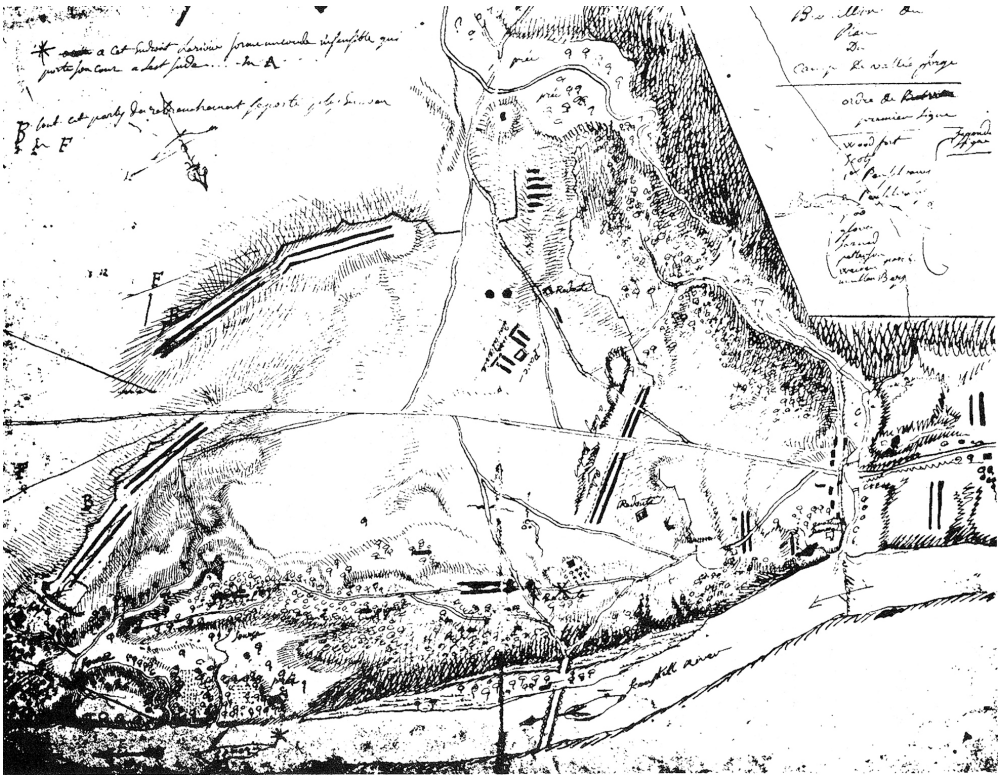
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2002

Revised: 2/2024



Valley Forge NHP Landscape

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 NHP Landscape
Resource Classification:	Cultural Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	300015
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:

Valley Forge National Historical Park (NHP) 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.

One overall "parent" landscape and five "component" landscapes have been identified for Valley Forge NHP. 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. The five component landscapes are summarized below:

Other Encampment Areas:
The 1,654-acre Other Encampment Areas, which comprises the central and largest portion of the South Side,

encompasses the land between the Schuylkill River and the park's southern boundary and between Valley Creek on the west and the park's eastern boundary, excluding the Port Kennedy area in the northeast corner of the South Side. A smaller portion of the Other Encampment Areas is located on the North Side. Small clusters of buildings are scattered throughout the open meadows and swaths of forest that characterize the area. Key landscape features that made Valley Forge naturally defensible, portions of the Continental Army's earthworks systems, and the site of the Army's parade grounds are intact within the center of the area. Several eighteenth-century farmhouses and outbuildings remain, although they present an incomplete picture of the historic agrarian landscape due to the many substantial outbuildings that are missing from the farmsteads. In addition, many park-related buildings and structures (historic and recent) are also located in this area, including visitor and maintenance facilities.

Roads, bike paths, a multipurpose trail, and a horse trail carry visitors throughout the Other Encampment Areas. Many of the existing road alignments are based upon the lines of the historic settlement roads of the past. Gulph Road, County Line Road, and State Route 23 carry park, commercial, and commuter traffic into and through the area from the surrounding areas. Outer Line Drive and Inner Line Drive carry visitors from the visitor center at the eastern edge of the park along the park driving tour route. The remains of the Continental Army's outer line of defenses, including restored and reconstructed redoubts and redans, and the remnants of the outer line defenses (archeological) are found along Outer Line Drive and overlook the Pennsylvania Turnpike. This is screened from view by dense stands of pine and meadow grasses. Along Inner Line Drive, the remains of the inner line defensive earthworks can be found. The area is heavily wooded, but views of the western fields are evident during occasional breaks in the forest undergrowth. Inner Line Drive winds along the eastern flank of Mount Joy and slowly descends near the Grand Parade, passing the cannons of Knox's artillery park and the Redoubts #3 and #4.

Various memorials, picnic sites, and parking lots are located along the roads passing through the Other Encampment Areas, particularly the Outer and Inner Line Drives. Monuments and sculpture of all shape, size, and material are located along the park thoroughfares to commemorate various brigades, generals, and other peoples and events related to the encampment and American Revolution. The National Memorial Arch, located at the intersection of Gulph Road and Outer Line Drive, is the largest of the memorials and is visible throughout much of the park. Recreated log huts are also grouped along the drives, representative of the brigade housing within the area during the encampment. The dogwoods in the Dogwood Grove and laurels and rhododendrons on Inner Line Drive are examples of plantings used to commemorate the encampment. Parking lots and pull offs are located along the roads for viewing the monuments and sculpture, the huts, the earthworks, various officers' quarters buildings, and the distant views. The historic openness of the encampment landscape has been changed by the addition of these elements along with maturing vegetation.

Port Kennedy:
The 386-acre Port Kennedy area corresponds to the eastern portion of the park along Route 23 between the Schuylkill River and County Line Road and between Route 422 and a line slightly east of the Patriots of African Descent Monument. The bands of limestone within the area enabled the development of a lime quarry and kiln business in this area in the mid-nineteenth century that supported the former village of Port Kennedy. A portion of the former village also lies outside the park to the east of Route 422. The Port Kennedy component landscape occupies a portion of the area that was used during the Revolutionary War-era encampment of the Continental Army as a parade ground. A handful of the features associated with the village, which no longer supports an active community, continue to exist in the northeastern portion of the component landscape.

The existing landscape reflects past land uses; in evidence are the broad expanses of rolling fields, hedgerows, farm lanes, and residential clusters associated with the site's agricultural heritage. These co-exist with numerous large depressions, structural ruins, road and rail line traces, and other ground disturbances that are linked to the area's industrial past. Such land uses are also represented in two building complexes, anchored by the Georgian-style Mordecai Moore House built constructed in the 1750s and the Italianate-style Kennedy Mansion dating to 1852. Twentieth century park development has added another prominent layer to the landscape. Many of the quarries have been adaptively reused to site park facilities, while others have been filled to promote visitor safety. The park's multipurpose trail, allées of trees along Route 23, parking facilities for visitors, and expanses of open meadows and mown grass convey a park-like character over much of the area.

The component landscape area is also marked by landscape resources associated with current and historic primary transportation systems, including major roads and highways, rail lines, a train station, a defunct canal, and a bridge site associated with crossing the abutting Schuylkill River. Views from the area to surrounding adjacent areas include urban and suburban development outside the park, and various memorials and monuments, including the Washington

Memorial Chapel, the 1901 Daughters of the Revolution Memorial, and the National Memorial Arch within the park.

Valley Forge 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.

Village of Valley Forge:
The 316-acre Village of Valley Forge area extends from Valley Creek west to the west edge of the park and from the Norfolk Southern Railroad right-of-way south to a point approximately one-quarter mile south of the Upper Forge Complex site. Residential development associated with the growing industry around the creek occurred southwest of its confluence with the Schuylkill River from the early eighteenth century forward and is known as the Village of Valley Forge. The village is the only dense building cluster within the park and includes a range of late eighteenth- through early twentieth-century single-family houses with domestic outbuildings. Many of the extant buildings in this area replaced earlier houses, outbuildings, and mills that existed at the time of the encampment. Ruins near the creek are associated with iron forges and saw and grist mills established in the eighteenth century, and charcoal hearths are found on Mount Misery.

The primary historic resource in the area is Washington's Headquarters, a two-story Georgian style home dating to 1768-1770, surrounded by a complex of associated outbuildings. It is characterized by features established in support of park development—lawn, groves of trees and other ornamental plantings, commemorative features such as monuments and replica encampment huts, worm fencing, stone walls, and visitor amenities such as walks, parking areas, picnic benches and site furnishings, and interpretive waysides, and an early twentieth century train station. The other resources in the Village of Valley Forge are located amongst wooded lands along Route 23 (Valley Forge Road) and Valley Creek Road, and include the Steuben Memorial Information Center, a ca.1770 masonry house later redesigned in the Victorian style. This building is currently vacant, but several other buildings and spaces in the village area have been adapted for use by the National Park Service for administrative and office use.

Walnut Hill:
The 471-acre Walnut Hill area in the park's North Side occupies the southwestern portion of the Perkiomen Peninsula, formed by the Schuylkill River and Perkiomen Creek. The majority of the component landscape is rural and agricultural in character. Gently rolling terrain of an upper riverine terrace characterizes the central portion of the site, and more steeply sloped escarpments edge the upland, falling away toward the river floodplain below. Visible evidence of nineteenth-century farmsteads dominate the upland knolls, while remnant features associated with transportation and conservation can be identified along the river margins. Extant features as well as known archeological resources indicate a long history of cultural use and occupation, likely dating from the Late/Transitional Archaic to Early Woodland periods. There are also late twentieth-century features associated with park development.

Walnut Hill is thought to have had strong ties to the Revolutionary War-era encampment of the Continental Army across the river. However, available documentation does not always support traditional interpretations of the role of the property in the encampment. It is probable that the Walnut Hill landscape was utilized to some degree by the

cantonment—guards likely were posted on the property; existing buildings may have been utilized for military or commissary officer housing, storage, and/or administrative functions; agricultural stores likely were appropriated for the troops, the Pawling family mill likely ground grains for flour; timber likely was harvested for fuel and construction materials; and a bridge connection—referred to as Sullivan's Bridge—was constructed across the Schuylkill between the primary encampment area and the Pawling property to facilitate river crossings. During the encampment, soldiers are known to have visited the property in order to escape life in the camp and to search for food. After the construction of Sullivan's Bridge, a market was established near the terminus on the Pawling property where soldiers were able to buy food and other materials made available by local farmers and merchants. Many of the features thought to have existed at the time are no longer extant.

The existing landscape reflects past agricultural uses spanning more than two hundred and fifty years of settlement and cultivation by European immigrants, and their descendants, enslaved people, and tenant laborers. Two dwelling complexes are at least partially extant at Walnut Hill. These exhibit a layering of architectural and organizational patterns representative of eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth century tastes and practices, and are supported by broad expanses of fields, hedgerows, farm lanes, fencing, and outbuildings associated with the site's agricultural use over time. One such extant structure is an enormous stone barn. Other landscape features extant on the property are associated with eighteenth and nineteenth century transportation corridors and twentieth century industrial endeavors. These remnant features include a towpath, stone retaining walls, a lock and dam, and other stone abutments that appear to have been associated with early to middle nineteenth century canal use of the Schuylkill River; an abandoned rail line now in use as a trail; and large impoundment basins constructed in support of river-bottom dredging in the middle twentieth century to remove coal culm deposits and improve water quality.

State and Federal Park development and management of the property have added another layer of landscape history to the area. On the Walnut Hill property, these contemporary interventions are limited to trails, access roads, and parking, and the erection of protective fencing around potentially hazardous sites. While some former fields have been allowed to revert to woodlands during the twentieth century, much of the landscape continues to be maintained in open cover to perpetuate the former agricultural spatial character of the property.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Valley Forge NHP was designated as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1961. In 2016, the park was documented and listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Valley Forge National Historical Park Historic District (the District). The Valley Forge NHP Landscape, and its five component landscapes, are located in the district.

The 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 District 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).

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

The Valley Forge NHP Historic District retains integrity to the areas and periods of significance. Overall, the district conveys its historical significance through its location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The district retains its pivotal location near Philadelphia, at the nexus of Valley Creek and the Schuylkill River, as well as the natural topography and geological features that contributed to its selection as an encampment site, encouraged industrial settlement and associated domestic development, and enabled agricultural development. The waterways, the peaks of Mounts Joy and Misery, the broad Grand Parade, and the ridges where the encampment fortifications were constructed continue to characterize the district as they have for centuries. The viewsheds within and from the district that were integral both to the selection as a military encampment site and to the design of the commemorative landscape are relatively intact, with the exception of certain areas where encroaching modem development is visible.

The district's layered history is visible in the extant landscape and resources. Each distinct area of the district retains the feeling of a pastoral landscape and commemorative park. The Revolutionary War encampment is experienced through the interpretive lens of the district's evolution as a park since 1893, but the key components of that phase of the district's history are intact, both above and below ground. Surviving cultural features and patterns of spatial organization include road corridors, fields and woodland, farmstead buildings and clusters, and views. The reconstructed defensive works, monuments marking brigade locations, restored headquarters, tour routes, and commemorative landscape features clearly convey their associations with both the eighteenth-century encampment and the development of Valley Forge State Park during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The majority of buildings and monuments within the district remain in their original locations and retain integrity in terms of their setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Some of the oldest houses in the district have been restored or rehabilitated to convey their eighteenth-century appearance (the period of their primary significance). The restorations generally involved the removal of exterior stucco and dormers or porches of later date and the infilling of later and/or larger window openings, as such alterations were not considered significant at the time of the work. Missing character-defining features were replaced based on the most accurate historical evidence available. The buildings retain at least portions of their original massing, plans, and materials. In particular, masonry structural elements, portions of chimneys and fireplaces, summer beams, and original door and window frames remain in many of the buildings.

Contributing reconstructed resources, such as the earthwork fortifications of the Inner and Outer Lines of Defense and the restored and partially reconstructed Steuben Memorial Information Center, convey their historical associations to the district's eighteenth-century appearance through their location, design, and setting. The reconstructions of the earthworks occurred within the period of significance and reflect the concepts and design principles established by early park planners.

The contributing pre- and post-contact-period archeological sites retain integrity of location, feeling, and association sufficient to convey their significance to the pre-contact-period settlement and use of the lands surrounding the confluence of Valley Creek and the Schuylkill River; the Revolutionary War encampment of Valley Forge over the winter of 1777-1778; and the evolution of the Village of Valley Forge into a regional industrial locus from the early eighteenth century into the second half of the nineteenth century. Moreover, these demonstrable measures of integrity, particularly that of location, are sufficient to justify the archeological potential of the district dating from the pre- to post-contact periods.

The non-contributing resources within the district do not materially impact its overall integrity. Most are resources constructed after 1949, the end of the period of significance, for park administrative or interpretive purposes. These resources include the administration buildings constructed by the state during the late 1960s, soldier huts and small-scale commemorative monuments added during the post-World War II period, and buildings developed by the National Park Service after 1976. Other types of noncontributing resources consist of those that were constructed during the period of significance but either lack integrity or do not possess significant historical associations to the defined areas of significance. Those resources are, for the most part, relatively minor outbuildings or structures that are clustered on peripheral properties outside the core area of the district.

Condition:
The overall condition of the Richmond NBP Landscape is "Fair." This evaluation is derived from the condition assessments conducted for the five component landscapes.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

According to the “Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide” (95% draft, 2024), a “Parent Landscape” is a cultural landscape containing one or more component landscapes with landscape characteristics and features that define the historic character. A “Component Landscape” is a defined physical area within the boundaries of a parent landscape. A component landscape contributes to the significance of the parent landscape and may also be individually listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places as a site or district.

From 2002-2019, the original Valley Forge NHP Landscape CLI was defined as the “Parent Landscape,” but its boundaries only encompassed a portion of the park rather than the entirety of its “Component Landscapes.” To better represent the CLI parent-component hierarchy, the name of the original Valley Forge NHP Landscape CLI has been changed to Other Encampment Areas CLI (boundaries remain the same). The “new Parent Landscape,” Valley Forge NHP Landscape, now represents the entirely of the park, and consists of five Component Landscapes: Other Encampment Areas, Port Kennedy, Valley Forge Farms, Village of Valley Forge, and Walnut Hill.

Landscape Type:

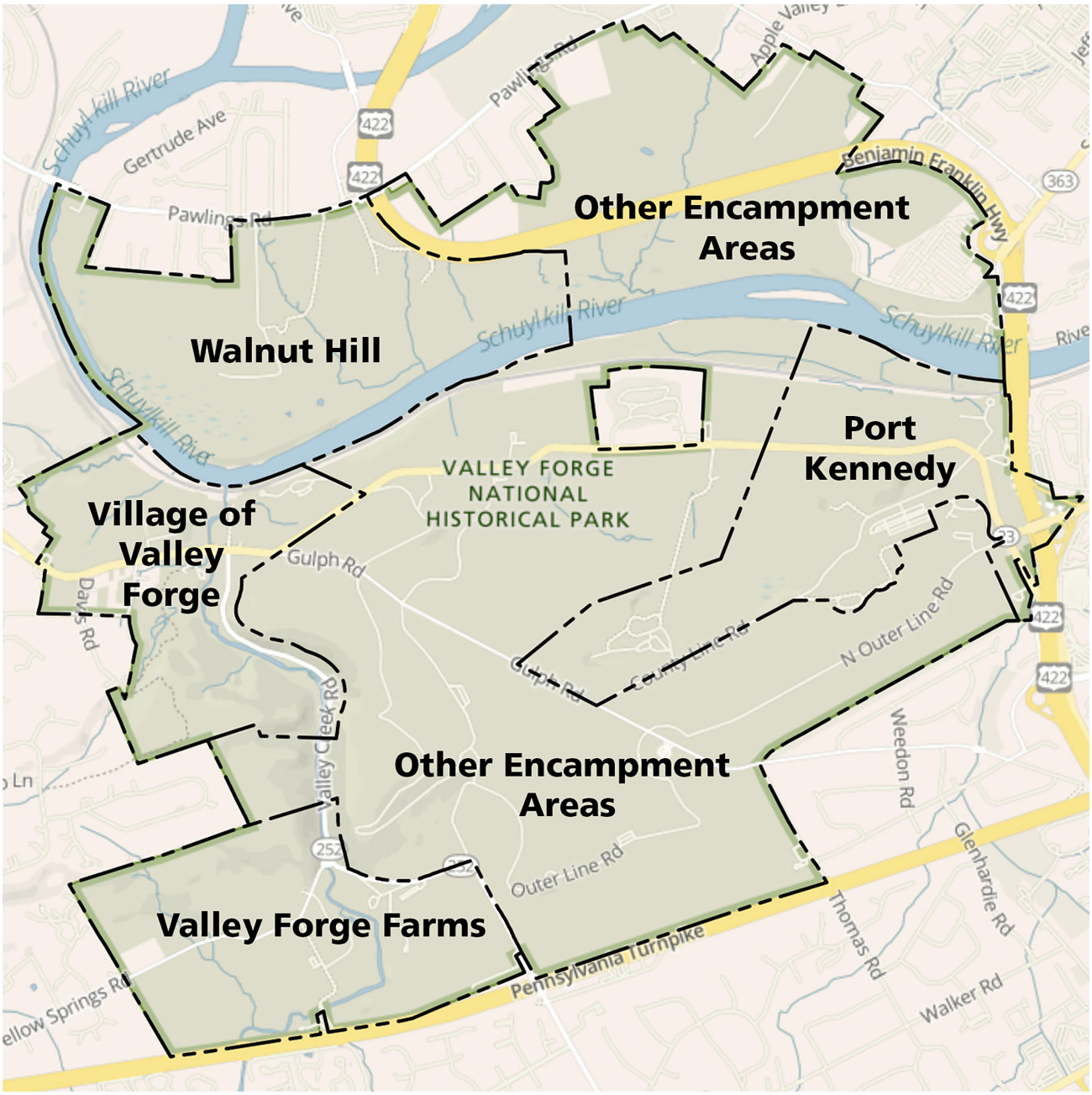
Historic Designed Landscape

Historic Site

Historic Vernacular Landscape

Other Names:

Site Plan



Map of the Valley Forge NHP Landscape and its five component landscapes. (Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, 2022)

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 09/05/2002

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

The original CLIs for the Other Encampment Areas (formerly named Valley Forge NHP Landscape), Port Kennedy, Valley Forge Farms, Village of Valley Forge, and Walnut Hill were approved by the Park Superintendent on September 5, 2002 and the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on September 16, 2004. Condition reassessments for the CLIs were approved by the superintendent on September 26, 2003, and September 8, 2009. Full and comprehensive updates for the five CLIs were approved by the superintendent on February 20, 2024. Field work and site plan revisions for the CLI updates were completed by Tim Layton and Rebekah Everett at the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, Boston, Massachusetts, in the summer of 2019. Text and graphics were finalized by Tim Layton and Jeff Killion at the Olmsted Center in 2020-2024. Preparation of this Parent CLI was completed by Jeff Killion in 2024.

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.

9-26-2003 2:11PM FROM VALLEY FORGE NHP 610 783 1088 P.2

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.

9/26/03

Superintendent, Valley Forge National Historical Park — Date

CLI condition reassessment form, September 26, 2003.

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.

ER# 01-4112-091-B

3

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 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.

9/5/02

Superintendent, Valley Forge National Historical Park — 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.

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 update 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	From 2002-2019, the original Valley Forge NHP Landscape CLI was defined as the “Parent Landscape,” but its boundaries only encompassed a portion of the park rather than the entirety of its “Component Landscapes.” To better represent the CLI parent-component hierarchy, the name of the original Valley Forge NHP Landscape CLI has been changed to Other Encampment Areas CLI (boundaries remain the same). The “new Parent Landscape,” Valley Forge NHP Landscape, now represents the entirely of the park, and consists of five Component Landscapes: Other Encampment Areas, Port Kennedy, Valley Forge Farms, Village of Valley Forge, and Walnut Hill.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
Pennsylvania	Chester County
Pennsylvania	Montgomery County

Size (Acres): 3182

Land Tract Number(s)

Boundary Description:

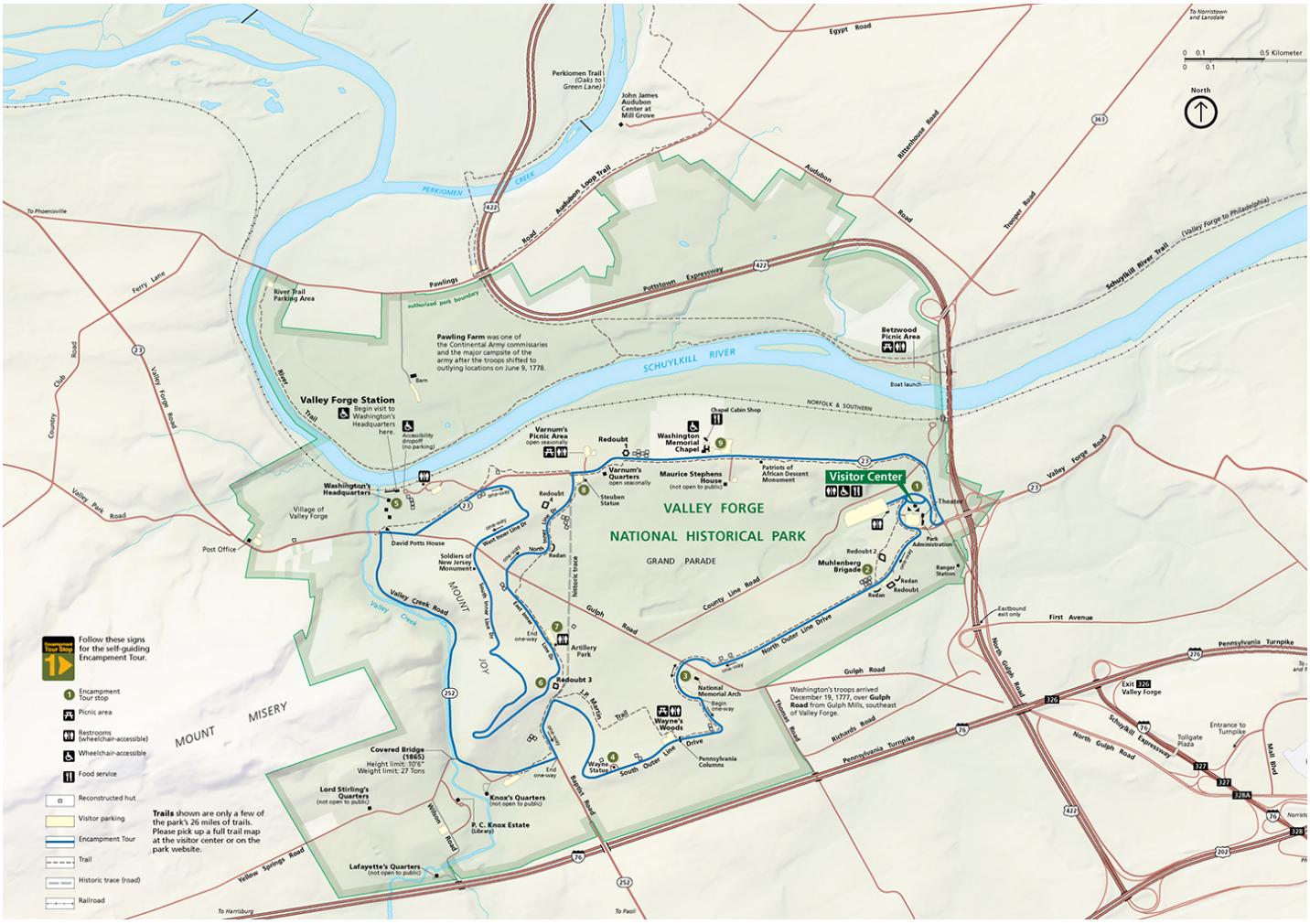
The Valley Forge NHP Landscape boundary includes all natural and cultural features related to the encampment, agriculture, industrial, commemoration, and recreation uses that are contributing to the National Register. Due to the large and complex nature of the NHP Landscape, analysis and evaluation of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

The acreage for the Valley Forge NHP Landscape is the sum of the five component landscapes, listed below. Refer to the component CLIs for specific boundary descriptions.
--Other Encampment Areas (formerly named Valley Forge NHP Landscape): 1,654
--Port Kennedy: 386
--Valley Forge Farms: 355
--Village of Valley Forge: 316
--Walnut Hill: 471

Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
	Point	40.101729	-75.422657	See the five component CLIs for detailed boundary coordinates.

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

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

Valley Forge is located in the Piedmont Province. Several prominent geological features define the site. These include the quartzite hills of Mount Misery and Mount Joy to the west, the broad dolostone (limestone) valley that makes up the core of the park lands, the red sandstone terrace along the Schuylkill River, and the gently ascending, fertile land to the north of the river.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

Valley Forge NHP is approximately 12 miles west of the Philadelphia city line and lies within two counties and is part of 5 townships. The southwest section is located within Schuylkill and Tredyffrin townships of Chester County. The northern section is located within Upper Merion, West Norriton, and Lower Providence townships of Montgomery County.

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

Valley Forge NHP is surrounded by a growing suburban and commercial corridor. The character of this surrounding area has replaced an agricultural and industrial landscape.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/05/2002

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

Based on the approval of the five component landscapes by the Park Superintendent on September 5, 2002, the Valley Forge NHP Landscape is assigned the “Must be Preserved and Maintained” management category because preservation of the property is specifically legislated. 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…” Additionally, Valley Forge State Park was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1961 and transferred from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to the Department of the Interior in 1976. (FD 2019: 50-51)

Management Agreements:

Legal Interests:

Located in managed wilderness?: Unknown

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? No

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

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."

On November 28, 1972, two properties at the Village of Valley Forge were individually designated as National Historic Landmarks. Washington's Headquarters (Issac Potts House) was designated under Theme XX, "Architecture (Colonial)." National Register documentation identified significance in the areas of Architecture and Military for the period December 1777 to June 1778. Von Steuben's Headquarters (now Steuben Memorial Information Center) was designated under a Revolutionary War theme (exact theme unknown). National Register documentation identified significance in the area of Military for the period February 23, 1778 to June 19, 1778. Both documentations were limited to descriptions of the houses.

The park was administratively listed in the National Register 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 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 Village of Valley Forge area, the form described Washington's Headquarters and the "bakehouse," but no other features.

On June 21, 1983, National Register documentation was completed for the Kennedy Mansion. Significance was identified in the area of Architecture for the nineteenth century, with specific dates listed as 1852 (date of construction) and ca.1920 (construction of last addition). In addition to the house, the form described the one-story garage, converted from a carriage house, and a cast iron urn on the east side of the house opposite the second wing. The form also described the house's location on a knoll that originally overlooked the village of Port Kennedy, a garden area bordered by a fieldstone retaining wall, and an entry walk with steps that punctuates the wall.

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.

On September 16, 2004, the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurred with the NPS on the findings in the five CLI component landscapes.

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.

According to research conducted for this CLI and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the "CLI Professional Procedures Guide," the areas and periods of significance for the park are adequately documented in the 2002 CLIs and in the 2016 National Register. The existing documentation adequately describes the numerous historic resources that contribute to the park's significance. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, the Valley Forge NHP 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 (NHP), including the Other Encampment Areas, was designated as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1961. The Valley Forge National Historical Park 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. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 115)

The Historic District derives its primary significance under Criterion A 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. The main body of the Continental Army under General George Washington entered winter quarters at Valley Forge on December 19, 1777, after a campaign season that included a string of military defeats and resulted in the British occupation of the capital city of Philadelphia. Facing a harsh winter, sickness, and dire supply shortages, the army persevered and, through improvements made to its provisioning departments and training regimen, emerged from camp the following June as a stronger and more cohesive military force. The encampment event has since-come to exemplify the spirit and sacrifice of the Revolutionary War generation in the fight to secure American independence. The district has additional national significance under Criterion A in the areas of Conservation and Commemoration for its contributions to the history of historic preservation and its associations with national trends in the commemoration of the Revolutionary War during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The district's collection of resources associated with the early eighteenth- through early twentieth-century

development of the area is locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of Agriculture and Industry. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 115)

Under Criterion B in the area of Military History, Washington's Headquarters is nationally significant for its associations with George Washington (1732-1799), Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army from 1775 to 1783. Washington resided in the house and used it as his command center from December 1777 to June 1778. During this period, he oversaw the development of a secure and habitable encampment at Valley Forge, succeeded in negotiating with Congress to improve the Army's dire supply situation, and facilitated the implementation of the military training program that improved the fighting capabilities of the force. Washington's accomplishments at Valley Forge not only influenced the subsequent outcome of the war but also secured his own reputation as a master statesman and military commander. Lafayette's Quarters is nationally significant as one of the only surviving buildings in the United States that can be associated definitively with the Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834) during his military service in the Continental Army. Lafayette, a French aristocrat, volunteered his services to the cause of American independence, forging a critical liaison between the two countries and becoming a heroic symbol of the new republic. The Valley Forge Encampment is nationally significant as the site where Baron Friedrich von Steuben (1730-1794) made his most substantial contribution to the American war effort. Steuben, a Prussian soldier of fortune who served under Frederick the Great, arrived at Valley Forge in March 1778 and volunteered to train troops in European military tactics. The standardized system of drills that he developed substantially improved the Continental Army's fighting skills and military discipline. In 1789 he published Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States, which described the system and served as the U.S. Army's basic training manual until the early nineteenth century. The Philander Chase Knox estate – which encompasses Knox's Quarters, the Philander Knox Mansion, and the Knox-Tindle House, as well as numerous outbuildings and landscape features – is nationally significant under Criterion B in the area of Politics/Government for its associations with Philander Chase Knox (1853-1921), a renowned industrial lawyer and American politician. Washington's Headquarters is also locally significant under Criterion B in the area of Conservation as the building most directly associated with the life work of Anna Morris Holstein (1824-1900), a leading advocate for historic preservation in Montgomery County and the organizing force behind the preservation of Washington's Valley Forge headquarters. The Kennedy Mansion is locally significant under Criterion B in the area of Industry for its association with John Kennedy (1815-1877), a pioneer in the lime processing industry whose successful business ventures led to the development of a thriving community at Port Kennedy. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 115-116)

Under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, the National Memorial Arch is a nationally significant, relatively rare example of a high-style, Classical Revival triumphal arch constructed in the United States by nationally prominent architect Paul Philippe Cret. The design of the Outer Line of Defense and the Inner Line Linear Earthworks of the Revolutionary War developed by noted French military engineer Louis Le Begue de Presle Du Portail (1743-1802) is nationally significant in the area of Engineering as one of the country's earliest examples of advanced military engineering. The designed memorial park landscape developed by the Valley Forge Park Commission from 1893 through 1935 is significant at the state level under Criterion C in the area of Landscape Architecture as a characteristic example of commemorative military and historical park design from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Representative architectural commemorative monuments and notable local examples of Pennsylvania German Traditional, Georgian, Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, Second Empire, and Colonial Revival style houses in the district contribute to its local significance under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. In the area of Art, the General Wayne Statue, executed by Henry Kirke Bush-Brown, is a locally significant example of monumental statuary by one of the foremost American military figure sculptors of the early twentieth century. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 116-117)

Under Criterion D, the district is nationally significant 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. At the local level, the district also possesses significance under Criterion D in the area of Industry for its known and potential archeological resources associated with the early eighteenth- through early twentieth-century industrial development of the area. Finally, the district is eligible for listing under Criterion D 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 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). (NR 2016, Sec.8: 117-118)

Criteria Consideration B applies to the district for the relocation of three contributing objects within the district that are significant primarily for their commemorative associations: the General Friedrich von Steuben Statue, the George Washington Monument, and the Site of Marquee Marker. The district meets Criteria Consideration E for reconstructed buildings because the Steuben Memorial Information Center, significant under Criterion A for its associations with the Valley Forge military encampment of 1777-1778, was restored and partially reconstructed on its original site within a district that retains integrity as a whole. The building continues to express military and commemorative themes associated with the district's national significance. The district meets Criteria Consideration F as a commemorative property that has achieved historical significance in its own right due to its age, tradition, and symbolic value. The commemorative resources within the district are prominent elements of the encampment landscape and expressions of contemporary thought regarding the commemoration and interpretation of properties associated with American Colonial and Revolutionary War history. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 118)

The periods and areas of significance for the Valley Forge NHP Landscape's five component landscapes are summarized below. Refer to the individual CLIs for more information.

Other Encampment Areas (formerly named Valley Forge NHP Landscape):
--Periods of Significance: 8000 BCE-1600 CE, ca.1710-1949
--Criterion A: Agriculture, Conservation, Military, Other (Commemoration)
--Criterion B: Military (Baron Friedrich von Steuben)
--Criterion C: Architecture, Art, Engineering, Landscape Architecture
--Criterion D: Archeology (Historic-Non-Aboriginal), Archeology (Prehistoric)

Port Kennedy:
--Period of Significance: ca.1710-1949
--Criterion A: Conservation, Industry, Military
--Criterion B: Industry (John Kennedy)
--Criterion C: Architecture
--Criterion D: Archeology (Historic-Non-Aboriginal), Industry

Valley Forge Farms:
--Period of Significance: ca.1710-1949
--Criterion A: Agriculture, Military
--Criterion B: Military (Marquis de Lafayette), Politics/Government (Philander Chase Knox)
--Criterion C: Architecture
--Criterion D: Archeology (Historic-Non-Aboriginal)

Village of Valley Forge:

--Periods of Significance: 8000 BCE-1600 CE, ca.1710-1949
--Criterion A: Conservation, Industry, Military, Other (Commemoration)
--Criterion B: Conservation (Anna Morris Holstein), Military (George Washington)
--Criterion C: Architecture, Landscape Architecture
--Criterion D: Archeology (Prehistoric), Industry

Walnut Hill:
--Periods of Significance: 8000 BCE-1600 CE, ca.1710-1949
--Criterion A: Agriculture, Conservation, Military, Other (Commemoration)
--Criterion C: Architecture
--Criterion D: Archeology (Prehistoric)

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

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Agriculture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Archeology

Area of Significance Subcategory: Historic-Non-Aboriginal

Explanatory Narrative:

National Register Criteria Consideration:

B -- A building or structure removed from its original location

E -- A reconstructed building, object, or structure

F -- A commemorative property

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

Time Period: BCE 8000 - CE 1600

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Developing the American Economy	Agriculture	Mechanized Agriculture/Agricultural Innovations	
Developing the American Economy	Agriculture	Subsistence Agriculture	
Developing the American Economy	Extraction or Mining Industries	Other Metals And Minerals	Industrial Villages

Time Period: CE 1710 - CE 1949

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Shaping the Political Landscape	The American Revolution	The Declaration Of Independence	

Area of Significance Category: Archeology

Area of Significance Subcategory: Prehistoric

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Art

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Conservation

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Engineering

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Industry

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Landscape Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Military

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Other

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative: Commemoration

Area of Significance Category: Politics/Government

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

NRIS Information:

NRIS Name:	Valley Forge National Historical Park
NRIS ID:	66000657
Primary Certification Date:	06/18/2016
NRIS Name:	Valley Forge State Park
NRIS ID:	#66000657, 10/28/1988
Primary Certification Date:	10/28/1988
NRIS Name:	Kennedy Mansion
NRIS ID:	83002262
Primary Certification Date:	06/21/1983
NRIS Name:	Valley Forge State Park
NRIS ID:	66000657
Primary Certification Date:	10/10/1975
NRIS Name:	Lafayette's Quarters
NRIS ID:	74001774
Primary Certification Date:	06/20/1974
NRIS Name:	Major-General Lord Stirling's Quarters
NRIS ID:	74000283
Primary Certification Date:	02/14/1974
NRIS Name:	Washington's Headquarters (Isaac Potts House)
NRIS ID:	73001655, 11/28/1972
Primary Certification Date:	11/28/1972

NRIS Name:	General Frederick William Augustus von Steuben's Headquarters
NRIS ID:	72001108
Primary Certification Date:	11/28/1972

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:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1701 - 1949	Planned	The primary period of significance for the Valley Forge NHP Landscape is ca.1710–1949. This 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. For a comprehensive chronology, see the CLI reports for the five component landscapes of the Valley Forge NHP Landscape.

Physical History:

INTRODUCTION

For a comprehensive physical history, see the CLI reports for the five component landscapes that comprise the Valley Forge NHP Landscape.

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Defense	Military Facility (Post)		Yes	No	Yes
Landscape	Leisure-Passive (Park)		No	Yes	Yes

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. 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 NHP Historic District retains integrity to the areas and periods of significance. Overall, the district conveys its historical significance through its location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The district retains its pivotal location near Philadelphia, at the nexus of Valley Creek and the Schuylkill River, as well as the natural topography and geological features that contributed to its selection as an encampment site, encouraged industrial settlement and associated domestic development, and enabled agricultural development. The waterways, the peaks of Mounts Joy and Misery, the broad Grand Parade, and the ridges where the encampment fortifications were constructed continue to characterize the district as they have for centuries. The viewsheds within and from the district that were integral both to the selection as a military encampment site and to the design of the commemorative landscape are relatively intact, with the exception of certain areas where encroaching modem development is visible. (NR 2016, Sec.7: 90-91)

The district's layered history is visible in the extant landscape and resources. Each distinct area of the district retains the feeling of a pastoral landscape and commemorative park. The Revolutionary War encampment is experienced through the interpretive lens of the district's evolution as a park since 1893, but the key components of that phase of the district's history are intact, both above and below ground. Surviving cultural features and patterns of spatial organization include road corridors, fields and woodland, farmstead buildings and clusters, and views. The reconstructed defensive works, monuments marking brigade locations, restored headquarters, tour routes, and commemorative landscape features clearly convey their associations with both the eighteenth-century encampment and the development of Valley Forge State Park during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. (NR 2016, Sec.7: 91)

The majority of buildings and monuments within the district remain in their original locations and retain integrity in terms of their setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Some of the oldest houses in the district have been restored or rehabilitated to convey their eighteenth-century appearance (the period of their primary significance). The restorations generally involved the removal of exterior stucco and dormers or porches of later date and the infilling of later and/or larger window openings, as such alterations were not considered significant at the time of the work. Missing character-defining features were replaced based on the most accurate historical evidence available. The buildings retain at least portions of their original massing, plans, and materials. In particular, masonry structural elements, portions of chimneys and fireplaces, summer beams, and original door and window frames remain in many of the buildings. (NR 2016, Sec.7: 91)

Contributing reconstructed resources, such as the earthwork fortifications of the Inner and Outer Lines of Defense and the restored and partially reconstructed Steuben Memorial Information Center, convey their historical associations to the district's eighteenth-century appearance through their location, design, and setting. The reconstructions of the earthworks occurred within the period of significance and reflect the concepts and design principles established by early park planners. (NR 2016, Sec.7: 91-92)

The contributing pre- and post-contact-period archeological sites retain integrity of location, feeling, and association sufficient to convey their significance to the pre-contact-period settlement and use of the lands surrounding the confluence of Valley Creek and the Schuylkill River; the Revolutionary War encampment of Valley Forge over the winter of 1777-1778; and the evolution of the Village of Valley Forge into a regional industrial locus from the early eighteenth century into the second half of the nineteenth century. Moreover, these demonstrable measures of integrity, particularly that of location, are sufficient to justify the archeological potential of the district dating from the pre- to post-contact periods. (NR 2016, Sec.7: 92)

The non-contributing resources within the district do not materially impact its overall integrity. Most are resources constructed after 1949, the end of the period of significance, for park administrative or interpretive purposes. These resources include the administration buildings constructed by the state during the late 1960s, soldier huts and small-scale commemorative monuments added during the post-World War II period, and buildings developed by the National Park Service after 1976. Other types of noncontributing resources consist of those that were constructed during the period of significance but either lack integrity or do not possess significant historical associations to the defined areas of significance. Those resources are, for the most part, relatively minor outbuildings or structures that are clustered on peripheral properties outside the core area of the

district. (NR 2016, Sec.7: 92)

For a detailed analysis of integrity for the component landscapes of the Valley Forge NHP Landscape, see the five CLI reports. For a comprehensive evaluation of landscape characteristics and features, also see the five CLIs.

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 overall condition of the Valley Forge NHP Landscape is “Fair.” The most recent condition assessments for the NHP Landscape’s five component landscapes are as follows:
--Other Encampment Areas: Fair (2024)
--Port Kennedy: Poor (2024)
--Valley Forge Farms: Fair (2024)
--Village of Valley Forge: Good (2024)
--Walnut Hill: Fair (2024)

Good: Indicates the property shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The property’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 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.

Poor: Indicates the property 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.

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 consulation with Deirdre Gibson, Chief of Planning and Resource Management, agreed with this evaluation. Enroaching off-site development is adversely affecting the viewshed. Erosion along the riverbank and defferred maintenance of buildings and structures continue to be issues. 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: 09/05/2002

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The park landscape is being impacted by a number of negative influences, some of which are site-specific and some are found throughout the park. There are a number of impacts affecting the entire park. They include deferred maintenance of buildings and other landscape features and erosion along the river and streams. Unauthorized mountain bike use degrades natural and cultural sites. Invasive plants are widespread, there are plant diseases such as bacterial leaf scorch killing the red oaks, and an increasing deer population threatens any remaining understory vegetation. Traffic is also a general concern due to the number of commuter and commercial vehicles. Development of adjacent lands is impacting the viewshed and introducing additional light pollution. A significant site-specific impact that affects the park landscape is the asbestos hazardous waste site at Port Kennedy.

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.

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Treatment Type: Undetermined

Treatment Completed: No

Title:

IRMA Link:

Narrative:

For more information, see the CLIs for the five component landscapes associated with the Valley Forge NHP Landscape.

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography:

Citation Author	Citation Title	Year of Publication	Citation Publisher	Citation Type	Citation Location	Citation Number
Kline, Jennifer, Stephen Olausen. Kristen Heitert, and Jenny Fields Scofield	National Register of Historic Places, Registration Form: Valley Forge National Historical Park	2016	Pawtucket, RI: Public Archeology Lab, Inc.			

Landscape Documents:

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

Source