by National Historic Landmark criteria and is related to the park's legislated significance. The Valley Forge Farms area was part of the Valley Forge State Park, which was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1961 (boundary increased in 1975) and transferred from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to the Department of the Interior in 1976. Valley Forge National Historical Park was officially established in 1976, "…to preserve and commemorate for the people of the United States the area associated with the heroic suffering, hardship, and determination and resolve of General George Washington's Continental Army during the winter of 1777–1778 at Valley Forge…" Although the enabling legislation does not mention the Valley Forge Farms by name, the area was directly associated with the encampment. It is also included on the boundary map that is referenced in the legislation. (FD 2019: 50-51)

**Management Agreements:**

**Type of Agreement:** Lease

**Management Agreement Expiration Date:**

**Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:**

Philander Chase Knox House is currently leased as an event space. The NPS anticipates issuing an RFP for a new lease with similar conditions once the current lease expires.

**Legal Interests:**

**Type of Interest:** Fee Simple

**Narrative:** Tracts 101-13, 101-14, 101-17, 101-18, 101-30 (portion), 101-33 (portion), 101-56

**Located in managed wilderness?:** Unknown

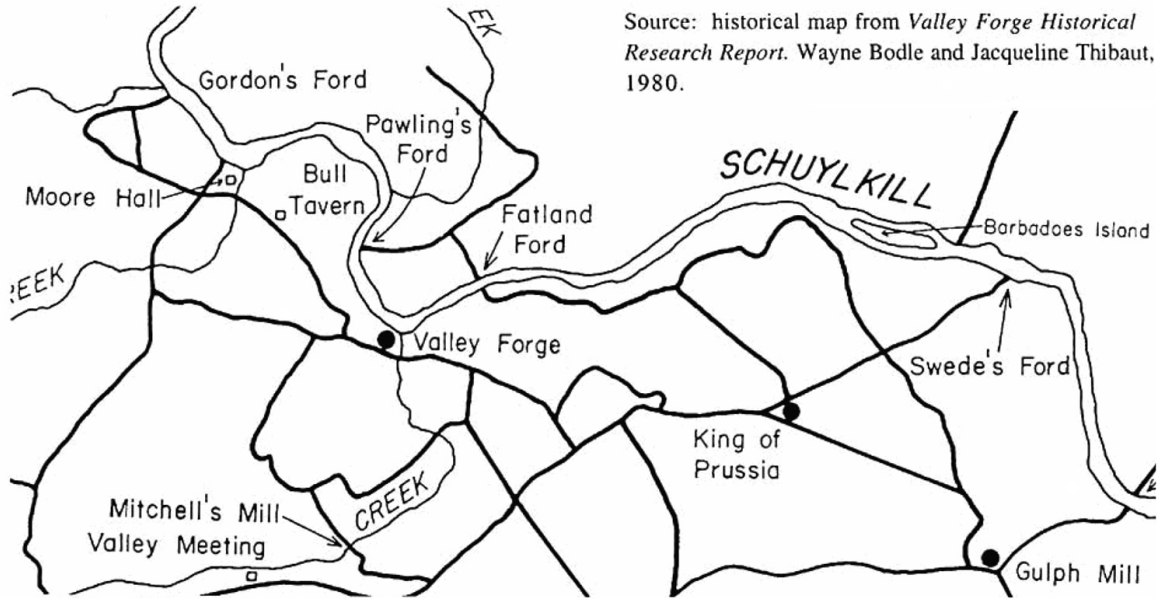
## Adjacent Lands Information

**Do Adjacent Lands Contribute?** Yes

**Adjacent Lands Narrative:**

Adjacent lands are lands outside the cultural landscape boundary, including lands inside or outside the park. Nearby sites historically associated with both the encampment and Valley Forge Farms are located to the north, west, and south. Tradition suggests that General McIntosh may have been quartered west of Valley Forge at Joseph Mann's house. The extent of the property owned by John Havard during the encampment period may potentially contribute to the Valley Forge Farms component landscape as the site of General Duportail's quarters. The dwelling site is currently outside of Valley Forge National Historical Park boundaries and is physically separated from the park by the Pennsylvania Turnpike. The history of the outparcel located along Yellow Springs Road should be researched further.

**Adjacent Lands Graphic:**




The site of General Duportail's quarters is currently outside of Valley Forge National Historical Park boundaries and is physically separated from the park by the Pennsylvania Turnpike

# National Register Information

## National Register of Historic Places

**Documentation Status:** Entered Documented

**Documentation Narrative Description:**

On the nation's bicentennial, July 4, 1976, President Gerald R. Ford signed the act establishing Valley Forge National Historical Park. However, National Historic Landmark designations and National Register of Historic Places listings of the park and several individual resources occurred earlier, when the park was part of the state park system in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

On January 20, 1961, the 2,300-acre Valley Forge State Park was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) under Theme X, "The War for Independence." The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings form noted extensive remains of major forts, miles of earthworks, the artillery park, Washington's headquarters house, quarters of other top officers, the Grand Parade Ground, museum, a reconstructed officers' hut, memorials and monuments, and historical markers. It also noted an observation tower (since removed) that "affords a comprehensive view of the camp site and the country-side." The Valley Forge Farms area was not included within the NHL boundary.

Two properties at Valley Forge Farms have been individually listed in the National Register. On February 14, 1974, Major-General Lord Stirling's Quarters was listed in the National Register. National significance for the 10-acre property was identified under Criteria A, B, and C in the areas of Agriculture, Architecture, and Military for the period 1700–1799, with specific dates of ca.1738, 1769, and 1791. On June 20, 1974, Lafayette's Quarters was listed in the National Register. National significance for the 35-acre property was identified under Criteria A and B in the area of Military for the period 1700–1799, with specific dates of 1777–1778. Both documentation forms mostly focused on the buildings.

The park was administratively listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966 with the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. On October 10, 1975, NHL/National Register documentation was updated when Valley Forge State Park was enlarged from 2,300 to 2,515 acres. The NHL boundaries were enlarged to include much of the Valley Forge Farms area. The NHL theme was re-designated as "Major American Wars, Revolution." National Register significance was identified in the area of Military for the eighteenth century, with specific dates December 1777 to June 1778. Regarding the Valley Forge Farms area, the form identified the quarters of Stirling, Lafayette, and Knox, but no other features.

On October 28, 1988, the National Register documentation for what was by this time Valley Forge National Historical Park, was updated to address resources not associated with the park's primary area of significance as a military encampment. New areas of significance for the 3,464-acre district included Archeology-Historic, Architecture, Industry, and Sculpture for the mid eighteenth to early nineteenth century. A specific beginning date for the period of significance was not identified, but a Supplementary Listing Record dated October 28, 1988 ended the period of significance in 1938 to include the events and activities that commemorated the Revolutionary War encampment in the twentieth century. Specific resources identified at Valley Forge Farms included: Agricultural Equipment Shed, Barn at Knox's Quarters, Corn Crib at Knox's Quarters, Footbridge, Hired Hands' House, Knox's Quarters (Valley Forge Farm), Knox-Tindle House, Lafayette's Quarters (Samuel Havard House), Philander Knox Mansion, Philander Knox Garage with Chauffer's Quarters, Philander Knox Summerhouse, Philander Knox Root Cellar, Philander Knox Bath House (since demolished) and Pool, Philander Knox Greenhouse Ruin, Philander Knox Potting Shed, Private Roads (Crux Road, now Valley Creek Road), Public Roads (Baptist Road), Stable at Knox's Quarters, Stirling's Quarters, Stirling's Quarters Spring House and Bake House/Wash House, Stirling's Quarters Small Barn, and Walker Barn (at Stirling's Quarters). The ruins of the John Brown Limekilns were also described. The Rose Cottage (demolished) was identified as a non-contributing feature.

On September 16, 2004, the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurred with the NPS on the findings of a Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for the 355-acre Valley Forge Farms site. The 2004 CLI identified significance in the areas of Archeology (Historic-Non-Aboriginal and Prehistoric), Agriculture, Architecture, Conservation, Exploration/Settlement, Industry, Military, and Politics/Government, and the period of significance as 1742–1938, beginning when the Mount Joy Forge began operations on Valley Creek, and ending when commemorative efforts were completed. Specific features in the Village of Valley Forge area are listed in the Analysis and Evaluation chapter of this CLI.

On June 18, 2016, National Register documentation was updated for Valley Forge National Historical Park to define the National Register criteria under which the district derived its significance, establish legally defensible National Register boundaries, and provide a full accounting of contributing and non-contributing resources. Significance for the 3,263-acre district was identified in the areas of Agriculture, Archeology (Historic- Non-Aboriginal), Archeology (Prehistoric), Architecture, Art, Conservation, Engineering, Landscape Architecture, Industry, Military History, Other (Commemoration), and Politics/Government. The periods of significance were identified as 8000 BCE–1600 CE for archeology and ca.1710–1949 for the other areas, beginning with the development of the eighteenth-century road network and ending when the restoration-focused development program at the state park was completed. Specific features in the Valley Forge Farms area are listed in the Analysis and Evaluation chapter of this CLI. Three features identified as non contributing in the 2004 CLI were reevaluated as contributing in the 2016 National Register: Philander Chase Knox Estate – Millstones, Stirling Small Barn Steps, and Stirling Spring House Steps. The Philander Knox Footbridge, identified as contributing in the 2004 CLI, was reevaluated as non contributing in the 2016 National Register.

According to research conducted for this CLI Update and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the “CLI Professional Procedures Guide,” the areas and periods of significance for the Valley Forge Farms landscape were adequately documented in the 2002 CLI and in the 2016 National Register. The existing documentation adequately describes the landscape’s numerous historic resources that contribute to its significance. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, the Valley Forge Farms landscape is considered “Entered-Documented.”

**Eligibility:** Eligible -- Keeper

**Concurrence Eligibility Date:** 06/18/2016

**Concurrence Narrative:**

**Significance Level:** National

**Contributing:** Contributing

**Classification:** District

**Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:**

Valley Forge National Historical Park Historic District:
Valley Forge National Historical Park (NHP), including Valley Forge Farms, was designated as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1961. The Valley Forge National Historical Park (NHP) Historic District possesses significance at the national, state, and local levels under National Register Criteria A, B, C, and D in the areas of Agriculture, Archeology (Historic-Non Aboriginal), Archeology (Prehistoric), Architecture, Art, Conservation, Engineering, Landscape Architecture, Industry, Military History, Other

(Commemoration), and Politics/Government. The period of significance for the park includes the years 8000 BCE–1600 CE and ca.1710–1949. The former period encompasses the Early Archaic through Late Woodland periods during which the district, as evidenced by the presence of significant archeological sites, was occupied by Native Americans. The latter period includes the years when the district achieved its primary national significance as the site of the Continental Army's encampment during the winter and spring of 1777–1778. The years between ca.1710 and 1777–1778 and through the late nineteenth century, represent locally significant periods of agricultural and industrial development of Valley Forge and include the construction dates for a number of architecturally significant resources, as well as the overlapping period between 1876 and 1949 during which the nationally significant events associated with the conservation and commemoration of the Valley Forge encampment site occurred. The 1949 end date of significance corresponds to the year that the restoration-focused development program laid out by the Valley Forge Park Commission in 1936 and overseen by preservation architect George Edwin Brumbaugh was completed. This milestone marked the end of the early state park development period, in which a succession of clearly defined overarching goals informed the direction of the commission's activities. The character of subsequent development efforts varied greatly in response to shifting priorities, external pressures, changes in park oversight, and new management trends, with later projects often reversing or removing evidence of previous work. Consequently, the existing commemorative landscape most closely resembles the state park of the mid-twentieth century. Several resources in the historic district also meet Criteria Considerations: B (moved property), E (reconstructed property), and F (commemorative property).

Valley Forge Farms:
Based on the 2016 National Register documentation, Valley Forge Farms, as a component landscape of Valley Forge NHP, is significant under Criterion A in the areas of Military History and Agriculture; under Criterion B in the area of Military History for Major-General Marquis de Lafayette and in the area of Politics/Government for Philander Chase Knox; under Criterion C in the area of Architecture; and under Criterion D in the area of Historic-Non Aboriginal Archeology. These areas of significance are described below. The period of significance is the same as the larger park historic district, ca.1710–1949; however most extant landscape features at Valley Forge Farms span the period between ca.1736, the construction of Baptist Road, to 1930, when the last of many landscape structures were built at the Philander Chase Knox grounds and the Knox-Tindle House.

Note: In the 2002 CLI for Valley Forge Farms, significance was also identified in the areas of Conservation, Exploration/Settlement, and Industry. Consistent with the 2016 National Register documentation, industrial significance is incorporated into the area of Agriculture below. Research indicates the areas of Conservation and Exploration/Settlement no longer apply to this landscape.

CRITERION A

Military History:
Valley Forge Farms is significant at the national level in the area of Military History as the site of Continental Army’s encampment at Valley Forge from December 19, 1777 to June 19, 1778, which ranks among the most famous events of the Revolutionary War. Valley Forge was the site where General George Washington moved the main body of the Continental Army into winter quarters after failing to prevent the British capture of Philadelphia in the fall of 1777. During the first few months at Valley Forge, the poorly provisioned army faced fluctuating, often unpleasant, winter weather; severe privation; disease; and long periods of inactivity that had a deleterious effect on morale. Held together by Washington's leadership, those present at the encampment – including men from all 13 original states, African American and Native American enlisted men, and hundreds of camp followers (e.g., wives, children, mothers, and sisters of the soldiers) – displayed a resolute determination to endure and overcome the hardships. Ill-clothed and working on poor rations, they constructed the camp’s fortifications and housing to shelter them during their stay. After the worst of the supply shortages were resolved by improvements made in the commissary and quartermaster departments, the troops were occupied throughout much of the spring by a new training regimen devised by Baron Friedrich von Steuben to improve their field maneuvers and fighting abilities. As a result, the army emerged as a cohesive and competent unit, more capable of meeting the professional British army on even terms. The redeeming story of the Valley Forge encampment subsequently came to symbolize the extent to which the American citizen-soldier was willing to suffer and sacrifice for the causes of freedom and liberty. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 119)

During the encampment, the existing agricultural and industrial landscape was overlaid with a military layer that included fortifications, training and supply areas, and accommodations for officers and enlisted men. The bulk of construction and the acquisition of housing for officers within existing dwellings occurred within the first month of the army's arrival. With the approaching winter, shelter was the primary concern and the construction of housing to accommodate the soldiers took precedence over other work, with the exception of that required to establish the camp's fortifications. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 124-125)

Within a week after his arrival, General Washington sublet the Isaac Potts House in the small village of Valley Forge. Most of the general staff found quarters on the southern edge of the camp, where several farmhouses were clustered. Major General William Alexander, Lord Stirling (1726–1883) reputedly established his headquarters on the Reverend William Currie's farmstead west of Valley Creek. Despite the lack of indisputable documentary evidence, oral history and tradition speculated and subsequently established that Lord Stirling, along with his wife and daughter, spent at least part of the winter of 1778 quartered at the Currie House, which is now referred to as Stirling's Quarters. James Monroe (1758–1831), who later became the fifth President of the United States, joined Stirling's staff as aide-de-camp in November 1777 and also may have occupied the house during the encampment. The lower west portion of Stirling's Spring House and Bake House also existed on the property during the encampment. Brigadier General Henry Knox (1750–1806), Washington's artillery expert during the Revolutionary War, and his wife, Lucy, reportedly quartered at the property adjacent to the Currie property. Knox's Quarters on the east side of Valley Creek appears on military and spy maps of the encampment period. General Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette (1757–1834) is believed to have been quartered in the eastern section of the Samuel Havard House, on a farmstead south of Mount Misery in the Great Valley. The house is labeled as Lafayette's Quarters on the Davis-Armstrong-Sparks map of 1833, prepared by William Davis who was related by marriage to Samuel Havard. Woodman's 1850 history of Valley Forge also states that Lafayette was quartered at this house. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 124-125)

The area's eighteenth-century road network that existed at the time of the encampment supported the military uses of the landscape. The Continental Army utilized existing thoroughfares to facilitate circulation through the encampment and enable the transport of information and supplies to and from Valley Forge. Within the Valley Forge Farms area this included Baptist Road and portions of the Valley Creek Road and Mount Joy Footpaths. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 128)

Agriculture:
Valley Forge Farms is significant at the local level in the area of Agriculture for the establishment of and improvements to farmsteads that typify the agricultural development of the region. The William Currie Farmstead and the John Brown Farmstead possess a range of intact buildings and landscape features that illustrate change over time in the region's agricultural history from diversified crop-based farms in the eighteenth century to recreational estates in the early twentieth century. For almost three centuries, agriculture constituted a major land use in the Valley Forge area. The majority of those who settled within the region in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century were immigrants from Europe, particularly English, Irish, Welsh, Scotch, and Germans. They and their descendants often brought or engaged a work force that ranged from hired, indentured, or tenant laborers to slaves and facilitated the arduous work of establishing viable farmsteads on previously uncultivated land. The region possessed prime soils, plentiful water sources, and convenient transportation routes, making it well suited to cultivation. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 208-209)

At the time of the Revolutionary War, farmers in the Valley Forge region cultivated grains for export and other crops for regional markets. Small independent farmsteads typically consisted of irregular fenced fields of various grain and vegetable crops, punctuated by small stone farmhouses, outbuildings, and orchards clustered off the main roads. Farms were not usually oriented along roads but situated near springs or streams. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 209)

William Currie at one point owned approximately 400 acres of land west of Valley Creek and south of Mount Misery. He was an Episcopal minister with several parishes as well as a farmer and appears to have resided on the property until his death in 1803. The house that later became known as Stirling's Quarters likely stood by 1769. From ca.1767 to his death in 1771, Sampson Davis owned about 200 acres east of the William Currie property, spanning Valley Creek and containing the most extensive alluvial plains within the park. Davis built the eastern portion of the house that later became known as Knox's

Quarters ca.1770. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 209-210)

After Washington's troops left in June of 1778, the area landowners reclaimed the land for private use, and the next 100 years witnessed the expansion of the local agricultural economy. Rural southeastern Pennsylvania farm families reoriented their farms away from crop-based systems toward diversified livestock-based systems. The cultivation of pastures, upland hay grasses, and feed grain became priorities. Farmers also became aware of the benefits of adding burnt lime, also referred to as quick lime or hydrated lime, to their fields to raise soil pH and facilitate water absorption. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 211)

Thomas Walker, a farmer and dairyman who married William Currie's granddaughter Margaret in 1789, purchased the Currie property in 1791. The farm remained in the Walker family until 1880. The Walkers made various improvements during their tenure that reflected increases in production and a shift toward livestock-based farming, including enlarging the existing dwelling ca.1810 and ca.1830 and the existing spring house ca.1810 and constructing several outbuildings, including the Walker Barn (1803) and Sterling's Small Barn (ca.1810). (NR 2016, Sec.8: 212)

In 1783, John Brown acquired the 200-acre property previously owned by Sampson Davis, including Knox's Quarters. About that time, the stone core of the house later known as the Philander Knox Mansion was erected on Brown's property west of Valley Creek, possibly for his son John Jr. No references to lime kilns were found in any eighteenth-century descriptions of the John Brown farm, indicating that the two ancillary lime kilns on the property, the First Auxiliary Kiln and the Second Auxiliary Kiln, were likely built in the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century, although it is possible that they date to the pre-Revolutionary period. The John Brown Kiln located nearby appears to date to the early nineteenth century. The Browns also constructed the Valley Forge Farm Barn sometime in the first quarter of the century, indicating an expansion of the farm's livestock holdings. After John Sr. died in 1823, his son John Jr. received the land west of the creek (Philander Knox Mansion), and his daughter Jane received land to the east (Knox's Quarters). (NR 2016, Sec.8: 212)

By the close of the nineteenth century, both industrial and agricultural activities in the region declined. The establishment of Valley Forge State Park in 1893 and the subsequent park-related development essentially dominated the early twentieth-century history of the area, with scattered construction associated with existing farms and residential neighborhoods occurring in places. The importance of southeastern Pennsylvania as a generator of agricultural products faded in the second half of the nineteenth century, replaced by the prominence of farms in the Midwest. However, farming remained a popular and economically viable land use in the area. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 215)

Wealthy individuals also acquired many local farmsteads and, while continuing to perpetuate agricultural uses, made elaborate recreational improvements to their properties. In 1926, Robert Ligget acquired the Walker property and renovated the Stirling's Quarters house, connecting it to the spring house/bake house. He also added various retaining walls, steps, and an arbor to the landscape. Subsequent owners of the former Brown family lands straddling Valley Creek added a stable, equipment shed, root cellar, and several walls and steps. In 1893 Amanda and Edward Matthews purchased the Philander Knox Mansion property and in 1911 acquired the Knox's Quarters property, reuniting the former Brown lands. In 1903, Philander Chase Knox acquired both properties from the Matthews estate and over the next few decades completed the site's conversion to a country retreat and gentleman's farm. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 216)

CRITERION B

Military History:
Valley Forge Farms is significant at the national level in the area of Military History for associations with formative events in the life of Marquis de Lafayette (1757–1834). Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette, known to history simply as Lafayette, became a military hero in the American and French revolutions as a result of his dedication to republican ideals. Lafayette's Quarters is one of the only surviving buildings in the United States that can be associated definitively with the Marquis de Lafayette during his military service in the Continental Army. While stationed at Valley Forge, Lafayette worked in close confidence with General Washington to develop critical war strategy. His correspondence with his French compatriots, which he began in earnest from Valley Forge, formed the basis and rhetoric for France's eventual political acknowledgment of American independence. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 179)

Lafayette entered winter camp with his troops at Valley Forge in 1777. Sufficient documentation exists to indicate that he made his Valley Forge headquarters at Samuel Havard's circa 1763 house. He likely occupied two first-floor rooms at the east end of the current house known as Lafayette's Quarters. During his time at Valley Forge, Lafayette and other officers wrote letters to Congress, protesting their recent attempts to remove power from General Washington by creating a new Board of War to determine war strategy. Members of the Board of War, fearing that the protest would undermine their authority, asked Congress to appoint Lafayette commander-in-chief of the Northern Army and request him to lead a mid-winter invasion of Canada. Lafayette recognized Congress's political intentions to dilute Washington's authority by giving Lafayette an equal rank and the futility of winter warfare in Canada. With Washington's blessing, he accepted the position begrudgingly on the condition that he remain subordinate to General Washington and receive orders through him. In early February 1778, he left for Albany but, upon arrival, discovered that the Board of War did not have the troops or supplies promised for the expedition. While waiting for further orders, Lafayette began to return order and morale to the encampment at Albany by organizing training exercises and drills. His habit of conferring with and surveying infantrymen for advice furthered his reputation among American troops. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 180-181)

Lafayette returned to Valley Forge in early April, resuming leadership of the Virginia division, and as before used some of his own money to outfit his troops. When back at Valley Forge, Washington asked Lafayette to oversee the "foreign affairs" of the military. Lafayette began corresponding with friends in France, urging them to support the American cause. These letters eventually helped instigate France's recognition of American independence, an acknowledgement formalized in treaties between the two countries. Lafayette also took responsibility for organizing groups of foreigners wanting to serve the American army. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 181)

Politics/Government:
Valley Forge Farms is significant at the national level in the area of Politics/Government for association with Philander Chase Knox (1853–1921) during the early twentieth century, when he became a nationally prominent political figure. During that period Knox served as United States Attorney General under Presidents William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt from 1901 to 1904, United States Senator from Pennsylvania from 1904 to 1909 and 1917 to 1921, and Secretary of State under President William Howard Taft from 1909 to 1913. He returned to the United States Senate in 1917 and served until his death. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 183)

Knox purchased the 265-acre Matthews estate in Valley Forge on August 7, 1903 while serving as Roosevelt's Attorney General. Knox explained in a 1904 newspaper interview that he acquired the property for use as a weekend retreat within commuting distance from Washington, D.C., that was suitable for his eldest son Reed to use for horse breeding and stock raising. The purchase included two eighteenth-century farmhouses, the Philander Knox Mansion and Knox's Quarters, as well as numerous outbuildings and landscape features straddling Valley Creek. Knox made various improvements to the property to enhance its character as a gentleman's estate. His daughter Rebekah continued to make improvements after she inherited her father's property. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 184-185)

In 1916, Philander Knox donated an easement over a 51-acre portion of his property west of Valley Creek to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that allowed the family to retain ownership of the property but stipulated that they "preserve the character of the land as woodland" and not allow the cutting of trees for commercial purposes." After the death of Rebekah Knox Tindle in 1965, the entire Philander Knox estate was incorporated into Valley Forge State Park. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 185, citing Unrau 1985: 140)

CRITERION C

Architecture:
Valley Forge Farms is significant at the local level in the area of Architecture for its eighteenth- and nineteenth- century residences that provide valuable information regarding the regional construction practices and aesthetic trends of the period. The Pennsylvania German Traditional style farmhouse with associated outbuildings, stylistic updates, and additions was common in southeast Pennsylvania in the eighteenth and much of the nineteenth centuries. Originally constructed of log, fieldstone, or quarried stone, some buildings were coated in stucco when that became a fashionable exterior finish in the early

1800s. An emphasis on proportions, rather than ornament, defined the facades. The original (ca.1763) section of Lafayette's Quarters (Samuel Havard House) retains its two-story, three-bay fieldstone design with a narrow, double-pile plan and date stone. Other examples of eighteenth-century construction include Stirling's Quarters (the William Currie House, ca.1769) and a portion of Knox's Quarters (ca.1770). (NR 2016, Sec.8: 193-194)

Modifications to the exterior design and interior plan of Pennsylvania German Traditional farmhouses occurred in an effort to integrate Georgian-style aesthetics into architectural design. The Philander Knox Mansion, originally constructed as a farmhouse ca.1783, was substantially expanded and updated (1800–1820 and ca.1869 or ca.1880) before its conversion into a Colonial Revival style mansion in 1913. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 194)

Many of the historic residential properties were part of larger, bucolic landscapes and include locally significant associated outbuildings that represent notable agricultural or domestic building types for the region. At Valley Forge Farms, this included Valley Forge Farm Barn (1800–1825), a representative of the Standard Pennsylvania Barn type, and the adjacent corn crib, stable, and retaining wall that enclose a corral behind the barn. The Walker Barn (1803) is representative of the Extended Pennsylvania Barn style. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 196-197)

Root cellars functioned as cold storage for produce and other perishable items, and typically consist of vaulted underground or partially underground masonry structures covered with earth and accessed by a single door. At Valley Forge Farms, the Philander Chose Knox Root Cellar (1880) featured an especially ornate design. Springhouses functioned as part of water supply systems prior to the widespread use of the electric water pump in the early twentieth century and are a regionally prominent historic building type in Pennsylvania. Design characteristics of Pennsylvania springhouses often include a simple, long rectangular, gable-roofed form and masonry construction. The buildings are sited with a basement level placed over a water source and an above-grade open room. Stirling's Spring House and Bake House is an intact example of this building type. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 198)

CRITERION D

Archeology (Historic: Non-Aboriginal):
According to the 2016 National Register documentation, the Valley Forge NHP Historic District is significant at the national level in the area of Historic-Non Aboriginal Archeology for its realized and potential ability to contribute substantive data regarding the form and function of the 1777–1778 winter encampment. The historic district is also significant at the local level in the area of Prehistoric Archeology for its demonstrated and potential ability to contribute substantive data regarding pre-contact-period settlement patterns in the area dating from the Early Archaic through Late Woodland periods. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 117)

The Valley Forge Farms is significant in the area of Historic: Non-Aboriginal Archeology for the Stirling's Quarters site, as identified in Section 8 of the 2016 National Register. See the Analysis and Evaluation chapter of this CLI and the National Register documentation for more information.

**National Register Significance Criteria:**

A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past

C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

D - Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history

**National Register Criteria Consideration:**

**National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):**

**Time Period:** CE 1710 - CE 1949

| Historic Context Theme | Subtheme | Facet | Other Facet |
|---|---|---|---|
| Developing the American Economy | Agriculture | Farming For Local Markets (Dairying, Fruits, And Vegetables) | |
| Developing the American Economy | Agriculture | Subsistence Agriculture | |
| Developing the American Economy | Extraction or Mining Industries | Other Metals And Minerals | |
| Expressing Cultural Values | Architecture | Period Revivals (1870-1940) | |
| Expressing Cultural Values | Architecture | Georgian (1730-1780) | |
| Expressing Cultural Values | Architecture | Vernacular Architecture | |
| Shaping the Political Landscape | The American Revolution | The Declaration Of Independence | |
| Transforming the Environment | Historic Preservation | Regional Efforts: Mid-Atlantic States, 1860-1900: Memorials To The Revolution; | |

**Area of Significance:**

**Area of Significance Category:** Agriculture

**Area of Significance Subcategory:**

**Explanatory Narrative:**

**Area of Significance Category:** Architecture

**Area of Significance Subcategory:**

**Explanatory Narrative:**

**Area of Significance Category:** Archeology

**Area of Significance Subcategory:** Historic-Non-Aboriginal

**Explanatory Narrative:**

**Area of Significance Category:** Military

**Area of Significance Subcategory:**

**Explanatory Narrative:**

**Area of Significance Category:** Politics - Government

**Area of Significance Subcategory:**

**Explanatory Narrative:**

**NRIS Information:**

| | |
|---|---|
| **NRIS Name:** | Valley Forge National Historical Park |
| **NRIS ID:** | 66000657 |
| **Other Name:** | See Also:Von Steuben, Gen. Frederick, Headquarters;Washington's Headquarters |
| **Primary Certification Date:** | 06/18/2016 |
| **NRIS Name:** | Lafayette’s Quarters |
| **NRIS ID:** | 74001774 |
| **Primary Certification Date:** | 06/20/1974 |
| **Other Certifications and Date:** | MM/dd/yyyy |
| **NRIS Name:** | Major-General Lord Stirling’s Quarters |
| **NRIS ID:** | 74000283 |
| **Primary Certification Date:** | 02/14/1974 |
| **NRIS Name:** | Valley Forge State Park |
| **NRIS ID:** | 66000657 |
| **Primary Certification Date:** | 10/10/1975 |
| **NRIS Name:** | Valley Forge State Park |
| **NRIS ID:** | 66000657 |
| **Primary Certification Date:** | 10/28/1988 |

**State Register Documentation:**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Identification Number:** | 1976RE00002 |
| **Name:** | Valley Forge National Historical Park |

**National Historic Landmarks:**

| | |
|---|---|
| **National Historic Landmark?** | Yes |
| **Theme:** | American Revolution, The |
| **Contributing:** | Contributing |
| **NHL ID:** | 66000657 |
| **NHL URL:** | |
| **Date:** | 01/20/1961 |

**Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:**

**World Heritage Site:**

| | |
|---|---|
| **World Heritage Site?** | No |
| **Category:** | |
| **WHS ID:** | |
| **WHS URL:** | |
| **Date:** | |

**Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape:** No

# Chronology and Physical History

**Chronology:**

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| BCE 5000 | Settled | Paleo-Indian Occupation. These nomadic people are large-game hunters that move with seasonal migrations of prey. Archeological evidence of occupation typically associated with elevated topography, knolls with commanding views. (Kurtz 1988: 13) |
| BCE 4000 - 1000 | Settled | Archaic Occupation. Cultural uses shift to broader subsistence base: hunting & gathering, greater dependence on plant resources. Temporary camps replaced by stable settlements, increased populations, trade relationships. (Kurtz 1988: 14) |
| CE 900 - 1600 | Settled | Woodland Settlement. Evidence in the form of stone tools, including projectile points, and lithic scatters are identified by archeologists in various places along Valley Creek. (URS Greiner 1998: 4) |
| CE 1600 - 1741 | Settled | European Contact. In the 17th century, local Lenni Lenape exposed to trappers and settlers of Swedish and Dutch origin along Schuylkill River. Atlantic Coast claimed by England in mid-17th century, large numbers of English emigrate. (Kurtz 1988: 17-18) |
| CE 1681 - 1682 | Land Transfer | William Penn receives a charter from King Charles II of England for land in the New World. He purchases additional lands from the Lenni Lenape, who are subsequently displaced, and deems the region Pennsylvania—Penn's woodlands. (Sweeny-Justice 1994: 1) |
| CE 1683 | Land Transfer | Valley Forge Farms spans portions of two of Penn's tracts—the Manor of Mount Joy and the Welsh Tract. William Penn grants 5,000 acres of the Manor of Mount Joy to his daughter Letitia Penn Aubrey. (Rhoads 1989: 12) |
| CE 1706 | Land Transfer | David Meredith acquires 1,500 acres, a fraction of which falls within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape, from the Commissioners of William Penn. (Rhoads 1989: 91) |
| CE 1707 | Land Transfer | John Havard Sr. acquires title to 800 acres (a portion of which is located within the southern part of the component landscape) from David Powell, through a subdivision of David Meredith's property. (Rhoads 1989: 91) |
| CE 1736 | Established | Baptist Road, also known as the 1736 Road, is constructed. It may have served earlier as a horse and pedestrian trail. (HSI) |
| CE 1740 - 1741 | Land Transfer | The Penn family formally subdivides lands associated with the Manor of Mount Joy. Seventeen parcels constituting one half of its total acreage are conveyed to new owners. (Rhoads: 12). Griffith John (or Jones) acquires a 175-acre parcel. (Rhoads: 88) |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1745 | Built | The dwelling located on the knoll overlooking Valley Creek, traditionally considered to have been the encampment quarters of Brig. Gen. Henry Knox, is likely built on the property acquired by Griffith John. (HSI) |
| CE 1750 - 1770 | Built | In ca.1750–1770, a dwelling located to the west of Valley Creek, traditionally considered to have been the encampment quarters of Gen. William Alexander Lord Stirling, is likely built by either Daniel Walker or William Currie. (HSI) |
| CE 1751 | Land Transfer | William Currie acquires 200 acres from Daniel Walker. Currie is thought to have owned several slaves. He was an Episcopal minister and a farmer. (Rhoads 1989: 75-78) |
| CE 1758 | Land Transfer | David Potts and William Dewees acquire parcels to either side of Valley Creek between Mounts Joy and Misery. Southern portion of holdings falls within Valley Forge Farms component landscape. Land is logged to supply wood for nearby forge. (Rhoads 1989: 37) |
| CE 1763 | Built | A dwelling is constructed on Samuel Havard's property. It is traditionally considered to have been used by Gen. Marquis de Lafayette as his quarters during the encampment. (HSI) |
| CE 1763 | Land Transfer | Samuel Havard acquires 200 acres from father, John Havard, Sr., and maintains the property as a farm with modest livestock holdings and extensive crop fields. Havard is thought to have enslaved between one and three people. (Rhoads 1989: 99-102) |
| CE 1767 - 1768 | Land Transfer | Samson Davis acquires two 100-acre parcels from Griffith (John) Jones and Nathan Evans. The Evans parcel is referred to as "uncut" (or wooded) and John parcel as improved. Davis maintains the property as a farm and likely builds a house by 1770. (Rhoads 1989: 82) |
| CE 1767 - 1769 | Land Transfer | William Currie acquires, through sheriff sale, the land originally purchased by Griffith John from William Penn's family. He retains 200 acres of the land and conveys another 200 acres to David and Samuel John. (Rhoads 1989: 75) |
| CE 1768 | Built | Petition to establish road between Baptist Road & Yellow Springs filed, Chester County. Road passes property owned by John Potts, Isaac Davis, David John, Samuel Havard, William Currie, Samuel Davis, and along Valley Creek. (1768 road petition) |
| CE 1770 | Land Transfer | John Havard, Sr. dies. His children, John Havard, Jr. and Samuel Havard, receive title to portions of his property, although Samuel had settled on the land as early as 1763. They continue to farm the properties. (Rhoads 1989: 91) |
| CE 1771 - 1774 | Land Transfer | Samson Davis dies heavily indebted. His property is eventually conveyed to Samuel Brown (ca.1774). However, this transaction was never completed since Brown appears to have defaulted on the mortgage. Brown dies in 1778. (Rhoads 1989: 82-83) |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1775 - 1800 | Established | In ca.1775–1800, two lime kilns—currently referred to as First and Second Auxiliary Kilns—likely established on a hillside south of Valley Creek on Samson Davis property. Burnt lime is used to improve local crop fields and as a construction material. (HSI) |
| CE 1777 - 1778 | Military Operation | The Continental Army, under leadership of Gen. George Washington spends winter and spring encamped in vicinity of Village of Valley Forge. Local dwellings were used as quarters for officers. Local farmers file depredation claims for losses. (Rhoads 1989: 62-63) |
| CE 1780 - 1810 | Built | A spring house and bake house are likely constructed on William Currie's property. (HSI) |
| CE 1785 | Land Transfer | John Brown, Sr. acquires the property owned earlier by Samson Davis, and for a short time by his father Samuel Brown, through sheriff sale. (Rhoads 1989: 84) |
| CE 1785 - 1786 | Built | In ca.1785–1786, a farmhouse is constructed to the west of Valley Creek by John Brown, Sr. Tradition suggests that this may have been the encampment period quarters of General Maxwell, but this theory is little supported by documentary evidence. (HSI) |
| CE 1790 - 1810 | Built | A small barn is constructed on William Currie's property. (HSI) |
| CE 1791 | Land Transfer | William Currie conveys his 200 acre property to his granddaughter and her husband, Thomas Walker. (Rhoads 1989: 75) |
| CE 1797 | Land Transfer | John Havard, Jr. dies, leaving his property to grandson John Havard Davis. It remains in the family until 1908. (Rhoads 1989: 91) |
| CE 1798 | Farmed/Harvested | The Samuel Havard property, traditional site of Lafayette's Quarters, is listed as including a dwelling, kitchen building, two spring houses, barn, and wagon shed on the 1798 US Direct Tax. (Rhoads 1989: 100) |
| CE 1800 - 1825 | Built | A bank barn is constructed on the John Brown property (traditionally referred to as General Knox's Quarters). (HSI) |
| CE 1800 - 1825 | Established | A limekiln is established on John Brown, Sr.'s property that includes a tall stone stack or shaft banked into a glen near Valley Creek. (HSI) |
| CE 1803 | Built | A barn, wall, and gate are constructed by the Walker family on their property associated with the dwelling traditionally referred to as Stirling's Quarters. (HSI) |
| CE 1806 | Land Transfer | Samuel Havard dies, leaving his property to grandnephew John Havard Davis. The property is listed as including a windmill, in addition to the features cited on the 1798 Direct Tax. (Rhoads 1989: 99) |
| CE 1817 - 1819 | Farmed/Harvested | John Havard Davis dies 1816. Property is described as highly cultivated, divided into fields, well fenced, with stone dwelling (Lafayette's Quarters), milk house, barn, lime kiln and quarry, apple orchards, fields, timber, meadows. (Rhoads 1989: 93) |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1819 | Farmed/Harvested | The original Samuel Havard farm, also listed for sale in 1819, is described as one of the finest and best in Chester County. (Rhoads 1989: 100) |
| CE 1823 | Land Transfer | Both John Brown, Sr. and John Brown, Jr. die. The properties traditionally referred to as the sites of General Knox's and Maxwell's Quarters are included in the estates of the two men, and appear to have been passed to younger family members. (Rhoads 1989: 87) |
| CE 1826 - 1875 | Built | Various features, including a farm manager's house, and retaining walls at the house, near the entrance drive, and along the road, are constructed on the Brown family property west of Valley Creek. (HSI) |
| CE 1835 | Rehabilitated | The Walker barn complex is renovated. (HSI) |
| CE 1839 | Expanded | The dwelling constructed by Samuel Havard in 1763, and the traditional site of Lafayette's Quarters, is partially demolished when a larger structure is established on the site by William Ritter. (HSI) |
| CE 1839 | Land Transfer | Thomas Walker dies, conveying the former William Currie property to his son Joseph. The property remains in the family until 1880. (Rhoads 1989: 79) |
| CE 1852 | Built | A wooden bridge is constructed to provide a Valley Creek crossing for the extension of Crux Road (Valley Creek Road) leading to the realigned Yellow Springs Road. |
| CE 1854 - 1859 | Land Transfer | Descendants of John Brown convey the property west of Valley Creek to Charles Rogers. He owns the property for four years, later selling it to J. Morton Albertson. Albertson conveys the property in 1859 to Henry Riechle. (Rhoads 1989: 88) |
| CE 1865 | Built | A new wooden covered bridge is constructed across Valley Creek to replace the 1852 structure, which had washed away during a flood. The new bridge has a Burr truss design. |
| CE 1868 | Land Transfer | Sarah Wilson acquires the property formerly owned by Samuel Havard from David Havard. It remains in the Wilson family until 1929. (Rhoads 1989: 101) |
| CE 1869 | Purchased/Sold | The Riechle property located west of Valley Creek is sold to Richard Peterson, who may have modified the existing dwelling by constructing a large addition, and added a root cellar to the property. (Rhoads 1989; Kurtz 1988: 534) |
| CE 1876 - 1925 | Built | A prefabricated greenhouse is constructed on the property west of Valley Creek by one of the late nineteenth/early twentieth century owners, either Richard Peterson, the Matthews, or Philander Knox Philander. (HSI) |
| CE 1876 - 1925 | Built | Retaining walls are built along the entrance drive south of the main house, on the property west of Valley Creek. A large barn is constructed behind the wall. (HSI) |
| CE 1880 | Built | A root cellar is constructed south of main house on property west of Valley Creek. This bank-constructed cellar includes flared masonry retaining walls at the east side entry. Its construction coincides with a "Victorianization" of the main house. (HSI) |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1880 - 1904 | Built | Recreational features are constructed on the property west of Valley Creek, including a bath house, pool, and tennis court by either the Petersons, Matthews, or Philander Knox. (HSI) |
| CE 1880 - 1913 | Established | Various pedestrian paths are established on the property west of Valley Creek. (HSI) |
| CE 1882 | Expanded | The dwelling established by William Ritter on the site of Lafayette's Quarters in 1839 is enlarged by Ritter's son-in-law Edward Wilson. (HSI) |
| CE 1886 | Built | The Wilson Road bridge, an iron structure, is built across Valley Creek near the traditional site of Lafayette's Quarters. The bridge superstructure may have been fashioned at the Phoenixville Iron Company. (Personal communication, Brian Lambert, 2003) |
| CE 1886 - 1893 | Purchased/Sold | The Peterson property located west of Valley Creek is acquired by the Matthews family, who ultimately acquire land in the area totaling 265 acres from Peterson, Henry Evans, James Robinson, Jr., George Bean, and Winfield Wilson. (Rhoads 1989: 88) |
| CE 1890 - 1900 | Built | A two-tiered system of retaining walls, stone steps is constructed south of house traditionally referred to as General Knox's Quarters. Agricultural equipment shed, and terraced stone retaining wall forming barnyard also constructed on the property. (HSI) |
| CE 1893 | Established | Valley Forge State Park is established to the north of the component landscape. |
| CE 1895 | Built | A stable is constructed on the same property east of Valley Creek. (HSI) |
| CE 1895 - 1920 | Built | A corn crib is added to the complex of agricultural outbuildings located on the property east of Valley Creek/ (HSI) |
| CE 1900 | Built | Two sets of stone gate posts, inscribed with "Valley Forge Farm," and associated stone walls are constructed at the property's two entrances along Valley Creek Road. (HSI) |
| CE 1900 - 1913 | Built | Cast iron field fence is erected on property to west of Valley Creek. Approximately 350 feet long, it runs northwest from Yellow Springs Road to approximately 100 feet from the main house, to the creek, and along the entrance drive. (HSI) |
| CE 1902 | Demolished | A late eighteenth century addition to the traditional site of Lafayette's Quarters is demolished by Henry Wilson under the auspices of R. Brognard Okie, Architect. (HSI) |
| CE 1903 | Land Transfer | Philander Knox acquires the property located west of Valley Creek from his cousins the Matthews. He later acquires the farmstead to the east of the creek traditionally referred to as General Knox's Quarters. (Rhoads 1989: 88) |
| CE 1910 | Built | A dwelling is constructed to the southeast of the existing residence traditionally referred to as General Knox's Quarters by Philander Knox to house his son Reed Knox. (HSI) |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1910 - 1965 | Built | A garage is constructed in association with the new house on Philander Knox's property. (HSI) |
| CE 1913 | Built | Philander Knox constructs a garage with associated chauffeur's quarters, a stone retaining wall, and a stone carriage step on the property located west of Valley Creek. (HSI) |
| CE 1913 | Demolished | The large barn located along the retaining wall on the Philander Knox property south of the main house is removed. (HSI) |
| CE 1913 | Rehabilitated | Philander Knox renovates the existing dwelling on the property west of Valley Creek, removing Queen Anne style detailing and a tower, and adding a library wing and reflecting pool/terrace. (HSI) |
| CE 1916 | Established | Philander Knox donates an easement for 51-acre portion of his property along Valley Creek to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to protect the setting of Valley Forge State Park. (Unrau 1984: 140) |
| CE 1920 - 1930 | Built | A retaining wall and fence are constructed in association with the newest residence on Philander Knox's property, later known as Knox-Tindle House. The wall retains the bank for over one hundred feet along the property's entrance drive. (HSI) |
| CE 1920 - 1930 | Rehabilitated | The Walker Barn complex on the property referred to as Stirling's Quarters is renovated for use as a carriage house. (HSI) |
| CE 1921 - 1961 | Built | An addition is constructed by Henry Wilson to the dwelling traditionally known as the site of General Lafayette's Quarters. The addition is demolished in 1961. (HSI) |
| CE 1921 | Land Transfer | Philander Knox dies, leaving his property to his daughter Rebekah Knox Tindle. (Rhoads 1989: 88) |
| CE 1925 - 1935 | Built | Rebekah Knox Tindle, an avid gardener, establishes a summerhouse, walled garden, pedestal and millstone feature on the hill west of the dwelling known as the Philander Knox Mansion. (HSI) |
| CE 1926 | Built | After acquiring the William Currie property, Robert Ligget constructs an ornamental water feature that channels the water of spring near the house into a small open stream, and an oval concrete pond at the south edge of the lawn. (HSI) |
| CE 1926 | Land Transfer | Robert Ligget acquires the William Currie property from Pedro Salom. |
| CE 1926 | Built | Ligget renovates the Stirling's Quarters house in the Colonial Revival style. He also renovates the landscape adding a retaining wall, pergola, trellis, and stone steps. (Rhoads 1989: 79) |
| CE 1929 | Land Transfer | Henry Woolman acquires a portion of the land owned by Samuel Havard during the encampment period from the Wilson family. (Rhoads 1989: 101) |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1939 | Land Transfer | Henry Woolman conveys his property to the University of Pennsylvania, which plans to develop a new undergraduate college of American culture in the area. (Unrau 1984: 274) |
| CE 1951 - 1954 | Purchased/Sold | Land to the south of the component landscape is acquired by the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, and the turnpike is opened in 1954. Outbuildings associated with the Lafayette Quarters property are demolished to construct the road. |
| CE 1956 - 1957 | Restored | The University of Pennsylvania restores the Lafayette's Quarters building on the parcel acquired from Henry Woolman in 1939. By this time, the university has abandoned plans for a satellite campus on the property. (Unrau 1984: 274) |
| CE 1960 | Rehabilitated | The covered wooden bridge across Valley Creek is rebuilt after a 1958 fire. The newly-formed Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society directs the restoration conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. |
| CE 1965 | Land Transfer | The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania acquires 221 acres from the heirs of Rebekah Tindle for inclusion within Valley Forge State Park. (Rhoads 1989: 88) |
| CE 1974 | Preserved | The properties associated with the encampment quarters of Generals Stirling and Lafayette are individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places. |
| CE 1975 | Memorialized | The Lord Stirling and James Monroe Monument, a pale gray rough-hewn granite monolith with a dressed inscription area, is erected near the traditional location of Stirling's Quarters along Yellow Springs Road. (HSI) |
| CE 1975 | Reconstructed | The footbridge constructed during the late nineteenth or early twentieth century to connect the properties to the east and west of Valley Creek is reconstructed using the original abutments. (HSI) |
| CE 1976 | Established | Commonwealth of Pennsylvania transfers ownership of Valley Forge State Park to US Department of Interior. Valley Forge National Historical Park established, administered under the auspices of the National Park Service. (Sweeny-Justice 1994: 36) |
| CE 1978 - 1979 | Restored | The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania restores the dwelling traditionally referred to as the encampment-era quarters of General Lafayette under the auspices of Day and Zimmermann, Architects. (HSI) |
| CE 1979 | Land Transfer | The federal government acquires additional lands along Yellow Springs Road, including the traditional site of General Stirling's Quarters, to be incorporated into Valley Forge National Historical Park. (Unrau 1984: 642) |
| CE 1979 | Restored | The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania undertakes restoration of the Philander Knox mansion (Personal communication, Lee Boyle, 2003) |

| Year | Event | Major Event Narrative |
|---|---|---|
| CE 1980 | Restored | In the 1980s, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania undertakes restoration of the Knox-Tindle House. Park archeologist James Kurtz heads an archeological inventory and assessment of the Philander Knox estate. (Unrau 1984: 615; Kurtz 1990: 5) |
| CE 1980 - 1982 | Purchased/Sold | The Peterson property located west of Valley Creek is acquired by the Matthews family, who ultimately acquire land in the area totaling 265 acres from Peterson, Henry Evans, James Robinson, Jr., George Bean, and Winfield Wilson. (Rhoads 1989: 88) |
| CE 2004 | Rehabilitated | Trail networks are rehabilitated within the park as well as on regional connector trails. |
| CE 2007 | Rehabilitated | The Yellow Springs area parking lot is rehabilitated to accommodate increased visitor traffic. |
| CE 2010 | Conserved | Deer management plan is put into effect, using both lethal and non-lethal action to cull the deer herd and alleviate damage to forests caused by extensive deer browse. |
| CE 2013 | Built | A new water well is drilled at Whittle House and tied into existing house water system. (PEPC 48444) |
| CE 2015 | Built | A rapid-flashing pedestrian crossing warning system is installed on Yellow Spring Road per PennDOT specifications for trail crossing at the covered bridge on Yellow Springs Road. This system safely connected the new trail with the existing Valley Creek Trail without requiring visitors to walk up the road. |
| CE 2017 | Altered | The Philander Knox Reflecting Pool is repaired including reconstruction in kind of the Lower Rill area; restoration of the masonry and floor of the Main Reflecting Pond; restoration of the Upper Rill and Upper Patio Area; restoration of the Upper Pond; rehabilitation of the Fountain and installation of a new pump vault in the adjacent lawn; and installation of a French drain in the lawn adjacent to the pond. (PEPC 71149) |
| CE 2018 | Altered | A pole and overhead line carrying power to Lafayette's Quarters is accidentally knocked down, providing opportunity to install underground line and improve the surrounding cultural landscape. (PEPC 81788) |
| CE 2018 - 2019 | Altered | An outdated and non-compliant cesspool holding tank system at Lafayette's Quarters is replaced with a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and Resources-approved and appropriately sized septic system. (PEPC 80774) |
| CE 2023 | Altered | Septic upgrade at Knox-Tindle House. (PEPC 102030) |

**Physical History:**

**PREHISTORY TO EUROPEAN CONTACT, 8000 BCE – ca.1700 CE**

Overview:
Limited archeological investigation of the area included within the Valley Forge Farms component

landscape has been undertaken to date. The primary focus of archeological investigations have been the Philander Knox property and the margins of Valley Creek. Evidence of prehistoric use or occupation of the area was discovered during recent survey of the margins of Valley Creek by URS Greiner. This evidence included projectile points, lithic matter, and evidence of post holes thought to date from the Woodland period.

Predictive models of prehistoric cultural activities suggest that the Valley Forge Farms landscape, particularly the floodplain of Valley Creek, would have included characteristics that were desirable to prehistoric peoples. Although little is specifically known about cultural activities in the region during the Archaic Period, archeologists consider it to have been characterized by a hunter/gatherer society that subsisted on a broad base of game animals, seasonal riverine resources, and plant-based foods. Bands of migratory people generally established temporary camps in good hunting, fishing, and plant gathering locations, which they revisited periodically or seasonally. By the Late Archaic Period, ca.4,000 to 1000 BC, the previously nomadic peoples began to form more stable settlement patterns, their populations increased, and trade relationships began to form between settlements. (Kurtz 1988: 13-14)

By the Woodland Period (ca.900–1600 or 1700) and the Early European Contact period, settlement sites had likely increased in size, although seasonal movement also likely continued. People during this period are likely to have become more reliant on plant cultivation as a food source, and therefore on prime farmland and soils well suited to agriculture, such as those associated with the Valley Forge Farms component landscape. (Kurtz 1988: 16)

At the time that Europeans first began to arrive in southeastern Pennsylvania, ca.1638, the region was occupied by the Lenni Lenape, an Algonquin-speaking people. It is believed that the Lenni-Lenape kept domesticated animals, were in possession of iron and other hard metals, and otherwise used stone tools. The Iroquois, located to the north, briefly conquered the Lenni Lenape or Delaware—as they were referred to by European immigrants—after gaining the use of firearms introduced to them by Dutch traders. For much of the remainder of the seventeenth century, these peoples co-existed with early European traders and explorers concerned primarily with trapping beaver for their furs, and other settlers. The Dutch and Swedish were the predominant European nationalities represented in the area between 1638, when the Swedes established a fortification on the Delaware, and the 1670s, when the English claimed title to the entire Atlantic Coast. Documents associated with the Holland Company dating from the 1650s indicate that the Dutch had established an extensive beaver pelt trade network by this time, which generally relied on the animals inhabiting the Schuylkill River corridor. The Swedes were more interested in cultivation; they generally settled along the banks of the river, establishing small farmsteads. It is not known whether the land within the component landscape was utilized by these various groups during the seventeenth century.

In 1681, William Penn received a charter from King Charles II of England for a large area of land in the New World. In 1682, Penn purchased additional land near the confluence of the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers. He deemed the combined area Pennsylvania, or Penn's woodlands. It was not until after William Penn received title to land in Pennsylvania that documented settlement of this landscape began. The Valley Forge Farms component landscape appears to have been part of two of the four original land grant tracts received by Penn—the Welsh Tract and the Manor of Mount Joy—with Valley Creek serving as the boundary between them. Penn quickly transferred title of the Manor of Mount Joy, located to the east of Valley Creek, to his daughter Letitia in 1683. Penn maintained title to the Welsh Tract, which was originally intended to accommodate Welsh immigrants, although it was eventually opened to general settlement during the eighteenth century. The Manor of Mount Joy appears not to have been further subdivided by Letitia Penn Aubrey until the 1740s, when at least seventeen parcels were conveyed to new individual owners. (Sweeny-Justice 1994: 1)

Nothing is known about individual farms that may have existed in the area prior to 1700. However, once settled, the landscape was utilized primarily for agriculture, particularly the cultivation of crops, such as wheat, barley, oats, rye, tobacco, and corn—available due to contact with Native American groups—in addition to orchards of apples and peaches. Chester County, within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape is located, is thought to be one of the two counties in Pennsylvania that have been farmed the longest. (Chester County Soil Survey 1959: 116)

Valley Forge Farms Landscape:
Natural Features, Spatial Organization, and Land Use.
During the Archaic prehistoric period, it is thought that environmental changes caused by receding glaciers led to the establishment of the Eastern deciduous forests described by early European explorers. At the same time, the nature of waterways evolved. River estuaries formed, creating new food resources such as shad runs. The Archaic people likely adapted to these changes by altering their diets to include the harvesting of seasonal shad runs and the collecting the nuts of deciduous trees. The margins of Valley Creek would have been the focus
of local Archaic Period activities. The site's prime agricultural soils may have been utilized later by Woodland Period people to cultivate plants.

While it is not certain when the area was first settled or adapted for agriculture, local conditions are well suited for crop production. The geology associated with the component landscape is composed primarily of dolomitic limestone at the lower elevations—part of the Hagerstown-Conestoga-Gutherie association described as deep, silty soils on limestone—and quartzite on the side slopes of Mounts Misery and Joy—part of the Edgemont association described as moderately deep, channery soils on grayish quartzite and phyllite. Generalized conclusions can be drawn from an understanding of local geology, topography, and soils regarding agricultural use of the area during this period. The steep and rocky slopes of Mounts Misery and Joy were far less conducive to agriculture than the dolomitic valley and likely remained in wooded cover. The higher pH of the limestone-based soils of the lower slopes and the valley located to either side of Valley Creek would have enhanced crop growth, and would have been a primary focus of agricultural use. The local soils formed from the limestone substrate are generally classified today as having moderate to high fertility and are suitable for a variety of crops, while the quartzite-based soils are classified as having low to moderate fertility on rocky dry uplands or steep slopes. The alluvial soils associated with Valley Creek's wide floodplain in the area would have been seasonally flooded or subject to a high water table. These soils would have been best suited to pasture or meadow.

Circulation.
Little or nothing is known about trails or other overland routes that may have existed in the region during this period.

Buildings and Structures.
Nothing is known about any buildings or structures that may have existed in the area during this period.

Vegetation.
The Eastern deciduous forest first described by early visitors and settlers of the Atlantic Coast region of America is thought to have characterized much of the landscape until the 1600s. Dominated by deciduous woodland species such as oaks, chestnuts, and hickories on the uplands and mesic and hydric species such as maples, elms, ashes, and sycamores in the lower lying areas, this forest was likely a highly layered and dense plant community that supported a variety of wildlife. The prehistoric peoples who occupied the landscape prior to European Contact may have manipulated the understory of the forest to enhance hunting practices, and may also have cultivated crops after clearing the tree cover. Little is known about specific vegetation compositions, or adaptations to it undertaken by the Lenni Lenape, of the Valley Forge Farms component landscape during this period.

**EUROPEAN CONTACT/SETTLEMENT AND PRE-ENCAMPMENT AGRICULTURE: 1701–1777**

Overview:
General settlement of the landscape included within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape occurred during the first part of the eighteenth century. The majority of those who settled within the region were immigrants from Europe, particularly English, Irish, Welsh, Scotch, and Germans. These immigrants and their descendants often brought or engaged a work force that ranged from hired, indentured, or tenant laborers to slaves that facilitated the arduous work of establishing viable farmsteads on previously uncultivated land. Agriculture was the dominant land use during the period. Initial agricultural endeavors typically did not supply much more than subsistence for the farmer, his family, and the laborers. The most productive farms did provide a surplus of certain products, including brandy produced from orchards of fruit trees, milk, eggs, butter, and poultry, as well as some produce. Locally, farms appear to have been prosperous due to the availability of prime agricultural soils, gently rolling topography, and plentiful sources of fresh water. The best markets for excess farm goods were located in the city of Philadelphia, some eighteen miles to the southeast over difficult roads.

By 1777, portions of four separate properties comprised the component landscape. Three were farmsteads owned by William Currie, the Havard family, and Samson Davis, and the fourth was a wooded lot owned by David Potts and William Dewees that was utilized to supply wood for an iron forge nearby. To facilitate an understanding of the physical evolution of properties within the component landscape over time, descriptions of these sites are consistently organized under headings that refer to the names of the owners at the time of the encampment.

William Currie Property.
This parcel occupies the western portion of the component landscape, to the north of the original alignment of Yellow Springs Road. The parcel falls within the Welsh Tract acquired by William Penn from King Charles II of England. The first record of transfer of this property indicates that in 1740, Griffith John (also referred to in historic documents as Jones) received a grant from the Penn family for 400 acres in the vicinity of Valley Creek and Mount Misery. Little is known about John's use of the property. In 1753, he is known to have willed it to his son Thomas John. Of the 400 acres that he inherited, Thomas John sold 200 acres in 1764 to various family members and willed another 200 acres to his granddaughter Mrs. Thomas Walker at the time of his death in 1766. Records indicate that Thomas John may have been involved in processing lime on his property, and that David Potts who lived nearby purchased lime from John. Burnt lime was frequently used as a construction material during this period, although it later was applied to cultivated fields as a soil amendment.

William Currie acquired a 200 acre parcel from the John family in 1767, adding it to 200 acres he had purchased nearby at some point around 1751. Currie was an Episcopal minister who administered various parishes, and a farmer who enslaved several people. He appears to have resided on the property, located to the west of Valley Creek and the south of Mount Misery, until 1791. The southern portion of the farm was relatively level and underlain by limestone, while the northern section included the lower slopes of Mount Misery, with its steeper slopes and quartzite substrate. While the exact date of construction of Currie's house is not known, based on tax records, it likely stood on the property by 1769. This is the house that is later referred to as General Stirling's Quarters during the encampment. Currie is believed to have raised livestock, including cattle, horses, swine, and sheep, and cultivated a variety of crops including wheat, oats, rye, Indian corn, hay, flax, hemp, potatoes, cabbage, and apples on the property.

Samson Davis Property.
The Samson Davis property is located to the east of the William Currie property and spans Valley Creek below Mounts Joy and Misery. It thus also spans the division line between the Welsh Tract and the Manor of Mount Joy. The first transaction records relating to transfer of the property involve acquisition by Griffin Jones and Nathan Evans, two of the founders of the company that had established a forge along Valley Creek during the middle part of the eighteenth century. In 1767 or 1768, Samson Davis acquired 100 acres from each of these men. It is thought that a house stood on the property on an elevated knoll to the east of Valley Creek by 1770, although some sources

suggest an earlier construction date of 1743.

The landscape of this property was conducive to farming; it sat at the base of Mount Joy and straddled Valley Creek and the extensive alluvial floodplains that parallel the creek in this area. The majority of the property included gently rolling topography underlain by limestone substrate. Agricultural endeavors associated with the property included the raising of livestock such as cattle, horses, swine, sheep, and fowl, and the cultivation of crops, such as wheat, oats, rye, Indian corn, buckwheat, hay, flax, and potatoes. While much of the property likely was maintained in open cover associated with agricultural production, scattered trees and woody growth probably occupied the stream margins and portions of the meadow that characterized the floodplain.

Davis died in 1771. Part of his property was conveyed to Edward Jones in 1771, and another portion to Samuel Brown in 1774 via Samuel Miles. Transaction records are not consistent or clear about ownership of the property during the 1770s, and it is possible that it remained within the Davis estate until the encampment. In the List of Classified Structures, John Dodd theorizes that a farmhouse may have been constructed to the west of Valley Creek on property owned by the Brown family circa 1774–1777. However, this theory is generally not supported in historical documentation and not currently considered accurate by National Park Service historians.

Havard Family Property.
The Havard family property is located in the far southwestern portion of the component landscape. The first transaction records pertaining to the property date from the early 1700. In 1706, a 1,500 acre tract purchased from the Commissioners of William Penn by David Powell was subdivided. John Havard, Sr. acquired an 800-acre tract of land from David Powell in 1707. Havard retained ownership of the land until his death in 1770, at which time it was officially subdivided. Documentary records suggest, however, that Havard began transfer portions of his property to his children before his death. John Havard's son Samuel appears to have received title to a 200 acre tract in 1763, which he owned until 1806. This land, a fraction of which is included within the component landscape, was located along Valley Creek to the south of the William Currie property. A house is thought to have been constructed on this tract soon after Samuel Havard acquired the property. This house is traditionally thought to have served as the encampment era quarters of General Lafayette. Havard appears to have farmed the property and maintained modest livestock holdings, including a few cattle, horses, and sheep, and later swine and fowl. Tax records indicate that he also maintained extensive holdings of wheat, oats, corn, buckwheat, hay, Indian corn, hops, potatoes, turnips, onions, and cabbages. Wooden fences appear to have enclosed fields on the property. Samuel Havard is known to have owned at least one or two slaves as early as 1765.

Samuel's brother John Havard, Jr. was also a farmer. He was given 200 acres by his father, located to the east of his brother's land, prior to his father's death in 1770. The property was located outside of current Valley Forge National Historical Park boundaries. John Havard, Jr. also constructed a dwelling on his property prior to the encampment, although its original date of construction is an issue of debate. This house is traditionally referred to as the quarters of Gen. Marquis de Lafayette.

William Dewees / David Potts Property.
A small portion of this 110-acre property occupies the northeastern corner of the component landscape. Originally part of the Manor of Mount Joy, this parcel was one of five acquired by David Potts and his business partner William Dewees, Jr. in the 1740s. The two operated an iron forge on one of their parcels along Valley Creek; the parcel that falls within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape was steeply-sloped and wooded and was most likely acquired for its timber to provide charcoal needed for the forge. The lower slopes of Mount Misery are dotted with remnant charcoal hearths and access routes and trails that were likely associated with the support of the iron forges along Valley Creek to the north.

Valley Forge Farms Landscape:
Natural Features, Spatial Organization, Land Use, and Vegetation.
During the early settlement period, local farmers generally needed to clear sites of existing woodland before they could cultivate crops. By the second half of the eighteenth century, much of the landscape had been cleared of trees by new inhabitants. After the majority of the land had been

cleared, much remained in cultivation, although portions were allowed to revert to woodland cover. The resulting woodlots, which occupied lands that were marginal or poor for agriculture such as steep slopes or floodplains, or abandoned fields where soils had been exhausted by agriculture, were an important component of area farms. They served as pasture for livestock and a supply of timber for construction and fuel. While the locations of woodlots varied over time depending on the needs of the local farmers, a ratio of 30 percent wooded to 70 percent open cover was established during the eighteenth century that remained relatively stable for approximately a century.

Agricultural practices during this period tended to exhaust soils rapidly. New fields were cleared as necessary to replace fields in which the soils had already been exhausted by intensive agricultural use. This farming practice generally prevented farmers from maintaining farmsteads that economically surpassed subsistence-level production. Farmers typically cultivated the same fields year after year with diminishing returns until the soil was no longer productive. Fields were then abandoned and lay fallow. Slowly, they reverted to wooded cover. Livestock were often pastured in abandoned fields. The second-growth woodlands were typically far different in character than the woodlands that had been previously cleared due to the now infertile nature of the soil, and the effects of grazing.

While the benefits of improving the tilth and fertility of soils through the application of manure and limestone began to be understood during the first half of the eighteenth century, it was not until the turn of the nineteenth century that the practice became widespread. Once the practice became common, local deposits of limestone began to be quarried and processed as a soil amendment. Prior to understanding the applications of limestone as a soil amendment, limestone was in use as a construction material. The property associated with the estate of Samson Davis is known to have included two lime kilns near Valley Creek on the Samuel as early as the third quarter of the eighteenth century. It is not known whether these were established to supply burnt lime for construction or agriculture.

Wood fencing was labor intensive to produce and therefore scarce during this period. To limit the amount of fencing needed on a property, farmers typically fenced only cultivated fields and house and garden precincts. Kitchen gardens, typically one to four acres in size, were located near most farmsteads. Livestock were thus prohibited from foraging crops, but otherwise were allowed to roam freely. To identify their roaming stock, individual farmers used branding. Once a field was abandoned, the enclosing fence rails were relocated to surround a new field.

Chestnut was a popular fencing wood because of its resistance to decay. Fences were usually constructed in either a “worm” style, which was easy to move but costly in terms of quantities of wood needed, or a “post and rail” style, which was more difficult to move but parsimonious in terms of materials. Sometimes, live fences of thorny plants were used where wood was scarce.

Hedgerows were also a typical element of local farms. These often arose along property lines and at other breaks in land management. They generally included species typical of early field succession as well as the tree species found in dominant forest communities.

Buildings and Structures.
Three dwellings are thought to have been established during this period within the component landscape: a dwelling on the William Currie property, which is thought to have served as the quarters of Gen. William Alexander Lord Stirling during the encampment; a dwelling on the Samuel Havard property, which is the likely site of Gen. Marquis de Lafayette’s Quarters during the encampment; and a dwelling on the property owned by Samson Davis that has traditionally been referred to as the quarters of Gen. Henry Knox during the encampment. In addition to dwellings, these properties are also likely to have included barns and other agricultural outbuildings, although nothing specific is currently known about these other structures.

Circulation.
Roads appear to have been established through the area during the eighteenth century to accommodate the growing population. Baptist Road was established circa 1736. It may have replaced an earlier horse trail that ran between Devon to the south, and a mill located across the

Schuylkill River to the north. A petition to establish a road between Baptist Road and Yellow Springs was filed in 1768. The initial alignment of the Yellow Springs Road occurred to the south of the existing roadway. Traces of this road remain evident in the landscape today. The original Yellow Springs Road crossed Valley Creek via a ford to the south of the John or Samuel Brown house, traditional site of General Knox's quarters during the Revolutionary War encampment.

**ENCAMPMENT OF THE CONTINENTAL ARMY, 1777–1778**

Overview:
During the encampment period, five parcels comprised the Valley Forge Farms component landscape. These were owned by William Currie, David Potts and William Dewees, the Estate of Samson Davis, Samuel Havard, and John Havard, Jr. Each of these parcels, with the exception of the land owned by David Potts and William Dewees, was utilized primarily for agriculture. Farmsteads were located on the Currie, Davis, and Samuel Havard properties. The Potts/Dewees parcel, which occupied the steep lower slopes of Mounts Misery and Joy along Valley Creek, was maintained primarily in woodland and was harvested periodically to supply timber for the iron forge operated nearby by the owners. It is possible that the Samson Davis property also supported lime processing operations by this time (Figure 1).

This rural, agricultural landscape was disrupted briefly during the fall of 1777 when the British Army passed through the region on their way to Philadelphia. While in the area, the British Army destroyed an American armament storage and production site and various nearby structures along Valley Creek. Based on local depredation claims, the British troops also plundered local farms as they passed through the area. William Currie, for example, claimed to have suffered losses at the hands of the British in September 1777 including fine sheets, table linen, silver spoons, fine shirts, and shifts and headdresses. Other local residents claimed agricultural losses in the form of crops, stored grain, fence rails, and livestock.

It was later that year, however, in December of 1777 that the region experienced a much greater military presence with an even more profound impact on daily life. On December 19, the Continental Army began to arrive in nearby Valley Forge. Thousands of soldiers were led to the area where they were expected to take up residence in a temporary camp until spring, when the military campaign against the British Army could begin again. Accommodations, consisting of crude log huts and tents, were constructed by the enlisted men to form the camp site. The majority of these were located to the north and northeast of the Valley Forge Farms component landscape. Local farm houses were appropriated for use by the ranking officers of the Continental Army. Three of Commander George Washington's generals—Lord William Alexander Stirling, Henry Knox, and Marquis de Lafayette—are thought to have resided within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape at the homes of William Currie, Samson Davis, and Samuel Havard, respectively, for at least part of the six months that the army was stationed at Valley Forge. Tradition suggests that Gen. William Maxwell was also quartered in one of the dwellings located within this component landscape, but no documentary evidence supports this claim. Some documentary evidence suggests that Maxwell was quartered at the home of John Mitchell, who did not own property within the current boundaries of Valley Forge National Historical Park.

Generally, local residents lost livestock, stored crops, timber, and fencing to the Continental Army. The army faced severe shortages of supplies at various times during their encampment. Despite Washington's fear that such efforts would dangerously deplete the good will of the local inhabitants and diminish their support for the Continental Army and the war effort, the encamped troops were forced to forage locally as well as farther afield to survive during the winter months of 1778. In addition to appropriation of agricultural goods and products, the troops helped themselves to the timber available in the woods and fields to supply timber for building materials and fuel. It is likely that the wooded slopes of Mounts Joy and Misery were heavily cut over or denuded by the end of the encampment in June 1778.

Valley Forge Farms Landscape:
Natural Features, Spatial Organization, and Land Use.
The site selected for the encampment of the Continental Army during the winter and spring of 1777–1778 included natural features that facilitated its defensibility: the twin peaks of Mounts Misery and Joy to the southwest, and the Schuylkill River to the north. Two systems of entrenchments were erected to secure the least defensible margin of the encampment to its east. While the majority of the army resided within the geographic area defined by Mounts Misery and Joy, the Schuylkill River, and the outer line of entrenchments, the landscape in all directions was impacted by the activities of

the 11,000 men encamped near Valley Forge (Figure 2). As noted earlier, various officers secured lodging in local farmhouses. The three farmhouses likely utilized for this purpose with the Valley Forge Farms component landscape were connected to the encampment by Yellow Springs and Baptist Roads. It is not known to what extent defensive outposts were established beyond the line of entrenchments to detect enemy troop movements. These could easily have existed at Valley Forge Farms. Otherwise, it is likely that local residents conducted either limited agricultural activities, or abandoned their properties altogether for the duration of the encampment. Any agricultural goods that might have been stored on local properties would have been in great demand due to the supply problems experienced by the encampment.

Circulation.
Local roads such as Yellow Springs and Baptist Roads were likely important routes of travel for the Continental Army during this period. Generally, the army used horse-drawn wagons to transport goods and materials to the encampment along these roadways. In particular, it is known that the army established a hospital 10 to 12 miles to the west of the component landscape in the town of Yellow Springs (now Chester Springs). Many of the army's sick were transported along Yellow Springs Road to this hospital during the encampment. Local roads were likely rutted, hard-packed earthen routes that became difficult to navigate during wet periods and when frozen.

Buildings and Structures.
The three buildings that are known to have existed during this period within the component landscape include the William Currie, Samson Davis, and Samuel Havard dwellings. The existing structures currently bear little resemblance to the modest farm houses that existed on these sites during the eighteenth century. Each was also likely accompanied by a variety of agricultural outbuildings, none of which survive, and about which little is currently known.

Vegetation.
Much of the Valley Forge Farms component landscape was likely under cultivation at the time of the encampment. Crop rotation, which became popular late in the eighteenth century, is likely to have become a component of local agricultural practice by this time. In accordance with contemporary theories, farmers typically established either a three or four field system of crop rotation that included Indian corn, wheat or rye, and rubbish pasture; or Indian corn, naked fallow, wheat, and pasture. Local farms were likely a patchwork of different types of fields.

Woodlots continued to occupy abandoned fields, steep slopes, the margins of Valley Creek, property boundaries where they often served as boundary line witness trees, and in association with breaks in management practices. Farmsteads typically included fruit tree orchards and kitchen gardens. By the time the Continental Army left the area in June 1778, much of the area's woodland had been cut over to supply the men with fuel and construction materials, fields had been trampled, and any agricultural products had been secured to feed the enlisted men and officers.

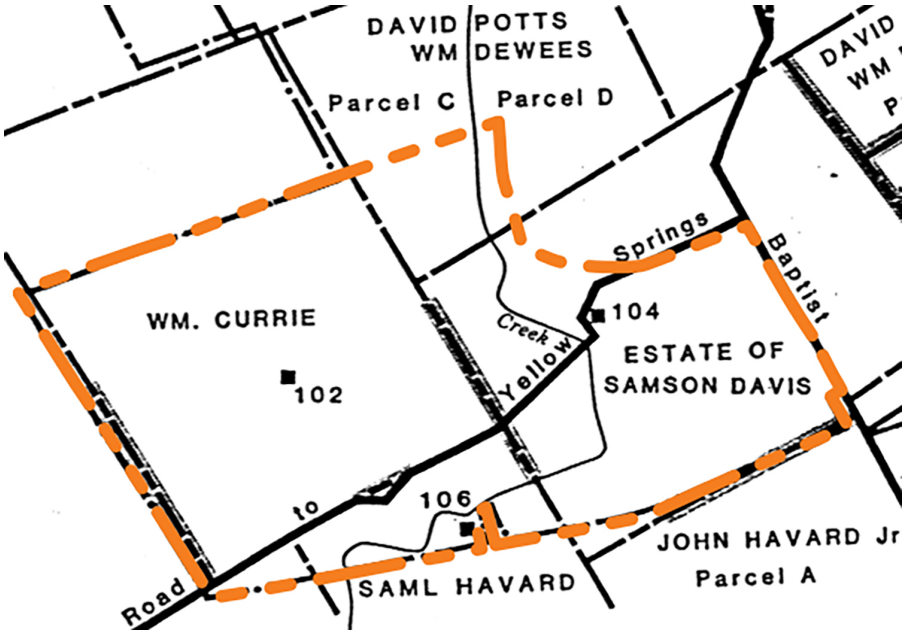



*Figure 1. Detail of an illustration of ownership at the time of encampment, from Rhoad's Land Use Study.*

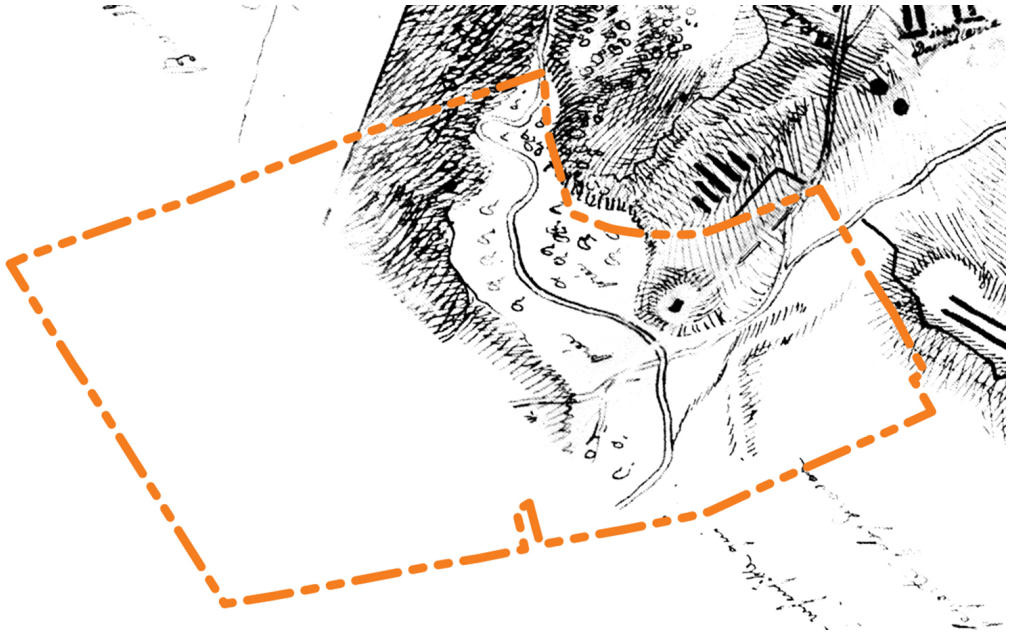


*Figure 2. Detail of Duportail's 1777–1778 plan of the Valley Forge encampment, showing a portion of Valley Forge Farms component landscape.*

**REINTEGRATION OF THE FARMING COMMUNITY, 1778–1869**

Overview:
After the departure of the Continental Army from Valley Forge in June 1778, the local community appears to have returned to their farmsteads to re-build their agricultural operations. As noted above, the property owners within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape are known to have filed depredation claims in 1778 for losses suffered during the encampment.

Agriculture continued to evolve throughout the remainder of the eighteenth and into the nineteenth century, with new scientific techniques gaining a following by the second quarter of the nineteenth century. The application of processed lime and fertilizers to fields became widespread. Farmers also experimented with various crop rotation systems. Generally, most farmers adopted some form of rotation system, the most popular of which continues to be utilized by regional farmers today—corn, oats, wheat, and grass. Threshing machines were introduced around 1840. Livestock breeding also became a more scientific enterprise during the early nineteenth century. Improved breeds such as Merino sheep and Durham cattle were introduced into the region between 1800 and 1810. Area breeders, through careful selection of blood lines, developed the Chester White hog in the early nineteenth century, which remains popular in the Eastern United States to this day.

During the second half of the nineteenth century, agriculture became not only a more commercial and scientific enterprise, but also more communal. Farm clubs began to form, particularly in the western part of Chester County. Members met to discuss agricultural problems and "more efficient ways of increasing the productive capacity of their farms." The specific developments known, or believed, to have occurred on each of the properties located within the component landscape are described below. (Chester County Soil Survey, 1959: 117)

William Currie Property.
The property owned by William Currie during the Revolutionary War-era encampment, including the dwelling traditionally referred to as Lord Stirling's Quarters, was sold at the time of Currie's death in 1791. It was purchased by Thomas Walker, who continued farming operations on the property. The farm remained in the Walker family until 1880. The Walkers appear to have made various improvements to the property during their tenure, including enlarging the existing dwelling circa 1830–1840, adding a spring house and bake house at some time between 1780 and 1810, and a small barn between 1790 and 1801. The outbuilding currently referred to as the Walker Barn and its associated stone enclosing wall appear to have been constructed circa 1803 and expanded in 1835. The property, underlain primarily by dolomitic limestone, and dotted with free-flowing fresh-water springs, was well suited to agriculture, and likely provided the Walker family with a means to a good living.

At some time during the nineteenth century, the road to Yellow Springs was realigned to its current configuration. It is likely that the realignment occurred in conjunction with the construction of a bridge crossing of Valley Creek in 1852. The bridge itself may have been built in response to the construction of an extension of Crux Road, which previously had followed Valley Creek's eastern bank to provide a connection to the iron forges located there. The realignment of Yellow Spring Road provided direct access to the Walker (Stirling's Quarters) House and Barn; however, it is not known how access to these structures had occurred previously.

Samson Davis Property.
The 200-acre property owned by Samson Davis until his death in 1771 changed hands variously between 1771 and 1783, at which time it was sold in a sheriff sale to John Brown. The property was owned for a short time during the interim period by Samuel Brown, John's father, although it appears that he may have defaulted on the mortgage prior to his death. John Brown later added to his holdings in the area when he purchased an eight-acre parcel to the north of Yellow Springs Road from the Jacob Vogdes estate in 1816.

Records indicate that a dwelling was erected west of Valley Creek on Brown's property around 1783. This dwelling, on the site of the existing Philander Knox mansion, appears to have been a relatively modest farmhouse that was later enlarged. Tradition suggests that Brig. Gen. William Maxwell was quartered at the house during the encampment, but available documentation suggests that the house was not yet in existence during the winter of 1777.

Based on the List of Classified Structures, it is thought that John Brown established a lime quarry and kiln on his property prior to 1800. Towards the initial part of the nineteenth century, as lime became a typical component of Pennsylvania agriculture, Brown or his children appear to have increased industrial activities on the property; two additional kilns and a quarry appear to have been established during the nineteenth century to augment Brown's late eighteenth century industrial endeavors.

John Brown died in 1823. His land was divided between a son, John Jr., and a daughter Jane. John received the eight-acre Vogdes tract 33 acres to the west of Valley Creek that included the dwelling constructed circa 1783. Jane received a 148-acre tract east of Valley Creek that likely included the dwelling traditionally known as Brig. Gen. Henry Knox's Quarters. Based on the information cited below from Brown's will, at least one lime kiln extant on the property appears to post-date 1823, while the establishment of a quarry on the property preceded John Brown's death:
Whereas the best limestone quarry is on that part of land left to my daughter Jane I do therefore grant to my son John the privilege of building a lime kiln near the quarry and to quarry limestone and burn the same and haul it away. (Kurtz 1990: 532)

The two properties remained in the Brown family until 1854 when they were both acquired by Charles Rogers, who also owned a textile mill in the nearby village of Valley Forge. It appears that Rogers was interested in ownership of the property because it would allow him to expand his millpond upstream and consequently increase the potential supply of water-generated power to his mill.

Rogers' plan appears to have been unsuccessful, however, since he soon sold all 189 acres to J. Morton Albertson in 1856. Albertson subsequently subdivided the property, conveying a 59-acre parcel to Henry Riechle that included the house located to the west of Valley Creek, a 112-acre tract located east of Valley Creek that included the Knox's Quarters dwelling to Ann Cleaver, and a 31-acre tract to Evans Kendall.

The Cleaver tract was sold again in 1863, and advertised as follows:
The buildings are large and commodious and in good repair, and sufficient in all respects for the operations for a well conducted farm. There is a good apple orchard on the premises, besides a good stock of other fruit trees. (Kurtz 1990: 534)

The Riechles resided on their 59-acre tract until 1869, when they sold it to Richard Peterson. Although the exact construction date is unknown, an additional dwelling was constructed on the property to house a hired hand living at some point between 1826 and 1875. John Brown's dwelling appears to have been renovated either by the Riechles or the Petersons, and transformed from a small farm house of late eighteenth century origin to a comfortable mansion.

Havard Family Property:
The John Havard, Sr. property, which was divided between sons Samuel Havard and John Havard, Jr. between 1763 and 1770, continued to be farmed during this period. The property's limestone-based soils and gently rolling topography were well-suited to agriculture. Between the encampment period and Samuel Havard's death in 1806, his 200-acre property supported modest livestock holdings as well as extensive crop fields and an orchard. Period inventories indicate that Samuel Havard owned small numbers of cattle, horses, sheep, swine, and fowl. Field crops listed in tax records for the property included grains as well as vegetables. A depredation claim filed by the family after the war included the loss of 70 fence rails, substantial amounts of butter, cheese, and bacon, and 74 Dunghill fowl. In 1798 Havard was taxed for property including a dwelling—traditionally known as General Lafayette's Quarters—a kitchen building, two spring houses, a barn and a wagon shed. An 1806 inventory prepared at the time of Samuel Havard's death included all of the buildings listed above in addition to a windmill. Havard willed the property to his nephew, John Havard Davis.

In 1819, the property was advertised for sale, and described as follows:
The farm is in the Great Valley, the middle branch of the Valley Creek passing through it. One hundred and ten acres of the land is first rate woodland, the residue is of the finest quality of Limestone Valley Land, very highly improved, and divided into convenient fields and well fenced; with a large and good orchard on it. The farm is considered one of the finest and best in Chester County.

(Rhoads 1989: 100, from the Village Record, 22 September 1819)

It was purchased later that year by John Sharpless, who appears to have continued actively farming the land until his death in 1835. In 1836, the property was acquired by Elijah Lewis. A portion of the property was later conveyed to William Ritter in 1839, who is thought to have renovated the existing dwelling. In 1868 David Havard purchased the property, quickly transferring it to Sarah Wilson. It remained in the Wilson family for many years. Wilson Road, which currently leads toward Lafayette's Quarters, was likely named for the family during the latter part of the nineteenth century.

William Dewees/David Potts Property.
Little is specifically known about the use of this property during this period. The 8-acre tract acquired from Jacob Vogdes by John Brown in 1816 appears to have been carved from the Dewees/Potts property. This property will be discussed in subsequent sections as part of the estate of Samson Davis property.

Valley Forge Farms Landscape:
Natural Features, Spatial Organization, and Land Use.
The land included within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape appears to have continued to support successful farming activities during this period. Cultivated fields likely occupied the rolling terrain to the south of Mount Misery, and meadows utilized to pasture livestock or for hay production likely occupied the floodplain of Valley Creek. The lower slopes of Mounts Misery and Joy probably continued to be wooded; the timber may have been harvested periodically to supply wood for construction and fuel. Local farmstead dwellings, sited for the most part on knolls or beyond the floodplain of Valley Creek, generally commanded good views of the surrounding agricultural fields.

Circulation.
Yellow Springs and Baptist Roads appear to have continued to provide important connections between local farmsteads and other regions. Yellow Springs Road was realigned during this period to the north. The new road joined an extension of the former Crux Road. A wooden bridge was constructed across Valley Creek in 1852 to facilitate this connection. In 1865, a new covered bridge was constructed across Valley Creek to replace the first bridge which had been washed away by a flood. The new covered bridge, with its 50-foot span, was of Burr truss design, and constructed by Robert Russell.

Although its date of origin has not been determined for this study, Wilson Road was in existence by the middle of the nineteenth century, and likely gained its name after the Wilson family acquired a portion of the Havard family property in 1868. Other farm lanes and access roads likely existed on each of the farm properties, but little is known about their configuration or alignment.

Buildings and Structures.
The three dwellings described during earlier periods continued to exist during this period. By the end of the eighteenth century, a fourth farmhouse, the precursor to the existing Philander Knox mansion, was constructed to the west of Valley Creek. A fifth dwelling was built within the component landscape during the middle part of the nineteenth century. This dwelling served as a residence for the property's farm manager.

Outbuildings associated with the area's four primary farmsteads are also known to have existed during this period. The Walker Barn, small barn, spring house and bake house appear to have been constructed on the Walker property, near the traditional site of Stirling's Quarters. The Brown property witnessed the construction of at least one barn near the traditional site of Knox's Quarters.

Vegetation.
Vegetation in the area was likely similar to that described in the previous period.

**GENTLEMAN FARMING, 1869–1965**

Overview:
Farming continued as the predominant land use within the area throughout this 100-year period. However, it is also during this period that the importance of southeastern Pennsylvania—once the breadbasket of the continent—as a generator of agricultural products faded and was replaced by the prominence of farms in the Midwest. Farming nonetheless remained a popular and economically viable land use in the area (Figure 3).

During the latter part of the nineteenth century, a shift occurred in farming practices. Although crop cultivation continued, many property owners shifted their focus to horse and cattle breeding. Also, many local farmsteads were acquired by wealthy individuals who, while continuing to perpetuate agricultural uses, also made elaborate recreational improvements to their properties. These typically included enlarging dwellings; constructing outbuildings and ornamental garden features and plantings, recreational features such as tennis courts, swimming pools, and horse tracks; and establishing tenant residences for individuals who would manage the farms.

Regionally, agriculture continued to become more scientific. Advances were made in crop rotation theories, soil enhancement and tillage practices, as well as in livestock breeding. Around 1900, Farmers' Institutes were established throughout the area, which disseminated information developed through research efforts at Pennsylvania State College. The government also began to support regional farmers; in 1912, the Agricultural Extension Association established an office in Chester County. The specific developments known or suspected to have occurred on each of the properties located within the area during this period are described below.

William Currie Property.
The property owned by William Currie during the encampment was purchased by Henry Evans in 1880. Evans conveyed the property to Pedro Salom in 1899 (Figures 4 and 5). In 1926, the property was acquired by Robert Ligget. It was Ligget who renovated the house traditionally referred to as Lord Stirling's Quarters in the Colonial Revival style that characterizes it today. Other improvements that may be attributed to Ligget during this period include the construction of a stone retaining wall and steps leading to the spring house and the small barn; development of a detailed water feature including stone headwalls, a culvert, a stone dam and fall, and an oval concrete pond focusing on the outfall of the existing spring; and renovation of the small barn, spring house and bake house. The Walker Barn was also enlarged or renovated at some time between 1920 and 1930. Between 1928 and 1930, Ligget built an additional dwelling on his property next to the Walker Barn. The dwelling was intended to house a farmer who managed a herd of Guernsey cows for Ligget. This house was typically referred to as Rose Cottage.

Havard Family Property.
The property which includes the dwelling traditionally referred to as Lafayette's Quarters was owned by the Wilson family until 1929. In 1882, it is thought that the house was enlarged or renovated. In 1902, "the house was altered substantially under the direction of R. Brognard Okie, Architect, of Duhring, Okie and Ziegler, Architects, of Philadelphia. In 1920, a last addition was built to the west but this was removed in 1960 when further alterations were made for Henry N. Woolman by Lowell Gable who had worked for Okie." (Dodd 1981)

Henry Wilson conveyed the property to Henry Woolman in 1929. The Woolman family owned the property until 1939, when they conveyed it to the University of Pennsylvania. During the 1920s and 1930s, the university considered developing a satellite campus on the property. This idea was eventually abandoned, but the university retained ownership of the property for some time.

During the early part of the 1950s, the Pennsylvania Turnpike was constructed to the south of Valley Forge State Park, and directly to the south of the Lafayette's Quarters dwelling. It is likely that the outbuildings associated with the house were razed as part of the highway construction effort. A tunnel was constructed to allow for passage of Wilson's Road beneath the new highway. A series of concrete culverts associated with Valley Creek near the entrance drive to the Lafayette's Quarters

dwelling may also have been developed in concert with construction of the highway. These are located outside of current park boundaries.

Samson Davis Property.
The Riechle family, which acquired the property to the west of Valley Creek in 1859, including the farmhouse sometimes referred to (but lacking supporting documentary evidence) as General Maxwell's Quarters, is known to have surrounded the house with manicured lawns before selling the property to Richard Peterson in 1869. Peterson continued to improve the property. He likely enlarged the original farmhouse, augmenting it with new rooms and Victorian detailing, renovated the Hired Hand's House in 1880, and constructed the existing root cellar (Figure 6). Peterson conveyed the property to Jane McNeely and Hattie Baird in 1886. In 1893, Amanda and Edward Matthews purchased the property, which continued to include two tracts, a 33-acre parcel and an 8-acre parcel.

According to the Kurtz study, the Matthews were wealthy, and spent large sums of money in enlarging and renovating the house as a Victorian mansion in the Queen Anne style of architecture. John Dodd, as noted above, believes the renovation to have been undertaken by Richard Peterson. Despite this inconsistency, the Matthews are known to have expanded their landholdings in the area, acquiring parcels from Henry Evans, Winfield Wilson, James Robinson, Jr., and George Bean. By 1903, they had amassed approximately 256 acres within the component landscape, including land to either side of Valley Creek and the former William Dewees/David Potts property.

Edward Matthews died unexpectedly in 1903 after falling from his horse. Matthews' cousin Philander Chase Knox, who was then the Attorney General of the United States, acquired the estate later that year. At the time the property was known as "Lesmore" or "Elsmore." Knox owned the property until his death in October 1921. While he was in residence, he was visited by presidents Roosevelt, Taft, and Harding as well as a myriad of other prominent political and business figures. In 1913, Knox hired architect R. Brognard Okie to enlarge the house and otherwise completely remodel and restyle it, removing much of the Victorian detailing (Figure 7). It was during this construction campaign that a large terrace and water feature was developed to the east of the house. (Kurtz 1990: 531)

Philander Knox.
Philander Knox grew up in Fayette County, Pennsylvania which is 50 miles south of Pittsburgh and near the state's West Virginia and Ohio borders. He attended Mt. Union College in Alliance, Ohio. I t was there that he first met the future president, William McKinley. As residents of Pennsylvania and Ohio, Knox and McKinley lived at the physical epicenter of the extraordinary industrialization that took place in the United States after the Civil War. Railroads, and the coal mines and iron and steel factories that supported them, transformed the national landscape. During the second half of the nineteenth century, the vast majority of the nation's 200,000 miles of railroad lines were built. In the process, a modern, nation-wide transportation network was created.

A cornerstone of this new transportation network was the modern corporation. Corporations allowed business people to raise money by selling stock to investors in order to raise capital for their enterprises rather than having to rely on their own personal fortunes. Philander Knox was among the foremost practitioners of the new corporate law that developed around this emerging system of capital formation.

After graduating from college, Knox settled in Pittsburgh and built a corporate law practice whose clients included the Vanderbilt family, Henry Clay Frick, and Andrew Carnegie. In 1901, Knox's firm of Knox and Reed helped John Pierpoint Morgan create the United States Steel Corporation. U.S. Steel was the world's first billion-dollar enterprise, controlling two-thirds of the nation's steel production. U.S. Steel was the most powerful of another late nineteenth-century phenomenon, the rise of "trusts" or monopolies, where members of an industry would join together in a loose consortium controlled by a central body of trustees who set prices and production quotas for the entire industry.

Between 1880 and 1920, the question of how a democratic government should respond to the power of the trusts was among the foremost political issues in the United States. In 1890, Congress passed the Sherman Anti-Trust Act in an attempt to regulate the economic power of trusts. In 1895, the U.S.

Supreme Court seemed to abrogate the intent of the Sherman Act when it threw out the federal government's suit against the American Sugar Refining Company, the sugar trust.

A conservative Republican, Knox had left his practice in April 1901 to become McKinley's second Attorney General. McKinley was assassinated five months later. Knox continued as Attorney General in the Cabinet of the new president, Theodore Roosevelt. Unlike his predecessor, Roosevelt was determined to use the power of the federal government to curb the power of the monopolies. Utilizing the expertise of Attorney General Knox, Roosevelt brought suit against Northern Securities, a railroad monopoly that Morgan and railroad magnates E. H. Harriman and James J. Hill formed in 1901. The federal government's legal team against Northern Securities was headed by Knox. In March 1904, the federal government won its case in a five-to-four vote by the U.S. Supreme Court. Northern Securities was dissolved. The Northern Securities case was a landmark event in the federal government's control of the emerging national economy. Later that year, Knox left Roosevelt's cabinet when Pennsylvania Governor Pennypacker appointed him to fill a vacant U.S. Senate seat.

In 1906, he was elected to the Senate in his own right. In 1909, then-Senator Knox resigned his office to become the Secretary of State in the new presidential administration of William Howard Taft. Knox and Taft crafted a foreign policy that became known to its foes as "dollar diplomacy." Essentially they conducted a policy whose guiding principle was the encouragement and protection of private American economic interests. After Taft was defeated by Woodrow Wilson in the presidential election of 1912, Knox returned to his Valley Forge home and to his private law practice. In 1916, he was elected again to the U.S. Senate. While there, he emerged as a powerful member of the "Old Guard," a group of senators who, in 1919, defeated U.S. ratification of the Treaty of Versailles and the U.S. entry into the League of Nations. Knox died on October 12, 1921 and was buried at Valley Forge.

The Knox Mansion and Grounds.
After acquiring property at Valley Forge Farms in 1903, Philander Knox made various improvements, many of which enhanced the home's character as a gentleman's estate (Figure 8). Chief among them was the construction of a garage and chauffeur's quarters in 1913 to accommodate the relatively new use of automobiles, renovation of the Hired Hand's House circa 1910, removal of Queen Anne style details to the mansion and a tower at the western entrance. Other improvements included construction of a library addition along the northern end of the house, a large stone terrace and pool system along the eastern facade of the house, and a boat house near the covered bridge for recreational use of the mill pond extending into his property from the village of Valley Forge (Figure 9). Two structures were razed at this time—a large barn located to the south of the house, and a spring room to its northeast. The lawn was raised, and the structure over the limestone spring was altered. Knox also is thought to have erected cast iron fencing around the fields to the north of the mansion, and a carriage step near the mansion entrance. Generally, the property served as an "active center of horse breeding, riding, and hunting" during Knox's tenure and that of his children. In 1904, Theodore Roosevelt slept at the house as a guest of the family at the wedding of daughter Rebekah Knox to James Tindle. (Dodd 1981)

Additional developments on the property that are thought to have occurred either just prior to or during Philander Knox's tenure included a footbridge leading across Valley Creek between the Philander Knox Mansion and Valley Forge Farm that was designed to accommodate equestrian use, several stone footpaths, a bath house and pool, tennis court, greenhouse, and the retaining walls located to the east of the mansion. The bath house was designed in the Classic Revival style and sited at the northwestern end of an irregularly shaped pool with oval ends and masonry sides, fed by water from Valley Creek derived from a buried piping system. The area between the bath house and the pool was paved, with a Mercer tile inset. This tile, one of four located on the property, was designed by Henry Mercer of Doylestown, who was famous for his "tile work...his work in concrete and his historical architectural research." The stone terrace added to the eastern facade of the mansion included rectangular grass panels and four of the terra cotta tiles designed by Mercer, "spaced irregularly, one on axis with the entry to the house...[the Knox property] tiles depict Revolutionary War soldiers and a drummer boy in typical activities. Modern in their design form, the tiles are composed of terra cotta shapes, each piece a separate color, all set in mortar and then laid as finished tiles in the stone paving. The tiles show Mercer's monogram and represent an important

addition to the work accomplished by Okie on the house." (Dodd 1981)

A stepping stone path led between the lich gate of the stone terrace to the head of the pool. A horse race track was also established in the floodplain below the Philander Knox Hired Hand's House. (Dodd 1981)

The complex of ruins that exists on the hillside north of the property may have housed a tenant farmer during this period. The site includes a small barn or garage ruin, a shed ruin, scattered stone walls, and a dwelling site. Nearby, the drainageway that passes near the complex is dammed and the ruins of a spring house or water tank exist. These water supply features appear to have supported area farms possibly until the 1970s. A water tank also appears to have existed to the west of Wilson Road during this period.

The property traditionally referred to as General Knox's Quarters was owned until the late nineteenth century by Mrs. Mary Jones. It continued to be farmed during her ownership. Improvements to the property that date from this period include the stone retaining wall around the barnyard circa 1890–1900, retaining walls and steps below the house facing Valley Creek at around the same time, a stable in 1895, an agricultural equipment shed between 1890 and 1900, and renovation of the barn circa 1900.

The property was acquired by Philander Knox along with the land to the west of the creek from the Matthews in 1903 (Figure 10). Improvements that appear to have been undertaken on the property by Philander Knox include the stone gate posts located at the driveway entrances, and the corn crib. Around 1910, Knox built an additional dwelling on the property where his son Reed resided. The house was designed by R. Brognard Okie in the Pennsylvania neo-Colonial stone farmhouse genre. Reed Knox managed the family farm at Valley Forge, raising dairy cattle and horses. Articles about the property appeared in local publications where it was described as a model farm. Knox's daughter Rebekah occupied the house traditionally referred to as the site of General Knox's Quarters during the 1910s. (Dodd 1981)

After Philander Knox's death in 1921, the property was inherited by his daughter Rebekah Knox Tindle, who continued to improve the property (Figure 11). She and her husband James Tindle moved into the newer house previously occupied by Reed Knox. A garage was added at some point during the 1940s. They renovated it during the 1950s. Over time, the Tindles also established a retaining wall, fencing, and ornamental fencing, vestiges of which survive on the property today.

Tindle also continued to improve the property to the west of Valley Creek. Rebekah Tindle was an avid horticulturist, and during the mid-1920s and 1930s she established various garden features on the hillside behind the greenhouse that included a summerhouse, walled garden, and pedestal and millstone details. The Hired Hand's House that had at one time housed the property's farm manager, was likely used as a dwelling for a gardener during Rebekah Tindle's tenure.

James Tindle died in 1943 after falling from his horse during a fox hunt. Mrs. Tindle continued to occupy the property, increasingly accommodating horse-related activities such as hunt trails and horse shows on the oval track along the Valley Creek floodplain. In 1944, a large barn located on the property was destroyed by fire. Most of the farm's other features have survived. In 1965, Rebekah Tindle died, and her sons, who inherited the property, conveyed it that same year to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to be incorporated into Valley Forge State Park.

Valley Forge Farms Landscape:
Natural Features, Spatial Organization, and Land Use.
For the most part during this period, the land located within the component landscape boundary continued to be farmed, and was maintained primarily in open vegetative cover, with woodland occupying the hillsides of Mounts Misery and Joy, and the margins of Valley Creek. Profound land use changes occurred in the region during this period, however, based on the development of Valley Forge State Park to the north, the Pennsylvania Turnpike to the south, and general suburban and commercial development of the King of Prussia/Valley Forge area to the northeast. The farms within the component landscape also underwent a fundamental shift from agriculture as a business to

gentleman farming supporting a recreational lifestyle in the country.

Although initial state park development at Valley Forge did not have much of an impact on the Valley Forge Farms component landscape, plans developed in the early twentieth century identified various outlying parcels that were desirable for inclusion within Valley Forge State Park. These included the wooded hillsides to either side of Valley Creek, and a portion of the land owned by Philander Knox. In 1916, Philander Knox, rather than selling his land outright to the Commonwealth, donated an easement over a 51-acre portion of his property located to the west of Valley Creek, formerly part of the William Dewees/David Potts parcel. The covenant allowed the family to retain ownership of the property, but stipulated that they preserve the character of the land as woodland, and not permit the cutting of trees for commercial purposes. They were also required to "keep the forest clean and renew it from time to time." As noted earlier, the remainder of the Knox property was incorporated into the state park after the death of Rebekah Knox Tindle in 1965. (Unrau 1985: 140)

In 1937, the University of Pennsylvania began to investigate the feasibility of establishing a satellite campus near Valley Forge. The university had acquired a nearby 178-acre parcel in 1931 from alumnus Henry Woolman, who retained the former Wilson Farm, including the dwelling known as Lafayette's Quarters. Woolman eventually agreed to sell the Wilson Farm property to the University in 1939. By 1940, the school appeared ready to begin development of a new undergraduate college "of American culture that it ha[d] been hopefully planning for several years." Nothing came of these plans, however, which were finally abandoned. The University of Pennsylvania maintained ownership of the property through the 1940s and 1950s, restoring the Lafayette's Quarters building in 1956–1957, which had begun to crumble after years of neglect. (Unrau 1985: 274)

Development of the Pennsylvania Turnpike occurred in the early 1950s, and it was opened to traffic in 1954. This limited access toll road, located along the southern edge of the component landscape, established new spatial and land use patterns that would have a profound effect on future park land acquisition policies.

Circulation.
Baptist Road continued to exist in the alignment established as early as 1736, and the road leading south from Yellow Springs Road was named Wilson Road at some point during the second half of the nineteenth century in honor of local Wilson family residents.

Activities associated with Valley Forge State Park located to the north during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries included the establishment of bridle paths and trails on Mount Joy. These trails provided a connection to the area around Valley Forge Farm and the covered bridge in 1909 (Figure 12). Additional trails were built through the woods around Knox's property between 1909 and 1910. Trails leading toward Mount Misery arise along Yellow Springs Road to the north of the Philander Knox mansion. It is not known when these trails were developed. They appear to utilize, in part, the access road leading to a tenant house on the hillside.

Valley Creek Road, which until the early twentieth century was a rough, unimproved road, became a state highway during this period based on efforts initiated in 1920 by the Patriotic Order Sons of America. The existing stone retaining wall located across Valley Creek Road from the covered bridge was constructed as part of corridor improvements conducted in 1937.

In the early 1950s, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania began acquiring lands to establish the Pennsylvania Turnpike. The four-lane, limited access toll road was opened in 1954. It effectively severed the relationship between lands associated with the Revolutionary War encampment to the north, and resources located to the south of the highway. It appears that construction of the highway led to the destruction of any remaining outbuildings associated with Lafayette's Quarters. Wilson Road was disrupted due to the construction of the highway. A tunnel was constructed beneath the highway in order for the road to continue south of Lafayette's Quarters. This tunnel has since been gated, and the road is no longer open to the south of the turnpike.

The covered bridge was damaged by fire in 1958. It was restored in 1960 under the auspices of the newly formed Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society of Pennsylvania in concert with the

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

Buildings and Structures.
The primary dwellings described during previously—Knox's Quarters, Lafayette's Quarters, Stirling's Quarters, and the Philander Knox Mansion—remained important features within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape during this period (Figure 13). The Hired Hand's House located on Knox's property to the west of the creek also remained an active residence. A sixth primary dwelling was constructed during this period by Philander Knox for his daughter Rebekah and her husband James Tindle. The exact date of the construction of this building is difficult to discern from available documentation, although estimates range from 1910 through 1920.

The Knox's Quarters complex continued to support active agricultural enterprises. Various outbuildings, including barns, stables, corn cribs, and storage structures are known to have existed during this period. The largest barn, however, was destroyed by fire in 1944.

The Lafayette's Quarters complex at one time included various outbuildings such as barns and storage structures. These appear to have been lost during construction of the Pennsylvania Turnpike in the early 1950s. Across Wilson Road from Lafayette's Quarters, a small residence, the Whittle house, was constructed during the 1940s or early 1950s. This structure was utilized as park employee housing but is now vacant and slated for demolition.

The Stirling's Quarters property included the primary dwelling, the Walker Barn, small barn, bake house and spring house during this period. An additional structure to the west of the Walker Barn appears to have existed during this period that is no longer extant. An additional dwelling, Rose Cottage, was constructed ca.1928–1930 by Robert Ligget and his wife Frances, who acquired the property in 1926. The house provided housing for a "farmer [the Liggets] employed to manage a herd of Guernsey cows" and has since been removed. During their tenure, the Liggets also extensively renovated the Stirling's Quarters dwelling and associated outbuildings in the Colonial Revival style of architecture that was popular at the time. (Dodd 1981)

The Philander Knox estate located to the west of Valley Creek underwent numerous construction projects that included establishment of a garage and outbuildings, renovation of the mansion house under the architectural direction of R. Brognard Okie, and renovation of buildings utilized as residences for hired hands. Two or three structures that were located to the south of the entrance drive near the race track during this period are no longer extant. An additional complex of buildings and structures that may have housed a tenant farmer and his family on the hillside across Yellow Springs Road from the Philander Knox estate also appeared to have existed during this period, but has since fallen into ruins. Other structural features that existed during this period include a water tank to the west of Wilson Road, and a boat house located near the covered bridge that was established during the time that Valley Creek was dammed.

Vegetation.
Vegetation in the area was likely similar to that described in the previous period.

Small-Scale Features.
A photograph included in the book "Valley Forge, A Chronicle of American Heroism, Accurate Camp and Road Maps," prepared by the Valley Forge Park Commission in the 1920s, indicates the character of the covered bridge at the time. A rustic style fence appears along this road near the Valley Forge Farm stone gate posts. The fencing style is also in evidence in photographs of Gulph Road near Washington's Headquarters and may have been part of the state park design vocabulary. Photographs of various historic dwellings depicted in the book, including Lafayette's and Stirling's Quarters appear to have been set within precincts established by picket fencing.

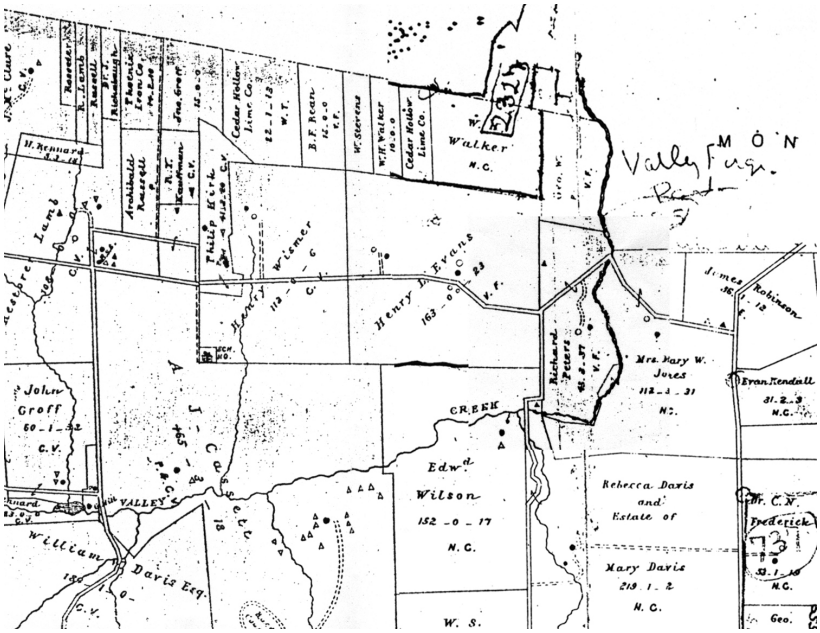



*Figure 3. Valley Forge Farms, 1883, detail from Breou's Farm Maps.*

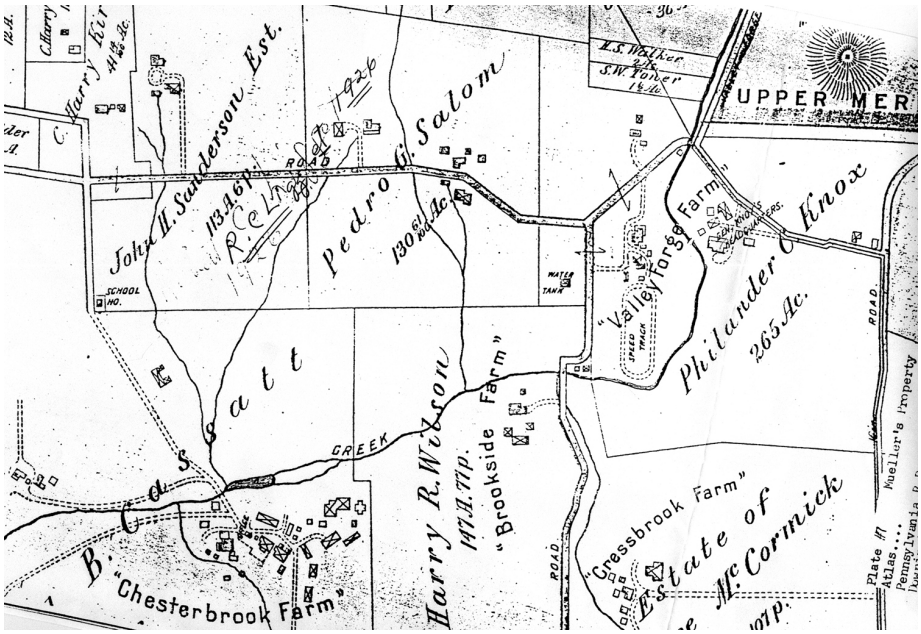



*Figure 4. Valley Forge Farms, 1912, detail from Mueller's Property Atlas.*



*Figure 5. Headquarters of Major General Lord Stirling, photograph circa 1922.*




*Figure 6. View of Peterson (later Philander Knox) residence, ca. 1881, showing mansion and gardens, from History of Chester County, Pennsylvania with Genealogical and Biographical Sketches.*



*Figure 7. Philander Knox's residence in the early 1900s prior to renovation.*

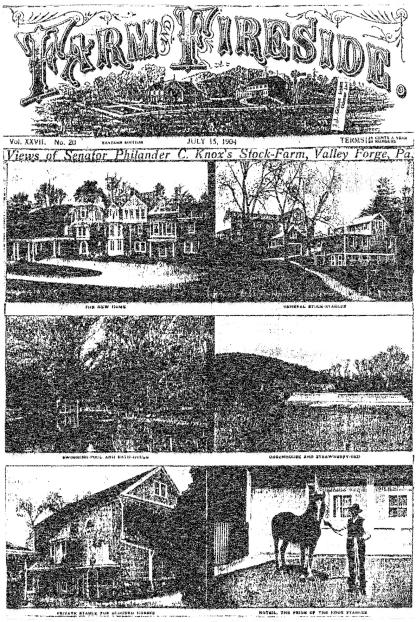



*Figure 8. Cover of Farm Fireside, July 15, 1904, featuring the Philander Knox residence.*



*Figure 9. View of boat house and covered bridge, ca. early 1900s.*

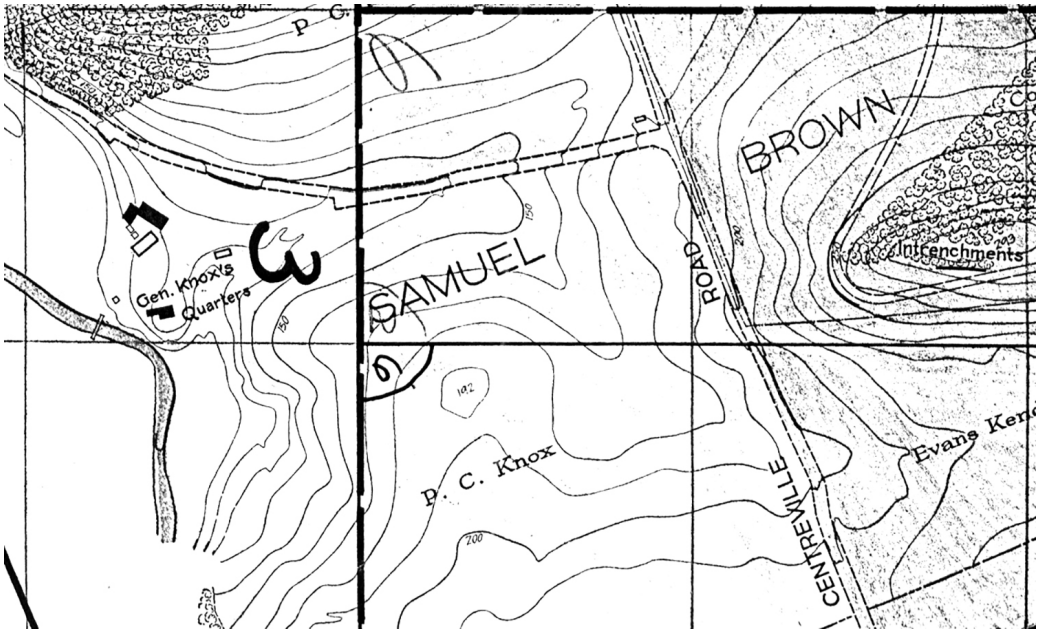



*Figure 10. General Knox's Quarters, 1904, detail of the General Map for Encampment of Valley Forge, Pennsylvania by Jacob Clarke.*



*Figure 11. Headquarter of Brigadier General John Knox, photograph circa 1922.*



*Figure 12. "Bridge over Valley Stream" with wood fencing, circa 1922.*

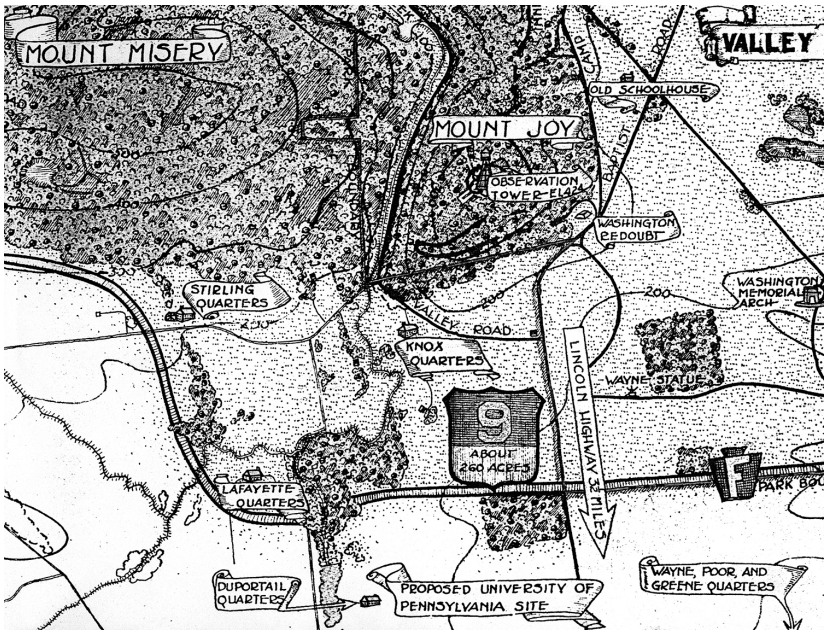



*Figure 13. Valley Forge Farms, 1928, detail of a Preliminary Study for Park Extensions by Richard Burns.*

**INTEGRATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL PROPERTIES INTO VALLEY FORGE STATE PARK, 1965–1976**

Overview:
After the death of Rebekah Tindle in 1965, the Philander Knox estate was conveyed to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by her two sons. It is not clear to what extent the state utilized the Knox farm and estate complexes during this period. The open meadow to the east of the farms is known to have been adapted for recreational use. In 1968, an archery range was established along Baptist Road near the Pennsylvania Turnpike. The Stirling's and Lafayette's Quarters properties were not acquired by the state until the 1970s and 1980s. Both were individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974. Land acquisition plans developed by the state during this period consistently included recommendations for the purchase of Stirling's and Lafayette's Quarters as high priorities, but funding limitations slowed the acquisition process.

Valley Forge Farms Landscape:
Natural Features, Spatial Organization, Land Use, and Vegetation.
The field to the west of Baptist Road and north of the Pennsylvania Turnpike was heavily re-graded to establish an archery range in 1968. In 1969, the 25th World Archery Championship was held in the new archery range. A new road was opened to provide access to the site from Baptist Road (Route 252).

Circulation.
Circulation systems and features remained similar to those described in the previous period.

Buildings and Structures.
Buildings and structures remained similar to those described in the previous period. In 1975–1976, the General Knox's Quarters dwelling was renovated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania under the auspices of Tomas Spiers & Associates Architects. The footbridge that led across Valley Creek between the Philander Knox mansion and the Valley Forge Farm property was reconstructed by the state in 1975 using the original stone abutments.

Vegetation.
Vegetation remained similar to that described in the previous period, although more and more land appears to have been allowed to revert to woodland through passive management.

Small-Scale Features.
On December 19, 1975, the Pennsylvania Society, Sons of the Revolution erected a large granite marker to commemorate the location of Lord Stirling's Quarters during the Revolutionary War encampment of the Continental Army. The marker, a pale gray monolith composed of roughhewn granite 52" wide and 54" high with a smooth inscription surface, was sited along Yellow Springs Road in front of the dwelling. It also marks the location as the quarters of Major James Monroe, later the fifth president of the United States, as aide-de-camp to Stirling. The monument was manufactured locally at the Phoenixville Memorial Works. At the time that this monument was erected, the Stirling's Quarters property included wooden fencing along Yellow Springs Road. This fencing is no longer extant.

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE STEWARDSHIP, 1976–2024**

Overview:
On July 4, 1976, President Gerald Ford visited Valley Forge State Park. During a sunrise service, he greeted a Bicentennial Wagon Train as it arrived at the park, and subsequently signed legislation authorizing the establishment of Valley Forge National Historical Park. Transfer of state park holdings to the Department of the Interior was not effected until the following year due to the numerous legal and operational issues requiring resolution.

During the transition period, the National Park Service, which would administer the new federal historical park, began to determine the tasks requiring immediate attention, such as the preparation of management and planning documents and evaluation of existing park policies. Valley Forge State Park was to be the first large-scale state holding transferred to the Department of the Interior and much work would need to be undertaken before the requisite planning documents could be prepared and policies established to render the site compliant with the federal regulations already in place at similar sites.

During 1976 and 1977, it was determined that existing foot and horse trails would remain, that bicycling would be permitted, and that picnicking and kite flying would be permissible in designated areas. The land north of the Schuylkill River would be studied for its potential acquisition as a recreation area. Living history programs would be continued. In 1977, the park celebrated the bicentennial of the encampment, with December 19, 1977, designated Encampment Day. A new visitor center, constructed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania along North Gulph Road, was completed in 1977 and presented to the National Park Service.

By 1979, the National Park Service had acted on plans to acquire additional lands for the park. Acquisition plans were based on the knowledge of locations of resources associated with the encampment period, and the potential of various parcels to buffer historic views. Within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape, desirable lands included properties along Yellow Springs Road, particularly the site Stirling's Quarters, and the property including Lafayette's Quarters. These were later acquired.

Various studies have been prepared by the National Park Service that relate to the component landscape. These include an archeological inventory conducted in the late 1980s by James Kurtz and a field crew and historic structures reports for Lafayette's and Knox's quarters. In 1998, an archeological survey of the Valley Creek corridor was undertaken by URS Greiner, Inc. in support of a stream enhancement project. These studies provide important data about the landscape's prehistoric and historic cultural uses.

Valley Forge Farms Landscape:
Natural Features, Spatial Organization, Land Use, and Vegetation.
Many of the historic fields, especially those located along primary roadways, continue to be maintained in open cover by the National Park Service, although mown meadows have generally replaced cultivated fields. Other areas, particularly to the south of Yellow Springs Road and along Valley Creek, have been allowed to revert to woodland. Large areas of non-historic, successional woody vegetation have emerged between the Knox-Tindle House and Knox's Quarters obscuring the visual connection between these two residences.

Circulation.
The Multi-Use Trail system, a non-vehicular asphalt path, was constructed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at Valley Forge State Park in the early 1980s to provide connection between many of the park's cultural features, as well as opportunities for recreation. A portion of the trail leads to the large parking area developed by the National Park Service to the east of Valley Forge Farm during this period. Hiking and bridle trails that have historically traversed the area have been incorporated into park-wide circulation systems and remain open to the public. Additionally, a trail was installed along Yellow Springs Road near the covered bridge to facilitate greater pedestrian access to the area. Otherwise, the circulation systems and features described in the previous periods continue to

survive during this period.

Buildings and Structures.
The buildings and structures described during earlier periods continue to survive during this period. Many of them have been adapted for residential or office use by National Park Service employees. The Philander Chase Knox Garage and Chauffeur's Quarters were first rehabilitated in 1979, and made useable as a residence for park personnel for several years. The Knox-Tindle House also served as the park superintendent's residence.

Currently, the park is pursuing leasing opportunities to facilitate adaptive reuse of park properties, especially in the Valley Forge Farms landscape. The park has had success leasing historic structures, such as the Montessori school established at the historic David Walker Farmstead and, in the Valley Forge Farms landscape, the Philander Knox Estate which has been rehabilitated and converted into a privately operated events venue. Some buildings present persistent maintenance challenges, such as Stirling's Quarters, which was stabilized in 2015, but now requires additional maintenance work to prepare the structure for any adaptive reuse.

Small-Scale Features.
Small-scale features associated with the component landscape during this period include many of the features noted during earlier periods. Additionally, park identity, interpretive, informational, and directional signage has been incorporated into the site at primary visitor use locations such as the new parking area near Valley Forge Farm.

# Uses

## Functions and Uses:

| Major Category | Category | Use/Function | Historic | Current | Primary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Agriculture/Subsistence | Agricultural Outbuilding | Barn | Yes | Yes | No |
| Domestic (Residential) | Estate Landscape | Estate Landscape | Yes | Yes | No |
| Agriculture/Subsistence | Farm (Plantation) | Farm (Plantation) | Yes | Yes | No |
| Transportation | Pedestrian-Related | Hiking Trail | No | Yes | No |
| Industrial/Processing/Extraction | Industrial/Processing/Extraction-Other | Industrial/Processing/Extraction | Yes | No | No |
| Landscape | Leisure-Passive (Park) | Leisure-Passive (Park) | No | Yes | Yes |
| Education | Library | Library | No | Yes | No |
| Defense | Military Facility (Post) | Military Facility (Post) | Yes | No | Yes |
| Industrial/Processing/Extraction | Extractive Facility (Mining) | Mine | Yes | No | No |
| Recreation/Culture | Monument (Marker, Plaque) | Monument (Marker, Plaque) | No | Yes | No |
| Domestic (Residential) | Single Family Dwelling | Single Family House | Yes | Yes | No |
| Domestic (Residential) | Small Residential Landscape | Small Residential Landscape | Yes | Yes | No |

## Public Access:

**Public Access:** Unrestricted

**Public Access Narrative:**

The park's Encampment Tour route is a 10-mile driving loop comprised of 9 major tour stops plus additional opportunities to stop and explore Valley Forge, but no stops are located at Valley Forge Farms. Numerous trails cross through the site. Park grounds are open daily, year-round 7am to dark (1/2 hour after sunset).

## Associated Ethnographic Group

**Ethnographic Study Status:** No Survey Conducted

**Ethnographic Narrative:**

According to David Goldstein, Lead of Region 1 Tribal and Cultural Affairs, and Dr. John A. Turck, Archeologist at Valley Forge NHP/Hopewell Furnace NHS, no study has been completed at Valley Forge NHP.

# Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

**Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:**

The Valley Forge Farms component landscape is predominantly characterized by its long-standing agricultural heritage. While extant features reflect various periods of landscape history, overall it most closely reflects its late nineteenth and early twentieth century appearance as a collection of gentleman farms and estates. By the second quarter of the twentieth century, the majority of the extant landscape features were established. These features, including roads, drives, trails, dwellings, outbuildings, woodlands, hedgerows, ornamental plantings, bridges, open fields, fencing, lime kilns, charcoal hearths, span the eighteenth century European settlement period, the Revolutionary War encampment period, the nineteenth century, and part of the twentieth century. Features pre-dating these cultural features, such as landform and topography and water resources, have remained relatively consistent throughout the historic periods that are the focus of this study. Understanding the nature of these features and systems supports a synthetic appreciation of the cultural land uses and practices that have evolved over time within the component landscape. Since the 1960s, land uses within the component landscape shifted from agriculture to interpretation and recreation as the area was incorporated into Valley Forge State Park, and later Valley Forge National Historical Park. Landscape features that have been developed in support of park development include visitor parking areas, trails, signage, and recreational areas.

While the agricultural character of the landscape has diminished during the twentieth century, it still retains integrity to its nineteenth agricultural period of significance, and its early twentieth century significant association with resident Philander Chase Knox. The analysis that follows can only offer conjectural assumptions as to whether extant landscape patterns can be extrapolated back to the encampment era. Various features survive within the landscape that have known or predicted associations with the encampment and support our understanding of the period. Thus, the component landscape contributes to the park's overall integrity even though it has undergone considerable changes during the period of significance and since its end. Those landscape characteristics and features that do remain from this historic period retain integrity and should be preserved.

The next section presents an analysis of landscape characteristics and their associated features and corresponding Historic Structures Inventory (HSI, formerly List of Classified Structures) names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for the historic period (c1710–1949), contributes to the property's historic character, or if it is noncontributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource. If a feature is non-contributing, it is evaluated as "compatible" (visually congruent with the historic character of the landscape) or "incompatible" (visually incongruent with the historic character of the landscape).

**Landscape Characteristic: Archeological Sites**

Archeological sites are the locations of ruins, traces, or deposited artifacts in the landscape and are evidenced by the presence of either surface or subsurface features. Only archeological sites evaluated as contributing or non-contributing in approved National Register documentation are identified in this report. In the Valley Forge Farms CLI project area, the 2016 National Register identifies the Stirling's Quarters as a contributing site under Criterion D: Archeology (Historic-Non Aboriginal) for the Revolutionary War Encampment Period (1777–1778):
"Labeled as "Lord Stirlings" on the Pennypacker map and as "Lord Stirlings Qtrs" on the Davis-Armstrong-Sparks map, the building was home to Reverend William Currie before being marshaled as Stirling's residence during the winter encampment. The site underwent extensive excavations in 2004 in advance of the installation of a major drainage system around the main house to alleviate termite and water damage. The archeological fieldwork included the excavation of 39 shovel test pits and 41 4-by-4-ft test units, both inside and outside the building, as well as the removal of 80 square feet of topsoil. The resulting stratigraphic and artifact analyses provided a wealth of information about the physical development of the site, mostly in the form of structural remains. Evidence of several major successive building episodes at the site, including the original 1769 construction of the house and bake ovens by Scottish-born Reverend Currie, the ca.1830 east kitchen addition, various structural changes dating to the mid-nineteenth century, and the 1926 renovations, were all identified to some degree as features inside and around the building. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 238-239)

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stirling's Quarters Site (not mapped) | 204991 | Contributing | | VAFO00402.000 | | | No |

**Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures**

Historic and Existing Conditions:
Buildings are elements constructed primarily for sheltering any form of human activity in a landscape, while structures are elements constructed for functional purposes other than sheltering human activity. The buildings and structures that exist within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape span many periods of the site's history, including the eighteenth and nineteenth century agricultural period, and the twentieth century estate period, as well as later periods. Four of the five primary farmstead clusters retain a good degree of integrity to at least the twentieth century estate period. Despite the fact that the three component landscape dwellings that likely served as quarters for Continental Army officers have been variously modified over the years, they continue to support an understanding of the period, and also remain significant for their associations with the encampment. The establishment of non-contributing buildings and structures within the component landscape during the second half of the twentieth century has been minimal.

The earliest structures known to have been constructed within the area include the dwellings traditionally referred to as the encampment-era quarters of Generals Stirling, Knox, and Lafayette. These dwellings, components of eighteenth century working farms, were each undoubtedly associated with a complex of farm structures and outbuildings, such as barns for housing livestock and storing equipment, spring houses, privies, dwellings to house indentured servants and slaves, and structures for storing and preparing food. Currently, however, there is no documentary evidence to support an understanding of outbuildings associated with these three farmsteads.

What is known about the eighteenth century character of the dwellings is described below.

Stirling's Quarters.
The date of origin of the Stirling's Quarters dwelling is not currently known. While documentary records are inconclusive on this point, it is possible that the building may have been constructed as early as 1700. The dwelling was certainly occupied by 1769 after the property was acquired by Episcopal minister and farmer William Currie. In 1778, Continental Army General Lord William Alexander Stirling is thought to have resided in the farmhouse briefly, on and off during the army's encampment at Valley Forge. The ca.1778 Duportail map that depicts the encampment unfortunately does not extend far enough to the southwest to encompass the site of the Currie dwelling.

The building was again renovated at some point between 1830 and 1840 by the Walker family. The Walkers also appear to have constructed various other outbuildings on the property during the nineteenth century, including the Walker Barn and corral across Yellow Springs Road from the main house, and the spring and bake houses and a small barn near the main house. In 1926, the property witnessed major renovations under owner Robert Ligget, who rehabilitated many of the existing structures in the popular Colonial Revival style, and developed new structural features that connected the individual components around the main house into a cohesive unit. Stirling's Quarters was stabilized once again in 2015, but requires continued maintenance to achieve and sustain a fair condition. The complex currently reflects this early twentieth century period of development. These buildings and structures contribute to the eighteenth and nineteenth century agricultural period, and the encampment period (Figure 19).

During the 1920s or 1930s, an additional dwelling—Rose Cottage—was constructed adjacent to the Walker Barn. Rose Cottage has been removed, and other buildings associated with the property are not currently occupied.

Knox's Quarters.
The building traditionally referred to as Knox's Quarters is variously believed to have been constructed at some time between 1745 and 1768. Located on a knoll to the east of Valley Creek, it is thought to have served as the headquarters for Brig. Gen. Henry Knox during the 1777–1778 encampment of the Continental Army at Valley Forge. The building appears on the circa 1778 Duportail Map as a solitary building set on the top of a knoll overlooking Valley Creek. It is likely that original primary facade of the building, which faced southeast, fronted on an earlier alignment of Yellow Springs Road near its ford across Valley Creek.

Over the subsequent two hundred years, this dwelling has been substantially altered, and much of the original fabric has been lost. The primary façade is no longer the southeastern side of the building; in order to reorient the building after Yellow Springs Road was realigned, the northwestern façade has been adapted as the main entrance. Knox's Quarters is currently targeted for adaptive reuse through private leasing, and was stabilized in 2015. Flooring and ceilings that were removed during stabilization were left open to permit retrofitting of HVAC, electrical systems, and plumbing in the future depending on the type of tenancy established. Though heavily altered, Knox's Quarters retains its encampment-era associations and contributes to the encampment period of significance.

Associated with the dwelling are various outbuildings which likely were established during the nineteenth century. These include two barns, a stable and auxiliary barn, an agricultural equipment shed, and a corn crib (Figure 20). These outbuildings form a dense cluster to the north of the house, and are enclosed within a stone wall that forms a farm yard to the northwest of the structures. This cluster survives relatively intact from the nineteenth century, although one of the largest barns was lost to fire during the 1940s. This cluster of agricultural structures contribute to the property's nineteenth century agricultural period of significance.

Lafayette's Quarters.
The third dwelling known to have been constructed within the area during the eighteenth century—traditionally referred to as Lafayette's Quarters—likely was constructed in 1763, when the property was owned by the Havard family. The house is traditionally thought to have served as the

encampment headquarters of Gen. Marquis de Lafayette. Numerous nineteenth century renovations and additions have substantially altered this structure. Although heavily altered, the building retains its encampment-era associations and contributes to the encampment period of significance (Figure 21). The cluster of outbuildings and agricultural structures that appear on nineteenth and early twentieth century maps were razed during construction of the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

The Whittle house and garage are located on a knoll across Wilson Road from Lafayette's Quarters. They were constructed during the mid-twentieth century and formerly utilized as Valley Forge National Historical Park employee housing. They are non-contributing resources and planned for demolition.

Other Buildings.
A fourth dwelling located within the component landscape to the west of Valley Creek was previously referred to as the encampment era quarters of Brig. Gen. William Maxwell. There is little documentary evidence, however, to support this claim, and it is likely that the construction of the house post-dates the encampment. The ca.1778 Duportail map, which indicates the Knox's Quarters structure across the creek, does not depict a house in this location, and the house does not appear in tax records prior to the encampment. The first mention of a house occurs as part of a description of the sale of the property to Samuel Brown in 1783, which notes the presence of a "messuage or tenement plantation." During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the farmhouse was enlarged and renovated into a country estate mansion. It took on its current appearance between 1903 and 1921 under the auspices of Philander Knox (Figure 22). Through its association with Knox, a nationally prominent political figure, the house is a contributing resource. The National Park Service currently uses part of the building for the Willcox Memorial Library, with the rest of the property under a private lease as an events space.

The property to the west of Valley Creek includes numerous other buildings and structures. The cluster of structures survives relatively intact from the early twentieth century period of significance, although a group of structures that formerly existed to the south of the complex has been lost. The extant structures include a Hired Hand's House, likely constructed between 1826 and 1875, a greenhouse (now in ruins), retaining walls that form a terrace behind the house, a root cellar, pool, and an overgrown tennis court and pond (Figures 23 and 24). These structures contribute to the early twentieth century period of significance.

The fourth cluster of buildings and structures located within the component landscape includes a dwelling constructed ca.1910 by Knox to house one of his two children. Known as the Knox-Tindle House, this dwelling includes a garage and retaining wall along the property's access drive. The Knox-Tindle House is a contributing resource due to its association with Philander Knox (Figure 25).

The other structures located within the component landscape include two bridges, a stone retaining wall, and remnant charcoal hearths and lime kilns. The first bridge, located along Yellow Springs Road near its junction with Valley Creek Road, dates to the mid nineteenth century. Although it is not owned by the Federal government, as an integral component of local views and transportation routes, is a contributing resource. The second bridge occurs along Wilson Road near Lafayette's Quarters. The existing bridge is of late twentieth century construction. It replaced a nineteenth century bridge. The stone retaining wall occurs along Valley Creek Road to the east of the covered bridge. It appears to have been constructed in 1937 as part of roadway improvements. These two features post-date component landscape periods of significance and constitute non-contributing resources.

Remnant industrial structures exist on the lower slopes of Mount Misery, and to the south of Valley Creek near the component landscape's southern boundary. The charcoal hearths that dot the lower slopes of Mount Misery may date from the mid eighteenth century. Three lime kilns, representing two distinct periods of development, survive on a hillside above Valley Creek in the southern part of the component landscape. Referred to as the First and Second Auxiliary Kilns and John Brown's Limekiln, these structures may have been established between the fourth quarter of the eighteenth

and the first quarter of the nineteenth centuries. Two of the kilns are set within the hillside, with openings constructed of stone set in the form of an arch. The third is a tall, stacked stone structure. A lime quarry site exists nearby that likely supplied the lime for the kilns. These resources are associated with the processing of limestone as a construction material and as a soil amendment for agricultural fields. Each of these elements constitutes a contributing resource associated with the eighteenth and nineteenth century agricultural period.

Evaluation:
Numerous buildings and structures survive within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape that are associated with the site's periods of significance. These include the three dwellings thought to have housed Continental Army officers during the encampment, as well as the majority of the agricultural outbuildings located within the component landscape. Additionally, buildings and structures associated with Philander Knox's estate are significant for their association with this important political figure. Three twentieth century buildings exist within the component landscape that post-date the property's period of significance. These include two residences located near Stirling's Quarters, and the Knox-Tindle garage.

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boundary Feature/Raad Trace (S-8) | 100206 | Contributing | | | Location | 56991 | No |
| First Auxiliary Kiln (S-51) | 100208 | Contributing | 22560 | | Location | 94771 | Yes |
| John Brown Lime Kiln (S-50) | 100209 | Contributing | 22559 | | Location | 94770 | Yes |
| Knox's Quarters (B-31) | 100210 | Contributing | 22325 | | Location | 28026 | Yes |
| Knox's Quarters Retaining Wall and Steps (S-48) | 100211 | Contributing | 80270 | | Asset | 1034819 | Yes |
| Knox-Tindle House (B-33) | 100213 | Contributing | 22386 | | Location | 28386 | Yes |
| Knox-Tindle Retaining Wall (S-49) | 100214 | Contributing | 80249 | | Asset | 1034782 | Yes |
| Lafayette's Quarters B-16 | 100215 | Contributing | 22330 | | Location | 28039 | Yes |
| Mount Misery Charcoal Hearths (S-11) | 204989 | Contributing | | | | | No |
| Philander Knox Garage (B-23) | 98162 | Contributing | 22339 | | Location | 32806 | Yes |
| Philander Knox Garage Retaining Wall (S-39) | 98163 | Contributing | 80240 | | Asset | 14889 | Yes |
| Philander Knox Greenhouse (B-20) | 91868 | Contributing | 22341 | | Location | 39020 | Yes |
| Philander Knox Hired Hand's House (B-24) | 93038 | Contributing | 22338 | | Location | 32794 | Yes |
| Philander Knox Hired Hand's House Retaining Wall (S-40) | 93039 | Contributing | 80239 | | Asset | 14888 | Yes |
| Philander Knox Mansion (B-19) | 93040 | Contributing | 22337 | | Location | 31518 | Yes |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Philander Knox Mansion Retaining Walls (S-34) | 93041 | Contributing | 80238 | | Asset | 14887 | No |
| Philander Knox Pool Ruin (S-36) | 93042 | Contributing | 22686 | | Asset | 1034805 | No |
| Philander Knox Potting Shed Ruins (B-21) | 93043 | Contributing | 022341 | | Location | 39020 | No |
| Philander Knox Reflecting Pool (S-35) | 93044 | Contributing | 80263 | | Asset | 1034805 | No |
| Philander Knox Root Cellar (B-22) | 93045 | Contributing | 22621 | | Location | 39018 | Yes |
| Philander Knox Summer House (S-41) | 93047 | Contributing | 22343 | | Location | 39024 | Yes |
| Philander Knox Tennis Court Ruin (S-37) | 93048 | Contributing | 80244 | | | | No |
| Philander Knox Walled Garden Ruins (S-42) | 93049 | Contributing | 80243 | | | | No |
| Retaining Wall / Paved Stream Crossing (Footbridge) (S-53) | 93050 | Contributing | | | Asset | 1034805 | No |
| Retaining Walls and Steps along Valley Creek Road (S-45) | 93051 | Contributing | 1171521 | | Location | 54428 | No |
| Second Auxiliary Kiln (S-52) | 93053 | Contributing | 22561 | | Location | 94771 | Yes |
| Stirling’s Quarters (B-11) | 93054 | Contributing | 22320 | | Location | 28020 | Yes |
| Stirling’s Quarters Retaining Wall with Arbor (S-31) | 93055 | Contributing | 080265 | | Asset | 14878 | Yes |
| Stirling’s Small Barn (B-13) | 93056 | Contributing | 22322 | | Location | 39013 | Yes |
| Stirling’s Spring House and Bake House (B-12) | 93057 | Contributing | 22321 | | Location | 28021 | Yes |
| Stone Walls (S-14) | 93059 | Contributing | | | Location | 56991 | No |
| Valley Creek Covered Bridge (S-44) | 100207 | Contributing | 1133962 | | | | No |
| Valley Forge Farm Agricultural Equipment Shed (B-27) | 93061 | Contributing | 22619 | | Location | 39015 | Yes |
| Valley Forge Farm Barn (B-28) | 93062 | Contributing | 22326 | | Location | 28028 | Yes |
| Valley Forge Farm Barnyard Retaining Wall (S-47) | 93063 | Contributing | 80271 | | Asset | 14881 | Yes |
| Valley Forge Farm Corn Crib (B-30) | 93064 | Contributing | 22618 | | Location | 39014 | Yes |
| Valley Forge Farm Gate Posts (S-46) | 93065 | Contributing | 80269 | | Asset | 1034820 | Yes |
| Valley Forge Farm Stable (B-29) | 93066 | Contributing | 22327 | | Location | 28030 | Yes |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Walker Barn (B-14) | 93067 | Contributing | 22323 | | Location | 28022 | Yes |
| Walker Barn Wall and Gate (S-32) | 93068 | Contributing | 80251 | | Asset | 1034797 | Yes |
| Knox-Tingle Garage (B-32) | 100212 | Noncontributing | 022387 | | Location | 28387 | Yes |
| Philander Knox Footbridge (S-38) | 100219 | Noncontributing | 22344 | | Location | 53397 | Yes |
| Stirling Spring Outflow (Stone Culvert) (S-15) | 93058 | Noncontributing | 080268 | | Asset | 1034823 | Yes |
| Structural Ruins (possible spring or ice house) (S-43) | 93060 | Noncontributing | | | | | No |
| Whittle House (B-17) | 100216 | Noncontributing | | | Location | 29226 | Yes |
| Whittle House Garage and Stable (B-18) | 100217 | Noncontributing | | | Location | 29232 | Yes |
| Wilson Road Bridge (S-33) | 93935 | Noncontributing | | | Location | 247026 | No |

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 19. Stirling's Quarters, B-11, view northwest. (OCLP, 2019)*



*Figure 20. Stirling's Quarters, B-11, view northwest. (OCLP, 2019)*



*Figure 21. Lafayette's Quarters, B-16, view northeast. (OCLP, 2019)*



*Figure 22. Philander Knox Mansion, B-19, and Philander Knox Carriage Step, SS-45, view southeast. (OCLP, 2019)*



*Figure 23. Philander Knox Greenhouse, B-20, view southeast. (OCLP, 2019)*



*Figure 24. Philander Knox Reflecting Pool, S-35, view southwest. (OCLP, 2019)*



*Figure 25. Knox-Tindle House, B-33, view northwest. (OCLP, 2019)*

**Landscape Characteristic: Circulation**

Historic and Existing Conditions:

Circulation refers to the spaces, features, and applied material finishes that constitute systems of movement in a landscape. The origins of existing circulation features span various periods of the Valley Forge Farms component landscape's history. These include Baptist, Wilson, and Yellow Springs Roads during the eighteenth and nineteenth century agricultural period, and access roads and driveways at the farmsteads clustered around Valley Creek during the Philander Knox early twentieth century period.

Some existing circulation patterns may pre-date early European settlement. However, nothing is currently known about circulation routes that may have existed during the prehistoric or early European contact periods. Based on review of road petitions and other eighteenth century documents, at least three roads appear to have been established prior to the encampment period: Yellow Springs Road, Wilson Road, and Baptist Road. Baptist Road, established in 1736, may have evolved from an earlier horse or foot trail. It connected the community of Radnor to the south with the Schuylkill River and a ford crossing at Fatland Island. Early maps also refer to this road as Centreville Road and Devon Road. Yellow Springs Road was established in 1768 to provide a connection between Baptist Road and the community of Yellow Springs to the west. Yellow Springs Road originally followed a different alignment than it does today; the trace of the former alignment is visible over the component landscape to the south of the Knox's Quarters dwelling, across a ford along Valley Creek, and leading due west below the existing cluster of buildings associated with the Philander Knox estate. The date of origin of Wilson Road is not currently known. It likely provided access to the Lafayette's Quarters dwelling, and possibly other farmsteads further to the south during the eighteen century or later. While the component landscape likely also included numerous farm lanes, cart paths, and farmstead access roads during the eighteenth century, nothing is currently known about these routes. A network of roads and trails was also established in the region during the eighteenth century in support of the local iron forge industry. The wooded slopes of Mount Misery are coursed by numerous road traces and pocked by abandoned charcoal hearths that served the iron forges located along Valley Creek. Wagon trails, and routes associated with timber harvesting and processing likely comprised the circulation network, a portion of which is still in evidence over Mount Misery.

During the encampment period, both Yellow Springs and Baptist Roads were important travel routes for the military. Yellow Springs Road provided access to the hospital established for military personnel some twelve miles to the west in the community of Yellow Springs. Baptist Road provided a connection between the local farmsteads that served as quarters for army officers and the encampment to the north. Roads during this period were likely hard-packed earthen routes that were well rutted and difficult to travel during wet periods and when frozen. It is possible that Wilson Road provided access to the dwelling referred to as Lafayette's Quarters, as well as other farmsteads located further to the south that may also have been utilized to house Continental Army officers such as Generals Duportail, Woodford, Lee, and Bradford.

Nineteenth century additions and alterations to local circulation patterns included the shift in alignment of Yellow Springs Road, an extension of Crux Road to the south (the road was later renamed Valley Creek Road), establishment of additional farmstead access roads, and the construction of a covered wooden bridge across Valley Creek. Wilson family ownership of the property during the second half of the nineteenth century likely led to the formal naming of the road at that time.

By 1848, the extension of Crux Road along Valley Creek to the Valley Forge Farms area appears on the William E. Morris "Atlas of Montgomery County." At the time, it appears the road joined the Yellow Springs Road in its early alignment at the ford crossing of Valley Creek below the dwelling traditionally referred to as General Knox's Quarters. In 1852, however, it is known that a bridge was constructed across Valley Creek in the current location of the covered wooden bridge. The ford was abandoned at the time, and Wilson Road provided a connection northward to the bridge.

The initial bridge across Valley Creek was lost to flooding. It was subsequently replaced in 1865 with a wooden covered bridge designed by Robert Russell. By 1873, as indicated on Witmer's Atlas of Chester County, an unimproved road had been established over much of the current alignment of Yellow Springs Road to provide connections to the Stirling's Quarters dwelling and

other nearby houses. By the time the Breou farm map of 1883 was published, the original alignment of Yellow Springs Road appears to have been abandoned in favor of the road corridor established to the north. Nineteenth century atlases of the region provide the first, albeit limited, information about the alignments of local farmstead access roads and driveways. In 1886, an iron bridge was constructed across Valley Creek along Wilson Road. It is not known what form previous crossings had taken.

Many of the driveways, walks, and farm lanes that are evident in the landscape today are based on circulation routes developed during the mid to late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These include the driveway system at the Knox's Quarters property, the Knox-Tindle House driveway, the access road leading to the tenant property north of Yellow Springs Road, the drive system at the Philander Knox estate, as well as various pedestrian routes—the footbridge connection between the Philander Knox estate and the Knox's Quarters property, and the stepping stones paths and stone stairs set in retaining walls at the Philander Knox estate (Figure 16). Horse trails established by Rebekah and James Tindle in the 1930s and 1940s traverse portions of the component landscape. These have been utilized since the state park era for public recreation; some have been adapted as walking trails. The origin of the existing access roads at Stirling's and Lafayette's Quarters, however, is not currently known since they do not appear on historic maps of the area.

Mid- to late twentieth century circulation features include the four-lane, limited-access Pennsylvania Turnpike (Interstate 76) that abuts the component landscape to the south, the access drive leading to the two residences located east of Lafayette's Quarters, the pedestrian trail that follows Valley Creek and a small parking area and a trail system located along the southern margin of Mount Misery, a large visitor parking area along Valley Creek Road, the park's multi-use trail, and the gravel road leading west from Baptist Road to an archery range established in the 1960s as part of state park development (now a model airplane field) (Figure 17). Additionally, the footbridge leading between the Philander Knox mansion and Knox's Quarters was replaced during the 1970s.

Evaluation:
The evolution of circulation systems and features within the component landscape has generally been an additive process; the earliest roads have continued in use while new roads have over time been added as the local population has increased. While there are many circulation routes that survive with eighteenth and nineteenth century periods of origin, their alignments, edge conditions, and surface materials have typically been modified over the years, particularly to support automobile traffic.

At least three primary roads existed within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape by the time of the Revolutionary War—Baptist Road, Yellow Springs Road, and Wilson Road (Figure 18). Each of these was utilized by the Continental Army for the movement of troops and supplies. Both Yellow Springs and Wilson Roads crossed Valley Creek via ford. During the eighteenth century, it is also likely that various access routes and trails crisscrossed Mount Misery in support of logging and charcoal production operations related to the iron forges located nearby along Valley Creek. Nothing is currently known about other circulation systems that may have existed during the eighteenth century.

During the nineteenth century, bridges were established across Valley Creek along Wilson and Yellow Springs Roads, Yellow Springs Road was realigned, Crux Road (Valley Creek Road) was extended to the south to join Yellow Springs Road, and various drives and access roads were established in association with area farmsteads and estates. During the early part of the twentieth century, additional internal pedestrian circulation routes were established on the Philander Knox estate. All of the surviving circulation routes that date from these periods contribute to the significance of the component landscape. A new trail segment was recently installed along Yellow Springs Road near the covered bridge to facilitate safer pedestrian access to the landscape.

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Baptist Road (C-23) | 94032 | Contributing | 22540 | | Location | 82630 | Yes |
| Hired Hand's House Driveway (C-33) | 94034 | Contributing | | | Location | 39560 | No |
| Knox's Quarters driveway and parking (C-34) | 94036 | Contributing | | | Location | 39486 | Yes |
| Knox-Tindle House Driveway (C-35) | 94037 | Contributing | | | Asset | 25701 | Yes |
| Mount Misery Footpaths and Cartpaths (C-16) | 94039 | Contributing | | | Location | 39516 | Yes |
| Philander Knox Paths (C-36) | 94041 | Contributing | 80264 | | Asset | 1034777 | Yes |
| Philander Knox Driveway, Turn-Around, Parking (C-32) | 94042 | Contributing | | | Location | 231533 | Yes |
| Stirling Spring House Steps (C-26) | 94046 | Contributing | 80266 | | Asset | 1034803 | Yes |
| Stirling's Quarters Small Barn Steps (C-27) | 94048 | Contributing | 80267 | | Asset | 1034824 | Yes |
| Valley Creek Road (portion) (C-14) | 204987 | Contributing | 022543 | | Asset | 25771 | Yes |
| Wilson Road (C-22) | 94051 | Contributing | | | Location | 227026 | Yes |
| Yellow Springs Road (C-21) | 94052 | Contributing | | | | | No |
| Access Road (C-24) | 94031 | Noncontributing | | | | | No |
| Lafayette's Quarters Driveway (C-29) | 94038 | Noncontributing | | | Location | 104715 | Yes |
| Multi-use Trail (C-40) | 94040 | Noncontributing | | | Location | 39514 | Yes |
| Stirling's Quarters Driveway and Parking (C-25) | 94047 | Noncontributing | | | Location | 104714 | Yes |
| Visitor Parking (C-38) | 204988 | Contributing | | | Location | 250716 | Yes |
| Valley Creek Footpath (C-41) | 94049 | Undetermined | | | Location | 39521 | Yes |

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 16. Knox's Quarters Driveway, C-34, and Knox's Quarters, B-31, view southwest. (OCLP, 2019)*



*Figure 17. Valley Creek Road (portion), C-14, and Multi-use Trail, C-40, view northeast. (OCLP, 2019)*



*Figure 18. Yellow Springs Road, C-21, and Walker Barn, B-14, view east. (OCLP, 2019)*

**Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features**

Historic and Existing Conditions:
Small-scale features are elements that provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the landscape. While extant small-scale features have been investigated to determine their date of origin, little or nothing is known about small-scale features that may have existed during earlier periods but have been lost. Existing small-scale features are primarily of twentieth century origin. Many may be attributed to the twentieth century estate period, while others are associated with Valley Forge National Historical Park development.

Little is known about small-scale features that existed in the area during the prehistoric, European contact, or early settlement periods. It is likely that wooden worm or post and rail fencing was used to fence kitchen garden and other crop fields from roaming livestock and wild animals, and to form pens for domesticated animals. A prehistoric posthole mold was discovered during recent archeological investigations of the banks along Valley Creek, which would suggest that fencing was utilized in this area prior to European settlement.

The only small-scale feature known to have existed during the encampment period is wooden fencing. Depredation claims of local residents frequently refer to the loss of fence rails during the encampment. Few primary source documents suggest the nature of small-scale features during the late eighteenth and early to mid-nineteenth centuries. Based on existing evidence in the form of ruins, the features that appear to have been developed during this period include a dam breast, various culverts, water supply tanks, and spring enclosing structures (Figure 27).

Numerous small-scale features survive from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These are primarily associated with estate development of the property west of Valley Creek. They include cast iron field fencing, garden features such as a stone pedestal, millstones, enclosing walls, stone edging along Valley Creek, a stone-lined garden rill or channel, and a stone carriage step.

Evidence of features missing from the twentieth century appears in the form of a 1922 book prepared by the Valley Forge Park Commission. Photographs of local resources illustrate many of the buildings thought to have quartered generals or other officers during the Encampment, as well as other important landscape features. The 1920s-era photographs indicate that many of the dwelling complexes, including Stirling's and Lafayette's Quarters, were, at that time, enclosed within precincts edged by picket fencing. This fencing is no longer present within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape. Another view of the covered bridge from the road along the General Knox property indicates that rustic style fencing edged the road at the time. It, too, is no longer present.

Small-scale features associated with development of the site as part of Valley Forge National Historical Park include park identity signs along Baptist and Yellow Springs Roads, and an informational sign or kiosk in the field now utilized by model plane enthusiasts. Another small-scale features that post-date the component landscape periods of significance is a granite monument erected in 1976 that commemorates the site of General Lord Stirling's Quarters along Yellow Springs Road during the encampment (Figure 28). A memorial to Drake Pharr temporarily relocated from the David Potts House to the Philander Knox Mansion, has been removed.

Evaluation:
While there is a lack of documentation regarding the configuration and nature of small-scale features that may have existed within the landscape between prehistory and the early twentieth century, there are numerous elements that appear to have originated during the Philander Knox period that survive and may be considered contributing resources. These include cast iron fencing, and other remnant fencelines, a stone carriage step, stone work and a grotto along Valley Creek, and stone channels associated with ornamental water features (Figure 29).

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Philander Chase Knox Estate - Millstones (SS-46) | 94062 | Contributing | 80242 | | Location | 39560 | No |
| Philander Knox Carriage Step (SS-45) | 94059 | Contributing | 80241 | | Asset | 1034767 | Yes |
| Philander Knox Cast Iron Field Fence (SS-44) | 94060 | Contributing | 80245 | | Asset | 1034773 | Yes |
| Philander Knox Grotto Ruin (SS-49) | 94061 | Contributing | 1133895 | | Asset | 1034805 | No |
| Philander Knox Stone Channel (SS-48) | 94063 | Contributing | 080263 | | Asset | 1034805 | No |
| Informational Sign (SS-52) | 94055 | Noncontributing | | | | | No |
| Knox-Tindle Fence (SS-50) | 94056 | Noncontributing | | | | | No |
| Lord Stirling and James Monroe Monument (SS-42) | 94057 | Noncontributing | 022516 | | Location | 39336 | Yes |
| Park Identity Sign (SS-41) | 94058 | Noncontributing | | | | | No |
| Whittle Wellhouse (SS-56) | 204990 | Noncontributing | | | | | No |
| Cement Reservoir (SS-54) | 94053 | Undetermined | | | | | No |
| Dam Ruins (SS-55) | 94054 | Undetermined | | | | | No |
| Race Track Trace (SS-53) | 94064 | Undetermined | | | | | No |

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 27. Cement Reservoir, SS-54, view southeast. (OCLP, 2019)*




*Figure 28. Lord Stirling and James Monroe Monument, SS-42, view northwest. (OCLP, 2019)*



*Figure 29. Philander Knox Grotto Ruin, SS-49, view northeast. (OCLP, 2019)*

**Landscape Characteristic: Land Use**

Historic and Existing Conditions:
Natural systems and features are the natural aspects that have influenced the development and physical form of the landscape, and can include geology, geomorphology, hydrology, ecology, climate, and native vegetation. Spatial organization is the three-dimensional organization of physical forms and visual associations in a landscape, including the articulation of ground, vertical, and overhead planes that define and create spaces. Land uses are the principal activities in a landscape that form, shape, and organize the landscape as a result of human interaction.

The Valley Forge Farms component landscape is comprised of a rolling plain bisected by Valley Creek as it winds its way north towards the Schuylkill River. The steeply-sloped and wooded Mounts Misery and Joy edge the relatively level plain to the north. Valley Creek passes through a fairly steep and narrow crevice as it flows between the two prominent landforms. To the south of the two hills, the gently sloping topography of the plain enfolds the broad 100 year floodplain of Valley Creek to the east and west. Underlain primarily by a limestone-based soils that are well-suited to agriculture, the landscape of the Valley Forge Farms region has served well generations of farmers.

Since no above-ground resources or documentary descriptions of the landscape survive from the prehistoric or early European contact periods and only limited archeological investigations have been undertaken within this component landscape, little is currently known about cultural use and occupation of the Valley Forge Farms area prior to the eighteenth century. People visiting or inhabiting this landscape almost certainly would have found abundant supplies of food, water, and building material resources, and the topography and soils conducive to agriculture and settlement. It is not known whether prehistoric peoples cleared woodland locally to enhance hunting opportunities or for agriculture. However, based on archeological investigations and a predictive model of prehistoric occupation patterns within the region, it is likely that migratory populations would have at least periodically visited Valley Creek as a source of food and water. As more

permanent settlements and cultivation of plant resources replaced migratory hunter/gatherer culture, the floodplain and rolling valley to either side of Valley Creek may have been utilized for settlement or to cultivate plant resources.

Settlement of the Valley Forge Farms landscape by European immigrants began to occur during the early 1700s. Farm clusters were generally located along the creek's meandering course or in close proximity to springs or drainageways, as settlers most likely sought sites with ample access to water. Agriculture quickly became the dominant land use, with crop fields, orchards, and pasture replacing forest cover in areas of suitable soils. Because of their steep slopes and the fact that their soils are not conducive to agriculture, early settlers appear not to have cleared Mounts Joy and Misery. This wooded character would have accentuated the spatial edge created by the landforms of these two hills, particularly after cultivation of the valley created an open character over the majority of the component landscape to their south.

Over the course of the eighteenth century, land use patterns evolved that effectively sustained ratios of approximately 30% wooded cover to 70% cultivated fields over the course of a century. Wooded cover was composed primarily of woodlots on marginal and exhausted soils, steeply-sloped topography, and along stream margins. Farms during this period averaged 200 acres in size, and typically included a farmstead, kitchen garden, orchard, fenced fields, cart paths, and woodlots. The primary roads that existed within this landscape during the eighteenth century included: Baptist Road, connecting the settlement of Devon in the south with the Schuylkill River and a mill to its north; Yellow Springs Road, which connected Baptist Road and the community of Yellow Springs to the west: and Wilson Road (a nineteenth century name) that led south from Yellow Springs Road and may have served primarily as an access route to local farmsteads. Yellow Springs Road appears to have crossed Valley Creek via a ford or natural shallows located below the knoll that would later be occupied by the dwelling of John Brown. It was also during this period that iron forges were developed along Valley Creek to the north of the component landscape. The wooded slopes of Mount Misery were logged to supply a fuel source for the forges. Within the component landscape, there are remnants of charcoal hearths and access routes and trails on the lower slopes of Mount Misery that likely relate to eighteenth century support of local iron forges.

During the Revolutionary War-era encampment of the Continental Army at nearby Valley Forge, the Valley Forge Farms component landscape appears to have supported camp activities through the housing of army officers in at least three area farmsteads, and through the provision of food, water resources, and timber. The majority of the area's woodlands are thought to have been cut over to supply wood for fuel and construction to the encampment. Fence rails and stored agricultural products were likely appropriated by encamped soldiers. Period documents suggest that many area barns and other outbuildings were used as temporary army hospitals, although there are no specific references to buildings or structures used in this way within the Valley Forge Farms component landscape. It is known that the road to Yellow Springs was likely used frequently by the army during the encampment, particularly for the transport of men to and from an important army hospital located in the community of Yellow Springs.

Throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the properties located within the component landscape evolved from working agricultural landscapes composed of crop fields, orchards, and pastureland, to gentlemen's estates that included mown green lawns, recreational features, and ornamental plantings. Circulation patterns also evolved during this period, as the alignment of Yellow Springs Road shifted to the north, Crux Road was extended to the south to form Valley Creek Road, and bridges were constructed across Valley Creek, replacing ford crossings.

During the twentieth century, as Valley Forge State Park evolved to the north of this component landscape, much of this area remained in private ownership, and continued to be farmed or maintained as country estates. Profound changes began to take place to the north and south of the component landscape. Valley Forge State Park drew many visitors. Trails were developed on Mounts Joy and Misery for public recreational use, and the public roads were improved to enhance visitor access to the park. During the 1950s, the Pennsylvania Turnpike was constructed along the southern edge of the component landscape, effectively establishing a barrier between the

landscape and regions to the south. Eventually, the component landscape was integrated into the state park and later Valley Forge National Historical Park. The development of new features associated with integration into the park has been limited to the establishment of trails for hiking, riding bicycles, or horses, and an artillery range. The primary change to the landscape has been in its land use. Much of the component landscape continues to be maintained in open fields, but active agriculture is no longer being practiced within the site. The Valley Forge Farms component landscape generally retains its character as a late nineteenth/early twentieth century collection of gentleman farms.

Evaluation:
The topography, landform, and water resources that characterize the Valley Forge Farms component landscape today have had a profound impact on the cultural evolution of this landscape since prehistory. Mounts Joy and Misery, the broad plain of the dolomitic Chester Valley, and the Valley Creek corridor have changed little over time. The opportunities and constraints afforded by the site's landscape features have played an important role in its spatial configuration. Generally, the wooded slopes of Mounts Joy and Misery have formed a defined edge to the north, the rolling plain of the dolomitic valley has been adapted for agricultural use, and various knolls overlooking the existing water resources have served as development sites for dwelling complexes. Although portions of the component landscape have been allowed to revert to wooded cover from open agricultural fields, and generally agricultural land uses have ceased, the broad landscape patterns and uses that evolved during early settlement have survived and been added to over time as the numbers of residents have increased.

Although many landscape features survive from the eighteenth century and the encampment period, and the landscape most closely approximates its late nineteenth and early twentieth century character as a collection of gentleman farms.

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 94068 | Undetermined | | | | | No |

**Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation**

Historic and Existing Conditions:
Vegetation includes deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, and herbaceous plants and plant communities, whether indigenous or introduced in the landscape. Existing vegetation patterns generally reflect land use and management practices dating from the early twentieth century, which themselves were likely predicated on earlier periods. The component landscape is currently predominantly open and pastoral in character. Woodlands occupy a greater percentage of the landscape than they did during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries due to a release to succession. Ornamental plantings continue to characterize the Philander Knox estate, developed during the early twentieth century.

Little is known about the region's vegetation during prehistoric periods. Generally, the Valley Forge Farms component landscape falls within the area thought to have been dominated by Eastern deciduous hardwood forest at the time of European contact. This forest was characterized by oaks, chestnuts, hickories, tulip poplars, maples, ashes and elms, and various well-developed layers of vegetation. It is not known to what extent, if any, prehistoric peoples manipulated or altered the forest cover to enhance their hunting practices, or to cultivate plant foods. Similarly, it is not known

whether the forests were altered during the European Contact period when Swedish and Dutch immigrants first traveled the region via the Schuylkill River.

It is relatively certain that the European settlers of the early and mid-1700s extensively altered the vegetative composition of the Valley Forge Farms landscape, clearing broad expanses of woodland to establish agricultural land uses in areas suitable for farming. Progressive clearing of forest cover is thought to have occurred between 1700 and 1750 throughout the region.

Eventually, a ratio of approximately 70% cleared and 30% wooded cover was established, which was subsequently maintained for at least a century. The areas that remained wooded occupied steep slopes, such as the lower reaches of Mount Misery, poor soils, seasonal wet or flooded areas, and abandoned fields of exhausted soils. These areas were utilized as woodlots where livestock were allowed to forage, and timber was harvested as needed for fuel or construction materials. Hedgerows were also a primary component of the Valley Forge Farms component landscape vegetation. They often marked property boundaries and changes in land management practices, and edged roads, such as Yellow Springs and Wilson Roads. Crop fields and pastureland comprised the majority of the agricultural landscape. Typical eighteenth-century crops included wheat, corn, oats, rye, hay, flax, hemp, potatoes, and cabbage. Livestock were pastured on woodlots or abandoned fields, which were characterized by meadow grasses and forbs. Orchards were also a primary component of local farmsteads. Apples, peaches, pears, and nut trees were typically grown within the area.

The Revolutionary War encampment of the Continental Army had a tremendous impact on local vegetation. The majority of the landscape was denuded of tree cover to supply construction materials and fuel to the encamped soldiers. Many of the local fields were trampled, stores of agricultural goods and products were acquisitioned, and the fence rails that enclosed the fields were removed for use in hut construction or for fuel. After the Continental Army left Valley Forge in June 1778, area farmers began to rebuild their farmsteads, but it was likely some time before they were fully able to recover.

During the eighteenth century, many scientific advances were made in the field of agriculture. Lime began to be used as a soil amendment, methods of livestock breeding were improved, and pasturing of animals within fenced areas of improved grassland came into use. Farms within the component landscape adopted these new scientific methods, and many local farms became quite prosperous. However, during the latter part of the nineteenth century, states in the Midwest emerged as the dominant agricultural region of the country, supplanting southeastern Pennsylvania as the nation's breadbasket. Local farms slowly evolved into gentlemen farms and country estates, focusing on the breeding of specialized livestock and horses rather than on crop production. Pleasure grounds and recreational facilities began to be incorporated into local farmsteads. Ornamental trees and shrubs and manicured lawns were established on properties such as Philander Knox's estate located to the west of Valley Creek during the early twentieth century. Robert Ligget added an ornamental garden of boxwood during renovation of the Stirling's Quarters in 1926.

Throughout the twentieth century, the Valley Forge Farms component landscape has become increasingly wooded through passive management. There are no areas currently under cultivation, and no surviving orchards. Currently, the National Park Service maintains various former field areas in mown meadow or lawn. Ornamental plantings survive from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century at the Philander Knox estate. The boxwood garden similarly survives at Stirling's Quarters. Allées and hedgerows of trees along Wilson and Yellow Spring Roads that appear to have existed during the early part of the twentieth century also survive. Two large individual sycamore trees, one located along the Philander Knox service road, and the other along Valley Creek near Lafayette's Quarters, appear to be quite aged and may survive from the encampment period. The sycamore located near Lafayette's Quarters is considered to be the largest tree in the park, but decay in the center weakened this tree over time and the force of flood waters prior to and during Hurricane Irene in August 2011, caused the branches of the tree to collapse and it split in half. Within the Philander Knox estate landscape, a black walnut tree located within the lawn area to the northwest of the mansion has been designated as a Pennsylvania state champion for its size.

There is also an ironwood tree within the driveway circle at the Knox-Tindle House.

Evaluation:
Vegetation within this component landscape currently includes a mix of open lawns, meadows, scattered clumps of trees, woodlands of varying ages, hedgerows, allées, and ornamental plantings. While there are no areas currently under cultivation, the open character of much of the landscape helps to convey its agricultural heritage. Generally, the site is far more wooded than during the eighteenth century, particularly during the 1777–1778 encampment when much of the local landscape was denuded to supply the army with fuel and construction materials. Because of the fact that this area was not integrated into Valley Forge State Park until the 1960s, there are no vegetation features, such as allées of trees or ornamental shrub plantings, associated with park development as evidenced in other parts of the park. The Philander Knox mansion area and the Knox-Tindle House include ornamental vegetation associated with early twentieth century estate development. Vegetation that contributes to the component landscape's periods of significance include the ornamental plantings and lawn at the Philander Knox Mansion, the hedgerows and allées along Wilson and Yellow Springs Roads, the wooded slopes of Mounts Misery and Joy, the large trees thought to survive from the encampment period and the state champion tree, and the woodland along Valley Creek (Figures 14 and 15).

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (Possible) Encampment Era Sycamore Tree (Ve-7) | 94069 | Contributing | | | Location | 39565 | No |
| Allée along Wilson Road (Ve-23) | 94070 | Contributing | | | Asset | 1127056 | Yes |
| Allée along Yellow Springs Road (Ve-24) | 94071 | Contributing | | | Asset | 1127070 | Yes |
| Hedgerows (Ve-22) | 97303 | Contributing | | | Asset | 1127059 | No |
| Meadow or Lawn Area (Ve-9) | 97306 | Contributing | | | Asset | 1127170 | No |
| Ironwood (Ve-43) | 97307 | Contributing | | | Asset | 1482277 | Yes |
| Pennsylvania State Champion Tree (Walnut) (Ve-42) | 97308 | Contributing | | | Asset | 1482280 | Yes |
| Philander Knox Ornamental Plantings (Ve-27) | 97309 | Contributing | | | Asset | 1127059 | No |
| Vegetated Pre-Encampment Boundary (Ve-10) | 97310 | Contributing | | | Location | 56991 | No |
| Woodlands along Valley Creek (Ve-21) | 97311 | Contributing | | | Asset | 1482281 | Yes |
| Woodlands on Mount Misery (Ve-13) | 97312 | Contributing | | | Asset | 1482283 | Yes |
| Knox-Tindle House Ornamental Plantings (Ve-28) | 97305 | Noncontributing | | | Location | 94845 | No |

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 14. Ironwood tree, Ve-43, and Knox-Tindle House Driveway, C-35, view south. (OCLP, 2019)*



*Figure 15. Pennsylvania State Champion Tree (Walnut), Ve-42, view southeast. (OCLP, 2019)*

**Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas**

Historic and Existing Conditions:
A view is the expansive and/or panoramic prospect of a broad range of vision that may be naturally occurring or deliberately contrived. A vista is a controlled prospect of a discrete, linear range of vision, which is deliberately contrived. The importance of views or vistas is not well documented for the Valley Forge Farms component landscape. It is possible that prehistoric inhabitants manipulated the forest understory to enhance views for hunting, or that they cleared land for agriculture which provided an added benefit of opening up views to the surrounding landscape. Each of the dwellings established during the eighteenth century is sited on a prominent knoll or on elevated topography. It is likely that these dwellings were sited to take advantage of the views afforded from these high points.

By the encampment period, it is likely that the majority of the component landscape had been cleared for agricultural purposes. The generally open landscape that evolved would have afforded long views from the higher elevations, eventually impeded to the north by the wooded slopes of Mounts Joy and Misery. As noted above, the earliest documented dwellings in the region—General Knox's and Lafayette's and Stirling's Quarters—appear all to have been sited on prominent knolls or hills that would have afforded views across the landscape. It is not known whether there were any views within the component landscape of military or defensive importance to the Continental Army during the encampment.

It appears that sight lines were taken into consideration during the twentieth century development of the Philander Knox estate. The establishment of a third primary dwelling and the property, and footpath connections between the three appear to have been based on the potential for visual connections. Each of the three dwellings is visible across Valley Creek from the others and these views are enhanced through the placement and management of vegetation and the siting of footpaths along the sight lines. Framed or enhanced views appear also to have been established between the building complexes and scenic features like the covered bridge. All of these views are thought to date to the Philander Knox period and constitute contributing resources.

A scenic easement associated with the privately-owned parcel located within park boundaries to the west of Stirling's Quarters post-dates the periods of significance for the component landscape. The easement stipulates that the property be managed to retain its agricultural character.

Evaluation:
Insufficient information is available to evaluate and analyze views and vistas associated with the landscape during the prehistoric and early settlement periods, although eighteenth century dwellings were sited on high points that likely provided commanding views of the surrounding countryside. While there is little documentary evidence to support a discussion of specific views utilized during the encampment era, it is likely that military operations took advantage of the cleared agricultural landscape and local high points to visually monitor the region. Views that appear to have been enhanced or established during the Philander Knox period include visual connections between the Philander Knox mansion, the General Knox's Quarters dwelling and the Knox-Tindle House (Figure 26). Other views, such as those from the Philander Knox mansion to the covered bridge and the agricultural complex at the General Knox's Quarters dwelling, may have been purposefully maintained and enhanced by Knox.

**Landscape Features:**

| Feature Name | CLI Feature ID | Feature Contribution | CRIS-HS Resource ID | Associated CRIS-AR ID | FMSS Record Type | FMSS Record Number | FMSS Exact Match |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Views between Valley Forge Farm Dwellings (V-11) | 97313 | Contributing | | | | | No |

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Figure 26. View from Knox-Tindle House to Knox's Quarters, V-11, view northwest. (OCLP, 2019)*

# Condition

**Assessment Interval (Years):** 7

**Next Assessment Due Date:** 02/20/2031

**Condition Assessment and Impacts**

**Condition Assessment:** Fair

**Assessment Date:** 02/20/2024

**Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:**

The Valley Forge Farms landscape is in “Fair” condition. Historic buildings and structures in the Valley Forge Farms area are generally well-maintained with the goal of leasing the properties to avoid ongoing deferred maintenance. The Philander Knox Estate has been leased to a private company and is currently used as an events venue, offsetting maintenance costs for the park. The Knox-Tindle House has been fully rehabilitated and is being targeted for leasing as well. However, some historic structures present persistent challenges, such as Stirling’s Quarters which was recently stabilized, but now requires additional maintenance to avoid deteriorating to poor condition. Large areas of non-historic, successional woody vegetation have overtaken open fields present in the 1970s between the Knox-Tindle House and Knox’s Quarters. The non-historic vegetation pattern diminishes the landscape’s agricultural character and obscures the visual connection between these two residences. New trail installation along the road near the covered bridge facilitates safer pedestrian access to the landscape, aiding in historic interpretation.

A condition assessment of “fair” indicates the property shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the landscape characteristics will cause the property to degrade to a poor condition.

**Condition Assessment:** Fair

**Assessment Date:** 09/21/2021

**Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:**

Provisional. The condition reassessment for this CLI has been delayed due to Covid-19 travel restrictions and staffing shortages. In the meantime, the most recent condition assessment will remain in place until it is reassessed as part of a comprehensive update of the entire CLI. Planning and scheduling this update will occur in FY 2022.

**Condition Assessment:** Fair

**Assessment Date:** 09/08/2009

**Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:**

The Superintendent, in consultation with Deirdre Gibson, Chief of Planning and Resource management, agreed with this evaluation. The loss of structures, an iron fence deteriorated and damaged by a tree fall, and numerous threatened small scale features warrant this assessment. A "fair" assessment indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the landscape characteristics will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

**Condition Assessment:** Fair

**Assessment Date:** 09/05/2003

**Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:**

The major problem is deferred maintenance of all the buildings in the component landscape. Knox's Quarters is very endangered, and additional work is needed at Stirling's Quarters (roof repairs are currently underway). Erosion is a problem along the streambanks. The increased deer population is negatively affecting understory vegetation, and invasive plants are a problem and will become worse if not consistently addressed. Adjacent lands impact the site because of the subdivision and highway.

**Condition Assessment:** Fair

**Assessment Date:** 09/30/1998

**Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:**

The superintendent's concurrence on this CLI, which was completed several years ago, was given with the proviso that the condition assessment will be reevaluated in the coming year.

## Impacts

**Type of Impact:** Adjacent Lands

**Other Impact:**

**External or Internal:** External

**Impact Narrative:** Subdivision development has occurred to the west of the component landscape, and the Pennsylvania Turnpike abuts it to the south. These features negatively affect views within the site and diminish its setting through an increase in traffic noise and light pollution.

**Date Identified:** 07/29/2005

**Type of Impact:** Adjacent Lands

**Other Impact:**

**External or Internal:** External

**Impact Narrative:** Subdivision development has occurred to the west of the component landscape, and the Pennsylvania Turnpike abuts it to the south. These features negatively affect views within the site and diminish its setting through an increase in traffic noise and light pollution.

**Date Identified:** 02/20/2024

**Type of Impact:** Deferred Maintenance

**Other Impact:**

**External or Internal:** Internal

**Impact Narrative:** Deferred maintenance of all the buildings in the component landscape is a major problem.

**Date Identified:** 07/29/2005

**Type of Impact:** Erosion

**Other Impact:**

**External or Internal:** Internal

**Impact Narrative:** Erosion along streambanks is an ongoing problem.

**Date Identified:** 07/29/2005

**Type of Impact:** Erosion

**Other Impact:**

**External or Internal:** Internal

**Impact Narrative:** Erosion along streambanks is an ongoing problem.

**Date Identified:** 02/20/2024

**Type of Impact:** Other

**Other Impact:** Invasive Insects

**External or Internal:** Internal

**Impact Narrative:** Emerald ash borers threaten trees within the component landscape

**Date Identified:** 02/20/2024

**Type of Impact:** Other

**Other Impact:** Pests

**External or Internal:** Internal

**Impact Narrative:** The increased deer population is negatively affecting understory vegetation.

**Date Identified:** 02/20/2024

**Type of Impact:** Pests/Diseases

**Other Impact:**

**External or Internal:** Both Internal and External

**Impact Narrative:** The increased deer population is negatively affecting understory vegetation.

(See PMIS 92929 noted in Landscape CLI.)

**Date Identified:** 07/29/2005

**Type of Impact:** Vegetation/Invasive Plants

**Other Impact:**

**External or Internal:** Both Internal and External

**Impact Narrative:** Invasive exotic plants, which have the potential to disrupt vegetation patterns, are actively managed by the park, but could easily become a problem if management programs were curtailed.

No additional stabilization costs required.

**Date Identified:** 07/29/2005

**Type of Impact:** Vegetation/Invasive Plants

**Other Impact:**

**External or Internal:** Both Internal and External

**Impact Narrative:** Invasive exotic plants, which have the potential to disrupt vegetation patterns, are actively managed by the park, but could easily become a problem if management programs were curtailed.

**Date Identified:** 02/20/2024

# Treatment

### Stabilization Measures

## Treatment Documents

**Treatment Type:** Undetermined

**Treatment Completed:** No

**Document Type:** General Management Plan

**Title:**

**IRMA Link:**

**Narrative:**

The park's 2007 General Management Plan (GMP) does not specifically address a landscape treatment strategy for the Valley Forge Farms component landscape. The GMP proposed three alternatives for the future management of the park – a no-action alternative that is a baseline for comparison, and two action alternatives – and identified "Alternative C" as the Environmentally Preferred Alternative and the NPS Preferred Alternative. Regarding the landscape, the landscape of the core interpretive focus areas would evoke the eighteenth century. Some historic views would be rehabilitated to facilitate interpretation. Most areas of the park would be preserved as is. The health of the forests and meadows would be enhanced through active environmental restoration. Through-traffic on public roads would be calmed, in partnership with state and local government. To enhance the visitor experience, some roads in the park would be closed to through- and visitor-traffic. Visitors could use a shuttle or walk or bike. (GMP 2007: v-viii)

The park completed a Foundation Document in 2019, which identified fundamental resources and values. Those most applicable at the Valley Forge Farms landscape included the Encampment Landscape, Encampment-Era Historic Structures, Valley Creek, Encampment-Era Archeological Resources, Meadows, and Personal Renewal. Other resources and values not fundamental to the purpose of the park or possibly unrelated to its significance, but important to consider in planning processes, were also identified. Those related to the farm landscape included Post-Encampment Cultural Landscapes and Historic Structures, and Recreation Activities. (FD 2019: 7-9)

**Approved Treatment Costs**

**Cost Narrative:**

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| File Name | Date | Attachment Type |
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| CL-FMSS_crosswalk-VAFO_VFFarms_CLIUpload.xlsx | | Other Report |

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