National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2002

Revised: 2/2024



Village of Valley Forge

Valley Forge National Historical Park

Table of Contents

Introduction

General Information

Concurrence Information

Geographic Information and Location Map

Management Information

National Register Information

Chronology & Physical History

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Uses

Condition

Treatment

Bibliography & Supplemental Information

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: Village of Valley Forge

Resource Classification: Component Landscape

CLI Identification Number: 300017

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 Village of Valley Forge 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 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.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Valley Forge NHP, including the Village of Valley Forge, was designated as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1961 when it was known as Valley Forge State Park. Washington's Headquarters and the Steuben Memorial Information Center were individually designated as NHLs in 1972. As a component landscape of Valley Forge NHP, the Village of Valley Forge is significant under National Register of Historic Places Criteria A, B, C, and D at national, state, and local levels.

The Village of Valley Forge 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, and for Washington's Headquarters, a site of seminal importance in the military and political career General George Washington (1732-1799). The property has additional national-level significance in the area of Conservation for its contributions to the history of historic preservation and in the area of Commemoration for commemorative features on the park landscape. The Village of Valley Forge possesses state-level significance in the area of Landscape Architecture as a representative memorial park landscape developed in the first half of the twentieth century. The Village of Valley Forge possesses local-level significance in the areas of Industry and Archeology for its collection of resources associated with the early eighteenth- through early twentieth-century development of the area; in the area of Conservation for its association with Anna Morris Holstein (1825-1900) and her contributions to historic preservation in Montgomery County through various leadership roles; and in the area of Architecture for the Georgian-style Washington's Headquarters (the Isaac Potts House) built in 1768-1770, the Gothic Revival-style Thomas House and Hayman House dating to ca.1880, and the French Second Empire-style Boyer House constructed in 1886. Lastly, the property possesses local-level significance in the area of Prehistoric Archeology for its realized and potential ability to contribute substantive data regarding the Pre-Contact Period occupation of Valley Forge (8000 BCE–1600 CE).

The Village of Valley Forge component landscape shares the same periods of significance as the larger Valley Forge NHP: 8000 BCE-1600 CE and ca.1710-1949. The former period encompasses the Early Archaic through Late Woodland periods during which the property, as evidenced by the presence of significant archeological sites, was occupied by Native Americans. The latter 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 Village of Valley Forge landscape most closely approximates late nineteenth century development as a state park period; nevertheless, many associated features have been lost or dramatically altered since 1893, and the site retains only a moderate degree of integrity for this period. Few features associated with the encampment era remain, but they include important landscape resources such as landform and topography, the Schuylkill River, Valley Creek, Valley Forge Road, Route 23, and the structures, including Washington's Headquarters and the Information Center, that survive from the period. The integrity of the village as an industrial village site also has diminished integrity, despite the numerous features that survive from this aspect of the site's heritage. Many industrial resources were removed in

support of park development by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania during the late nineteenth and early to mid-twentieth centuries. For both the encampment and industrial periods, the loss of important landscape features, in addition to a dramatic alteration of character from an agricultural and industrial working landscape to a manicured park, has diminished the site's integrity. Nonetheless those features that do remain retain integrity.

The Village of Valley Forge component landscape is predominantly characterized by the relatively dense settlement patterns that have evolved in response to industrial opportunities presented by local natural resources since the eighteenth century, and by the co-existence of remnant landscape patterns with a public historical park that accommodates increasingly large numbers of visitors. Although the site has an organic additive quality, portions of the component landscape have been arrested in time, and others have lost important pieces of fabric that support the story of site's evolution.

Condition:
The Village of Valley Forge component landscape is in good condition. Earlier impacts from erosion have been addressed through streambank rehabilitation and are no longer considered a significant threat to the landscape. Additionally, visitation damage to historic charcoal hearth sites has been alleviated and the sites have been stabilized. Washington's Headquarters and the surrounding area were rehabilitated in 2010, bringing both Headquarters and the Valley Forge Train Station to good condition. Both are currently used for visitor contact and interpretation. Visitor access has also been improved with the installation of a comfort station in 2009 as well as an accessible path leading from the comfort station to the Headquarters area. Many buildings in the Village of Valley Forge are occupied residences, and thus are maintained by private citizens. Other park-maintained residences such as the David Potts properties are generally in good condition, though many are vacant.

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:	Valley Forge	**Other Name Type:**	Current
Other Name:	Valley Forge National Historical Park	**Other Name Type:**	Current
Other Name:	Valley Forge State Park	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Village of Valley Forge	**Other Name Type:**	Both Current And Historic
Other Name:	Washington’s Headquarters	**Other Name Type:**	Both Current And Historic

Site Plan



Site map, 2024, Drawing 1 of 3.

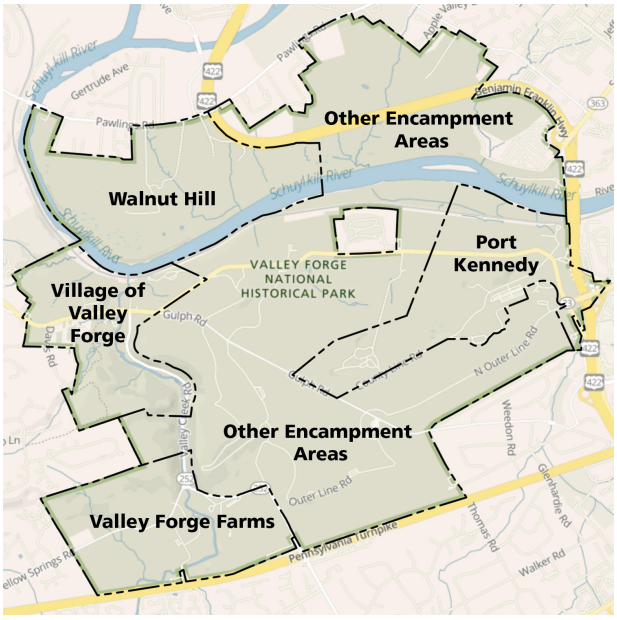


Site map, 2024, Drawing 2 of 3.



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 the Village of Valley Forge was 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 village 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 Tim Layton. 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 Village of Valley Forge 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 Village of Valley Forge CLI.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path

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.

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 — 9/26/03 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

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.

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 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 Village of Valley Forge CLI has been conducted at a Level A effort.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
Pennsylvania	Chester County
Pennsylvania	Montgomery County

Size (Acres): 315.79

Land Tract Number(s)

101-11, 0.64 acres;
101-19, 0.30;
101-20, 0.77;
101-21, 0.36;
101-22, 0.60;
101-23, 0.68;
101-24, 1.39;
101-25, 0.14 ;
101-26, 0.46 ;
101-27, 7.99 ;
101-30, 1,683.15 (portion of 1683-acre tract is in CLI boundary);
101-33, 721.35 (portion of 721-acre tract is in CLI boundary);
101-63, 5.52;
102-02, 0.22 (easement);
102-04, 0.38 (easement);
102-05, 0.43 (easement);
102-06, 1.35;
102-07, 0.74 (easement);
102-08, 0.49 (easement);
102-10, 0.00 (easement);
102-11, 0.18 (easement);
102-12, 0.19 (easement);
102-13, 1.56 (easement);
102-14, 0.74 (easement);
102-15, 0.63 (easement);
102-20, 0.02 (right-of-way);
102-21, 0.12 (right-of-way);
102-23, 0.33 (right-of-way);
102-25, 10.00 (right-of-way);
102-26, 0.94 (easement);
102-27, 2.03;
102-29, 0.26;
102-30, 0.89 (easement);
102-31, 0.36.

Boundary Description:

The Village of Valley Forge component landscape boundary has been configured to encompass the extent of the Village of Valley Forge that falls within Valley Forge National Historical Park boundaries. It also encompasses the landscape associated with eighteenth century iron forges along Valley Creek that led to the establishment of the village, and the land to either side of Valley Creek that formed the nucleus of nineteenth century industrial activities after the iron industry declined.

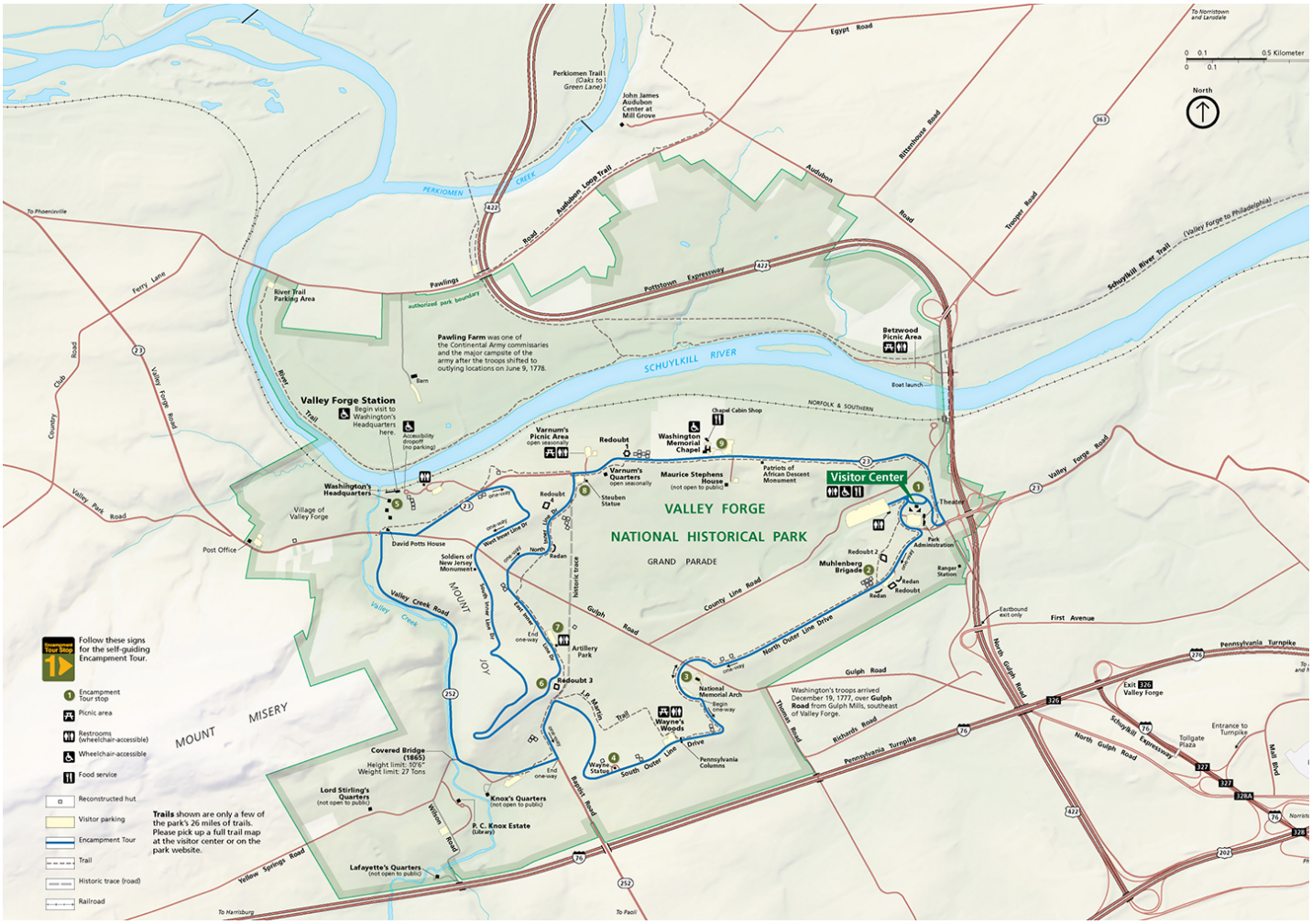
The Village of Valley Forge component landscape is edged to the north by the Schuylkill River; to the east by the extent of visitor parking improvements associated with River Drive, Route 23, and the lower slopes of Mount Misery; to the south by the former site of the Upper Iron Forge along Valley Creek; and to the west by the existing park boundary.

In more detail, the component landscape boundary is comprised of the following:
The northwestern corner of the component landscape boundary is located along the southern bank of the Schuylkill River. The boundary follows the edge of the river to the east and south until reaching a point which is approximately 1/4 mile east of River Drive. The boundary then turns to the southeast to encompass River Drive and associated visitor parking facilities. At the junction of River Drive and Route 23, the boundary heads southwest and parallels Route 23 to its south until its junction with Gulph Road. At Gulph Road, the component landscape boundary cuts to the southwest across the lower slopes of Mount Joy until it nears Valley Creek Road. Approximately 200 feet before reaching Valley Creek Road, the boundary begins to parallel the roadway to its east. When reaches a point which is approximately 1/4-mile south of “Washington’s Spring,” the boundary turns to the west, encompassing the pedestrian footbridge across the creek near the Upper Forge site. It then heads west/northwest until reaching the western park boundary that traverses Mount Misery. The component landscape boundary subsequently parallels the park boundary to the west and north until rejoining the Schuylkill River and the northwestern corner of the component landscape boundary described above.

Boundary Coordinates

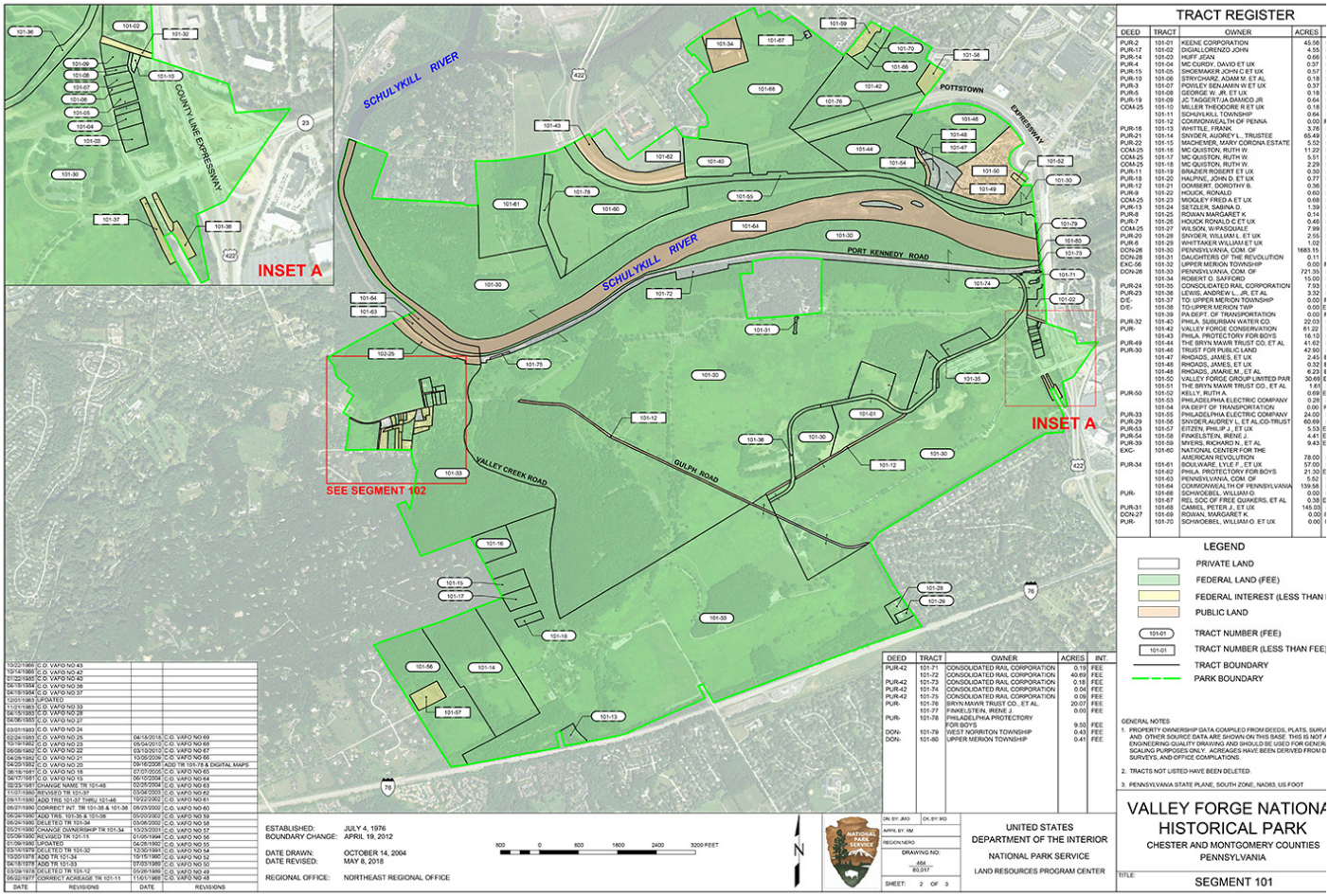
Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
GIS	Area	40.104886	-75.466823	
GIS	Area	40.10334	-75.464714	
GIS	Area	40.102572	-75.462046	
GIS	Area	40.103454	-75.457821	
GIS	Area	40.102273	-75.454444	
GIS	Area	40.098821	-75.460959	
GIS	Area	40.097294	-75.461206	
GIS	Area	40.096579	-75.46005	
GIS	Area	40.096299	-75.458929	
GIS	Area	40.096014	-75.457846	
GIS	Area	40.095271	-75.45609	
GIS	Area	40.094488	-75.455481	
GIS	Area	40.093382	-75.455643	
GIS	Area	40.092327	-75.455895	
GIS	Area	40.092407	-75.4599	
GIS	Area	40.092884	-75.460136	
GIS	Area	40.091259	-75.466409	
GIS	Area	40.094167	-75.468052	
GIS	Area	40.094365	-75.467421	
GIS	Area	40.093894	-75.46712	
GIS	Area	40.096095	-75.466527	
GIS	Area	40.097241	-75.466899	
GIS	Area	40.097339	-75.471748	
GIS	Area	40.099436	-75.47183	
GIS	Area	40.100646	-75.471503	
GIS	Area	40.102553	-75.472872	

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:

The Village of Valley Forge component landscape is located on the western outskirts of a heavily developed suburban and commercial community known as King of Prussia, in southeastern Pennsylvania. Located eighteen miles from the City of Philadelphia, King of Prussia includes one of the region's largest shopping malls, various office parks, conference centers and commercial developments, numerous residential subdivisions, and commuter thoroughfares that provide connections to the Pennsylvania Turnpike and the Schuylkill Expressway. The component landscape is part of Valley Forge National Historical Park, a popular regional attraction that draws many thousands of visitors each year. Two heavily-traveled state roads – Route 23 and Route 252 – traverse the component landscape. Small commercial areas edge Route 23, which is otherwise relatively thickly settled, at periodic intervals.

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

Valley Forge National Historical Park is located in the Piedmont Province of Southeastern Pennsylvania. The Village of Valley Forge component landscape abuts the Schuylkill River, and includes its confluence with Valley Creek. The component landscape extends across the red sandstone terrace that parallels the Schuylkill River to encompass the lower slopes of the quartzite hills of Mount Joy and Mount Misery.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

The Village of Valley Forge component landscape spans portions of Schuylkill Township, located within Chester County, and Upper Merion Township, which falls within the jurisdiction of Montgomery County. Valley Creek generally marks the boundary between these two counties. 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 Village of Valley Forge 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 Village of Valley Forge area was part of the Valley Forge State Park, which was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1961 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 Village of Valley Forge 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: None

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative: Tracts 101-11, 101-19, 101-20, 101-21, 101-22, 101-23, 101-24, 101-25, 101-26, 101-27, 101-30 (portion), 101-33 (portion), 101-63, 102-06, 102-27, 102-29, 102-31

Type of Interest: Less Than Fee Simple

Narrative: Right-of-Ways: 102-20, 102-21, 102-23, 102-25

Type of Interest: Less Than Fee Simple

Narrative: Easements: 102-02, 102-04, 102-05, 102-07, 102-08, 102-10, 102-11, 102-12, 102-13, 102-14, 102-15, 102-26, 102-30

Located in managed wilderness?: Unknown

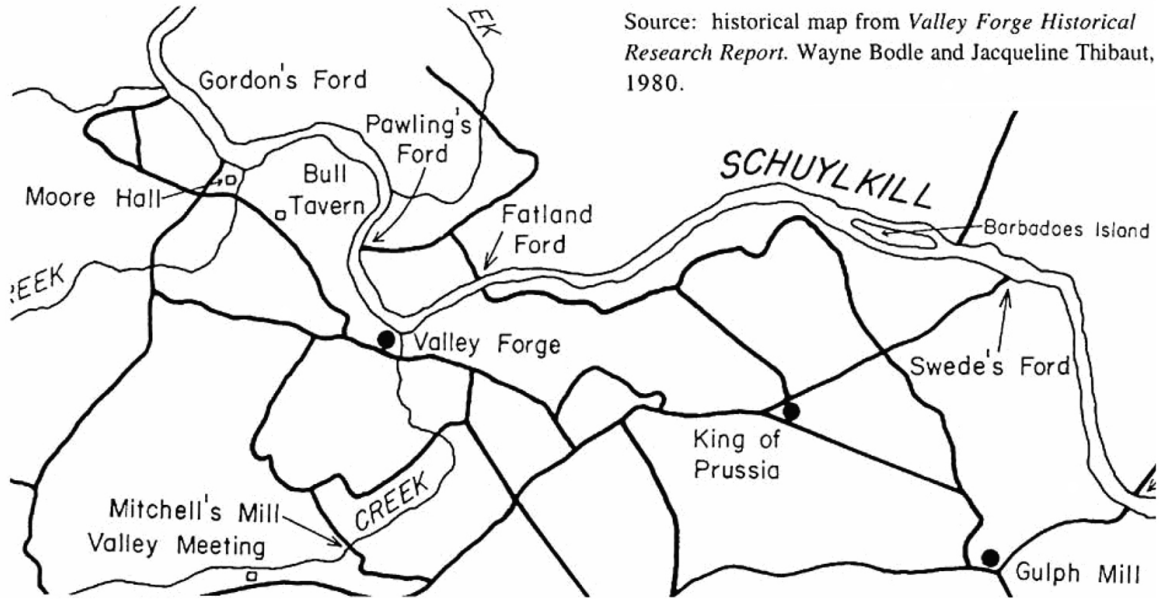
Adjacent Lands Information

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 the Village of Valley Forge are located to the west of current park boundaries along Valley Forge Road. Tradition suggests that General McIntosh may have been quartered west of Valley Forge at Joseph Mann's house.

Adjacent Lands Graphic:



Map of lands surrounding Village of Valley Forge area. (Sargent & Lloyd, 2004)

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." For the village, the form described Washington's headquarters and the presence of memorials, but no other features.

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 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 the village included:
Blair House, Boyer House, Boyer House Barn (demolished), Hayman House, Hayman House Garage (demolished), Hayman House Rental Cottage (demolished), Hayman House Tool Shed (demolished), Horseshoe Trail East House, Horseshoe Trail South, Horseshoe Trail South Spring Structure, Horseshoe Trail West House, Jones House, Lund House, Lund House Garage (demolished), Midgley House, Rogers Building (Patriotic Order Sons of America), Samuel Brittain Sr. House, Thomas House, Thomas House One-Car Garage (demolished), Thomas House Three-Car Garage (now Orchard Lane Masonry Garage), Valley Forge Railroad Station, and the Workizer-Thropp House.

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 316-acre Village of Valley Forge site. The 2004 CLI identified significance in the areas of Archeology (Historic-Non-Aboriginal and Prehistoric), Architecture, Conservation, Entertainment/Recreation, Industry, Military, and Transportation, 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 Village of Valley Forge area are listed in the Analysis and Evaluation chapter of this CLI. Four features identified as contributing in the 2004 CLI were reevaluated as non contributing in the 2016 National Register: Blair Garage/Smelting Shed, Midgley House, Rogers Building, and the Samuel Brittain Sr. House.

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 Village of Valley Forge landscape are 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 Village of Valley Forge 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 the Village of Valley Forge, was designated as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1961, while Washington’s Headquarters and the Steuben Memorial Information Center were individually designated as NHLs in 1972. 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).

Village of Valley Forge:
Based on the 2016 National Register documentation, the Village of Valley Forge, as a component landscape of Valley Forge NHP, is significant under Criterion A in the areas of Military History, Conservation, and Commemoration; under Criterion B in the area of Military History for George Washington and in the area of Conservation for Anna Morris Holstein; under Criterion C in the areas of Architecture and Landscape Architecture; under Criteria A and D in the area of Industry; and under Criterion D in the area of Prehistoric Archeology. These areas of significance are described below. The period of significance is the same as the larger historic district, 8000 BCE-1600 CE and ca.1710-1949; however the earliest extant landscape feature at the Village of Valley Forge dates to ca.1725, the construction of Gulph Road.

Note: In the 2002 CLI for the Village of Valley Forge, significance was also identified in the areas of Transportation and Entertainment/Recreation. Consistent with the 2016 National Register documentation, these areas are incorporated into the Military History and Conservation areas of significance below, respectively.

CRITERION A

Military History:
The Village of Valley Forge 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)

The Village of Valley Forge is where Washington began storing valuable commodities in the spring of 1777. Development of the encampment began in December 1777, as many of the general staff took up

quarters in local farmhouses. Within a week after his arrival, General Washington sublet the Isaac Potts House in the village from its occupant, Mrs. Deborah Hewes, thereafter known as Washington's Headquarters. Tents and wood huts erected in the vicinity of the house sheltered Washington's lifeguards. The David Potts House was used as a bake house, assembly room, and served as the site of court martials. Other village farmhouses were also used by the army. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 121,125,127)

The Continental Army utilized existing eighteenth-century thoroughfares to facilitate circulation through the encampment and enable the transport of information and supplies to and from Valley Forge. Among these roads were portions of Valley Creek Road and Gulph Road in the village. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 128)

Conservation:
The Village of Valley Forge is significant at the national level in the area of Conservation for its association 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 effort initiated after the nation's Centennial in 1876 by the Centennial and Memorial Association of Valley Forge to preserve the house where Washington made his headquarters during the encampment reflected the resurgent public interest in colonial history that characterized the American Colonial Revival and house museum movements of the late nineteenth century. The creation of Valley Forge State Park in 1893 was a seminal event in the history of historic site preservation in the United States. Occurring during the nascent stage of the American battlefield preservation movement, when the United States Congress made its first commitments toward establishing national military parks at important Civil War battlefield sites, the establishment of the state park represented the first successful public effort to preserve a large area of land associated with a Revolutionary War event. Valley Forge was also the first state park in the nation established to preserve a site of historical significance and the first park of any kind created by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 136)

Concurrent with the state park's establishment was the creation of the Valley Forge Park Commission (VFPC), which acquired on behalf of the State certain ground at Valley Forge for a public park "to be laid out, preserved and maintained forever as a public place or park by the name of Valley Forge, so that the same and the fortifications thereon may be maintained as nearly as possible in their original condition as a military camp." State park lands would eventually extend into the village area. The most significant acquisition by the VFPC during the early 1900s was Washington's Headquarters. The VFPC repainted and refurbished the house, replaced the picket fence around the building with a stone wall, and undertook a refurnishing project. It also remodeled the Washington Spring House and built a stone basin, and acquired and razed an old mill site between the Headquarters property and Valley Creek (the first of many buildings the VFPC removed from the park landscape). (NR 2016, Sec.8: 148,154,158, citing VFPC 1907b: 5)

One of the most substantial additions to the built environment of the park occurred in the village and heralded the new era of recreational tourism. By 1842 the Pennsylvania and Reading Railroad established freight and passenger service from Philadelphia to Pottsville-with stations at both Valley Forge and Port Kennedy. The Reading Railroad Company absorbed the P&R Railroad in 1893 and operated a one-hour excursion route between Philadelphia and Valley Forge. To accommodate the influx of visitors to Valley Forge, the Reading Railroad Company replaced the original train station near Washington's Headquarters in 1911 with the current Valley Forge Railroad Station, as well as an underpass and other infrastructure. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 159)

On Evacuation Day in 1949, which marks the end of the period of significance for the Valley Forge NHP Historic District, the VFPC dedicated among other features the nearly completed work led by Brumbaugh, the rehabilitation of the David Potts House. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 165)

Commemoration:
The Village of Valley Forge is significant at the national level in the area of Commemoration for significant commemorative resources that form a prominent feature on the Valley Forge park landscape, which represent the prevailing American ideas of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century concerning the commemoration and interpretation of people, events, and properties associated with American Colonial and Revolutionary War history. While the development of the park at Valley Forge was clearly a state undertaking, the VFPC anticipated that its national appeal would encourage the other colonial states to

erect monuments to commemorate their troops present at the encampment. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 168)

Although most memorials are located elsewhere in the park, one is located in the Village of Valley Farm component landscape. In 1914, the State of Delaware dedicated a granite marker – the Delaware Memorial Monument. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 172)

CRITERION B

Military History:
The Village of Valley Forge is significant at the national level in the area of Military History for Washington's Headquarters, a site of seminal importance in the military and political career General George Washington (1732-1799). While residing at the house owned by Isaac Potts, Washington demonstrated his ability to reorganize and lead his standing army through a six-month period of severe hardship and destitution—besieged by both deteriorating provisional circumstances as well as insidious political intrigues—and emerge at the head of a stronger and more effective military corps, conclusively cementing his reputation as an unparalleled leader. Washington's achievements at Valley Forge, noted by both contemporary and recent historians, played a critical role in the Continental Army's ultimate defeat of the British forces as well as his own eventual delegation as the new nation's first President. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 175-176)

The building served Washington well throughout his six-month lodging there. From his upstairs room, Washington had a view of a small portion of the encampment on the neighboring slopes. He conducted daily administrative and diplomatic affairs from the house, which became a hub of activity within the encampment. Detailed military orders for the entire army, both north and south, along with urgent communiques to the Continental Congress and state government officials issued forth from his office, where he wrote an average of 15 major letters per day. Express riders, petitioners, visiting dignitaries, and army officials came and went daily. In a letter to her friend Mercy Warren, Martha Washington described the quarters as cramped and noted that the General had had a log building constructed for use as a dining room in which to entertain his numerous guests. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 176)

Conservation:
The Village of Valley Forge is significant at the local level in the area of Conservation for Anna Morris Holstein (1825-1900) and her contributions to historic preservation in Montgomery County through various leadership roles. The primary focus of her efforts was the purchase and preservation of the 1773 Isaac Potts House that served as George Washington's Valley Forge headquarters. She served as regent for the Centennial and Memorial Association (CMA) of Valley Forge from 1878 to her death in 1900, spearheading the fundraising efforts to acquire and restore the house. Washington's Headquarters represents Holstein's largest contribution to local preservation and is the only known building with direct associations to Holstein and her preservation work. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 227-228)

CRITERION C

Architecture:
The Village of Valley Forge 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. In the village area, this includes Washington's Headquarters (Isaac Potts House), a highly intact example of the infusion of Georgian aesthetics into traditional regional construction practices. Built in 1768-1770, the house exhibits traditional two-story, three-bay massing and stone construction. Georgian-style elements are incorporated into simple ornament, such as the use of stone lintels, a simple wood cornice, and a roundel window trimmed with brick. Features specific to the building's late eighteenth-century construction date include double end chimneys and an attached kitchen wing with an exterior oven. The side hall, doubles pile plan of the interior with a large front parlor, rear dining room, and second-floor bedrooms further represents the combination of design influences. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 194-195)

The highest concentration of architecturally significant nineteenth-century houses is within the Village of Valley Forge. The Thomas House and Hayman House are nearly identical examples of the Gothic Revival style, common in the United States from approximately 1840 to 1880. The Gothic Revival style gained

favor in England during the mid-eighteenth century and influenced American architecture through inclusion in nationally circulated pattern books targeted at rural architecture. Andrew Jackson Downing, who published Cottage Residences in 1842 and the Architecture of Country Houses in 1850, promoted the development of aesthetics more appropriate for domestic architecture than the formal Greek Revival style. The Thomas and Hayman houses exhibit the Gothic Revival style's characteristic emphasis on verticality through their tall, narrow three-bay by two-bay, side-gabled form with a steeply pitched central gable. The paired, pointed-arch windows beneath the central gable, open rakes with scroll-sawn ornament along the verge board, shaped lintels, and entrance sheltered by a facade porch are typical features of Gothic Revival design. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 199)

The French Second Empire style, which emerged in nineteenth-century Paris, shares similar architectural features to Italianate architecture and became prominent in the United States from approximately 1855 to 1885. The Boyer House, constructed in 1886, is a characteristic example of this style as applied to residences. Its square plan, steep mansard roof, and heavy ornament are key elements of French Second Empire design. Other common elements exhibited include overhanging eaves, molded cornices, dormers, paired and single rectangular windows, and segmental arched lintels. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 200)

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 the Village of Valley Forge, this included the two-story stuccoed and fieldstone Potts Barn, built between 1760 and 1820, and remodeled in 1928. 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. Washington Spring House is an intact example of this building type. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 197-198)

Landscape Architecture:
The Village of Valley Forge is significant at the state level in the area of Landscape Architecture as a representative memorial park landscape from the first half of the twentieth century. The extant designed landscape elements at Valley Forge NHP, including tour roads, monuments, and markers, reconstructed redoubts and earthworks, restored and rehabilitated eighteenth-century buildings, memorial groves, and views and vistas, convey the memorial landscape developed by the Valley Forge Park Commission (VFPC) from 1893 to 1935. The landscape reflects design and site planning principles of the public parks movement of the second half of the nineteenth century and was particularly influenced by the precedents set for military park design at Gettysburg National Battlefield. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 202)

Although the preservation of the encampment landscape determined the general layout of the park roadways, prevailing landscape design concepts had a strong influence on the improvement of the park grounds. In general, the park's landscaping policies throughout the early years emphasized the use of mowed lawns and ornamental plantings to create an attractive setting for the existing encampment resources and to provide vistas and views from the lines of defense. Park staff "improved the grounds" by clearing underbrush from the groves, mowing great swaths of lawn, planting trees on bare slopes, and developing a park nursery. Unlike some other military parks, the VFPC never attempted to construct a comprehensive fencing system at Valley Forge, adding small fences only where necessary around monuments or buildings. At Washington's Headquarters, initial landscaping work undertaken included the grading of the meadow between the road and the creek and the planting of an open lawn with ornamental vegetation and a circle of white oak trees. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 205)

The growth and development of the park at times brought into conflict the dual purposes of preserving the lands as they existed during the encampment and facilitating twentieth-century visitation to the site. In 1919, the goal of restoring the landscape to its eighteenth-century appearance had motivated the recent removal of a nineteenth-century dam from the Valley Creek Gorge, considered to be an obstruction to the "wild and picturesque landscape while helped to inspire the courage of the revolutionary soldiers." In 1926 resident landscape architect Richard S. Burns developed the park's first comprehensive landscape development plan, that the commission hoped would establish "a comprehensive policy for the arrangement of all new features within the park, the readjustment of existing features that are incongruous and the preservation of all desirable possessions with a view to restoring the ground as a natural rural area to somewhat the same form and condition in which it was when it was occupied as a camp." Following Burns' recommendations, park staff initiated a systematic program of reforestation, planting, pruning, and

spraying between 1927 and 1929. Burns' landscape plan also included designs for the grounds around Washington's Headquarters that would "effect a return of the entire area ... to an appearance suggestive of that which it wore when Washington lived here" and create "a pleasant picture of Colonial and Revolutionary times." The actual changes made to the grounds at this time amounted to minor beautification efforts, including the construction of a yard wall and the planting of boxwood hedges and lilac bushes. Despite a stated interest in historical authenticity, the commission's desire to create a visually pleasing park landscape often took precedence. When the stone bridge that carried Valley Forge Road across Valley Creek failed in 1930, state park engineer Jacob Orie Clarke designed the new Valley Forge Road Bridge using a bridge in nearby Fairmount Park as a model, indicating that the "aesthetics" of the latter park were not always deemed antithetical to the purpose of Valley Forge. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 205-207, as cited in Treese 2003: 106 and Unrau 1985: 218)

CRITERION A & D

Industry:
The Village of Valley Forge is significant at the local level in the area of Industry for its above- and below-ground resources associated with the industrial development of the region from the early eighteenth to the early twentieth century. Industrial activity developed in the Valley Forge area as a geographically modest but regionally critical component of the largely agricultural economy. The land along the final mile of Valley Creek before its confluence with the Schuylkill River offered access to the river's abundant waterpower as well as the abundant supply of timber across the adjacent slopes of Mount Misery that were not suited for agricultural use. Likely beginning in the early eighteenth century, as many as four iron forges were sited at different times along this stretch. The forges were part of a regional network or raw material extraction, manufacturing, and distribution sites that placed Pennsylvania at the forefront of colonial iron manufacturing. Tradition suggests that the first forge was established along Valley Creek as early as 1718, but documentary evidence indicates that a refinery forge, referred to as Mount Joy Forge was more likely in operation by 1742. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 218)

After Washington's troops left in June of 1778, the Valley Forge NHP Historic district witnessed rapid industrial and urban growth in the first half of the nineteenth century, clustered around the village centers of Valley Forge and Port Kennedy, alongside continued agricultural development. The local industries in both communities benefited greatly from transportation improvements in the region that enabled them to ship their goods and products. The Schuylkill Navigation Company established commercial canal operations on the Schuylkill River in 1823. Ten years later, the Philadelphia and Reading (P&R) Railroad was chartered to provide a transportation link between Philadelphia and the substantial anthracite coal mines that had been discovered in northeastern Pennsylvania. The portion from Reading to Norristown opened in 1838, with the full line opening in 1839. By 1842, the P&R had freight and passenger service from Philadelphia to Pottsville—with stations at both Valley Forge and Port Kennedy—that allowed the railroad to compete with the Schuylkill Canal. As the fortunes of the railroad advanced, those of the canal declined. In 1871, the P&R rented the canal and commercial use of the waterway virtually ceased. The use of coal eventually replaced water power in manufacturing, enabling larger-scale industrial enterprises in urban centers like Philadelphia to eclipse small rural industrial villages such as Valley Forge. By the close of the nineteenth century, industrial activities in the district declined at the same time as the Valley Forge State Park was established. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 218-219)

At the Village of Valley Forge, sites associated with this area of significance include: Lower Forge Complex; Upper Forge Complex; Valley Creek middle dam ruin; Valley Creek paper mill; Colonial Springs bottling plant ruins, upper dam ruin, lower dam/retaining wall ruins, and Tenant House/Warehouse ruins; Fisher House/Slab Tavern ruins; and the Horse-Shoe Trail South Spring structure ruin. Historic buildings include a 1750-1790 house known as Horse-Shoe Trail South; the ca.1795-1800 houses called Horse-Shoe Trail East and West; the ca.1815 Workizer-Thropp House; the turn of the twentieth century Blair House, Boyer House, Hayman House, and Thomas House; and the ca.1909 Lund House. Many of these buildings also include historic retaining walls and walkways. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 219-223)

CRITERION D:

Archeology (Prehistoric):
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 Village of Valley Forge is significant in the area of Prehistoric Archeology for the Washington's Headquarters Complex 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.

CRITERION CONSIDERATIONS

Several National Register Criteria Considerations are applicable to several contributing resources in the Village of Valley Forge area. Criteria Consideration B (moved properties) applies for the relocation of the George Washington Monument. Criteria Consideration E (reconstructed property) applies because the Steuben Memorial Information Center is eligible under Criterion A for its associations with the Valley Forge military encampment of 1777-1778, and was restored and partially reconstructed on its original site within a historic district that retains integrity as a whole. The building continues to express military and commemorative themes associated with the district's national significance. Criteria Consideration F (commemorative property) applies because it 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)

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:

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
Peopling Places	The Earliest Inhabitants:	The Early Peopling Of North America	

Time Period: CE 1710 - CE 1949

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Creating Social Institutions and Movements	Recreation	General Recreation	
Developing the American Economy	Shipping and Transportation by Water	Canals	
Developing the American Economy	Transportation by Land and Air	Railroads and Railyards	
Developing the American Economy	Extraction or Mining Industries	Iron And Ferro Alloys	
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Second Empire (1850-1890)	
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Period Revivals (1870-1940)	
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Georgian (1730-1780)	
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: Archeology

Area of Significance Subcategory: Prehistoric

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Conservation

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

NRIS Information:

NRIS Name:	Washington’s Headquarters (Isaac Potts House)
NRIS ID:	73001655
Other Name:	Isaac Potts House
Primary Certification Date:	11/28/1972
NRIS Name:	Valley Forge National Historical Park
NRIS ID:	66000657
Primary Certification Date:	06/18/2016
NRIS Name:	General Frederick William Augustus von Steuben's Headquarters
NRIS ID:	72001108
Primary Certification Date:	11/28/1972
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:	Valley Forge National Historical Park
Name:	1976RE00002

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	Archaic period. Cultural uses: hunting, gathering, great dependence on plant resources. Temporary camps gradually replaced by more stable settlements, increased populations, established trade relationships. (Kurtz 1988: 14)
BCE 4000 - 1000	Settled	Paleo-Indian period. Nomadic people were large game hunters that moved with seasonal migrations of prey. Archeological evidence of occupation usually associated with elevated topography and knolls with commanding views. (Kurtz 1988: 13)
BCE 1600	Settled	Woodland period. Settlements continue to increase size, greater reliance on cultivation, harvesting plant resources, and become more stable. Local population primarily Lenni Lenape Indians who fish river, hunt inland forests for deer. (Kurtz 1988: 16)
CE 1600 - 1741	Settled	European Contact period. Swedish and Dutch trappers travel the Schuylkill River. The entire Atlantic coast is claimed by England in the mid 17th century, and English begin to emigrate in large numbers. (Kurtz 1988: 17-18)
CE 1681	Purchased/Sold	The component landscape includes portions of the Manors of Mount Joy (east of Valley Creek) and Bilton (west of Valley Creek) granted to Penn by King Charles II. Penn transfers a 5,000 acre parcel within the Manor of Bilton to John Lowther. (Rhoads 1989: 180)
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. (Sweeney-Justice 1994: 1)
CE 1683	Land Transfer	William Penn grants the Manor of Mount Joy to his daughter Letitia Penn Aubrey. Her deed amounts to approximately 5,000 acres of land northwest of the city of Philadelphia. (Rhoads 1989: 12; Sweeny-Justice 1994: 1)
CE 1701	Purchased/Sold	Aubrey and her husband begin to sell off large portions of the Manor of Mount Joy. (Sweeny-Justice 1994: 1)
CE 1718	Built	Tradition suggests that a short-lived bloomery forge may have been constructed along Valley Creek. (Stone 1984: 87)
CE 1725	Built	Nutt's Road, also known as the Great Road or the 1725 Road, is constructed to connect Philadelphia and Nutt family iron works located along French Creek. The road crosses Valley Creek via ford. (HSI)
CE 1731	Purchased/Sold	John Lowther sells the 5,000 acre tract located to the west of Valley Creek, acquired from William Penn, to Joseph Turner. (Rhoads 1989: 180)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1736 - 1737	Purchased/Sold	Joseph Turner conveys one-half of his parcel to William Allen, who acquires additional property in the region from John Simpson. (Rhoads 1989: 180)
CE 1739	Purchased/Sold	William Allen conveys his property to John Perry, who later sells 526 acres within the component landscape to John Jones. (Rhoads 1989: 180)
CE 1742	Land Transfer	Stephen ap Bevan (Evans) and Daniel Walker acquire a 175-acre parcel to the east of Valley Creek from James and William Logan. Ownership of the property grows to include Isaac Walker, Stephen Evans, Daniel Walker, and Joseph Williams. (Rhoads 1989: 134)
CE 1741 - 1749	Built	A dwelling is built to the north of Nutt's Road near Valley Creek on the land owned by Evans, Williams and the Walkers. It is later known as the David Potts House. An additional log house and sawmill are later added to the property. (HSI)
CE 1742	Built	The Mount Joy Iron Forge is established along Valley Creek near Nutt's Road by Bevan and Walker. The complex later includes two dwellings, a charcoal house, sawmill, stone dam (the Forge/Middle Dam), sluice, and 700-foot raceway (Stone 1984: 89,96)
CE 1743	Established	Crux Road, which connects the new iron forge complex with Nutt's Road, is established along Valley Creek. Logging trails are also established on Mounts Joy and Misery around this time. (HSI)
CE 1747	Purchased/Sold	A 280-acre parcel located to the west of Valley Creek is sold by John Jones to A. Rafe Snider, who in turn conveys it to William Coleman. Coleman later defaults on the mortgage. (Rhoads 1989: 180)
CE 1750 - 1790	Built	A residence, known as Horseshoe Trail South, is constructed along Nutt's Road to the west of the creek to house forge employees. Today, it is one of the few remaining resources associated with the Valley Forge and Valley Creek works. (HSI)
CE 1751 - 1761	Built	A petition is filed for a road leading between Mount Joy Forge and Swedes Ford. The road is laid out within a decade of the petition, and is later named the Port Kennedy Road. (Stone 1984: 92)
CE 1753 - 1771	Purchased/Sold	Robert White acquires a 280 acre parcel located west of Valley Creek through a sheriff sale. The land is acquired by his son, James White, in 1771. (Rhoads 1989: 180)
CE 1755 - 1759	Purchased/Sold	Daniel Walker's interest in the 175-acre parcel east of Valley Creek is conveyed to John Potts, an ironmaster and founder of Potts Grove Town (Pottstown). Potts acquires the entire parcel and operates its refinery forge. (Rhoads 1989: 134; Stone: 95)
CE 1757	Built	John Potts constructs a stone dwelling along Crux Road to house the Mount Joy forge manager. He also renovates an earlier stone dwelling (location unknown?) to house forge workers. (Stone 1984: 96)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1758	Built	A large merchant mill, referred to as the “Valley Mill” is constructed north of Nutt’s Road by John Potts. Associated with the mill is a dam (south of Nutt’s Road) and headrace system. (Kurtz 1990: 22)
CE 1759	Built	A frame dwelling is constructed for the miller in charge of John Potts’ merchant mill. (Stone 1984: 97)
CE 1759 - 1760	Built	A large stone barn is constructed on the Potts property to the north of Nutt’s Road. (Stone 1984: 97)
CE 1760	Rehabilitated	The stone house built in the 1740s to the north of Nutt’s Road, as well as the log house and the blacksmith’s shop, are renovated by John Potts. (Stone 1984: 97-98)
CE 1761	Built	A dwelling is built for the collier on John Potts’ property. (Stone 1984: 98)
CE 1762	Built	A frame store is built on John Potts’ property. By this time, Potts’ complex of water-powered works and commercial enterprises along Valley Creek has become an important component of the local economy. (Stone 1984: 98,100)
CE 1768	Purchased/Sold	The Mount Joy ironworks and mill property are acquired by Joseph Potts, John Potts’s son. (Stone 1984: 106)
CE 1768 - 1770	Built	A stone dwelling, later known as Washington’s Headquarters, is built near the merchant mill complex on the Potts property to the east of Valley Creek and north of Nutt’s Road. (HSI)
CE 1770	Built	A farmhouse (later known as the Mansion House) is built on the White property. The structure is currently referred to as the von Steuben Memorial Information Center. (HSI)
CE 1773	Built	A stable, later referred to as the Washington Stable, is constructed near the stone house on the Isaac Potts property (later Washington’s Headquarters). (HSI)
CE 1773	Purchased/Sold	Joseph Potts sells a 14-acre tract that includes a gristmill, sawmill, and a boarding house, to brother Isaac Potts. (Stone 1984: 107)
CE 1773	Purchased/Sold	Joseph Potts sells the rest of his Mount Joy holdings, around 621 acres, to his brother David Potts and cousin William Dewees, Jr. The site includes the stone house, tenements, industrial structures and related features. (Stone 1984: 108)
CE 1773 - 1775	Built	In ca.1773-1775, a mill structure is built to the west of Valley Creek and south of Nutt’s Road that is later used as a rolling and slitting mill. It is thought to have been utilized by the army during the encampment.
CE 1773 - 1777	Built	A spring house is constructed near the stone house on the Isaac Potts property. It is later referred to as the Washington Spring House. (HSI)
CE 1773 - 1777	Built	A stone retaining wall/culvert system is also constructed on the Potts property. The approximately twelve foot long wall is located in the middle of the yard next to the stone house. The culvert directs water to the spring house. (HSI)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1775	Built	In ca.1775, a new forge is built upstream from existing forge, possibly near earlier forge, by Walker, Evans, Williams partnership. Site developments include charcoal house, stone storehouse for iron, dam, planked headrace. (Stone 1984: 110)
CE 1776	Built	David Potts and William Dewees, Jr. acquire 80 acres along Valley Creek and establish second forge complex composed of small, two-fire forge, frame charcoal house, low stone diversion dam and planked headrace, stone storehouse for iron. (Stone 1984: 110)
CE 1777	Destroyed	The British Army travels through the Valley Forge area on their way to Philadelphia, destroying military supplies stored at the lower forge, and otherwise burning, looting, and disrupting local properties.
CE 1777 - 1778	Inhabited	The Continental Army, under the command of Gen. George Washington, encamps at Valley Forge between December 1777 and June 1778. Washington occupies the Isaac Potts house. Huts are constructed nearby to house his Commander-in-Chief's Guard.
CE 1778	Purchased/Sold	The James White property is sold to William Bodley. (Rhoads 1989: 180)
CE 1782	Purchased/Sold	The Bodley family conveys a 139-acre parcel to Joseph Shambough. Shambough's deed grants him rights to a dam and water course for watering his meadows. (Rhoads 1989: 180)
CE 1784	Purchased/Sold	Isaac Potts acquires most of the family forge operation, and continues to run it under the name Isaac Potts & Co. A rolling and slitting mill is established in an existing building to the west of Valley Creek. (Kurtz 1990: 26)
CE 1784	Purchased/Sold	Isaac Potts conveys a 105-acre parcel to Benjamin Rowland and Norris Jones. Rowland later sells his interest in the land to Jones. (Rhoads 1989: 140)
CE 1787 - 1795	Purchased/Sold	Norris Jones dies. His land is later sold to Jacob Paul. (Rhoads 1989: 140)
CE 1793	Purchased/Sold	Isaac Potts sells additional portions of his land holdings to Jacob Paul. The land remains in the Paul family until 1826. (Rhoads 1989: 140)
CE 1795 - 1800	Built	Two dwellings, known as Horseshoe Trail West and East, are constructed west of Valley Creek for mill worker housing. Site developments include a stone retaining wall and stairs along a lower access drive. (HSI)
CE 1796	Purchased/Sold	David Potts acquires land to the west of Valley Creek (originally owned by James White) from the Shambough family. He quickly transfers ownership to his business partner David Morris. (Rhoads 1989: 180)
CE 1797	Built	In ca.1797, David Morris establishes an oil mill on the property, which he powers by water channeled from Welch Run and Thropp's Creek. He also owns a dwelling (an "old stone house" along Nutt's Road) that may have been used as a store. (Kurtz 1990: 221)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1798 - 1805	Purchased/Sold	David Potts dies. In 1805, his family conveys part of his property to cousin Sam Hockley, who in turn conveys it Joseph Potts. (Rhoads 1989: 134)
CE 1806 - 1808	Purchased/Sold	Joseph Potts conveys a 336-acre parcel to Ralph Peacock, who operates the property's mill as the Valley Iron Works. He soon conveys the land to George Suckley. (Rhoads 1989: 134)
CE 1807 - 1810	Land Transfer	David Morris's 54-acre parcel west of Valley Creek is acquired by John Workizer in 1810 from George Suckley. (Rhoads 1989: 180)
CE 1808	Purchased/Sold	Rebecca Robins acquires 336 acres of land from George Suckley. (Rhoads 1989: 134)
CE 1812	Established	John Workizer establishes a hotel within the White farmhouse (Mansion House) along Nutt's Road. It is named "Sign of Shakespeare Hotel." (Kurtz 1990: 224)
CE 1814	Purchased/Sold	Rebecca Robins sells two parcels, 321 and 15 acres respectively, to Jacob Vogdes, who quickly transfers 113-acres of the land to John Rogers and Joshua Malin. (Rhoads 1989: 134)
CE 1815	Built	John Rogers builds a factory on his property east of Valley Creek. The factory is used to manufacture domestic hardware, which is in high demand after the War of 1812. (Kurtz 1988: 28)
CE 1815	Built	John Workizer builds a house along Nutt's Road that is later referred to as the Workizer-Thropp House. The building serves as a store and the first Valley Forge post office. (HSI)
CE 1821	Built	John Rogers and Brook Evans construct an Armory along Valley Creek. The armory, in conjunction with the renovated rolling and slitting mill, is used to manufacture 20,000 muskets for the United States Government. (Kurtz 1988: 30)
CE 1821	Built	Rogers' hardware factory east of Valley Creek is converted into a textile mill to manufacture cotton. In association with the mill, a new dam is constructed. (Kurtz 1990: 31; personal communication Brian Lambert)
CE 1824	Established	The Schuylkill River Canal opens between Philadelphia and Reading, Pennsylvania. The canal includes dammed slackwater sections of the river. From 1824 to 1846, the towpath follows the northern shore of the river, when it is relocated to the opposite bank.
CE 1824	Land Transfer	Brooke Evans acquires a small parcel along Nutt's Road from John Workizer that includes a stone house. The house may have been used as a store. (Kurtz 1990: 224)
CE 1826	Colonized	An alternative economic community is established on the mill tract along Valley Creek. The community is founded on the principles of Robert Owen. It fails, and ownership of the property reverts to Joseph Paul. (Kurtz 1990: 31)
CE 1826	Purchased/Sold	The Paul family conveys the grist mill parcel to James Jones, one of the Robert Owen followers. (Kurtz 1990: 31; Rhoads: 140)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1828	Memorialized	A semi-centennial celebration of the Revolutionary War encampment of the Continental Army is held at Valley Forge. It is referred to as the “Harvest Home;” 4,000 attend.
CE 1830 - 1839	Built	In the 1830s the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad constructs a rail line that follows the southern bank of the Schuylkill River.
CE 1835	Built	The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad constructs a bridge across Valley Creek. (Kurtz 1990: 106)
CE 1835 - 1837	Built	The Methodist Episcopal Church is built along Nutt’s Road on land donated by Isaiah Thropp. (Kurtz 1990: 32)
CE 1836 - 1841	Purchased/Sold	John Rogers sells a 113 acre parcel to George Hill, who defaults on the mortgage. It is subsequently conveyed through a sheriff sale to Samuel Harvey. (Rhoads 1989: 134)
CE 1838	Land Transfer	John Workizer conveys land along the southeastern edge of Mount Misery to his daughter Ann, who is married to Isaiah Thropp. The land includes a building that may have served as a tavern (referred to as Slab Tavern). (Kurtz 1990: 307)
CE 1842	Established	The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad initiates rail service between Philadelphia and Reading, Pennsylvania. A small train station is established at near the Village of Valley Forge north of the tracks. (Kurtz 1990: 106)
CE 1843	Destroyed	The gun factory (former rolling and slitting mill) and associated dam are destroyed by a flood. (Kurtz 1990: 36)
CE 1843	Destroyed	The historic Potts grist mill burns in a fire and is completely destroyed. It is quickly rebuilt by the owners—the Jones family. (Kurtz 1990: 35)
CE 1844	Purchased/Sold	Samuel Harvey sells his land to Charles Rogers, who owns the parcel until 1868. (Rhoads: 134)
CE 1845	Expanded	In ca.1845, an existing oil/fulling mill near Thropps Creek is enlarged by Isaiah Thropps to be used in the manufacture of textiles. (Kurtz 1988 or 1990: 40)
CE 1845	Expanded	The David Potts House is renovated to include a two-story porch and an Italianate tower. (Bodle and Thibaut 1980, Vol. 3: 90)
CE 1846	Built	The Schuylkill River Navigation Company expands canal service along the river and relocates the towpath to the southern bank below the Reading Railroad line. The towpath includes a bridge across Valley Creek.
CE 1846	Purchased/Sold	John S. Workizer (son of John Workizer) conveys his 74-acre property located west of Valley Creek to Joseph Pennypacker. Pennypacker dies later that year and Workizer re-acquires the property. (Rhoads 1989: 180)
CE 1849	Land Transfer	James Jones, owner of Washington’s Headquarters, dies. The southern 49 acres of his property are sold to Charles Rogers. His children inherit the rest, comprised of farm land, two dwellings, and industrial structures. (Kurtz 1990: 98)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1850	Built	A row house that may have served as a dwelling for mill workers is constructed west of Valley Creek near the cotton mill dam. (HSI)
CE 1850	Purchased/Sold	Hannah Jones Ogden, daughter of James Jones, acquires outright a parcel of her father's land that includes the Washington's Headquarters dwelling. (Kurtz 1990: 117)
CE 1850 - 1859	Built	In the ca.1850s, a tenement building is built on the Rogers property along Nutt's Road west of Valley Creek. The same property included a long barn-like structure around this time, about which little is known. (Kurtz 1990: 198)
CE 1850 - 1859	Built	In the ca.1850s, a frame building is erected along Nutt's Road near the aforementioned tenement. It was eventually utilized as a nail manufacturing structure. (Kurtz 1990: 198)
CE 1855	Purchased/Sold	The Rogers House is sold to Charles Rowand, only to be repossessed by Charles Rogers when Rowand cannot pay his mortgage. (Rhoads 1989: 134)
CE 1858	Built	A mill of poorquality is built near the railroad station by Andrew Atha. (Kurtz 1990: 41)
CE 1861	Purchased/Sold	John S. Workizer sells his 74-acre property to Bernard Hoy. The property remains in the Hoy family until 1911. (Rhoads 1989: 180)
CE 1866	Purchased/Sold	Nathan Jones acquires a lot south of Washington's Headquarters from his sister Hannah Ogden. The parcel appears to have included a stone dwelling by this time (date of origin unknown). (Kurtz 1990: 123)
CE 1868	Purchased/Sold	Charles Rogers conveys a 50-acre parcel to Sarah Shaw. The Shaw family retains ownership of the parcel until 1903. (Rhoads 1989: 134)
CE 1869	Purchased/Sold	The Jones family sells their grist mill property east of Valley Creek and north of Nutt's Road to Isaiah Knauer who expands the buildings as a paper mill. In 1876, the mill is damaged by a boiler explosion. (Kurtz 1990: 100)
CE 1875 - 1900	Built	A stone retaining wall is constructed near the White farmhouse, now referred to as the von Steuben Memorial Information Center. (HSI)
CE 1875 - 1925	Built	A wall is constructed around the Potts barnyard near the Washington's Headquarters building. (HSI)
CE 1876	Built	The Blair House is also built on the McGlathery subdivision. The house includes a cellar-level tunnel to a well. (HSI)
CE 1876	Platted	A 6-acre tract on north side of Nutt's Road is bought by Catherine McGlathery from Isaiah Thropps' estate. McGlathery later subdivides into building lots (Orchard Lane residential development). Numerous Victorian houses later erected.
CE 1876 - 1885	Built	The Boyer House is one of the first dwellings built on the McGlathery subdivision. The house is an example of the Second Empire style, and the only mansard-roofed house remaining in the park. (HSI)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1877	Established	The Centennial Association of Valley Forge is formed, modeled after the Mt. Vernon Ladies Association. The group begins fundraising activities in order to purchase Washington's Headquarters. (Unrau 1984: 33)
CE 1877	Purchased/Sold	The Knauer paper mill is purchased by M.C. Pennypacker. A fire destroys the interior of the factory. It is rebuilt in 1880. (Kurtz 1990: 42)
CE 1878	Memorialized	In 1878, the centennial of the departure of the Continental Army from Valley Forge is celebrated locally, and 50,000 people attend the event. (Kurtz 1990: 44)
CE 1879	Preserved	William Holstein and the newly organized Centennial and Memorial Association of Valley Forge hold a dedication ceremony and grand opening of the Headquarters. Some 12,000 attend. A cornerstone monument is laid by the Freemasons. (Kurtz 1990: 177)
CE 1879	Purchased/Sold	Hannah Jones Ogden conveys her property that includes Washington's Headquarters to William Holstein. (Rhoads 1989: 140)
CE 1880	Built	The Hayman House, a simple late nineteenth century house with Gothic Revival detailing, is constructed on the McGlathery subdivision. (HSI)
CE 1880	Built	The Thomas House is constructed on the McGlathery subdivision. (HSI)
CE 1880	Purchased/Sold	The American Palm Leaf Paper Company purchases the Pennypacker mill, manufacturing paper from palm leaves and rags, and constructing additional worker housing. A local economic depression slows mill operations in the early 1890s. (Kurtz 1990: 46)
CE 1880 - 1890	Built	A barn is built on the Boyer property on the McGlathery subdivision. (HSI)
CE 1880 - 1900	Built	A retaining wall is constructed on the Fisher property north of the Fisher House/Slab Tavern. Approximately 65 feet in length and 10 feet high, the wall is set into the slope below a wagon road later named Colonial Springs Road. (HSI)
CE 1881	Retained	A portion of a former blacksmith shop located west of Valley Creek (date of origin not known) is used as a stable. (Kurtz 1990: 197)
CE 1882	Land Transfer	Thropp land abutting Mount Misery is conveyed to Mary Jane Bean, who occupies the house along Nutt's Road and operates a sand mill/stone crusher near the railroad. Stone is quarried on Mount Misery and transported to the mill by tram. (Kurtz 1990: 307-308)
CE 1886	Built	In ca.1886, a second dam is constructed upstream across what is now known as Fisher's Run, just north of the bottling plant. The dam includes retaining walls and a reflecting pool basin and pipe system, (HSI)
CE 1886	Built	In ca.1886, in conjunction with the bottling plant, a dam and retaining wall approximately 150 feet in length are constructed along a road leading to the bottling plant. (HSI).

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1886	Built	The Fishers build the Colonial Springs Bottling Plant, later known as the Hires Bottling Plant. It is part of a complex developed by Gen. Benjamin Franklin Fisher to bottle the waters of a local spring. (HSI)
CE 1886	Land Transfer	Lieut. Robert Crawford (likely Nathan Jones' son-in-law) acquires the lot with the stone house south of Washington's Headquarters. The property also included a pump, stone stable, barn, and a lane. (Kurtz 1990: 123)
CE 1886	Land Transfer	William Holstein conveys the Washington's Headquarters property to the Centennial and Memorial Association. (Rhoads 1989: 140)
CE 1886 - 1887	Land Transfer	Alice Fisher acquires a 35-acre parcel, including the Slab Tavern structure, from Mary Jane and Henry Bean. (Kurtz 1990: 308)
CE 1886 - 1900	Rehabilitated	Money is raised by the Centennial and Memorial Association to undertake improvements of the Washington's Headquarters property. (Kurtz 1990: 48)
CE 1887	Rehabilitated	The Centennial and Memorial Association renovate Washington's Headquarters and beautify the grounds. A stone annex is removed and a log cabin addition is built to restore the building to its Revolutionary War-era appearance. (Kurtz 1990: 117)
CE 1888	Built	Fisher also constructs a barn and ice house on his property. (Kurtz 1990: 309)
CE 1888	Rehabilitated	General Fisher incorporates a portion of the former Slab Tavern into the construction of his new family dwelling located near his Colonial Springs Bottling Plant complex. (Kurtz 1990: 309)
CE 1889	Built	In ca.1889, General Fisher constructs a tenant house and warehouse structure on the Colonial Springs property. (HSI)
CE 1890 - 1900	Built	A smelting shed is constructed in association with the Blair House property, McGlathery subdivision. It is thought to have been utilized for smelting gold from a low-yield rock mined on Mount Misery. (HSI)
CE 1890 - 1910	Built	A stuccoed fieldstone wall, capped with concrete, and inset with a flight of steps, is established west of the Blair House along Valley Forge (Nutt's) Road. (HSI)
CE 1890 - 1910	Built	Stone retaining walls and stair and walk systems are constructed along Valley Forge Road in association with the Hayman, Boyer, and Lund residences on the McGlathery subdivision. (HSI)
CE 1892	Land Transfer	The Centennial and Memorial Association acquires the Jones House property from Lieut. Crawford. (Kurtz 1990: 124)
CE 1893	Established	The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania establishes Valley Forge State Park with an authorized area of 212 acres, not including the Washington's Headquarters building.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1900	Built	In the 1900s, a stone replica of a forge is built along Nutt's Road near Valley Creek and the site of a former nail manufacturing structure operated by Joshua Malin. (Kurtz 1990: 198)
CE 1900 - 1910	Established	In the 1900s, as part of Valley Forge State Park development, land within the village undergoes extensive renovations, including demolition of nineteenth century buildings. Picnic grounds are established near Washington's Headquarters. (Kurtz 1990: 50-51)
CE 1900 - 1926	Built	An "S" shaped retaining wall is constructed in conjunction with the David Potts House property. (HSI)
CE 1900 - 1930	Built	A springhouse is built near the Horseshoe Trail South dwelling. The associated spring may have been used by the army during the encampment and is sometimes referred to as "Stirling's Spring." (HSI)
CE 1903 - 1908	Purchased/Sold	The estate of Sarah Shaw conveys a 145-acre parcel south of Valley Forge Road to Thomas Kendall, who sells the property to David Vorhees in 1908. (Rhoads 1989: 134)
CE 1905 - 1907	Land Transfer	The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania condemns the Headquarters property and assumes ownership. The parcel is added to Valley Forge State Park. The Jones House serves as the park superintendent's residence. (Kurtz 1990: 124)
CE 1910 - 1920	Built	The Lund House is built within McGlathery subdivision. (HSI)
CE 1910 - 1930	Built	The Hayman House Tool Shed, located on the western edge of the residential lot, is built within the McGlathery subdivision. (HSI)
CE 1911	Built	The current Valley Forge Railroad Station, including an underpass tunnel, retaining wall, and stone steps, is built along the Reading Line near the Washington Headquarters building. (HSI)
CE 1911 - 1918	Purchased/Sold	The Hoy family conveys its 64-acre property located to the west of Valley Creek to Thomas Stewart. It is sold by sheriff sale in 1918 to Edward Wolf. (Rhoads 1989: 180)
CE 1913	Built	A rail line—the Strafford-Valley Forge railway line—is established south of Nutt's Road along what is now known as Midgely Lane. The line extends west to an amusement park located in Phoenixville. (Kurtz 1990: 178)
CE 1914	Built	A paved parking lot for visitors is constructed near Washington's Headquarters. (Kurtz 1990: 54)
CE 1914	Built	The Delaware Memorial Monument is erected to honor soldiers from the state associated with the encampment. The monument is sited on a knoll overlooking the Schuylkill River to the east of the Headquarters building. (HSI)
CE 1920 - 1929	Built	A one-car frame garage is built east of the Thomas House, within the McGlathery subdivision. (HSI)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1920 - 1929	Rehabilitated	In the 1920s, the Washington's Headquarters area is renovated. New walkways and drives and electric lights are added. The stable is renovated as a museum, the barn is remodeled for offices, and sheds are removed. (Kurtz 1990: 55)
CE 1920 - 1929	Restored	In the 1920s, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania restores Valley Creek to encampment era appearance. Creek slopes are re-graded, trees planted, 19th and 20th century industrial dams are removed, and old stone house (Riddle?) is demolished. (Kurtz 1990: 55)
CE 1920 - 1930	Built	A garage is built at the Lund House, within the McGlathery subdivision. (HSI)
CE 1921	Destroyed	The remains of the circa 1778 Lower Forge are uncovered and removed during re-grading operations of the site of the old woolen mill. (Kurtz 1990: 57)
CE 1923	Land Transfer	Daniel Vorhees conveys a 145-acre parcel south of Nutt's Road to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for inclusion within Valley Forge State Park. (Rhoads 1989: 134)
CE 1926	Rehabilitated	The Jones House structure is "colonialized," and a mansard roof is removed. A small building next to the Washington Inn (David Potts House) is altered as quarters for park guards. (Kurtz 1990: 56,124)
CE 1927 - 1929	Established	Camping facilities are opened on the northwestern slope of Mount Joy overlooking the Washington Inn. (Kurtz 1990: 55-56)
CE 1929	Excavated	The remains of the 1742 Lower Forge and the 1775 Upper Forge are identified beneath deep silt deposits along Valley Creek. The Upper Forge is archeologically excavated. (Kurtz 1990: 57-58)
CE 1931	Built	A stone dam—Valley Creek Middle Dam—is built on the remains of a pre-Revolutionary dam. The dam is approximately 200 feet long, with pilasters and arches, and an overflow which channels water into a semi-circular pool. (HSI)
CE 1933	Built	The Samuel Brittain Sr. House is constructed on the McGlathery subdivision. (HSI)
CE 1933 - 1936	Built	A stone wall, over 400 feet in length, (Washington Yard Wall), is constructed along the path leading past Washington's Headquarters and toward the Valley Forge Train Station. (HSI)
CE 1934	Rehabilitated	Washington's Headquarters is again renovated to approximate its Revolutionary War-era appearance. Alterations are made to the kitchen, which is raised to two stories. (Kurtz 1990: 59)
CE 1945	Land Transfer	Edward Wolf and his wife Mary Archer convey a 59-acre property to the west of Valley Creek to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for inclusion within Valley Forge State Park. (Rhoads 1989: 180)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1948	Built	Four replica encampment huts are constructed near Washington's Headquarters to suggest the location of the Commander-in-Chief's Guard as indicated on the Duportail map. The huts are designed by Edwin Brumbaugh. (Kurtz 1990: 128-129)
CE 1950 - 1959	Built	In the 1950s, the visitor parking area for the Headquarters is greatly enlarged and a concession stand is built adjacent to the lot. (Kurtz 1990: 60)
CE 1951	Rehabilitated	The David Potts House (at the time known as the Washington Inn) is renovated and extensively modified for interpretation as the Bake House and use as administrative offices and a library. (Bodle and Thibaut 1980, Vol. 3: 90)
CE 1954	Memorialized	The Kentucky Coffee Tree Marker is installed to mark the location of said tree associated with George Washington's Mount Vernon. (NR 2016, Sec.7: 50)
CE 1960 - 1969	Demolished	In the 1960s, worker barracks along Route 252 (possibly encampment era) are demolished due to their poor condition.
CE 1962	Reconstructed	The Commander-in-Chief's Guard huts near Washington's Headquarters are rebuilt. (Kurtz 1990: 129)
CE 1963	Memorialized	A stone Memorial to Marylanders is erected along Route 23 by the State of Maryland to honor its men who served at Valley Forge during the encampment. (HSI)
CE 1964	Built	In ca.1964, a replica hut is constructed along Valley Forge Road near the Memorial to Marylanders.
CE 1964	Demolished	The Slab Tavern building is demolished in support of the effort to restore the Village of Valley Forge to its encampment-era appearance.
CE 1965 - 1969	Demolished	In the late 1960s, the park police barracks near the Bake House is demolished. (Kurtz 1990: 60)
CE 1966	Rehabilitated	The Mansion House (James White House) is renovated. (Kurtz 1990: 61)
CE 1968	Memorialized	The Memorial Marker to Brigadier General Mcintosh is erected and features a bronze plaque set in a concrete slab with a flagpole. (NR 2016, Sec.7: 50)
CE 1975	Memorialized	Betsy Ross Memorial Marker is moved from Philadelphia to the Village of Valley Forge. (NR 2016, Sec.7: 51)
CE 1976	Restored	Washington's Headquarters is again renovated, with the kitchen addition re-lowered to 1-1/2 stories. (Kurtz 1990: 61)
CE 1976 - 1977	Land Transfer	Valley Forge State Park is transferred from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to the federal Government. It is re-named Valley Forge National Historical Park. (Kurtz 1990: 61)
CE 1980 - 1989	Purchased/Sold	In the 1980s, historic dwellings north of Nutt's Road are purchased by the National Park Service; some are renovated to house park employees and others are demolished. (Kurtz 1990: 62)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1982	Built	An asphalt multi-use trail system is constructed over many parts of the park to provide non-vehicular connections between park features and recreational facilities for nearby residents.
CE 1989	Demolished	The Jones House, located near the Washington's Headquarters dwelling, is demolished. (Kurtz 1990: 125)
CE 2004	Rehabilitated	Trail networks are rehabilitated within the park as well as on regional connector trails.
CE 2006	Rehabilitated	Facilities at Washington's Headquarters are rehabilitated for visitor use. Rehabilitation addresses removal of a bicentennial-era parking lot along Route 23, constructing a new parking area concealed by existing topography, adding a new, accessible visitor comfort station, rehabilitation of the Valley Forge Railroad Station for visitor orientation, programming, and an exhibit center, landscape/tree removal for trail rehabilitation, and roof maintenance for Washington's Headquarters. (PEPC 14117)
CE 2009	Built	A 900-linear-foot trail completed that links the newly-renovated George Washington's Headquarters areas with the Valley Creek Trail and Joseph Plumb Martin multi-use trail, accomplishing one of the key improvements identified in park GMP and Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation trails assessment.
CE 2010	Conserved	A 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 2010	Memorialized	A bronze statue of George Washington is relocated from the park theater lobby as part of a stabilization project for Washington's Headquarters. The monument stands south of Headquarters among an ornamental tree grove. (NR 2016, Sec.7: 50)
CE 2019	Preserved	Wood shingle roofs, including in-kind repairs to shingle lath, are replaced at Washington's Headquarters and Washington Stable. (PEPC 85803)
CE 2021	Damaged	Flooding from post-tropical cyclone Ida causes the Schuylkill River and Valley Creek to overflow. The grounds around Washington's Headquarters are flooded and portions of Valley Creek trail are damaged. (VAFO website)

Physical History:

PREHISTORY TO EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT, 8000 BCE–ca.1700 CE

Although the number and extent of archeological investigations conducted within the Village of Valley Forge component landscape have been limited, resources identified to date suggest a long history of cultural use and occupation beginning with the Archaic period. Prehistoric artifacts have been recovered to date, including flakes of quartz and jasper and a projectile point.

Predictive models of Archaic and Woodland period cultural activities suggest that the Village of Valley Forge component landscape, particularly the banks of the Schuylkill River and Valley Creek and the margins of smaller waterways, would have included characteristics that were desirable to prehistoric peoples. During the Early Archaic Period, the region is thought to have supported a hunter/gatherer culture that subsisted on a broad base of game animals, seasonal riverine resources, and plant foods. Environmental changes caused by receding glaciers led to the establishment of the Eastern deciduous forests described by early European explorers. At the same time, waterways evolved and river estuaries were formed, creating new food resources. The Archaic people likely adapted to these changes by altering their diets to include fish through the harvesting of seasonal shad runs and nuts collected from various deciduous tree species. The margins of the Schuylkill River were likely the focus of local Archaic Period cultural activities. Bands of migratory people likely established temporary camps in good hunting, fishing, and plant gathering locations, which they revisited periodically or seasonally. By the Late Archaic Period, ca.4000 to 1000 BCE, the previously nomadic people began to form more stable settlement patterns, their populations increased, and trade relationships began to form between settlements. By the Woodland Period (ca.900-1600), settlement sites had begun to increase in size and importance, although seasonal movement also continued. People during this period are thought to have become more reliant on plant cultivation as a food source, and therefore on soils well suited to agriculture. (Kurtz 1988)

The predictive models have been borne out in the identification of the Washington's Headquarters Complex Site, which has yielded formalized bifacial tools and several pieces of aboriginal pottery. The diagnostic artifacts indicate no less than five separate pre-contact-period occupations dating from the Late Archaic through the Late Woodland periods. The data indicate that Native Americans used and reused the confluence of Valley Creek and the Schuylkill River extensively for at least 3,000 years. (Kurtz 1988; NR 2016, Sec.8: 235-236)

The eastern deciduous forest first described by early visitors and settlers of the Atlantic Coast region of America is thought to have dominated much of the landscape until the 1600s. 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, towered over a highly layered and dense plant community that supported a variety of wildlife. The prehistoric peoples who occupied the landscape prior to European contact are thought to have manipulated vegetative composition through burning to enhance hunting practices, and may also have cultivated crops after clearing existing tree cover. Little is known, however, about the specific vegetative composition, or adaptations undertaken by the Lenni Lenape, of the Village of Valley Forge component landscape during this period.

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 tribe. The Iroquois, located to the north, briefly conquered the Lenni Lenape or Delaware nation, after gaining the use of firearms, which had been introduced by Dutch traders. These tribes co-existed with early European traders and explorers who were concerned primarily with trapping beaver for their pelts. 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. Little or nothing is known about possible Dutch activities within the Village of Valley Forge component landscape during the seventeenth century. Swedish immigrants arrived slightly later than the Dutch. They were more interested in agricultural use of the landscape, and were more likely to settle in one place in order to establish farmsteads. However, little is known about possible seventeenth century agricultural use of this landscape by Swedish immigrants.

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 from the Lenni-Lenape. 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 begins. (Sweeny-Justice 1994)

The Village of Valley Forge component landscape spans part of two parcels received by Penn in

1681—the Manor of Mount, which included land to the east of Valley Creek; and the Manor of Bilton, which included land to its west. Penn transferred title to 5,000 acres of the Manor of Mount Joy to his daughter Letitia in 1702. 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.

Although it is possible that this area was settled prior to the eighteenth century, little or nothing is known about trails or other overland travel routes that may have existed in the region during this period. However, the Schuylkill River was surely utilized by Native Americans and early settlers alike as a transportation route. Nothing is also known about any buildings or structures that may have existed in the area prior to the 1700s.

Eighteenth century settlers of this region were primarily farmers. Early agriculture in the area is thought to have included 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. The geology associated with the component landscape is composed primarily of Stockton Formation sandstone, mudstone, and Triassic red shale along the river, and quartzite, schist, and shale on the side slopes of Mounts Misery and Joy. The Triassic red shale soils along the river are suitable for most crops. The steep and rocky slopes of Mounts Misery and Joy were far less conducive to agriculture than the adjacent sandstone river terrace. The quartzite-based soils are classified as having low to moderate fertility on rocky dry uplands or steep slopes; the slopes of Mounts Joy and Misery most likely remained in forest cover during this period due to the availability of superior land for cultivation nearby. Valley Creek's wide floodplain, which would have been seasonally flooded or subject to a high water table, would have been best suited to pasture or meadow. (Soil Conservation Service, Chester County Soil Survey 1959: 116)

EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT AND INDUSTRY ALONG VALLEY CREEK, 1700–1777

Manor of Mount Joy:
After Letitia Penn Aubrey received a patent for the Manor of Mount Joy in 1702, she began to sell off the land. Although it passed through a number of different owners after 1702, the Manor of Mount Joy was in fact acquired by William Penn, Jr. in about 1730. He, in turn, began to sell off parcels through his agents, Thomas and William Logan. Initial property owners in the vicinity of Washington's Headquarters included Stephen ap Bevan (Evans) and Daniel Walker. Although property deed records suggest that Penn transferred a 175-acre parcel to Bevan and Walker in 1741, other documentary evidence suggests that these individuals may have taken possession of the land as early as 1732. Local tradition suggests that a bloomery forge was established as early as 1718 in the region by Daniel Walker's father Lewis. Documentary evidence supporting the existence of this early forge remains inconclusive. By about 1742, however, an iron forge is known to have been established on the Bevan/Walker property along the eastern bank of Valley Creek, and related features, including a stone ironmaster's dwelling, were constructed soon thereafter. The two men are known to have been farmers and neighbors in nearby Tredyffrin Township who shared a Welsh Quaker heritage. It is likely that the men selected the site for the forge based on the availability of water power associated with Valley Creek, the woodland resources of the adjacent hillsides, and its proximity to Nutt's (or the Great) Road. This route, constructed in 1725, crossed Valley Creek to the north of the forge via ford. It provided a connection between the French Creek ironworks to the west and Philadelphia to the southeast. As noted in Garry Stone's essay "The Mount Joy Forge on Valley Creek,"
"The lower course of the Valley Creek offered many advantages for iron manufacturing. It provided ample power to run the trip hammer and bellows of a refinery forge; the creek falls some 25 feet during its last mile before emptying into the Schuylkill. There was a plentiful supply of fuel in the rugged woodlands of Mount Misery to the west, and to the south the fertile limestone soils of the Great Valley provided a convenient supply of farm products. Most important, the Valley Creek lay directly between one of Pennsylvania's two most important sources of case iron and the principal market. The great road, leading from Philadelphia to the French-creek ironworks forded the creek a fifth of a mile upstream from its junction with the Schuylkill." (Stone 1984: 89)

Under Penn proprietorship, roads other than farm lanes could be established after court approval based on petitions being filed by local residents. Between 1725 and 1761, three roads were established by petition within the Valley Forge region, two of which passed through the Village of Valley Forge component landscape. In 1725, a petition was filed to create Nutt's Road, also called the Great Road (now Valley Forge Road), to provide a passage between Valley Creek and the Philadelphia Road utilizing an existing ford along Valley Creek. The second road through the component landscape was established in 1761 between Nutt's Road and Jenkins Mill to the east that generally followed the alignment of the river.

Manor of Bilton:
The men later acquired additional acreage on Mount Misery that had been included in The Manor of Bilton. Transfer of land within the Manor of Bilton began as early as 1681 when William Penn sold 5,000 acres to John Lowther. Joseph Turner acquired the land from Lowther in 1731. Little is known about the activities of these two owners on the land during this period. The property was transferred three additional times before 526 acres were acquired in 1739 by John Jones. Jones further subdivided this tract, selling off a 280-acre parcel to A. Rafe Snider in 1747, and a 100-acre parcel to Stephen Bevan, Daniel Walker, and Joseph Williams in 1748. Bevan and Walker, as noted above, already owned land to the east of Valley Creek, where the forge was located. The three men subsequently purchased an additional 101-acre parcel from Jones that bordered the Snider property. It appears that the 201 acres acquired by Bevan, Walker, and Williams to the west of Valley Creek were primarily wooded, and extended over steeply-sloped terrain on Mount Misery. The land is believed to have supplied timber as fuel for the forge.

Manor of Mount Joy:
The Mount Joy Forge was established to manufacture wrought iron bars from cast iron that was produced elsewhere. The bellows of the forge, as well as a nearby sawmill, were driven by water

power harnessed through the damming of Valley Creek and the construction of a water wheel. The bellows helped to blast the fires, maintained with charcoal, that melted the "pig iron bars into 'blooms' and [raised] the trip hammers to beat the molten mass creating malleable wrought iron." The industrial complex evolved to include Crux Road, which led south from the Great Road toward the forge, logging trails on Mount Misery, a stone ironmaster's house along Nutt's Road, workers' housing, and a grist and sawmill. The Schuylkill River was utilized to ship the wrought iron manufactured at Mount Joy, and to deliver manufactured goods needed by the community. (Kurtz 1990: 21)

In 1757, the Mount Joy forge property was acquired by ironmaster John Potts, who came from a wealthy family of ironmasters. According to Stone's essay,
"When John Potts took over the Mount Joy Forge in March 1757, it was a small, not especially impressive, rural industrial complex: a forge, blacksmith's shop, sawmill, store, and two houses. Its most impressive improvement was the refinery forge which, with its charcoal house and storage sheds, stood some 350 feet south of the Great Road leading to Philadelphia. Water impounded behind an earthen dam across Valley Creek provided power. From a control gate in the stone revetted dam, water sluiced to the forge via a 70 foot long raceway. After turning the forge's wheels the water emptied into the creek. There a small dam just south of the road diverted it into a second race that led to the sawmill 500 feet further north. A small, two-story, stone house stood at the northeast corner of the Great Road and the lane to the sawmill. It and a log house provided some housing for the forge employees, and presumably in the vicinity there were log or frame houses where the married workmen lived. None of the buildings were in good repair. Potts needed to do a great deal of work to put the place in first class shape." (Stone 1984: 96)

The Potts, Nutts, and Rutters, all related by marriage, were the region's principal iron manufacturing families. By 1767, John Potts owned Pine Forge—part of Warwick Furnace—Pottsgrove Forge, and Mount Joy Forge. Potts was a prominent businessman, who was also instrumental in laying out Potts Grove Town, now Pottstown. After purchasing the Mount Joy Forge property, Potts resided locally in the existing stone ironmasters house. During the late 1750s, Potts enlarged the dwelling. Over the next few years, Potts also established a thriving industrial complex on his property along Valley Creek that included a sawmill, blacksmith shop, cooper shop, large merchant mill—known as Valley Mills—a company store, dams, mill races, miller's house, stone barn, and workers' housing. These developments became the nucleus of the Village of Valley Forge, a company town in which accounts were maintained for the workers that credited wages against room and board in company housing and the purchase of goods from company stores. Local farmers also took advantage of Potts' store, and the bartering opportunities he allowed. The farmers could,
"convert surplus labor or goods into goods or services for which they might have had to pay cash elsewhere. During their slack seasons, they could cut cordwood or work as construction laborers. An idle team could be put to work hauling charcoal or pig iron. The forge community also consumed large amounts of meat, vegetables, hay, and grain. In return, the farmers could receive groceries, cloth, or hardware at the store…" (Stone 1984: 101).

The forge also employed skilled as well as unskilled workers, and colliers and wood choppers. In addition, "Indentured servants and slaves made up an important part of Mount Joy's work force." (Stone 1984: 102)

During the late 1760s, Potts began to transfer ownership of his property to his sons and other relatives. Forge operations continued during this period under the auspices of the firm of Potts, Hockley & Potts. The wrought iron produced by the forge was shipped on wagons and boats to the firm's retail facilities in Philadelphia. In 1768, Joseph Potts, son of John Potts, acquired the merchant mill and iron forge. He later sold a portion of the property, including the gristmill, sawmill, and possibly a worker tenement, to his brother Isaac Potts. He also sold his forge holdings to another brother David, who was in partnership with William Dewees, Jr.

The partnership of David Potts and William Dewees, Jr. continued operations at the existing iron forge, while establishing a second forge upstream along Valley Creek in 1775. They also purchased additional parcels of woodland in order to acquire more timber for fuel. The Potts/Dewees operation was described after the Revolution by a visitor to the area named Isaac Anderson:

"That part of Valley Creek...furnished a most excellent site for water works. It was before the Revolutionary War occupied by a large forge, and drove night and day by a double set of hands, giving employment to a proportionable number of wood-cutters, colliers and teams of horses to bring in their charcoal and take off the iron bars." (Kurtz 1990: 23)

David Potts resided in the stone ironmaster's house along Nutt's Road. In addition to portions of the 175-acre parcel acquired in 1742 by Stephen Bevan and Daniel Walker, Potts also owned four other parcels, totaling more than 1,000 acres, by 1774. In partnership with Dewees, he later owned as many as 8,000 acres in the vicinity. The majority of these properties were wooded, not well suited for agriculture, and utilized to supply wood to the forge operations maintained by the two men. Those areas that were suitable for agriculture appear to have been farmed. The river terrace to the north of Nutt's Road was the most suitable land within the component landscape for agriculture. It appears to have supported pasture as well as cropfields. Wheat was the primary cash crop within the region during the eighteenth century, but other grains, such as corn, buckwheat, hay, oats, and rye, and vegetables were also typically grown. The Valley Creek corridor also appears to have served as a source of gravel, stone, and possibly sand for construction-related activities. (Rhoads 1989: 130-131)

In 1773, Isaac Potts acquired property to the north of Nutt's Road and to the east of Valley Creek from his brother Joseph. At that time, the parcel included two mills and a dwelling, as well as rights to an existing dam used to supply water to the mills. The dwelling, which would later serve as General George Washington's headquarters during the Valley Forge encampment, was likely constructed between 1768 and 1770. A barn appears to have been constructed on the property between 1760 and 1777.

The mill property had originally been part of the 175 acre parcel purchased in 1742 by Stephen Bevan and Daniel Walker, and acquired by John Potts in 1757. The forge—now owned by David Potts—and mill parcels had been separated by John Potts in his will, executed in 1768. In addition to the milling operations and residence, the mill property appears also to have supported agricultural and horticultural activities. The will of John Potts, Sr., included a good description of the property during this period:
"Whereas I stand seized of a certain Grist Mill in the County of Philadelphia known by the name of the Valley Mill and of a small piece of ground thereunto belonging bounding and described as follows, Viz. beginning at the Valley Creek where the Great road crosses it, Thence along the same road towards Philadelphia by the Gardens to the fence of the field on the North side of the said road fence along the said fence to the barnyard, thence along the fence between the garden and said barn-yard to the road leading to the Schuylkill thence along the same road to the other side of the barn-yard and thence up the barn-yard fence through the field to the middle of the old orchard in the Hollow, thence by a straight line to Schuylkill thence up Schuylkill to the mouth of Valley Creek to the place of beginning." (Philadelphia Co. Will #189, Rhoads 1989: 137)

Isaac Potts is also thought to have owned cattle, horses, and sheep. The mills and mill race were likely located in the floodplain of the creek, as was the vegetable garden. The property may have also included a boat landing on the river, a description of which is included in a letter of September 16, 1777 when members of the Continental Army attempted to remove the military stores located at the forge before the British Army arrived.

Manor of Bilton:
Development to the west of Valley Creek during the eighteenth century during this period was generally less industrial in nature. The 280-acre parcel acquired by Rafe Snider in 1747 was acquired through sheriff sale by Robert White in 1753. Circa 1770, White constructed a farmhouse along Nutt's Road, near the western edge of the component landscape. White conveyed the land to his son James in 1771. The parcel spanned the "Great Road" including,
"A certain messuage, plantation, and tract of land, containing 280 acres, or thereabouts, situated in the township of Charles-Town aforesaid, lying 110 perches on the river Schuylkill, and 53 perches on the Valley creek, joining the lands of Daniel Walker, and Company," (Pennsylvania Gazette, October 11, 1753, Rhoads 1989: 176)

James White owned this property until 1780. Tax records from the 1770s indicate that White

maintained a farm on the property, although much of the land may not have been well suited to agriculture. The lower portion of the property occupied the steep, rocky, lower slopes of Mount Misery. The northern portion, located along the Schuylkill River, included areas of prime agricultural soils and gentler slopes. White owned a relatively large number of livestock, indicating that much of the property was utilized for pasture rather than field crops. Crops known to have been grown on the property include wheat, rye, oats, buckwheat, hay, Indian corn, turnips, and potatoes. It also likely supported a peach orchard, based on records indicating stores of peach liquor. (Rhoads 1989: 177-179)

ENCAMPMENT OF THE CONTINENTAL ARMY, 1777-1778

Valley Forge's first Revolutionary War association involved the use of existing Mount Joy forge buildings for military supply storage after the British threatened to seize Continental Army stores in Philadelphia during the spring of 1777. The capital city was at the time an important storage location for the military stores of the State of Pennsylvania as well as the Continental Army. General George Washington, worried about the army's stores, sent his Quartermaster, Gen. Thomas Mifflin, to visit William Dewees, a colonel in the militia, to discuss Mount Joy Forge as an alternative storage location. Mifflin stated that he would be "establishing a
Magazine of Continental Stores, and looked upon that place as most suitable for that purpose from the situation and number of buildings." Dewees raised concerns that the storage of arms within the forge might attract the British army to the Valley Forge area. Mifflin suggested that the site was distant enough from the British not to be a threat, but also ensured Dewees that the Continental Army would protect the stores if threatened. Mount Joy Forge subsequently received both commissary and quartermaster stores.

During the summer months, some of the commissary stores began to spoil. William Dewees was asked to oversee the task of baking the spoiling flour into biscuit. Traditional accounts suggest that he accomplished this by building ovens in the basement of a dwelling associated with the forge property (ironmaster's house). The David Potts House, as this dwelling came to be known, may have been a two-family dwelling at the time, jointly owned by Potts and Dewees. (Bodle and Thibaut, vol. III, 1982: 90)

In the fall of 1777, the British Army, under the command of Gen. Sir William Howe, mobilized from the Jerseys and New York by ship. It was believed by many, including George Washington, that their target would be Philadelphia. The British fleet subsequently landed at the Head of the Elk, the northern reaches of the Chesapeake Bay. To reach Philadelphia from this location, the army would eventually be required to cross the Schuylkill River via one of the various fords located to the west of the city.

Based on this potential threat, Washington ordered the stores at Valley Forge to be removed in conjunction with a general retreat of Continental Army baggage toward Warwick and away from the British Army after the Battles of Chadd's Ford and Brandywine. His orders were not carried out, however, and the stores remained mired in Valley Forge. Despite a lack of support, Colonel Dewees and a "small group of men struggled valiantly, but the teams, men, and protection needed to move the mountain of supplies was not forthcoming." (Stone 1984: 117)
"A British scout discovered the feverish activity at Valley Forge. That evening three companies of light infantry headed up the Baptist Road to interrupt the work parties. There was a brief flurry of shots as the British infantry poured over the shoulder of Mount Joy…and the British shortly found themselves in possession of 'upwards of 3,800 barrels of flour, soap and candles, 25 barrels of Horse Shoes, several thousand Tomahawks and kettles, and intrenching Tools and 20 Hogshead or Resin." (Stone 1984: 118)

The British remained in the area that night. From Valley Forge, General Howe was in a position to move either to the west and upstream along the Schuylkill to gain possession of an important supply depot in Reading, or east toward Philadelphia. In a ploy to suggest that Reading was his objective, Howe positioned men along the Schuylkill between Fatland Ford and French Creek to the west, and initiated "bridge construction work near Moore Hall. Washington was deceived, and to prevent being taken in the right flank, he moved off the west." Howe's army was then able to cross the Schuylkill at Fatland Ford,
"and the way to Philadelphia stood open. As the British troops pulled out of Valley Forge, there was a final bustle of activity. They stacked powder kegs under the breast of the old forge dam; small groups of men hurried from building to building. Then a quick scurry for cover, an explosion, and the rush of a wall of water, and all was silent along Valley Creek save for the fire's road as the Mount Joy forges went up in flames." (Stone 1984: 118-119)

It is believed that the British army burned or otherwise destroyed various structures and facilities

located in the area, including the Upper Forge, two dwellings, and two coal houses, and severely damaged various other structures and agricultural features throughout the area. Many area residents later filed depredation claims for the losses suffered at the hands of the British Army, providing historians with critical information regarding the nature of the region on the eve of the encampment.

By December 1777, George Washington had selected the region as a winter encampment site for the Continental Army. As noted in the park-wide Cultural Landscape Inventory, Valley Forge offered certain benefits that were desirable to Washington. These included the fact that it was close enough to Philadelphia to defend the interior of the state against British army raiding parties, but far enough away that the Continental Army would not become an easy target for attack. Existing roads facilitated transportation between the encampment and supply centers in the Northeast and to the northwest in Reading. The high ground of Mounts Joy and Misery, coupled with the location of the river, made the area easily defensible.

General Washington chose the house of Isaac Potts for his headquarters. The river terrace located to the east of Valley Creek soon became the hub of operations for his army. It is likely that most of the buildings and structures which existed nearby, including the David Potts house, barns, and other outbuildings, were utilized by the army to store goods and supplies, or to house officers. Few documentary sources, however, have been located that indicate the precise locations where army activities were housed or occurred during the encampment. Tradition suggests that log huts were constructed to the west of Valley Creek and south of Gulph Road to house the artificers, who repaired wagons and armaments, and that larger log structures were constructed as work areas. Tradition also suggests that the brigade of General McIntosh was housed in huts constructed to the west of Valley Creek and the north of Gulph Road. Huts are also thought to have been constructed in the vicinity of Washington's Headquarters to house Washington's Commander-in-Chief's Guard. While a map prepared of the encampment in 1778 by Brig. Gen. Louis Duportail generally indicates hut complex sites in these three locations, it conveys little detail about the configuration or character of the sites, and there is no text identifying them by name or use (Figure 1).

Before the Valley Forge encampment, maintenance of a standing army through the winter months had not been attempted; previously, military personnel—who were not professional soldiers but instead individuals of many professions and trades—disbursed when not engaged. At this juncture in the Revolutionary War, Washington feared that he would be unable to mobilize a sufficient force in time for the spring campaign if he allowed a dispersal of personnel late in 1777. He instead elected to establish a semi-permanent winter post as an experiment or innovation. There were many details that required immediate attention upon arrival at Valley Forge by the Continental Army. Provision of shelter, and the establishment of systems for dispensing food and water were of immediate concern. "Building the encampment involved feverish, heavy labor, which stripped the countryside around camp of trees. Mount Joy was probably entirely bald" by spring; "continual activity was the rule, and it was only lulled in the severest weather." (Bodle and Thibaut, vol. III, 1982: 8)

Within the Washington's Headquarters area, there was likely a constant amount of activity. Headquarters, the command post for the encampment, was the center of this activity, with riders, officers, and others continually departing and arriving. The shallow draft boats that carried supplies from Reading, and foraged goods from the surrounding countryside, may have landed on the banks of the river near headquarters.

During the encampment, the troops of the Continental Army relied heavily upon two civil support groups: the Commissary, and the Quarter Master's Department. The Commissary was responsible for purchasing, packing, transporting, and distributing rations to the army. The Quarter Master's Department took care of quarters, clothes, fuel, and ammunition, and generally supervised the organization of the encampment. Acquisition and transport of the materials required to feed, clothe, house, and arm an army of nearly 18,000 men proved a most difficult task and almost the undoing of the army. Howe's occupation of the city of Philadelphia further complicated the task, as did impassable roads, ice-choked waterways, and diminished agricultural stores due to two years of war siphoning off goods and farmers and commercial uncertainty. Although the use of local agricultural goods through force to feed the army was a particularly unsavory concept to Washington, "Legislative bodies would be compelled to condone and give sanction to the seizure of private property in a

paradoxical inversion of some of the fundamental rights for which the Americans were fighting." With reluctance, Washington published an order on December 20, requiring all farmers within a radius of 70 miles of camp to thresh half of their grain by February 1, and the remaining by March 1, failing which the unthreshed sheaves would be seized by the Commissaries and Quarter Masters of the Army and paid for as straw. (Bodle and Thibaut, vol. II, 1982: 67,126-127)

Clothing as well as food were eventually seized from Chester County residents. Some local residents elected to risk transporting their agricultural products to Philadelphia where they were sold on the black market to the British. By February 1778, Washington was forced to send troops on foraging raids to strip the countryside between the Schuylkill and Brandywine Rivers west of Delaware. While he could not abide local farmers who elected to trade with the enemy, he remained unhappy with the idea of impressment as a means to acquire food and clothing, particularly since it might serve to turn locals against the cause. The hardships endured by local residents due to the encampment must have been quite difficult. (Bodle and Thibaut, vol. II, 1982: 256-258)

During the encampment, Washington met several times with the Congressional Committee of Conference members about the state of the army and the encampment. These meetings typically took place at either Moore Hall, a structure located 2-1/2 miles to the west of the component landscape overlooking the river, or at Headquarters. The committee, liaison between the army and congress, which appropriated its funding, discussed the army's needs for reform, to reduce regiment sizes, and to introduce discipline. These meetings contributed to the establishment of new drilling practices during the spring of 1778 under the auspices of Inspector General Friedrich von Steuben. Moore Hall was also utilized as a storage site by the Quarter Master during the encampment.

Based on on-going difficulties associated with supplying the army, Washington established three markets in January 1778 where food and other goods could be acquired by the troops from local farmers. One was located on the east side of the Schuylkill across Sullivan's bridge from the encampment, another was located near the North Bridge (along Devon Road), and the third was likely near the Adjutant General's office along the road to Moore Hall. Tradition suggests that the Adjutant General's office was located within or near the James White house along Nutt's Road.

During the encampment, local roads would have been in a deplorable condition, churned by men dragging wood, livestock, horses, and wagons. Privies and piles of garbage dotted the landscape. In addition to a large military hospital located 12 miles from the encampment in Yellow Springs, many local barns, meeting houses, and other structures within the area likely served as hospitals during the encampment. The David Potts House is thought to have been utilized during the encampment for courts martial, as an auditorium for theatrical productions staged by the officers, and may also have continued to serve as a bakery. Tradition suggests that the property of James White served as the site of the Adjutant General's Quarters, as well as that of General von Steuben (Figure 2). Additionally, the troops are thought to have partaken of the spring shad run up the Schuylkill in the spring months before departing Valley Forge. Otherwise, the river was an important conduit for supplies. Items such as tents, knapsacks, canteens, and kettles were manufactured and repaired upriver in Reading. As the army readied for departure in June 1778, "the items, desperately needed before the opening of the campaign, were dispatched by flat-bottomed boats down the Schuylkill to Valley Forge." (Bodle and Thibaut, vol. III, 1982: 8-40,90; Parrington et.al. 1984: 140)

Use of the region to house and feed thousands of military personnel for six months had a devastating effect on the landscape. The majority of the region's woodland was harvested to provide timber for construction or fuel for fires. Surrounding agricultural properties were relieved of crop stores, wooden fencing rails, and livestock. Local properties, including the Dewees/Potts forge were damaged by the troops. Excerpts from the depredation claim filed by William Dewees, Jr., read as follows:
"Your Petitioner begs leave further to Represent, that December following, His Excellency General Washington placed his Camp greatly upon your Petitioner's Land: Whereupon the greatest part of his standing Timber, and all his Fences, was and were destroy'd, which deprived your Petitioner of Power to erect New Buildings, and rendered the Premises of less Value than they previously were."

"Your Petitioner was therefore obliged to sell the said premises much under their Value, by which he is much reduced in Order to Discharge his Just Debts; and begs leave further to observe, that had

not the Public Stores been deposited there, he apprehends his Losses would not have been so great, and that your Honours will not consider his Case equal only to the common Fate of Warr, when every Thing, whether valuable to them or not, which was upon the Premises, was either Burned Carried off or destroyed, as, in the Annex'd Account, to your Honours will Appear."

When the majority of the Continental Army departed from Valley Forge on June 19, 1778, they left behind a weary populace, devastated terrain, and remnants of military occupancy. While work parties returned to the camp to clean up and bury debris, the wooden huts were maintained for at least a short time while the pay master and auditor used them as offices. In addition, the artillery branch continued to utilize Valley Forge for ammunition storage for at least the next two years. The Quarter Master's stores remained at Moore Hall to the west of the Headquarters for much of the summer, and sick soldiers and attending personnel remained in camp for some time. Later that fall, British prisoners were housed at Valley Forge as they were moved south to internment sites in Winchester, Virginia. (Bodle and Thibaut, vol. I, 1982: 447)

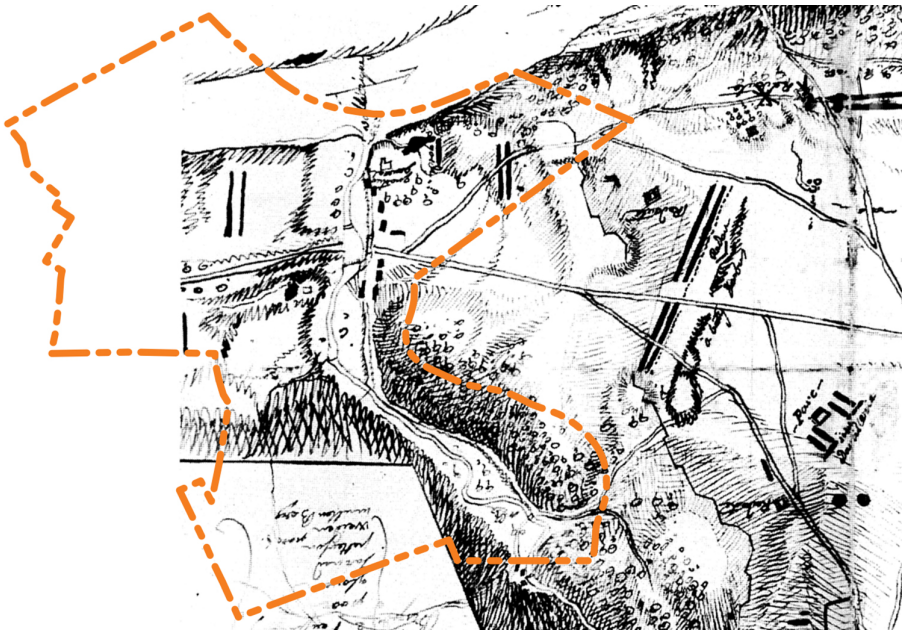


Figure 1. Duportail's plan of the encampment of Valley Forge.

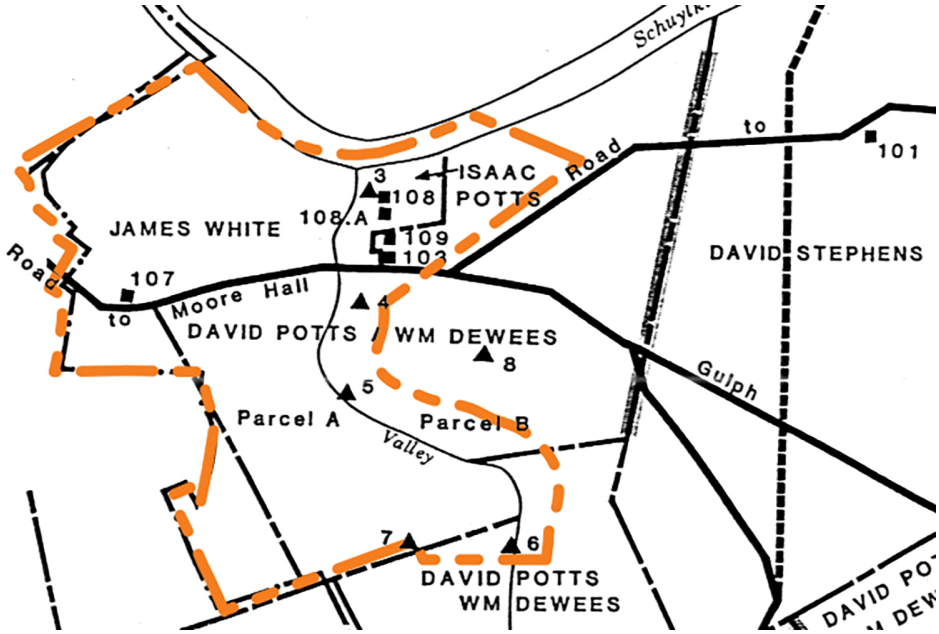


Figure 2. Washington's Headquarters/Village of Valley Forge property boundaries at the time of the encampment as identified in Land Use Study of Valley Forge National Historical Park, by Rhoads, Ryan, and Aderman.

THE VILLAGE OF VALLEY FORGE, 1778–1893

After the departure of the Continental Army in June 1778, descriptions of Valley Forge suggest that, "the once productive farms in the vicinity were destitute of vegetation and lay uncultivated and without enclosure. Cattle and horses on area farms had been requisitioned by the army. The trees in the nearby forests had been cut down and nothing but the stumps remained. The timber and farm fences had been used to construct the huts and pickets for the army and to furnish fuel for the soldiers. Moreover, the once-bustling forge on Valley Creek had been burned by the British several months before the arrival of the Americans on December 19, 1777." (Unrau 1984: 3)

Military personnel who visited the area later, such as Lieut. Enos Reeves in 1781, suggested that, "some of the officers' huts are inhabited, but the greater part are decayed, some are split up into rails, and a number of fire fields are to be seen on the level ground that was cleared, but in places where they have left the shoots grow, it is already like a half grown wood" (Unrau 1984: 4).

George Washington's diary indicates that he visited the area in 1787 to fish Trout Run. During this visit, he noted that most of the encampment-era facilities were in ruins or located within newly-grown woodland.

Despite the devastation wrought by the encampment, as James Kurtz notes in his study of the village,
"industry and the town of Valley Forge rebounded due to the water power of Valley Creek. A new forge and dam were [soon] built by William Dewees, Isaac Potts and Isaac's brother, David. On the Chester County side of the creek, a rolling and slitting mill was erected in one of the buildings reportedly used by the army.'" (Kurtz 1990: 26)

The land to the west of Valley Creek and to the north of Nutt's Road however, did not initially participate in the industrial development of the region. James White's property was conveyed to Maj. William Bodley at some time between 1778 and 1780. Bodley died in 1780. His son Thomas sold a 139-acre parcel in 1782 to Joseph Shambough, after which the property continued to support small agricultural endeavors, but over time continued to be subdivided into smaller and smaller residential units.

Along Valley Creek, industrial activities continued to evolve. By 1784, Isaac Potts had acquired a majority interest in the remaining forge, renaming the business Isaac Potts & Co. By 1790, the company was known as the Valley Works (Figure 3). Despite the hard work and dedication of the Potts family to their industrial enterprises, profound changes in manufacturing were occurring at the turn of the century. Potts attempted unsuccessfully to sell the property in October of 1790, describing the property as:
"A forceable forge, with four fires and two hammers, well founded on a large dam of 17 feet head and fall. Also an excellent slitting and rolling mill upon the same dam, with a large stone coal house to each. Also a good stone house and barn, blacksmith and cooper's shop, with a small number of houses to accommodate workmen. With these will be sold about 650 acres of land, of which about 15 acres of watered meadow, 50 ditto plowland, the remainder woodland." (Pennsylvania Gazette, VAFO Archives, Kurtz 1990: 26-27)

Isaac Potts was finally able to sell the mill tract along Valley Creek in 1793. New owner Jacob Paul operated the mill for the next twenty-four years. David Potts died in 1798. While his heirs held on to the property for a time, they were unable to maintain its established industrial activities. By 1802, the slitting mill was no longer in operation, and the early nineteenth century is generally considered to have witnessed the end of wrought iron production within the Valley Forge area. In 1805, Potts' heirs sold the property to Sam Hockley. Over the next decade, the property changed hands numerous times. In 1806, a 336-acre property that included Potts family land was acquired by Ralph Peacock. It was sold to George Suckley in 1807, Rebecca Robbins in 1808, Jacob Vogdes in 1814, and later that year by John Rogers and Joshua Malin. During this period, the iron industry declined in the region and the "last forge at Valley Forge was in ruins by 1816." (Kurtz 1990: 27)

In 1817, Jacob Paul attempted unsuccessfully to sell his gristmill property. An advertisement listing the property for sale at that time described it as:
"a large stone Merchant Mill with two water wheels and two pair of burr, and one pair of country mill

stones, and a saw mill, all in good repair and a large stone dwelling house, and barn, with about 30 or 40 acres of land, part of which is covered with timber, and the remainder meadow and arable land of superior quality. The mill is situate upon the banks of the river, from which flour can be loaded into boats, and wheat taken from boats into the mill. Logs also may be rafted for sawing. The mills are perhaps not inferior to any in the country for water power or situation for business, and the improvements of the Schuylkill about to be completed will render them increasingly valuable." (Kurtz 1990: 29)

This advertisement makes reference to "improvements of the Schuylkill about to be completed." These improvements were likely those associated with the Schuylkill Navigation Company's early nineteenth century establishment of a canal on the river. Formed in 1815 to improve commercial navigation of the river, which had always been a popular route for transporting goods, the Schuylkill Navigation Company and its commissioners were empowered to not only "destroy but to prevent the erection of all wears, racks, fish dams, and baskets" that created navigational hazards for commercial vessels in order to allow for the establishment of a canal over portions of the river corridor. This power was based on a long-standing conflict between commercial use of the river and general transportation and fishing uses that had led to the passage of various bills restricting impediments to river traffic. For the most part, these bills were not effectively enforced. Establishment of a canal on the Schuylkill would require resolution of this issue once and for all.

In 1823, the Schuylkill Navigation Company established commercial canal operations on the river. The canal was composed of slackwater sections located within the river corridor, and excavated prism sections that paralleled the river. The portion of the river located between Catfish Island—a short distance to the south and downstream from the component landscape—and Pawlings Ford to the north was dammed to create a slackwater section. Using dams, the water level of the river was raised to a navigable level. Locks were integrated into the dams to raise or lower boats to the level of the adjacent canal section. Upstream, much of the canal was formed through excavation of a canal prism. The establishment of the canal was a boon to the area, greatly increasing the accessibility of commercial markets by local industry.

Components of the canal system included, in addition to dams and locks, a towpath, retaining walls, bridge crossings of tributary streams along the towpath, and wharves that allowed for the transfer of goods and materials between land and the barges. Within the component landscape, wharves were constructed to the north of Washington's Headquarters. The canal towpath, located between 1823 and 1846 on the river's northern bank, was relocated to the southern bank, and thus the component landscape, as part of a canal improvement project. Relocation of the towpath required construction of a towpath bridge across Valley Creek and stone retaining walls along the river's edge. The earliest towpath bridges were constructed of wood. Later, steel structures replaced the wooden bridges. Within the component landscape, the configuration of the towpath and its bridge across Valley Creek was affected by a circa 1850s expansion of the Reading rail line that had been established along the river in the 1830s. Rail line improvements led to a partial filling of the mouth of Valley Creek, and relocation of the towpath bridge farther north.

The canal greatly enhanced the industrial endeavors that had continued to center along Valley Creek during the first part of the nineteenth century. A primary figure in the development of local industry during this period was John Rogers. After the late eighteenth/early nineteenth century demise of the iron forges, Rogers erected new structures and adapted existing buildings on his property in order to manufacture domestic hardware. He established a new complex of buildings that included a three-story factory east of Valley Creek, a rebuilt version of the rolling and slitting mill with a new tilt wheel, a small foundry, a frame structure, and a dam. Initially, the enterprise set about manufacturing domestic hardware to fill the shortages caused by the War of 1812. The end of the war, however, led to a downturn in the fortunes of this enterprise. Rogers again reworked his operations, taking on two new partners and establishing a saw factory and metal tool manufactory in the existing structure located to the east of Valley Creek. The rolling and slitting mill was adapted to manufacture boiler-plates and sheet and band iron.

In 1818, Rogers established one of the first crucible steel furnaces in America along Valley Creek that produced cast steel to be used in the saws: "A furnace was built in the back end of the rolling-mill, but

did not prove large enough; then a large stack was erected between the rolling-mill and the smith-shop, and six furnaces were built around it. Here cast steel of good quality for use in saws was made" (Futhey 1881: 348; Kurtz 1990: 30)

Although this enterprise was short-lived, Rogers was able to establish an armory in 1821 due to a contract with the federal government to produce muskets. Rogers added two stories to the existing rolling and slitting mill, and over the next few years the factory produced approximately 20,000 muskets. This effort, in conjunction with a textile mill that was opened in an existing hardware factory later that year, helped to stabilize the economy of the village. In response, various new dwellings were built, and two new stores were opened. In 1832, historian Thomas Gordon described the Village of Valley Forge as a bustling settlement at the confluence of Valley Creek that included about 30 houses, a cotton manufactory, merchant grist mill, tavern, and two stores.

John Rogers continued to oversee industrial activities on the property until 1836, when declining finances forced him to sell the textile mill to a partnership composed of George Hill and Colonel Jason Waters. Their subsequent enterprise manufactured Kentucky jean cloth in the mill until 1840, when they opted to sell the textile machinery. The gun factory and the associated dam on Valley Creek were destroyed between 1839 and 1843 by flooding. (Kurtz 1990: 34)

Many of the workers employed in the various industrial enterprises located at Valley Forge were provided lodging in company tenements and row houses developed during the period by the company owners. These multiple-family units were located to either side of Valley Creek and along Nutt's Road. Single-family dwellings also existed along Nutt's Road to the west of Valley Creek.

Schools, churches, and a hotel were established after 1830. A school was established in 1836 to the west of Valley Forge, and Methodist Episcopal and Baptist Churches were established in the 1830s. The Baptist Church was constructed on property donated by John Workizer. The Methodist Episcopal Church was constructed at the west end of town on property donated by Isaiah Thropp in 1837.

Elsewhere within the area, the tract that included Washington's Headquarters and the gristmill continued to be owned by the Paul family until 1826, when a 114-acre parcel was conveyed to Joseph Thomas. Thomas quickly sold the land to James Jones. Jones was a member of group interested in establishing an alternative community at Valley Forge that followed the economic principles conceived by Robert Owen. Jones purchased the property after the community defaulted on their mortgage for land within the Valley Forge landscape. The Jones family settled on the property, and would become long-time residents of the area.

James Jones' son Caleb described the property in 1837 in a letter to his sister Hannah Jones Ogden as follows:
"The place is growing fast and may in a few years be something of a town...No less than 3 new dwellings are to be built this spring on father's land just about us here, & Col. Waters intends to erect some this summer perhaps. Isaiah Thropp has begun to dig a foundation for a block of houses between his store and the large house where Whitman's lived; & if you come here to live, father will probably build a house for you between the end of the hall & the barn in a row with them." (Letter, copy in VAFO archives; Kurtz 1990: 33)

Hannah Jones Ogden herself soon moved to the property, which included the Washington's Headquarters building as well as other houses that appear to have been rented. During the latter part of the 1830s and the first half of the 1840s, her husband Thomas Ogden operated a cabinet factory in a structure located near the Headquarters building along the gristmill race until he was hired to manage a textile mill in 1843. Ogden's cabinet factory appears to have been adapted as an agricultural implements factory after 1845 by an E. Potts.

The Jones and Rogers family properties were linked through industry during the 1840s and 1850s. In 1841, the remainder of the industrial complex previously owned by John Rogers was listed in a sheriff 's sale advertisement. It was described as including a large cotton factory, gun factory, stone mansion, twenty dwellings, large frame barn, shoemaker's shop with an ice house, blacksmith's

shop, slaughter house, five spring houses, and numerous outbuildings. The property was acquired by Charles Rogers, John Rogers' nephew. In 1843, the Potts gristmill burned due to sparks from a passing locomotive. Hannah Ogden's father, James Jones, built a new mill the next year to the south along the existing race. Charles Rogers re-opened the textile mill in 1844, hiring James Ogden to manage its operations. Rogers also purchased a nearby store and dwelling in 1847. By 1854, Rogers' mill employed at least 100 people to operate the machines. In 1857, however, the textile business failed and the store and dwelling tract were sold at sheriff's sale in 1860. The textile business sat idle for the next four years. (Kurtz 1990: 34)

In 1861, Rogers was finally able lease the mill to Joseph Shaw who used the factory to produce jeans, doeskins, and government jerseys during the Civil War. Shaw may have resided in Rogers' mansion, which Rogers had unsuccessfully attempted to sell earlier. The now profitable textile mill enterprise was taken over by Shaw's son-in-law Isaac Smith after Shaw's death in 1863. Smith operated the textile mill for the next twenty years. He later constructed a large home to the west of Valley Creek. In 1868, Rogers sold his mansion to Shaw's widow Sarah, who owned the land until her death in 1903.

Hannah Jones Ogden eventually became the sole owner of the Washington's Headquarters dwelling. She retained ownership until 1878 when she agreed to sell the structure to the Centennial and Memorial Association in support of its goal to commemorate the Revolutionary War encampment of the Continental Army and preserve the house for its important historical associations.

To the north of the Jones tract, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad established, in the 1830s, a rail line that paralleled the river's southern bank. A depot was also constructed to the south of the rail line during this period. Local industries utilized the station to ship their goods and products (Figure 4).

Elsewhere within the component landscape, industrial activities continued to evolve. During the 1840s, Isaiah Thropp established a textile mill in the area, adapting a former oil/fulling mill located along the stream to the west of Valley Creek for the manufacture of cotton cloth (Figure 5). Additionally, a shoddy mill was established near the railroad depot in 1858, and a free stone quarry and wharf were developed to the west of Valley Creek by Nathan Jones at around the same time.

Industrial use of the region's stream and river corridors had a dramatic effect on their character and configuration. The dams utilized to impound Valley Creek and harness its water power helped to form large ponds between Valley Forge Farm and the meadow area just south of the stream's confluence with the Schuylkill River (Figure 6). Silt deposits ten or more feet thick built up behind the impoundments, and the stream channel shifted in response to the damming. The stream banks and floodplains were also highly manipulated, including being leveled and terraced in order to accommodate the development of industrial complexes and the recreational use of the ponds, and through the quarrying of materials along the stream corridor. The creek and the river were also subjected to re-grading through construction and improvement of the Reading rail line during the 1830s and 1850s. The formation of a raised embankment to accommodate the rail line also significantly altered the physical and visual relationship between the village, Headquarters, and the river.

An 1859 description of the Village of Valley Forge indicates that buildings and structures in the area at the time included: Rogers' cotton factory, a grist mill/store, hotel, at least 25 houses, Thropp's cotton factory, a store, post office, a rail station, bridges associated with carrying the rail lines over Valley Creek, and the dams associated with the mills (Figure 7). An 1861 description of the area around Washington's Headquarters suggests that the dwelling was "an eminence" with a commanding view of the village. Within view were two rows of white houses with gardens along their fronts leading towards the river, the creek bordered by a road and factories, and the stone bridge that provided access across Valley Creek for Nutt's Road (Figure 8).

During the 1860s, the industrial character of the area again began to change. A paper mill was established by Isaiah Knauer after 1860 within the structure formerly operated as a grist mill by the Jones family (Figure 9). The paper mill was destroyed by an explosion and later a fire in 1876-1877.

It was sold in 1876 to M.C. Pennypacker, who rebuilt the structure. By 1880, the mill "was doing an extensive business under the management of John Hoy, of Philadelphia." Description of the village at this time noted that:
"Valley Forge is a manufacturing place, and there is a constant hum of machinery from the paper, flour and woolen mills. The neat little houses of the factory hands are gay with flowers and vines, while the handsome residence of the mill-owner towers castle-like above them. Past all these dwellings, at the end of the street, stands the old-fashioned stone edifice hallowed by Washington's presence." (Kurtz 1990: 17,42)

Due to local industry, the village continued to support a healthy residential population. Housing was constructed throughout the middle nineteenth century. In 1876, for example, Isaiah Thropp's property to the north of Nutt's Road and to the west of Valley Creek was purchased by Catherine McGlathery who subdivided it into building lots. Over the next decades, a row of good-sized Victorian houses was constructed on the lots.

Theodore Bean's 1884 History of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania provides additional insight into the character of the Village of Valley Forge toward the latter part of the century:
"The village of Valley Forge is situated on the south bank of the Schuylkill and at the mouth of East Valley Creek, which here forms for nearly a mile and a half the boundary between the counties of Montgomery and Chester. It is six miles above Norritown and twenty-three from Philadelphia. That portion of it comprised within the limits of Upper Merion contains a store, grist-mill, paper-mill and ten houses. The Methodists have held services at the place since 1870….On the Chester County side there are a factory, store, post-office and fifteen houses. Palm Paper-Mill is under the management of Colonel Joseph Jordan, and does an extensive business. The Reading Railroad has a station here, and crosses the creek near its mouth on a bridge some thirty feet above the water, from which a beautiful view is offered looking up the stream. Among the interesting objects seen are the falls of the dams of the grist-mill and paper-mill, a short distance above each other, and of the venerable stone bridge crossing it about one hundred yards above; these, with the deep gorge of the stream and the high and rugged hills rising on either side and hemming in the village, form an interesting sight….The hills on both sides of the creek are generally steep, rugged and wooded to their summits, and present a wild appearance, much more so than one might expect from the populousness of the surrounding country." (Bean 1884: 1122)

Despite its success, the paper mill was sold to the American Palm Leaf Company in 1880. The operation utilized palm leaves and rags to manufacture paper. The endeavor failed soon thereafter, however, and was replaced by a much smaller parchment manufacturing operation that lasted through the early 1890s. Just prior to the failure of the paper mill, Isaac Smith's woolen mill was closed down when Smith decided to relocate his operations to another community. The industrial activity centering along Valley Creek suddenly waned in the early 1890s; existing facilities were left to crumble, and the workers were forced to move away.

While the industrial core along Valley Creek never regained its former glory after 1890, industrial activities continued to exist within the Valley Forge area for many years. A stone crusher was established near the river to produce sand used in regional iron furnaces, and a water bottling plant—Colonial Springs—was constructed on Mount Misery to take advantage of a free-flowing spring. The Colonial Springs bottling plant complex, established by Colonel Benjamin Franklin Fisher included a dam, two dwelling complexes, the bottling plant, and various outbuildings (Figure 10).

Commemorative Activities:
Beginning in the second quarter of the nineteenth century, interest in marking the site of the Continental Army's Revolutionary War-era encampment at Valley Forge began to grow. Revered for its contribution to American independence,
"Valley Forge [began to serve] as a site for political rallies, military training, and group outings. Anniversary celebrations were held at Valley Forge as early as July 26, 1828, when a semicentennial commemoration event called 'Harvest Home' was held with over 4,000 people in attendance. At most of these events, picnics were held." (Kurtz 1990: 43)

Between 1842 and 1845, local landowner Dr. Isaac Pennypacker began to call for the preservation

and memorialization of the land associated with the encampment of the Continental Army at Valley Forge. He recommended the construction of a memorial marker on Mount Joy, preservation of the area as an eighteenth century scene reflecting conditions as they had existed during the encampment, and acquisition and preservation of lands integral to the encampment for the edification of future generations.

While nothing came of Pennypacker's early efforts, the site remained a popular site for political rallies and speeches due to its historic and symbolic associations. In 1840, a rally was held in support of Whig party nominees during the presidential campaign. In 1844, Daniel Webster spoke on behalf of presidential candidate Henry Clay at a Valley Forge rally. In 1852, the Whigs held a second presidential rally. Over 20,000 people attended the rally, 4,000 of them arriving by rail from Philadelphia. In 1861, a patriotic rally was held on behalf of Abraham Lincoln. (Unrau 1984: 25)

It was not until 1877, on the eve of the centennial anniversary of the encampment, however, that the general interest taken by local residents and others in marking the site of the encampment was organized and mobilized sufficiently to begin to effect preservation of the encampment's physical environment. On December 18, 1877, various residents of Valley Forge met at the Boyer House—the residence of woolen mill operator Isaac Smith—to discuss commemoration of the upcoming centennial anniversary of the departure of the Continental Army. The group elected to form the Centennial Association of Valley Forge to oversee the organization of an event to mark the anniversary. They also established as a goal future potential acquisition of the dwelling utilized as Washington's Headquarters during the encampment.

The event organized by the Centennial Association of Valley Forge for June 19, 1878, included a parade of troops, booths for the sale of food and memorabilia, and a tent dinner, and attracted a crowd of 50,000. It was one of the "largest historical events ever to take place at Valley Forge." Monies sufficient for a down payment on the Washington's Headquarters building were raised during the event. A second group, modeled after the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, was soon chartered by local residents—the Centennial and Memorial Association of Valley Forge—in order to effect the purchase of the Washington's Headquarters building from Hannah Ogden for the sum of $6,000. To raise the remaining funds, the group offered shares of stock in the organization, held dinners, lecturers, and concerts, and otherwise solicited donations from community members. A local economic downturn, however, greatly inhibited fund-raising efforts during the 1880s. (Kurtz 1990: 44-45)

While private donations proved insufficient to pay off the mortgage on the property, privately-run institutions and the Pennsylvania state legislature later provided the Centennial and Memorial Association with enough funds to complete the purchase of the Headquarters building. The Pennsylvania Camp of the Patriotic Order Sons of America helped the association by collecting $3,000 in 1885, and the State Legislature of Pennsylvania later contributed $5,000.

With $8,000 in hand, the Centennial and Memorial Association was also able to acquire additional parcels and undertake a major renovation of the Headquarters building and grounds. They erected a flagstaff, constructed a log cabin on the site of an existing stone annex to the Headquarters, vaulted a subterranean passageway that tradition suggested led to the river during the encampment, constructed a warden' lodge, "beautified" and "adorned" the grounds, acquired 1.5 acres of additional land from Nathan Jones that included "Washington's Spring," extended existing fencing, and planted 52 new trees. The site quickly became a popular picnicking destination. In 1893, the US Navy donated a large cannon for public display at the Headquarters building, and an additional 100 shade trees were planted within the lawn area behind the building.

A visit to the area by S. Gordon Smyth in the late 1880s or early 1890s prompted the following description of the Headquarters property:
"At the time of my visit to it the property consisted of two or more acres of land laid down in lawn and well shaded by fruit and forest trees, with the house standing well forward toward the street. Unfortunately, however, the custodian's house was built in an angle of the lawn close to the highway which partially obscures the view of the headquarters when approached from the main corners of the village. Though the cottage is prettily designed, it is of the Eastlake type and very much at variance

with the simple colonial design of the mansion."

"On the lawn in front are two cannon each inscribed with the royal signet of George III. Upon the adjoining property recently acquired and made part of the reservation stand the old barn which originally belonged tot the Potts premises. This is also of stone and seemingly as durable as the dwelling. This building was used by Washington as a hospital during the cantonment. Nearby is the dwelling of Mrs. Hattie Mews, a granddaughter of James Jones who became possessed of a portion of the headquarters property by a transfer from Isaac Potts. When James Jones took possession of his part of the property, and began to clear it, he gathered up several tons of cannon balls." (Unrau 1984: 59)

The Centennial and Memorial Association continued to make improvements to the property as their financial resources would allow. In 1894, the association acquired a 1.25-acre parcel nearby that included a stone house and barn thought to have been utilized as a hospital during the encampment. A model school house used in a parade was erected behind the warden's house. In 1898, the governors of each of the original 13 colonies were asked to donate a tree for a circular planting to be established near the Headquarters on Arbor Day. Additionally, in 1900, the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution furnished two rooms of the Headquarters. The Patriotic Order Sons of America remained committed to the preservation of this symbol of American freedom, continued to support its development, and eventually established their headquarters nearby along Nutt's Road to the west of Valley Creek.

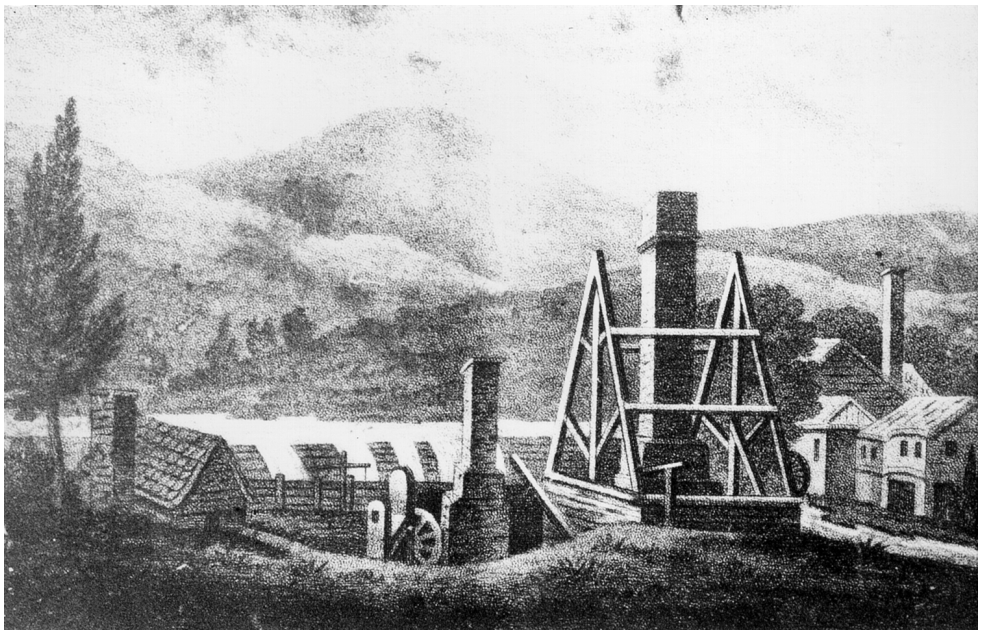


Figure 3. Valley Works, ca. 1814.

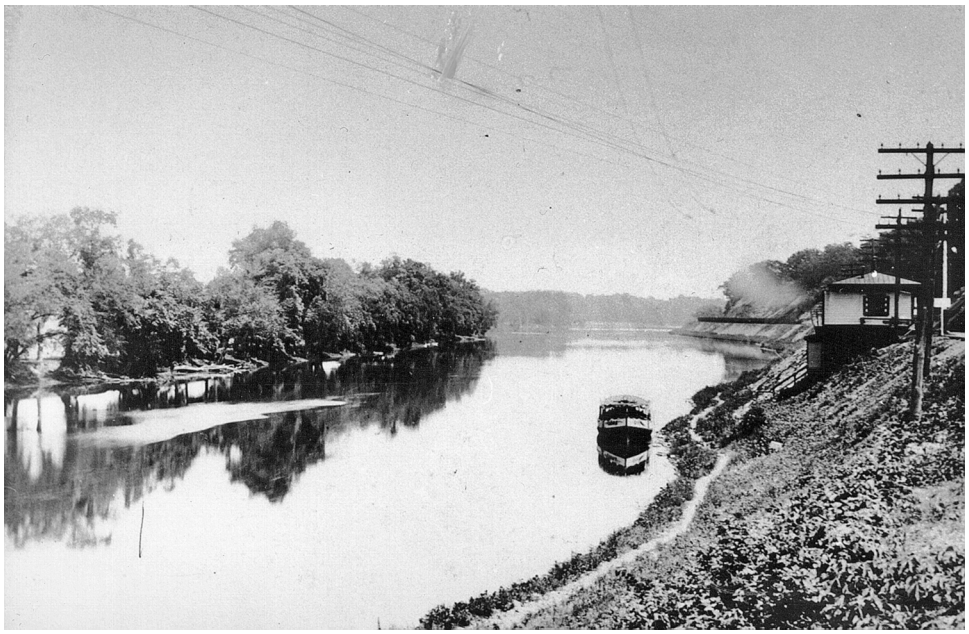


Figure 4. Valley Forge Train Station with towpath and boat landing. ca. late 1800s.

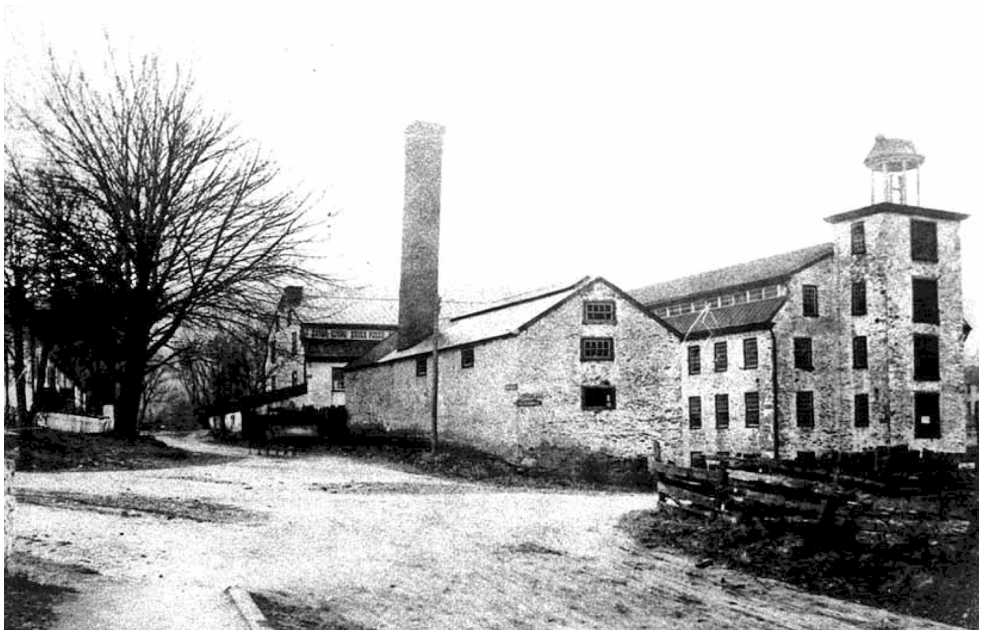


Figure 5. Cotton Mill, ca. late 1800s.

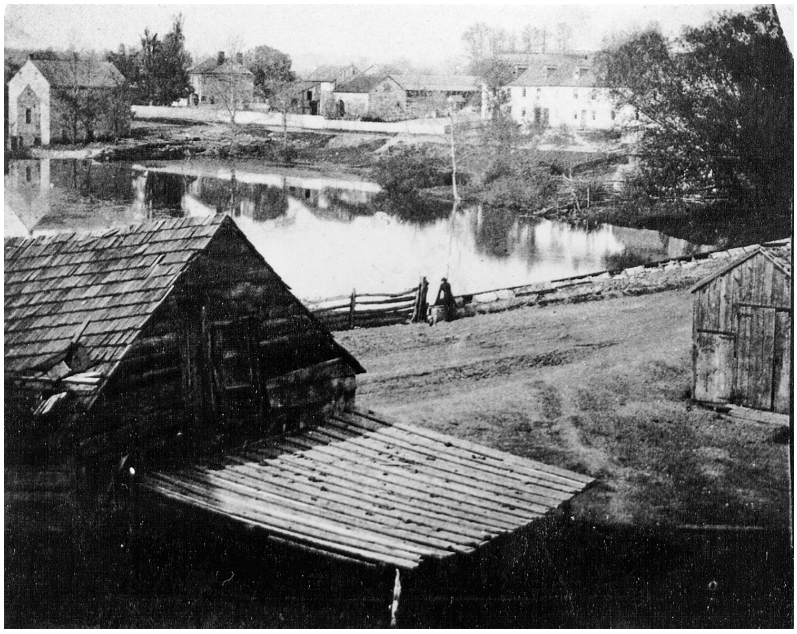


Figure 6. Jones Mill and tenement houses; lower mill platform in foreground, ca. mid 1800s.

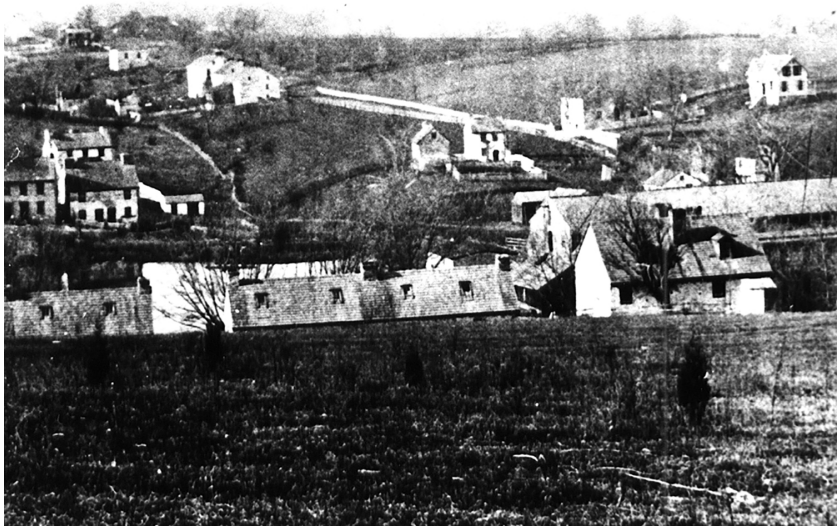


Figure 7. Winter view of Village of Valley Forge, ca. 1890

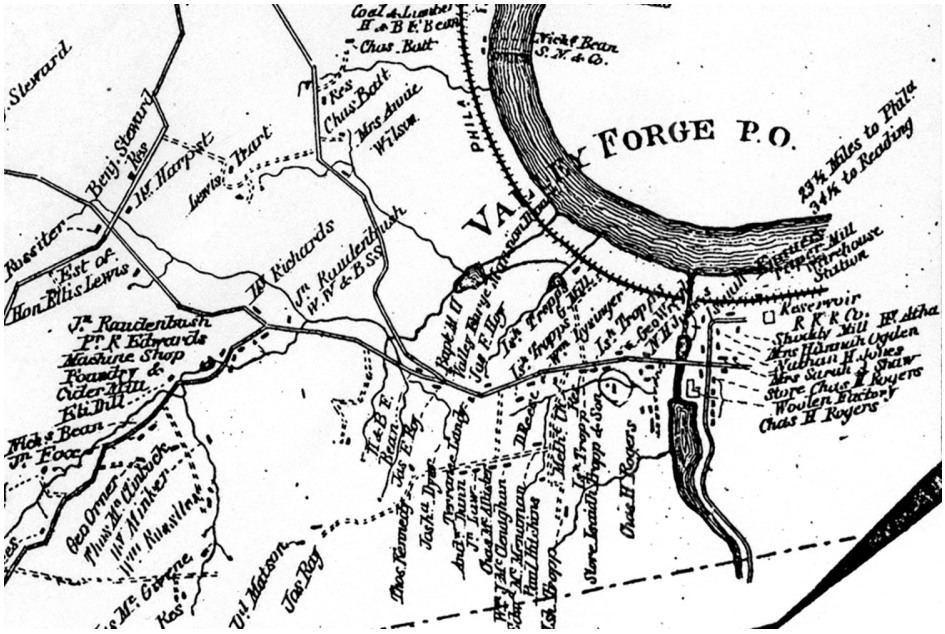


Figure 8. Detail of the Village of Valley Forge, from the 1873 Witmer's Atlas.

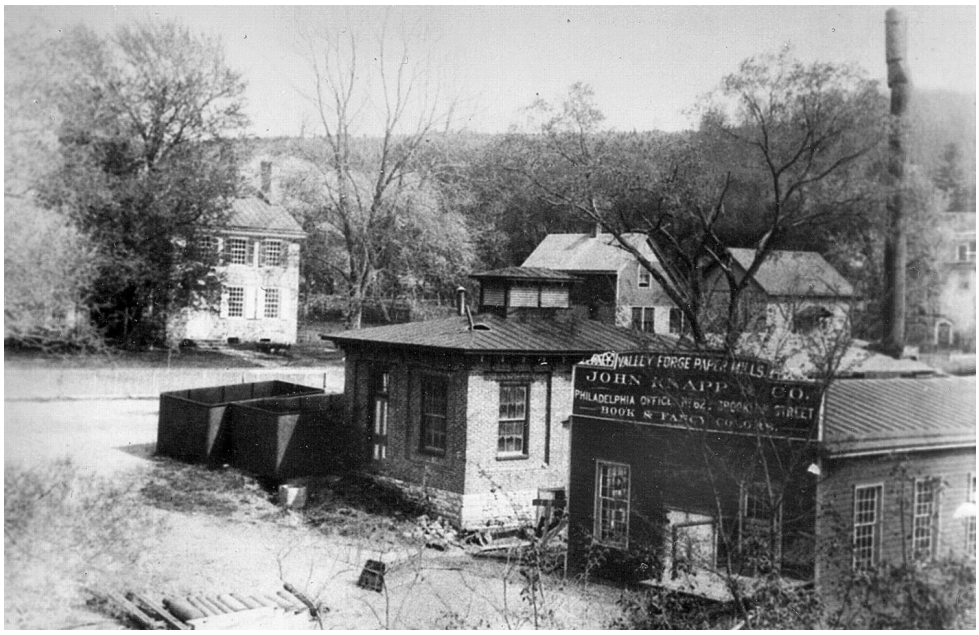
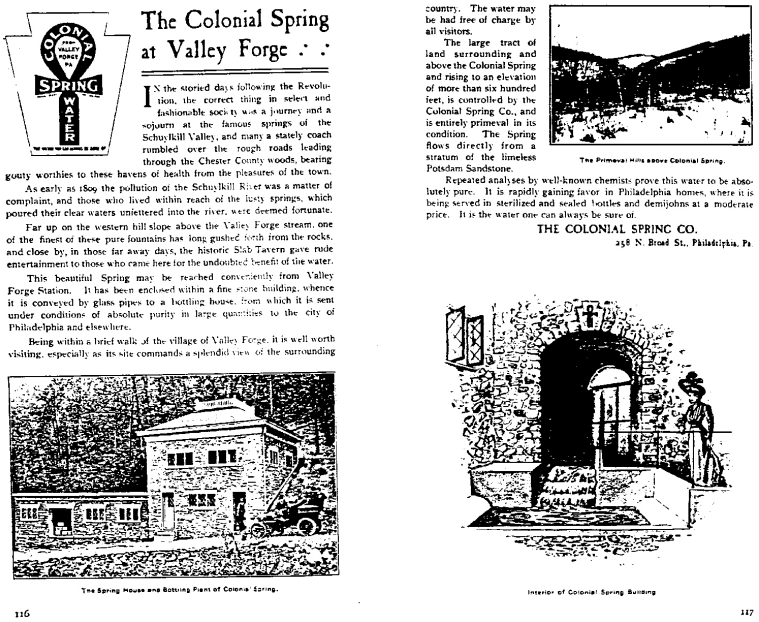


Figure 9. North end of paper mill, with railroad pump house, Washington's Headquarters, Caretaker's House, and Jones House in background, ca. mid 1800s



The Colonial Spring at Valley Forge

IN the storied days following the Revolution, the correct thing in select and fashionable society was a journey and a sojourn at the famous springs of the Schuylkill Valley, and many a stately coach rumbled over the rough roads leading through the Chester County woods, bearing gouty worthies to these havens of health from the pleasures of the town.

As early as 1809 the pollution of the Schuylkill River was a matter of complaint, and those who lived within reach of the lusty springs, which poured their clear waters unfettered into the river, were deemed fortunate.

Far up on the western hill slope above the Valley Forge stream, one of the finest of these pure fountains has long gushed forth from the rocks, and close by, in those far away days, the historic Slab Tavern gave rude entertainment to those who came here for the undoubted benefit of the water.

This beautiful Spring may be reached conveniently from Valley Forge Station. It has been enclosed within a fine stone building, whence it is conveyed by glass pipes to a bottling house, from which it is sent under conditions of absolute purity in large quantities to the city of Philadelphia and elsewhere.

Being within a brief walk of the village of Valley Forge, it is well worth visiting, especially as its site commands a splendid view of the surrounding country. The water may be had free of charge by all visitors.

The large tract of land surrounding and above the Colonial Spring and rising to an elevation of more than six hundred feet, is controlled by the Colonial Spring Co., and is entirely primeval in its condition. The Spring flows directly from a stratum of the limeless Potsdam Sandstone.

The Primeval Hills above Colonial Spring.

Repeated analyses by well-known chemists prove this water to be absolutely pure. It is rapidly gaining favor in Philadelphia homes, where it is being served in sterilized and sealed bottles and demijohns at a moderate price. It is the water one can always be sure of.

THE COLONIAL SPRING CO.
258 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa

The Spring House and Bottling Plant of Colonial Spring.

Interior of Colonial Spring Building

116 117

Figure 10. Advertisement for Colonial Springs Company, 1905.

STATE PARK ERA, 1893–1976

Interest in Valley Forge continued to grow during the late 1880 and early 1890s. Numbers of visitors began to grow rapidly. The focus of most visitors was Washington's Headquarters, but they also enjoyed picnicking and exploring the surrounding countryside for surviving earthworks and possible Revolutionary War-era gravesites. Individuals, such as Francis Brooke, a grain merchant from

Philadelphia, began to lobby the state legislature to establish a state park at Valley Forge, and the press supported the idea. On May 30, 1893, these efforts were rewarded when the Pennsylvania legislature established the state's first park. They also created a park commission of ten appointed citizens, known as the Commissioners of Valley Forge Park, to administer the site and request funds as needed from the General Assembly. The park was to exclude the property of the Centennial and Memorial Association.

The commission's first task was to determine the boundaries for the new park. They commissioned a careful topographic and boundary survey of the area to the east of Valley Creek and to the west of Washington Lane from Haupt and Franklin, engineers from Philadelphia. Based on the map, the commissioners identified an area, approximately 217 acres in size, which would form the basis for the park. By 1894, they had acquired all 217 acres.

The map produced by Haupt and Franklin is quite detailed, and provides valuable insight into the arrangement of landscape features in 1893 (Figure 11). The map indicates the names and parcel configurations of land owners at the time, the alignments and names of local roads, the extent of woodland cover, topography, and buildings and structures. The industrial and residential development along Valley Creek is clearly depicted, and the map serves as an important record of this area just prior to its demise. The initial park area identified by the commission included a small portion of the Washington's Headquarters area, namely a thin rectangle of land between the Reading Railroad line and Port Kennedy Road paralleling the river abutting the Headquarters precinct to the east.

The park commissioners soon determined, however, that the original reservation was not sufficient for visitors to understand the history of the encampment. In 1895, they recommended that an additional 250 acres be acquired for inclusion within the park. They also recommended that roads and paths be constructed to render the entrenchment and redoubts more accessible, and that a drive or broad avenue be established along the entire outer line of entrenchments. The commissioners at this time also advocated that the state acquire the Washington's Headquarters building and precinct through condemnation.

The developments proposed by the commission in the mid-1890s were not immediately effected. The state was only able to allocate small amounts of monies each year for the park, and the large amount of funds that would be necessary to support the commissioners' recommendations were slow in coming. In fact, it was not until 1903 that the General Assembly, under the recently elected Governor Pennypacker, provided funds sufficient for the additional land acquisition and road construction projects recommended in 1895. Soon thereafter, the park was enlarged to almost 400 acres and a six-mile loop drive was constructed. At this time, the commission began to invite individual states whose troops had been involved in the encampment to erect monuments at the park.

In 1905, the park commission,
"notified the Association that 'they proposed to condemn the Headquarters property … and take possession of the same.' This action took the Association by surprise since the original act creating the Park Commission had exempted the Headquarters. A subsequent revision of the act, however, did not extend this exemption. Condemnation proceedings resulted in an award to the Association of $18,000. The Association Committee accepted this amount provided a tablet be placed in the Headquarters commemorating the contributions of the Association. The tablet request was initially denied but one had been set in place by 1909." (Kurtz 1990: 51-52)

The Centennial and Memorial Association, suddenly without the administrative responsibility of Washington's Headquarters, elected to disband in 1912. Once they had acquired the Headquarters building, the commission began to beautify the area around it, creating a "Village Green Or Recreation Ground" which included picnic facilities. (Kurtz 1990: 53)

During this period, the commission also worked to enhance the setting of the new public park. They recommended the removal of the many former, and in many cases abandoned, industrial properties located along Valley Creek in the vicinity of the Headquarters building. These properties were

condemned by the commonwealth, which subsequently demolished buildings and dams, re-graded the land, and generally worked to remove evidence of the area's nineteenth century industrial history (Figure 12). Industrial features were replaced with open lawns, ornamental plantings, visitor facilities, and other developments characteristic of a memorial park.

Although the stated goal of these improvements was restoration of the eighteenth-century encampment-era landscape, for the most part they resulted in a beautification of the landscape and its transformation into a pastoral recreation ground. The beautification improvements likely contributed to the enjoyment of visitors, and conveyed the commission's reverence for the site's history. As Harlan Unrau notes in his study of the administrative history of the park, the encampment was transformed "into a beautiful park." A contemporary description of the park suggests the character of the evolving landscape:
"Beautiful drives and walks place every feature of the encampment within easy access of the visitor and the Commission maintains a Park Guard who guide the visitors and protect all objects of interest from desecration. Picnic grounds and suitable camping grounds have been established. The whole Encampment has a park-like appearance; the grass is kept cut like a lawn, the groves are kept clear of briars, while wildflowers grow in profusion and growths of laurel dot the hills and roadsides." (Unrau 1984: 137-138)

Land acquisition also continued throughout the decade. In 1905, the state legislature authorized acquisition of some 1,000 additional acres for the park. An appropriation of $115,000 was intended to support purchase or condemnation of land, improvement of existing roads, laying out of new roads, construction of fences, securing of necessary water supplies, erection of markers to identify encampment-era troop positions, planting of trees and lawn, and erection of three guard houses. The park was subsequently enlarged to approximately 468 acres. Improvements that were effected during this period include, for example, a road constructed in front of the Headquarters building to allow for two-way traffic, and a stone fence constructed between the road and the entrance to the building between 1909 and 1910. The commission also developed plans to remove non-historic features such as the warden's lodge established by the Centennial and Memorial Association.

Local transportation networks allowed great numbers of visitors to see the new park. The Reading rail line, with its local depot, brought many visitors from the city of Philadelphia. In 1911, a new train station was constructed near the Headquarters building. It was designed in a neo-Colonial style of architecture to be compatible with Headquarters. Associated improvements made by Reading at the time included covered platforms, a steamboat landing, a tunnel under the tracks for pedestrian access to the river, and removal of existing unsightly coal chutes. The line's embankments were to be planted with shrubs. In 1913, a trolley line was established that connected the park with Phoenixville to the west. The Phoenixville, Valley Forge & Strafford Electric Company provided access to the Headquarters area. The line was short-lived, however, and had been abandoned by the 1920s. A good system of local roads already existed at this time. As automobiles came into popular use, the park commission frequently requested funds of the State Legislature to be utilized in improving park roads, and slowly these systems were modernized.

Another important aspect of park development during this period was the design, siting, and erection of monuments. States were invited to erect monuments within the park to mark the encampment-era hut locations of their brigades. In 1914, the State of Delaware erected a memorial marker within the component landscape along River Road to the northeast of Headquarters. The Governor of Delaware presided over the dedication ceremonies. The role of the monument was described as so: "that they who come here from year to year may see and know that Delaware has not been unmindful of the debt she owes to her Revolutionary sires." Other monuments erected within the component landscape included one on the site of Washington's Commander-in-Chief's Guard in 1921, another at the site of the Lower Forge also in 1921, and a memorial hut (1968) and marker to the Marylanders (1963) along Nutt's Road. In 1913, the Patriotic Society Sons of America erected a tablet at a memorial tree that had been grown from a cutting of a tree taken at Mount Vernon in 1888 by a member of the society. (Unrau 1984: 135)

Other improvements undertaken within the component landscape in support of park development during the 1910s included construction of a parking area and a storage shed near the Headquarters,

construction of a public water line to the Headquarters in 1912, establishment of a water station and toilet facilities in 1913, and a symbolic planting of 13 white oak trees between Nutt's Road and the flagpole. In 1914, additional parking spaces were constructed near the storage shed. Additional lands totaling 275 acres were acquired by the state in 1916, enlarging the park to 766 acres. The acquisition included the meadow lands abutting Valley Creek. The meadows were cleared of brush and planted with lawn and shade trees. Land acquisition continued in 1917 and 1918. By 1919, the park had grown to 1,430 acres.

In 1920, the Patriotic Order Sons of America constructed their headquarters building on the west bank of Valley Creek. Later that year, they began to petition the state to establish Valley Creek Road as a state highway in order to facilitate and fund much needed repairs and road widening work. They were ultimately successful, and this work enhanced use of the road as a park entrance corridor.

During the 1920s, the focus of park development shifted from monument construction and visitor accessibility to restoration of the landscape to an historically accurate portrayal of encampment-era character. Valley Creek, for example, was targeted to be restored "as nearly as possible to its condition at the time of the great encampment" through removal of silt deposits which had formed over 150 years behind the dams associated with local industry (Figure 13). The dammed creek corridor, which had previously been used for recreation and boating, was to be returned to its original wild and picturesque appearance. During execution of the work, the remains of a forge, possibly the Lower Forge constructed in 1778, were uncovered. The slopes of the creek were re-graded to make it more visible from nearby roads, its floodplain was re-graded, and hemlock trees were planted. The iron spans of the abandoned trolley line were also removed at this time. The stone arch of the Nutt's Road bridge across the creek was restored by Montgomery and Chester County road crews. Elsewhere, reforestation was undertaken on Mount Misery and Mount Joy, along the riverfront, and east of headquarters to restore "the woodlands that existed in Colonial days throughout the encampment area" (Unrau 1984: 164,234)

Site improvements to facilitate visitor and employee use of the park did continue on a more limited basis during this period. Walks and drives, for example, were re-organized to facilitate visitor access to the Headquarters area, fencing and gardens were established, a barn was converted into a museum, and additional non Revolutionary War-era outbuildings were removed (Figure 14). Some of the buildings located near Headquarters were renovated as park employee housing. A lighting plan was implemented. Parking was relocated away from the front of Headquarters to enhance the historic scene, and planting was undertaken to restore a Colonial character. Images included in a book prepared by the Valley Forge Park Commission in 1922, Valley Forge, A Chronicle of American Heroism, Accurate Camp and Road Maps, includes photographs of the area during the early 1920s. One photograph indicates that rustic style fencing existed along Gulph Road near the Washington Inn (Figure 15).

Besides its historical interest, the park was visited for the recreational opportunities it afforded. During the 1920s, a campground was developed on the northwestern slope of Mount Joy. The park was also used as a forum for public figures who espoused its patriotic associations. In addition to many local politicians, the first part of the twentieth century witnessed events attended by Presidents Theodore Roosevelt, Warren G. Harding, and Herbert Hoover.

In 1923, administration of the park was transferred to the newly created Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters, formed to oversee all state parks and forests. This change appears to have had little affect on the park's daily operations, or on the unpredictability of its annual funding allocations. Almost no monies were appropriated for the park in 1923, for example. In 1925, however, sufficient funds were appropriated to address recommended property condemnations, demolition of buildings, grounds maintenance, installation of interpretive markers park to indicate the historic significance of various landscape features, road improvements, forestry programs, and the development of recreation features.

Preservation-related endeavors that received funding at the time included a study of the Headquarters building by architect Horace Sellers. Sellers advised that the structure had been improperly restored in the past based on in correct conjectural assumptions. He recommended

additional restoration in the interest of historical accuracy.

In 1926, a park landscape plan was developed by Richard S. Burns, who served for many years as park landscape architect. Burns also prepared a land acquisition master plan in 1928 that prioritized potential park expansion. His list of imperative acquisitions included 60 acres west of Headquarters, and 145 acres along the south bank of the Schuylkill River. He added that 120 acres associated with the Village of Valley Forge might be also be acquired, but were of lesser priority.

In 1929, an attempt was made by the park to uncover the remains of eighteenth century forges along Valley Creek. Buried under eight feet of silt, park workmen "uncovered the top of a dam. It marked the site of the Mount Joy forge run by three old timers, Walker, Williamson and Evans; from 1742 to 1752...the upper forge auxiliary to the Mount Joy forge was discovered about a half-mile up Valley Creek across the Chester county side under seven feet of silt." (Kurtz 1990: 58)

Excavation of the upper forge, which necessitated lowering the water level of Valley Creek, was undertaken later that year. The discoveries made at this time included forge artifacts, water wheels, flume remains, and foundation walls. Based on these investigations, Middle Dam was reconstructed in 1930 on its original site. It was also during that year that remains of an earlier forge—possibly that of Stephen Walker dating from 1718—were discovered further upstream under fourteen feet of silt. This discovery has never been verified by later investigations. Its site was not documented at the time and is not currently known.

In the 1930s, the stone bridge over Valley Creek failed. Jacob Orie Clarke, a park engineer, prepared designs for a new structure of Colonial design, using a bridge in Philadelphia's Fairmount Park as a model. Based on Horace Seller's recommendations, Washington's Headquarters was renovated in 1934 to re-establish the architectural appearance of the kitchen wing as a two-story structure, and a log addition was removed. A dwelling located near the park's western entrance was demolished and part of the road margin re-graded to improve the view to the creek from Nutt's Road. In 1937, a commercial restaurant stand located at the intersection of River Drive and Route 23 was removed, guide service began to be offered by park employees, and picnic grounds were located in the meadow along Valley Creek.

Interest in returning the park to its Revolutionary War-era appearance culminated in the development of a restoration plan in 1935 that called for removal of post-encampment era buildings and structures, and recreation of the 18th century setting. The plan was likely modeled on work being undertaken at Williamsburg, Virginia, to recreate a Colonial village. It recommended the establishment of exhibits and re-created structures that would allow visitors to see the types of buildings that housed soldiers during the encampment, and to experience how their bread was baked, and activities such as blacksmithing would have been carried out. The plan recommended that huts, road, trenches, and redoubts be reconstructed using Civilian Conservation Corps labor. A lack of funding precluded work on the plan at Valley Forge during the 1930s and much of the 1940s, however.

Land condemnation and acquisition, and various small-scale site improvements did occur during the 1940s. In 1943, a 42-acre parcel directly across Valley Creek from Headquarters was acquired by the park. A boxwood hedge was planted along the front approach to the headquarters building, wildflowers were planted in the meadows along Valley Creek, and a small cottage along Nutt's Road was equipped with visitor information. In 1947, the Washington Inn building was renovated under the auspices of architect G. Edwin Brumbaugh, one of the nation's best-known preservation architects. The building was rehabilitated to include offices and a library, and to facilitate its interpretation as an eighteenth century bakehouse. Nineteenth century Italianate features and other post-encampment additions were removed at the time. In 1948, replica huts were erected on the site of the Commander-in-Chief's Guard based on a design by Brumbaugh, and a new parking area was added near Headquarters (Figure 16).

During the 1950s, numerous buildings were renovated, including Washington's Headquarters where the second story addition to the kitchen wing was again removed, the spring house east of Headquarters, and the stables building immediately south of Headquarters. Around the buildings, the yard area was re-graded, post and guard chains were erected around the cannon and paved walks

near Headquarters, an additional storage shed was constructed, as were a concession building and a comfort station. During the middle 1950s, a guard house was erected near the Bake House. In 1959, a flagpole was moved to the Bake House lawn. Demolition of non-encampment-era structures on park lands continued during the 1950s and 1960s.

During the 1950s and 1960s, the park thrice served as the site of the annual National Boy Scout Jamboree—in 1950, 1957, and 1964. Since 1913, members of the Boy Scouts of America had been camping at the park during Washington's birthday, attending services held at Washington's Memorial Chapel to mark the occasion. The National Jamborees were a far greater undertaking, however. The large congregations of scouts at the National Boy Scout Jamborees served as a curiosity that in turn drew large numbers of visitors, and important speakers such as then General Eisenhower and President Truman. Facilities, such as water and electrical lines, temporary housing and congregational structures were constructed throughout the park to support these events. These activities, it is believed, may have led to damage of subsurface archeological deposits over portions of the park. (Unrau 1984: 329,345)

Otherwise, developments during the 1960s were generally hampered by a lack of state funding, although a small number of projects were undertaken. The Commander-in-Chief's Guard huts, which had quickly fallen into a state of disrepair, were re-built in 1962, for example. In 1964, the Slab Tavern was razed, and former park barracks located near the Bake House were demolished at around the same time. Between 1963 and 1964, rehabilitation of the stable/carriage shed was undertaken, new signage was erected at the park, and a large area of fill was established along Mill Creek Road in front of headquarters. The Mansion House, which had been gutted due to a fire, was also restored, and ornamental plantings were added near Headquarters.

During the 1970s, administration of the park again shifted to a new agency by the state legislature when the Department of Forests and Waters was dissolved. Jurisdiction over the park was reassigned to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. The department, concerned by the rampant vandalism, a lack of maintenance due to funding problems, and the extent of recreational use of the park by local residents, sought to restore the emphasis of park management to reverence for its historical associations through preservation and interpretation. The Commission immediately advocated thorough archeological and historical investigations of park resources. However, due to continued funding problems, and a debate over the proper administration of the park, the Commission was unable to effect much change during the early 1970s. Encroaching development, the lack of funding provided by the state, and the looming National Bicentennial celebration led many to recommend that the park be transferred to Federal ownership. In 1975, the Pennsylvania legislature agreed to turn Valley Forge State Park over to the United States Department of the Interior to be administered by the National Park Service.

Prior to its transfer, a limited number of improvements occurred within the vicinity of Washington's Headquarters. In 1975, Valley Forge State Park was afforded the honor of being only one of eight historic sites in the country allowed to fly the American flag 24 hours a day if illuminated. That same year, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transit Authority (SEPTA) announced plans to restore the Valley Forge train station near the Headquarters building to facilitate the expected increase in visitation during the Bicentennial. An herb garden was planted at von Steuben's quarters, and new huts were constructed in 1976 at the Commander-in-Chief's Guard site based on a design by Schnadelbach Braun Partnership.

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. The transfer of the state's park holdings was effected the following year after resolution of numerous legal issues. The state elected to complete various projects that had already been initiated as part of its Bicentennial improvement campaign and other stated programs prior to transfer of the property. These projects included additional restoration of the Washington's Headquarters building and other historic structures within the park, and construction of a large parking area north of Route 23 for visitors to access Washington's Headquarters.

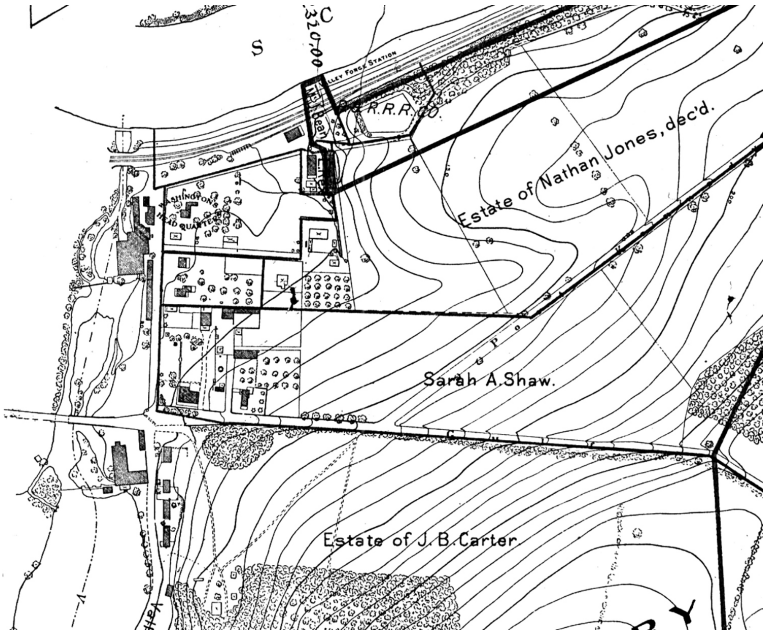


Figure 11. Detail of the map of the new state park by Haupt and Franklin, 1893.



Figure 12. Cotton Mill dam and Riddle Mansion, ca. early 1900s.



Figure 13. View north from Mount Joy across Valley Creek pond toward the Village of Valley Forge, ca. 1900.

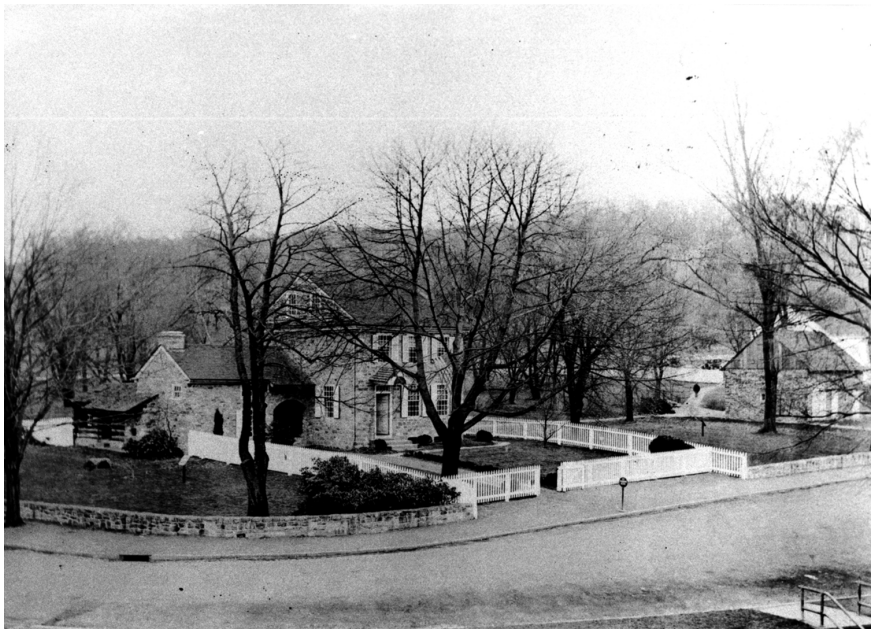


Figure 14. Washington's Headquarters, ca. 1910s-1920s, including the Log Kitchen addition.



Figure 15. Washington Inn, circa late 19th century.

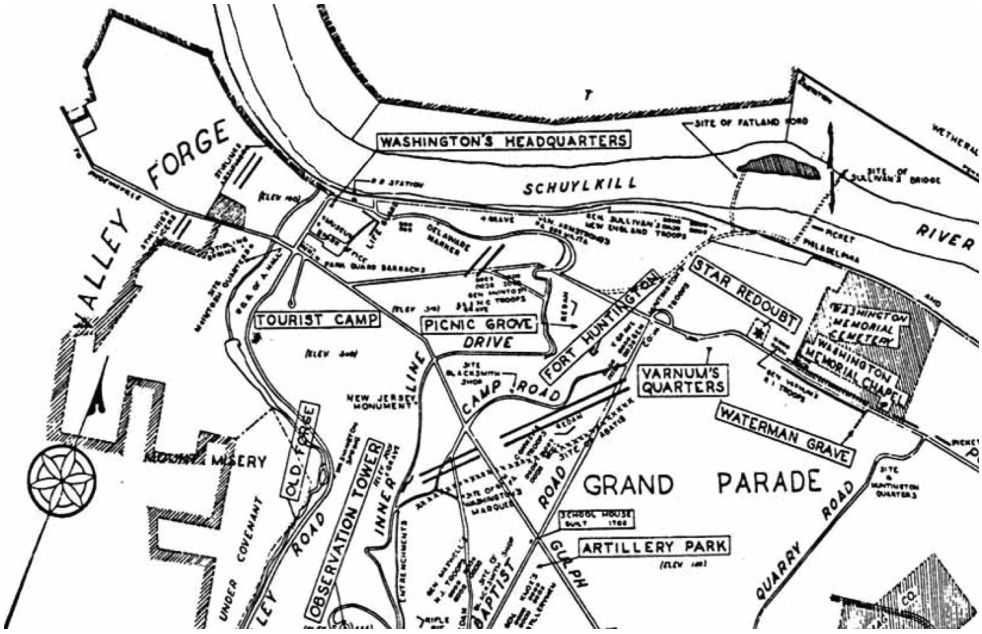


Figure 16. Detail of a Valley Forge State Park map and guide, 1947.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MANAGEMENT, 1976–2024

The issues associated with the transfer of Valley Forge State Park to the federal government were numerous, and complicated by the fact that this was the first large-scale state park ever to be transferred to the federal government. During the transition period that spanned the rest of the decade, the National Park Service initiated work on the management and planning documents

necessary to ensure that the site would comply with the federal regulations already in place at similar sites.

In addition, much-needed research projects involving the park's architectural and archeological resources were initiated during the late 1970s, resulting in a three-volume history, numerous historic structure reports, and a limited archeological survey. The National Park Service also began to evaluate existing park policies in order to determine the policies that would apply to the new historical park. 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. Living history programs would be continued. A series of events and programs were quickly developed which would support a celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the encampment in 1978. These included history symposiums, reenactments by living history groups, and a naturalization ceremony.

By 1979, the National Park Service had acted on plans to acquire additional lands for the park identified for their potential to buffer historic views or for their historic associations. These included properties at the western edge of the park along State Route 23 and Orchard Lane.

Many of the buildings located on these parcels were renovated as park employee dwellings or offices. Two were demolished. In 1982, the National Park Service issued a General Master Plan for the park, which identified the preservation and maintenance of significant historic resources as a primary park management objective. The plan also advocated restoration of the encampment-era scene where feasible, and a reduction in recreational uses at the park. Other reports prepared by the National Park Service in support of park planning included an Interpretive Prospectus, Environmental Assessment Plan, and a historical research report focusing on the encampment landscape. Architectural investigations were conducted on behalf of the development of a List of Classified Structures for the park and several Historic Structures Reports. Additional archeological investigations were conducted by the Museum of Applied Science Center for Archeology of the University of Pennsylvania, and by James Kurtz of the park.

Also during the 1980s, buildings and structures that were considered hazardous to visitors, in poor and irreparable condition, or to detract from the integrity of the historic scene were razed. These included the tourist camp on the northwestern slope of Mount Misery, the Jones House near the Headquarters building, early twentieth century police posts, and other outbuildings near the Headquarters (Figure 17). An asphalt multi-use trail, developed to provide non-vehicular connections between many of the state park features, was constructed through many portions of the park during the early 1980s.

Since 1990, the National Park Service has initiated investigations into the historical significance of park periods and resources that are not related to the encampment, and demolition of buildings and structures post-dating the encampment, except in cases where condition poses a threat to safety, has been halted. A comprehensive archeological overview and assessment of the park is currently being conducted to establish thorough documentation and evaluation of known and potential resources. Stabilization and construction projects in the Village of Valley Forge have been successful, though cyclical maintenance is still necessary.

At the Washington's Headquarters area, a rehabilitation project initiated in 2006 addressed the removal of the bicentennial-era parking lot along Route 23, construction of a new parking area concealed by existing topography, adding a new, accessible visitor comfort station, and rehabilitation of the Valley Forge Railroad Station for visitor orientation, programming, and an exhibit center. The park completed a new trail in the Headquarters area to connect to the Valley Creek Trail and Joseph Plumb Martin multi-use trail and relocated a bronze statue of George Washington from the park's theater lobby to a newly planted grove of trees southeast of Headquarters. The park has continued cyclic maintenance work on the component landscape's historic buildings and structures—for example, in-kind repairs to the Headquarters' roof—and has responded to storm-driven flood damage from Valley Creek and the Schuylkill River.



Figure 17. Tourist camp cabins, 1945.

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Defense	Military Facility (Post)	Military Facility (Post)	Yes	No	Yes
Landscape	Leisure-Passive (Park)	Leisure-Passive (Park)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Transportation	Water-Related	Canal	Yes	No	No
Government	Government Office	Comfort Station (Latrine)	Yes	Yes	No
Industrial/Processing/Extraction	Dam	Dam - Concrete (Gravity)	Yes	No	No
Recreation/Culture	Museum (Exhibition Hall)	Exhibit	Yes	Yes	No
Transportation	Pedestrian-Related	Hiking Trail	Yes	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Museum (Exhibition Hall)	Historic Furnished Interior	Yes	Yes	No
Transportation	Pedestrian-Related	Horse/Bridle Trail	Yes	Yes	No
Industrial/Processing/Extraction	Extractive Facility (Mining)	Mine	Yes	No	No
Recreation/Culture	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Monument (Marker, Plaque)	Yes	Yes	No
Government	Post Office	Post Office	No	Yes	No
Industrial/Processing/Extraction	Processing Site	Processing Site	Yes	No	No
Transportation	Rail-Related	RR Bridge	Yes	No	No
Domestic (Residential)	Single Family Dwelling	Single Family House	Yes	Yes	No
Domestic (Residential)	Small Residential Landscape	Small Residential Landscape	Yes	Yes	No
Transportation	Rail-Related	Station (Depot)	Yes	Yes	No
Domestic (Residential)	Village Site	Village Site	Yes	Yes	No
Government	Government Office	Visitor Contact (Visitor Center)	Yes	No	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. Stop #5 is located in the Village of Valley Forge. 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 Village of Valley Forge component landscape is comprised of landscape features and systems whose origins span hundreds of years of cultural occupation and settlement. While features that helped to characterize the area during the encampment and the industrial village periods survive within the area, the site retains a limited degree of integrity for these periods. State park efforts to restore and commemorate the encampment led to the establishment of a pastoral, park-like landscape further reducing encampment-era integrity after the demise of local industry.

Currently, the Village of Valley Forge component landscape most closely approximates the state park period of development, 1893–1949, characterized by the establishment of open lawns, ornamental tree and shrub plantings, monuments, markers, reconstructed encampment-era features, restored structures, drives, visitor access and interpretation amenities, and the removal of non-compatible, post-encampment-era buildings and features. While the component landscape retains a good degree of integrity for this significant period, landscape change continues to occur, and even elements of the early state park landscape have been lost. Since 1949, some buildings have been razed, parking areas have been reconfigured, alignments and surface materials of circulation systems have been altered, and ornamental plantings have been changed or removed.

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 (ca.1710–1949), 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).

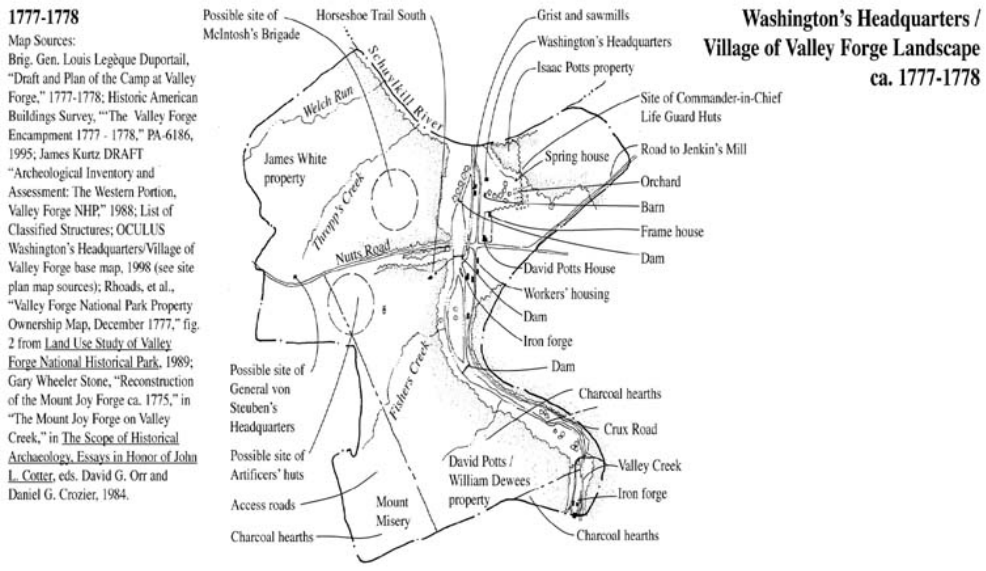
Landscape Characteristic: **Archeological Sites**

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 Village of Valley Forge CLI project area, the 2016 National Register identifies the Washington's Headquarters Complex as a contributing site under Criterion D: Archeology (Prehistory) for the Pre-Contact-Period Occupation of Valley Forge (8000 BCE–1600 CE):
"The Washington's Headquarters Complex yielded 30 formalized bifacial tools and several pieces of aboriginal pottery. The diagnostic artifacts indicate no less than five separate pre-contact-period occupations dating from the Late Archaic through the Late Woodland periods. The data indicate that Native Americans used and reused the confluence of Valley Creek and the Schuylkill River extensively for at least 3,000 years. The Headquarters site is one of only a few known and excavated pre-contact sites in this section of the Schuylkill River Valley. As such, they provide an opportunity to discuss settlement patterns, predictive modeling, and multi-component sites not just within the historic district but within the larger river valley as well. (NR 2016, Sec.8: 235-236)

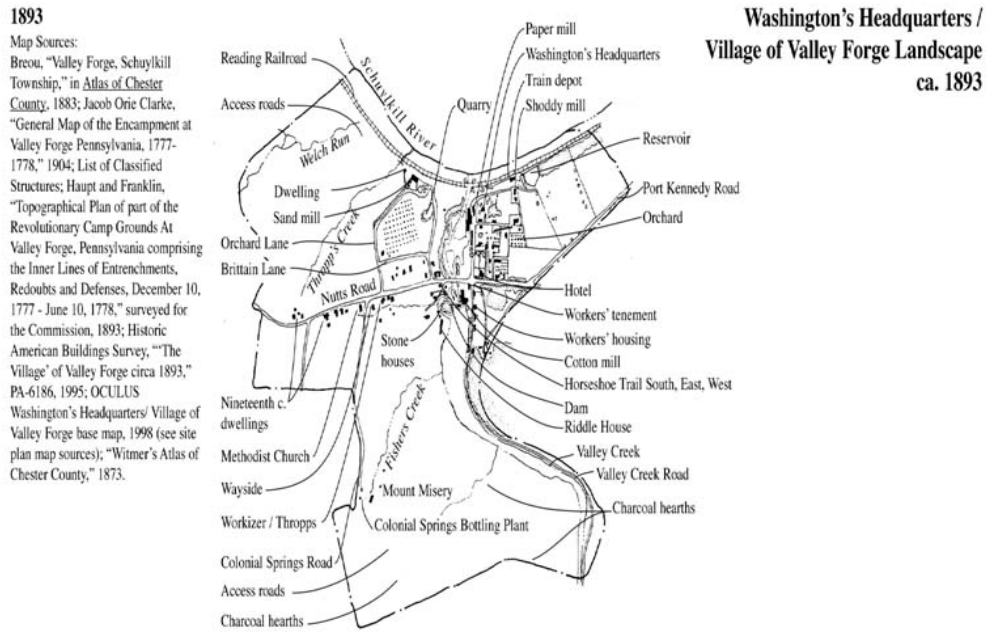
Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Washington's Headquarters Complex (not mapped)	93016	Contributing		VAFO00002.000			No

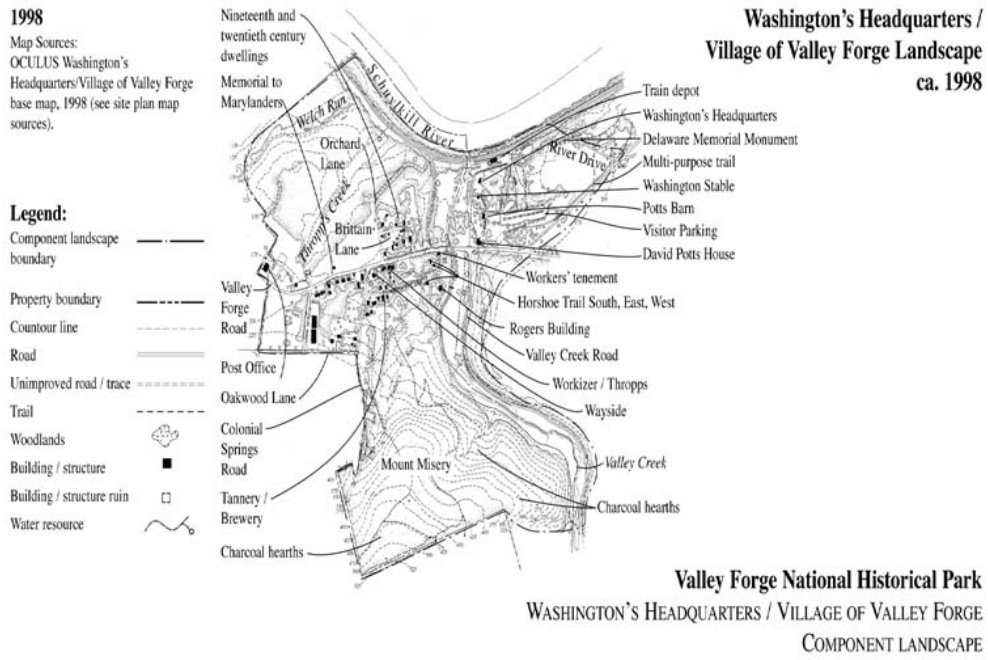
Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



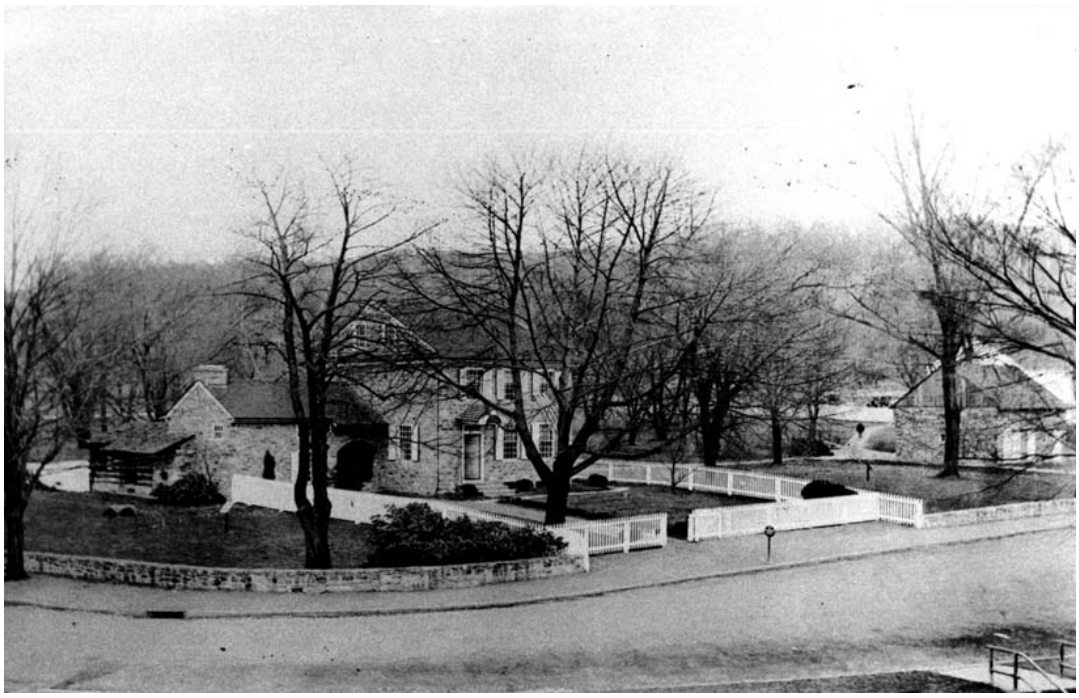
Washington's Headquarters/Village of Valley Forge Landscape
ca. 1777-1778



Washington's Headquarters/Village of Valley Forge Landscape
ca. 1893



Washington's Headquarters/Village of Valley Forge Landscape
ca. 1998



Washington's Headquarters, ca. 1910s-1920s, including the Log Kitchen addition



Washington's Headquarters, 1998



Workizer-Thropps House, Tannery/Brewery, and Wayside House



View towards Gulph Road and Boyer, Haymen, and Lund Houses



Valley Forge Railroad Station



Stone bridge over Valley Creek



Saw Mill Pond Trail along Valley Creek

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 Village of Valley Forge component landscape currently includes buildings and structures that span numerous periods of the area's history, including each of the identified periods of significance. Despite the number of individual structures that survive, there are few cluster arrangements that survive with a high degree of integrity or accurately depict the character of the area during different periods. Most notably missing are the various industrial clusters that edged Valley Creek during the early and late industrial periods. Many of the buildings that do survive have been heavily modified since initial construction, both due to the evolution of industrial activities, and in support of encampment-era restoration.

Early settlement of the region consisted of the establishment of small farmsteads and industrial complexes along Nutt's Road (Great Road, now Valley Forge Road/Route 23) and Valley Creek. Between 1700 and the encampment, numerous buildings and structures were constructed within the area, including a dwelling later known as the David Potts House, an associated barn, the Isaac Potts House (later used as General Washington's Headquarters), and a nearby stable; the James White Farmhouse located along Nutt's Road to the west; a dwelling known as Horse-Shoe Trail South located south of Nutt's Road; a grist mill, saw mill, and two forges located along Valley Creek, and two small stone dwellings that likely served as housing for forge workers. There were likely various smaller structures, such as stone retaining walls, privies, smokehouses, ice houses, and springhouses, that were associated with these complexes, although little documentary evidence has been identified that supports this theory, and few of these structures survive.

Prior to the encampment, structures associated with the forge complexes were damaged or destroyed by the British Army as it passed through the region in September 1777. During the encampment, existing buildings and structures within the component landscape were appropriated

for use by the military. The Isaac Potts House served as General George Washington's headquarters, the David Potts House was utilized for administrative functions and is traditionally thought to have been used as a bakehouse, barns were used as stables, and existing industrial structures were utilized for storage and manufacturing activities. The James White House may have served as General von Steuben's quarters. In addition, structures, most of them crude wooden huts, were built by the troops to support the cantonment. Within the Village of Valley Forge component landscape, these included soldiers' huts built near Headquarters to accommodate Washington's Commander-in-Chief's Guard, and possibly along Nutt's Road to the west of Valley Creek to house McIntosh's Brigade. Tradition suggests that artificers may have been stationed near the Horse-Shoe Trail South building west of Valley Creek.

In the century following the encampment, the Village of Valley Forge grew rapidly as an industrial enclave. Small-scale agricultural land use, not uncommon in the village in the early eighteenth century, continued to exist, but was far outpaced by industrial land use in the nineteenth century. Structures established in support of local industry during the period included mills, dams, and housing for the workers. These were predominantly sited along Valley Creek. There were various different kinds of mills that were established over the course of the nineteenth century. They included a cotton mill, grist mill, paper mill, textile mill, flour mill, and woolen mill. In addition, during the latter part of the nineteenth century, a bottling plant and associated outbuildings, a dwelling, and dam structures were constructed on Mount Misery to take advantage of a productive natural spring. Fires and floods periodically damaged and destroyed structures, which were oftentimes rebuilt. Existing structures were frequently adaptively reused as the economic viability of different industries changed. The transportation developments that supported industry during the period included the Reading rail line and an associated passenger and freight station built near the Headquarters.

During this period there was also a tremendous growth of residential and commercial development within the area. Residential structures, such as Horse-Shoe Trail East and West, were established near the location of Horse-Shoe Trail South, and the Workizer-Thropp House, the tannery/brewery, Rogers Building, Fisher House Tavern, and workers' tenements were established as part of the industrial enclave south of Nutt's Road and west of Valley Creek. Institutional and commercial structures, such as the Methodist Church, a hotel in the historic David Potts House, and a tavern within the James White House, were established along Nutt's Road. The majority of these developments were relatively small in scale, functional, and vernacular in design. Toward the end of the period, residential development began to take on a new character. The wealth amassed through industrial activity in the village was reflected in the development of more elaborate Victorian houses north of Nutt's Road including the Boyer, Blair, Hayman, and Thomas Houses. In the early 1900s, as state park development began to have an impact on the area, the growth of the village slowed considerably, and fewer residential structures were constructed. The prime exception was the residential subdivision at Orchard Lane.

Twentieth century park development forever altered the industrial character of the Valley Forge landscape. By the early 1900s, many buildings and structures constructed during the nineteenth century had been abandoned or were otherwise not in use due to unfavorable economic conditions. The state dismantled many of these structures in an effort to restore the village to its encampment-era appearance. With an emphasis on encampment-era restoration, the state also elected to reconstruct missing eighteenth century features, such as Middle Dam (Figure 23). A typical forge structure was relocated onto the site as an interpretive feature. Additionally, restoration of existing buildings and structures was carried out by the state. Washington's Headquarters was restored at least twice during this period, and the David Potts House was also altered in support of its restoration.

New buildings and structures were established within the area in support of park development, operations, and visitor services. These included the construction of a caretaker's house; a long, low stone wall; concession stands; and police barracks in the vicinity of Headquarters. Memorial structures, such as replica Commander-In-Chief's Guard huts, were also established nearby during the state park era, and a new railroad station was constructed north of Washington's Headquarters, which is now used for interpretation and visitor contact (Figure 24).

State park and National Park Service site development continued after 1950. Buildings and structures associated with later twentieth century park development include a post office, commercial buildings, and dwellings along Nutt's Road within the village; and continued restoration of historic buildings including Washington's Headquarters, the White farmhouse, and the David Potts House (Figure 25). Additional memorial structures, including a replica hut near the Memorial to Marylanders, was constructed in the 1960s, and older features, such as the Commander-In-Chief's Guard, were again reconstructed. Buildings and structures in poor condition or inappropriate to the park's mission, such as the Jones House and twentieth century concession buildings, were demolished during this period.

Evaluation:
A limited number of the buildings and structures that existed during the encampment period survive within the Village of Valley Forge component landscape. Many have been altered more than once, either by private owners for personal use, or by the state or the National Park Service in the interest of restoring them to their historic appearance. The buildings that survive from the encampment period include: Washington Headquarters; the Washington Stable or Barn; the Steuben Memorial Information Center (James White House, Mansion House); the David Potts House (Bake House, Washington Inn); and Horse-Shoe Trail South dwelling. The industrial structures relating to eighteenth century iron production have all been lost. The area retains a fair degree of integrity to the encampment period.

Many of the industrial structures associated with nineteenth and early twentieth century industry within the component landscape have also been lost. However, there remain many dwellings, a church, and remnants of other features that survive from this period. Most are located along Nutt's Road (Valley Forge Road/Route 23). They include the Midgley House where NPS offices are located; the Valley Forge United Methodist Church; the Blair, Hayman, Thomas, Boyer, Lund, and Brittain Houses within the McGlathery subdivision along Orchard Lane; Wayside, the Tannery/Brewery House, Workizer-Thropps, Tenement House, Worker's Tenement, Horse-Shoe Trail East and West Houses, and a spring house (Figures 26 and 27). There are also various structures, including bridges, dams, and walls, that survive from this period and are associated with village industrial or residential development between 1750 and 1900. While many of the houses erected within this subdivision along Nutt's Road and Orchard and Brittain Lane survive in 2019, at least two have since been demolished. The collection of buildings and structures with nineteenth century industrial associations retain a fair degree of integrity.

Buildings and structures that survive from the state park development period include the Valley Forge Railroad Station; the Commander-in-Chief Guard Huts near Washington's Headquarters (which have been replaced once), the Washington Spring House, and various dams, bridges, and walls that were constructed between 1893 and 1950 in support of visitor access or interpretation of historic features (Figures 28 and 29). The component landscape's buildings and structures retain a good degree of integrity to the state park period.

Buildings and structures that post-date the state park period of significance include garage and dwelling structures along Nutt's Road and Midgely Lane, large-scale apartment complexes along Davis Road, and a comfort station constructed near Washington's Headquarters.

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
Blair House (B-47)	93018	Contributing	22366		Location	28375	Yes
Blair House Retaining Wall (S-66)	93019	Contributing	80248		Asset	15256	Yes
Boyer House (B-53)	93022	Contributing	22376		Location	28382	Yes

Boyer House Wall and Walkway (S-64)	93023	Contributing	80294		Asset	15257	Yes
Colonial Springs Bottling Plant Ruins (B-64)	93025	Contributing	80253		Location	78695	Yes
Colonial Springs Lower Dam / Retaining Wall Ruins (S-67)	93026	Contributing	80258		Location	85460	Yes
Colonial Springs Tenant House / Warehouse Ruins (B-65)	93027	Contributing	80252		Location	78697	Yes
Colonial Springs Upper Dam Ruin (S-71)	93028	Contributing	80257		Location	106906	Yes
(Possible) Dam Ruins (S-84)	93031	Contributing					No
David Potts House (B-71)	93032	Contributing	22324		Location	28024	Yes
Fisher House / Slab Tavern Ruins (S-69)	93037	Contributing	80255		Location	78706	Yes
Fisher House Retaining Wall (S-68)	93035	Contributing	80256				No
Fisher House Retaining Wall / Water Basin (S-70)	93036	Contributing	80259				No
Hayman House (B-49)	93957	Contributing	22368		Location	28378	Yes
Hayman House Retaining Wall and Walkway (S-65)	93958	Contributing	80276		Asset	1034825	Yes
Horse-Shoe Trail East (B-67)	93961	Contributing	22358		Location	28365	Yes
Horse-Shoe Trail Retaining Wall (S-73)	93962	Contributing	80247		Asset	1127081	Yes
Horse-Shoe Trail South (B-66)	93963	Contributing	22348		Location	28361	Yes
Horse-Shoe Trail South Spring Structure Ruin (S-72)	93964	Contributing	22349				No
Horse-Shoe Trail West (B-68)	93965	Contributing	22357		Location	28364	Yes
Information Center Retaining Wall (S-61)	93966	Contributing	80273		Asset	15254	Yes
Lund House (B-55)	93968	Contributing	22388		Location	28388	Yes
Lund House Wall and Walkway (S-63)	93969	Contributing	80277		Asset	15258	Yes
Mount Misery Charcoal Hearths (S-11)	93971	Contributing					No
(Possible) Mount Misery Colliers Huts Ruins (S-12)	93972	Contributing					No
Potts Barn (B-72)	93974	Contributing	22336		Location	28050	Yes
Potts Barnyard Wall (S-78)	93975	Contributing	80237		Asset	14886	Yes
Privy (non-NPS) (B-63)	93976	Contributing					No

Retaining Wall (S-83)	93978	Contributing	1171521				No
Small Stone Dam (1835 Railroad Bridge Ruins) (S-88)	93017	Contributing			Location	237280	No
Spring House (non-NPS) (B-62)	93981	Contributing	1171522				No
Steuben Memorial Information Center (B-42)	97261	Contributing	22332		Location	39017	Yes
Retaining Wall south of Middle Dam (Stone Wall) (S-14)	93982	Contributing			Location	54428	No
Stone Wall at Upper Forge Site (S-76)	93983	Contributing	1171523				No
Tannery / Brewery House (non-NPS) (B-59)	93985	Contributing					No
Tenement House (non-NPS) (B-61)	93986	Contributing	1171524				No
Thomas House (B-51)	93987	Contributing	22372		Location	28379	Yes
Valley Creek Middle Dam Ruin (S-13)	93989	Contributing	80293		Location	94617	Yes
Valley Forge Railroad Station (B-75)	93990	Contributing	22390		Location	28390	Yes
Valley Forge Railroad Station Pedestrian Underpass (S-82)	93991	Contributing	80279		Asset	20652	Yes
Valley Forge Railroad Station Retaining Wall (S-81)	93992	Contributing	80278		Asset	1034806	Yes
Valley Forge Road Bridge (S-74)	97245	Contributing	1134035				No
Valley Forge United Methodist Church (non-NPS) (B-46)	97260	Contributing					No
Washington Retaining Wall / Culvert (S-79)	97262	Contributing	80235		Asset	14884	Yes
Washington Spring House (B-77)	97263	Contributing	22335		Location	28048	Yes
Washington Stable (B-73)	97264	Contributing	22334		Location	28046	Yes
Washington Yard Wall (S-80)	97265	Contributing	80236		Location	78626	Yes
Washington’s Headquarters (B-74)	97266	Contributing	22333		Location	28044	Yes
Wayside House (non-NPS) (B-58)	97267	Contributing	1171526				No
Worker’s Tenement (B-69)	97268	Contributing					No
Workizer-Thropp House (non-NPS) (B-60)	97269	Contributing	22345		Location	32813	Yes

Blair Garage / Smelting Shed (B-48)	93020	Noncontributing	22367		Location	39030	Yes
Commander-in-Chief's Guard Hut Replicas (4) (B-76)	93029	Noncontributing			Location	28707	No
Commercial Buildings (non-NPS) (B-43)	93030	Noncontributing					No
Horse-Shoe Trail East Shed (S-89)	204936	Noncontributing					No
Horse-Shoe Trail West Shed (S-90)	204937	Noncontributing					No
Maryland Brigade Hut Replica (S-62)	93977	Noncontributing			Location	28706	No
Midgley House (B-81)	204939	Noncontributing					No
Orchard Lane Masonry Garage (B-79)	204941	Noncontributing					No
Rogers Building (B-70)	93979	Contributing	22356		Location	28363	Yes
Samuel Brittain Sr. House (B-57)	93980	Noncontributing	80250		Location	28403	Yes
U.S. Post Office (B-41)	93973	Noncontributing			Location	111862	Yes
Valley Forge Railroad Station Canopies (S-91)	204944	Noncontributing			Location	28390	No
Washington's Headquarters Comfort Station (B-80)	204947	Noncontributing			Location	95936	Yes
Garages (non-NPS) (B-45)	93934	Undetermined					No
(Possible) Masonry Walls (S-85)	93970	Undetermined					No
Offices (non-NPS) (B-44)	93034	Undetermined					No
Structural Ruins (S-86)	93984	Undetermined					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 23. Valley Creek Middle Dam Ruin, S-13, view southeast. (OCLP, 2019)



Figure 24. Valley Forge Railroad Station, B-75, view northeast. (OCLP, 2019)



Figure 25. Washington's Headquarters, B-74, view southeast. (OCLP, 2019)



Figure 26. Boyer House, B-53, Hayman House, B-49, and Hayman House Retaining Wall and Walkway, S-65, view northwest. (OCLP, 2019).



Figure 27. Workizer-Thropp House, B-60, and Tenement House, B-61, view southeast. (OCLP, 2019)



Figure 28. Valley Forge Road Bridge, S-74, view northeast. (OCLP, 2019)



Figure 29. Information Center Retaining Wall, S-61, and Steuben Memorial Information Center, B-42, view west (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 Village of Valley Forge component landscape history, including the eighteenth century pre-encampment European settlement and industrial period, the nineteenth century industrial period, and the twentieth century state park development period. Some circulation features may even pre-date European settlement; certainly the Schuylkill River has been utilized as a transportation corridor since at least the Late Woodland prehistoric period. The alignments and materials of many of the earliest circulation routes have been altered to a great degree to facilitate automobile traffic. Some parking areas and small road segments have been added since the state park era.

The first transportation corridor in the area was most probably the Schuylkill River. It likely served as an important circulation route for both goods and people during the Prehistoric and European Contact periods. Throughout the 1700s, people continued to use the river for travel and to transport goods, although overland travel evolved as the area became more heavily settled. Early primary roads included Nutt's Road (Great Road, now Valley Forge Road) established in 1725, and the road to Jenkins Mill (later re-named Port Kennedy Road and then Valley Forge Park Road), established in 1761. These roads provided connections between Valley Forge and Phoenixville, Philadelphia, Jenkins Mill, and Baptist Road with a ford crossing of the river. Nutt's Road included a ford crossing of Valley Creek during the eighteenth century. Secondary roads established during this period included Crux Road and various logging trails along Valley Creek and across Mounts Joy and Misery, and access roads leading toward the river from Nutt's Road. The Crux Road and associated logging trails along Valley Creek most likely were established in the 1740s to provide connections between Nutt's Road and the iron forge, and associated workers' housing.

Currently, there are many trails that traverse Mount Misery, including the Mount Misery Trail, the Horse-Shoe Trail, and horse and hiking trails. It is believed that some of these originated as logging

or forge-related trails during the eighteenth century.

During the encampment period, existing local roads and the river remained important transportation routes for military personnel, supplies, and equipment. The hard-packed earth roads were often difficult to navigate during the encampment due to the fact that they were muddy when wet and crusty when frozen. Use of the river as a transportation route was also often compromised during the winter months of the encampment due to ice.

During the nineteenth century, existing road systems remained similar in alignment and configuration, but were augmented by the establishment of a canal on the river and railroad line along its bank. During the first quarter of the nineteenth century, the Schuylkill Navigation Company was formed to promote commercial use of the river. The company established a slackwater canal system along the river in the vicinity of Washington's Headquarters that promoted commercial navigation of the river. A towpath, used by draft animals to pull the boats through the canal, was first built on the northern bank of the Schuylkill River; in 1846 it was transferred to the southern bank near the Headquarters. Wharves were built along the river within the Village of Valley Forge component landscape to take advantage of canal access.

The Reading Railroad established a rail line on the southern bank of the river in 1835. The line included a train station and sidings at the Village of Valley Forge. This rail line survives and continues to be an important transportation feature within the region (Figure 20). Roads built within the area during the nineteenth century include Colonial Springs Road that connected Nutt's Road to the Colonial Springs Bottling Plant, and the extension of Crux Road along the banks of the creek to Yellow Springs Road during the middle to late nineteenth century. Crux Road was later renamed Valley Creek Road. Residential roads were also developed within the area during the mid-nineteenth century as subdivisions evolved to support a growing population of middle class residents. Orchard Lane and Brittain Lane were constructed on the knoll to the west of Valley Creek and north of Nutt's Road, and several large Victorian residences were built in association with these roads in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

During the early twentieth century, circulation improvements included the establishment of a trolley line through the area, with a stop near the workers' tenements south of Nutt's Road. It led west to an amusement park near Phoenixville. This trolley line was short-lived, however, and fell out of use by the 1920s.

Circulation that supported visitor access during the early state park era included use of Nutt's Road, Port Kennedy Road (now Valley Forge Park Road), Valley Creek Road, and the road to Washington's Headquarters. Some of the other existing roads in the vicinity of the Headquarters continued to support vehicular traffic and parking. Over time, however, in support of restoring the historic scene, these roads were closed to vehicular traffic, and traffic was re-routed to the perimeter of the area. A large parking area was constructed (since removed) to the east of the Washington Stables building and River Drive was established between the Reading Railroad station and present-day Route 23. This road was intended to enhance vehicular circulation near Washington's Headquarters and provide access to the Delaware Memorial Monument, erected in 1911. Visitor parking lots were also established during the middle to late twentieth century at the post office and the Steuben Memorial Information Center, and parking pull-offs were created along Valley Creek Road. While its date of origin is unknown, the foot trail—Valley Creek Trail—which extends between Middle Dam and the upper forge site was likely established during the state park era as an interpretive feature for visitors (Figure 21).

Circulation features that post-date the early state park era include the multi-use trail that parallels Route 23 and leads to the former Washington's Headquarters visitor parking area from the east (Figure 22). Traces of many former circulation routes currently survive within this landscape. They include access roads north of Nutt's Road, the loop extension of Orchard Lane, which reconnects with Nutt's Road just west of Valley Creek, access roads associated with the Colonial Springs Bottling Plant, and the access road to the Tourist Camp site on Mount Joy overlooking Valley Creek Road. (Tourist Camp road exists as a foot trail)

Evaluation:
Roads and circulation systems within the Village of Valley Forge component landscape have generally evolved through accrual over the past three centuries. Circulation most closely approximates conditions in existence during the early state park era. Many of the earliest roads survive, serving as primary arteries onto which later roads have been added in support of residential, industrial, and park development. Alignments of some of the early roads have shifted to accommodate automobile traffic. Surfacing materials, widths, and edge conditions of these roads have also been altered substantially since the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

While circulation associated with the early industrial, encampment, and nineteenth century industrial periods retains a fair degree of integrity, the area retains a good degree of integrity to the early state park era. Circulation systems which survive from the early industrial and encampment periods include the Schuylkill River (no longer in use), Nutt's Road (now Valley Forge Road/Route 23), Valley Forge Park Road (Route 23), portions of Valley Creek Road, the road leading towards Headquarters, and likely some of the trails and trace roads located on the lower slopes of Mount Misery. Circulation systems that survive from the nineteenth century industrial village period include those noted above, in addition to Orchard and Brittain Lanes, Valley Creek Road, the Reading Railroad line, and traces associated with the Colonial Springs Bottling Plant and industrial activities north of Nutt's Road. Roads that survive from the early state park era include those noted above in addition to the Valley Creek Trail, additional trails and paths on Mount Misery, and River Drive near Headquarters.

The circulation features that post-date the state park era include the multi-use trail and visitor parking area near the Headquarters. Additionally, a pedestrian walk has been constructed providing an accessible route from the comfort station to the railroad depot and Headquarters area. Canal use of the Schuylkill River does not survive, and various secondary roads near the Headquarters have been significantly modified or removed. Traffic and congestion levels along Valley Forge Road have increased substantially since the 1950s.

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
Access Road/Driveway (C-60)	97270	Contributing	1171510		Location	56991	No
Brittain Lane (C-59)	97271	Contributing			Location	39498	Yes
Colonial Springs Road (C-57)	97272	Contributing	1171512				No
Horse-Shoe Trail (C-62)	97274	Contributing	1171513		Location	82631	Yes
Midgely Lane (C-56, see also C-68)	97275	Contributing	1171514				No
Mount Misery Footpaths (C-16)	97276	Contributing			Location	39516	Yes
Orchard Lane (C-58)	97279	Contributing			Location	39496	Yes
Pedestrian Walks at Valley Forge Railroad Station (C-64)	97280	Contributing	1171517		Location	237280	No
Reading Railroad Rail Line (portion) (C-12)	204935	Contributing	1133913				No
River Drive (C-65)	97282	Contributing	1171518		Location	39465	Yes
Road Trace (C-53)	97283	Contributing	1171519		Location	56991	No
Stafford Electric Railroad Rail Line Trace (C-68)	97285	Contributing			Location	56991	No
Trace Road to Charcoal Hearths (C-69)	97286	Contributing			Location	56991	No
Valley Creek Road (portion) (C-70)	204934	Contributing	022543		Asset	25771	Yes
Workizer-Thropp Steps (C-61)	97290	Contributing	80274		Asset	14892	Yes
Davis Road (C-55)	97273	Noncontributing					No
Oakwood Lane (C-54)	97278	Noncontributing					No
Multi-Use Trail (Joseph Plumb Martin Trail) (portion) (C-40)	97277	Noncontributing			Location	39514	Yes
Post Office Access Road / Parking Area (C-51)	97281	Noncontributing			Location	39863	Yes
Steuben Memorial Information Center Entrance / Parking (C-52)	97289	Noncontributing			Location	39563	No
Visitor Parking (C-66)	97288	Noncontributing			Location	95775	Yes
Valley Creek Trail (C-63)	97287	Undetermined			Location	39521	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 20. Reading Railroad Rail Line, C-12, and Orchard Lane, C-58, view northeast. (OCLP, 2019)



Figure 21. Valley Creek Trail, C-63, and Stone Wall, S-14, view southeast. (OCLP, 2019)



Figure 22. Multi-Use Trail, C-40, and River Drive, C-65, view northeast. (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. The majority of small-scale features that exist within the Village of Valley Forge component landscape are associated either with the state park period of significance, or later park development. There are no small-scale features known to survive from prehistoric periods, or the early European Contact period. Little is known about any small-scale features that might have existed in the landscape during those periods. During the eighteenth century, the small-scale features that were likely associated with early industrial and residential land uses within the area included wooden fences—likely worm or post and rail style—which would have been used to enclose dwelling and garden areas for protection against free-ranging livestock, and footbridges across drainageways. Most area fences were likely destroyed during the encampment by the soldiers for use as fuel and construction materials. Area residents and farmers are likely to have quickly rebuilt fences after the Continental Army departed from Valley Forge.

Nineteenth century maps and photographs of the village depict an area rich in fencing, including worm fencing, picket fencing, rustic fencing, and post and beam fencing. Of these, the only fencing that survives is the worm fencing currently used in the vicinity of Headquarters to edge pedestrian circulation routes, although it is not clear whether this fencing survives in locations similar to those that existed during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Small-scale features that survive from the state park era include the Delaware Memorial Monument, a rough-hewn granite monument, erected in 1914 by the State of Delaware to honor their encamped soldiers located on the south side of River Drive. The 1937 George Washington Monument, originally erected at the Washington Memorial Chapel, was moved to Headquarters in the 1950s, but then moved to the park's visitor center until it was moved back to the site in 2010. There is also worm fencing in the vicinity of Washington's Headquarters, and a limited number of interpretive waysides and signs in the vicinity of the Headquarters.

Small-scale features that post-date the state park period include the Kentucky Coffee Tree Marker, installed in 1954 to mark the location of said tree associated with George Washington's Mount Vernon. The rectangular rough-hewn granite slab features raised lettering on a bronze plaque set atop the stone. The rough-hewn stone Memorial to Marylanders was erected by the State of Maryland in 1963 to honor those from Maryland who served at the encampment in 1777-1778. The Memorial Marker to Brigadier General Mcintosh was installed in 1968 and features a bronze plaque set in a concrete slab with a flagpole. In 1975 the Betsy Ross Memorial Marker was erected in the village, removed and relocated from Philadelphia cemetery. The monument is composed of an upright slab of dressed granite with an eyelid-shaped curve along the top set atop a granite base, and a circular bronze plaque (Figure 30). Its current setting does not reflect the original cemetery setting and its commemoration of Ross is not associated with events significant in the district's defined historic contexts. Lastly, a bronze statue of George Washington was relocated from the park theater lobby in 2010 as part of a stabilization project for Washington's Headquarters. The monument now stands south of Headquarters among an ornamental tree grove. Other park site identity and interpretive signs can be found in the village.

Evaluation:
There are no small-scale features within the component landscape that survive from the encampment period or the eighteenth and nineteenth century industrial period. Few small-scale features survive from the state park period. These include the Delaware Memorial Monument, fencing, and some of the interpretive signs in the vicinity of Washington's Headquarters (Figure 31). Five other monuments in the village post-date the period of significance. The area retains a fair degree of integrity of small-scale features for the state park era, and little or no integrity for earlier periods. Further investigation is needed to determine the date of origin of some of the interpretive sign systems in existence around Headquarters. Some of these are likely to date from the early state park period, but the origins of existing sign systems and individual signs has not yet been determined.

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
Delaware Memorial Monument (SS-2)	97291	Contributing	22521		Location	39341	Yes
George Washington Monument (SS-66)	204963	Contributing	1133884		Location	230445	Yes
Betsy Ross Memorial Marker (Grave Marker) (SS-63)	97292	Noncontributing			Location	39337	Yes
Kentucky Coffee Tree Marker (SS-64)	204967	Noncontributing			Location	39338	Yes
Memorial Marker to Brigadier General McIntosh (SS-65)	204971	Noncontributing			Location	39339	Yes
Memorial to Marylanders (SS-17)	97294	Noncontributing	022520		Location	39340	Yes
Park Identity Sign (SS-61)	97295	Noncontributing					No
Interpretive Signs (SS-62)	97293	Undetermined					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 30. Betsy Ross Memorial Marker, SS-63, and Memorial Marker to Brigadier General McIntosh, SS-65, view northeast (OCLP, 2019)



Figure 31. Delaware Memorial Monument, SS-2, view south. (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 Village of Valley Forge component landscape is cradled between the slopes of Mount Misery and Mount Joy to the south, the Schuylkill River to the north, and upland rises to the east and west. The site's landform, topography, and natural resources, including soils, geology, and water systems, have had a great influence on the spatial organization of the area throughout its cultural history. While the earliest occupation and use of this landscape likely centered around the Schuylkill River as a source of food and a means of transportation, the focus eventually shifted to Valley Creek, which was harnessed to power numerous industrial endeavors after 1742. Industrial complexes ultimately edged the creek along its final mile before emptying into the Schuylkill. The junction of the creek and Nutt's Road became the hub of local industrial activities. The industrial village that grew up in support of local industry formed a corridor to either side of this road. While limited in scope, agriculture did occur within the area, primarily on the relatively level plateau of the river terrace north of Nutt's Road.

During the twentieth century, local residential, commercial, and, to a diminished degree industrial, uses were joined by park interpretive and recreational uses. As the state park grew through the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, it expanded beyond the Washington's Headquarters environs to encompass much of the former village and industrial corridor. Park development, which included removal of numerous post-encampment features, served to alter patterns of spatial organization, including circulation, vegetation, and clusters of industrial buildings and structures. Today, although the thickly settled character of the village west of Valley Creek is still in evidence, little remains of the industrial landscape that once characterized the creek corridor.

Through each period of cultural development, the Village of Valley Forge component landscape has witnessed wholesale shifts in landscape character and, to a lesser degree spatial organization, based upon land uses. While little is known about the site prior to settlement by Europeans in the eighteenth century, the village area was likely primarily wooded, dominated by the Eastern deciduous forests that are thought to have encompassed much of the Atlantic Coast prior to European Contact. Prehistoric peoples typically began to establish large settlements and to undertake cultivation of plant resources by the Late Woodland period. At least limited clearing of the forest would have occurred in support of these activities. Prehistoric peoples are also known to have manipulated the forest's understory vegetation, primarily through burning, to enhance hunting opportunities. It is not known whether any of these activities were practiced within the component landscape prior to European Contact, although artifacts uncovered by archeologists indicate a prehistoric presence within the area. This would have been a desirable site for prehistoric occupation and settlement due to the nature of the topography, which provided prospects of the surrounding area, access to fresh water sources, including the river, creek and at least two strongly-flowing springs, and numerous hunting and foraging opportunities.

During the Contact Period, European immigrants, primarily of Dutch and Swedish descent, began to arrive in the area. They were concerned primarily with trapping small animals such as beaver for their pelts, for which they could receive money or goods in trade. While it is known that the Schuylkill River was considered a good source of pelts, and was likely visited by seventeenth century Europeans, it is not known to what extent settlement occurred during this period. It is possible that indigenous people as well as European immigrants were involved in clearing the land on the terrace above the Schuylkill to grow crops such as wheat, corn, or hay, or to pasture livestock at this time.

Between the beginning or the eighteenth century, when documentary evidence of settlement begins to become available, and the encampment period, several properties were settled by individuals and families of English descent. During this period, local residents were generally farmers involved in subsistence-level agriculture. The first lands to be cleared were likely those with prime agricultural soils and gently-rolling topography. By the latter part of the eighteenth century, area farmers had established a ratio of improved and unimproved acres that translated into approximately 70 percent cleared land to 30 percent wooded land. The area in woodland ranged from abandoned fields to areas that were marginal for agriculture. These wooded areas or woodlots were frequently utilized to forage livestock or to harvest timber for use as a fuel or construction material. Fences or hedgerows most likely enclosed the one to ten acre fields that characterized local farms; branded livestock were otherwise allowed to roam free to forage for food. During the eighteenth century, farmsteads began to dot the component landscape; most were sited in close proximity to Nutt's Road (now Valley Forge Road/Route 23). At the time of the encampment, two farmsteads existed along Nutt's Road—those of James White and Isaac Potts.

Agriculture, however, played a secondary role to industry within the component landscape. Valley Creek, which falls nearly one hundred feet over its final mile and is contained by a narrow gorge with steep side slopes, quickly became the focus of industrial activities. In order to establish water-powered iron forges, sawmills, and other industrial endeavors, local land owners substantially manipulated the creek through damming, and the creation of associated mill races and mill ponds. The slopes of Mounts Misery and Joy, not well suited for agriculture, provided timber for the fires of the iron forges, and were used for making charcoal. As local industry thrived, additional residential, commercial, and institutional structures were established in support of the forges and mills, forming the genesis of an industrial village. At the time of the encampment, two iron forges and a sawmill existed along Valley Creek, and various residences and related structures existed nearby that supported the industrial complexes.

The arrival of George Washington, Commander of the Continental Army, and some 11,000 troops placed a great strain on the resources of the local landscape. Local springs, the river, and the creek were tapped as fresh water sources, the timber remaining on Mounts Joy and Misery was cut over for fuel and construction materials, local roads and the river were utilized for transportation, and existing local buildings and structures served as officer housing, hospital facilities, and for storage of army goods and supplies. The Isaac Potts House, which served as Washington's Headquarters, became the hub of encampment activity. In addition to the use of adjacent buildings and structures by Washington's entourage, huts were constructed nearby for the Commander-in-Chief's Guard, forming a dense cluster of residential and administrative activities. Over the rest of the component landscape, the hillsides were denuded, fences and hedgerows were dismantled, agricultural fields were trampled, and fresh water sources were sullied.

Despite the devastation engendered by the encampment, the Village of Valley Forge quickly recovered. Nineteenth century industry evolved from iron and wood-board production to the manufacture of textiles, paper, arms, and tools. An abundance of natural resources within the area led to excavation of stone, sand, and gravel, and water bottling. The village continued to grow and prosper, and numerous buildings and structures were constructed along the Nutt's Road corridor during this period. Industrial activities substantially altered the character of the Valley Creek stream corridor. Damming of the stream led to alteration of its alignment and gradient, and caused significant bank erosion and sedimentation. Terracing and leveling of the creek banks and adjacent landforms to establish industrial and residential building sites, millraces, and impoundments dramatically altered the character of the landscape adjacent to the stream corridor.

Transportation corridors, including a railway and canal, evolved during the nineteenth century that contributed to local industry by improving access to markets in Philadelphia and beyond, and facilitating the supply of materials, such as anthracite coal, needed to support local industrial endeavors. Both of these transportation features centered along the Schuylkill River. The establishment of the rail line dramatically altered the relationship between the village and river, however, by impeding visual and physical access.

At the turn of the century, local industry began to decline due to national and local economic conditions. At about that time, Valley Forge became the focus of efforts to preserve and commemorate the encampment. In 1893, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania established its first state park at Valley Forge. Park development and commemoration of the encampment began to supplant industrial and residential land uses, and to dramatically impact the spatial organization and character of the landscape. Nineteenth century industrial developments were condemned and razed, and were replaced by picnic and parking areas for visitors, memorials, ornamental plantings, and lawns. The slopes of Mount Misery and the Valley Creek gorge were the focus of state reforestation efforts. Although the stated goal of park landscape management efforts was the restoration of the area to its encampment-era appearance, the site most closely approximates a memorial park. Although many of the natural systems and topographic features were retained during park development, changes based on park uses eradicated earlier industrial as well as encampment-era character. Agricultural activities ceased, and formerly open fields and meadows were either allowed to revert to woodland through secondary succession, or were replanted with grasses and wildflowers to support picnicking, interpretation, or recreation.

Evaluation:
The topography and location of natural features within the Village of Valley Forge component landscape have changed little over the years, except along Valley Creek where industrial activities have heavily altered the stream corridor, and along Welch and Thropp's Runs where quarrying has occurred. Cultural responses to natural features have evolved since the eighteenth century. The Schuylkill River, once an important mode of transportation, is no longer integral to local circulation. Fords have been replaced by bridges. Dams, headraces, millraces, mill ponds, and other features that were once used to harness the power of Valley Creek are no longer in evidence except as ruins or interpreted reconstructions. Eighteenth and nineteenth century quarrying of stone and gravel deposits along Valley Creek, Thropp's Run and Welch's Run, and use of Mount Misery timber as a fuel, have similarly been discontinued.

Spatial organization currently reflects little of the landscape character that existed during periods preceding the state park era. Open meadows and agricultural fields that occupied much of the river terrace north of Nutt's Road are now in woodland. The clusters of industrial structures and features that formerly lined the banks of Valley Creek are no longer extant. Agricultural and industrial patterns have been replaced over time by expanses of mown lawn, groves of shade trees and ornamental shrub plantings, vehicular drives and parking areas, interpretive trails and walks, and monuments.

The limited number of patterns of spatial organization that survive from the industrial period include the dense clusters of small residences, churches, and commercial structures that front Valley Forge Road to the west of Valley Creek, the linear corridors of Route 23 and the Reading Railroad that parallel the Schuylkill River, and the spatial forms established by the area's landform and topography characterized by the adjacent peaks of Mounts Misery and Joy, the Valley Creek gorge that lies between them, and the relatively level river terrace overlooking the Schuylkill north of Route 23. This area retains a moderate degree of integrity of spatial organization for the industrial period.

While the spatial organization of the village most closely approximates the state park era, the character of this area has continued to evolve based on landscape management practices and the enhancement of visitor access facilities. Continued removal of structures, redesign of visitor parking facilities, and changes in pedestrian circulation systems since 1950 have greatly altered aspects of the state park-era landscape. The Village of Valley Forge component landscape nonetheless continues to retain a relatively high degree of integrity of spatial organization for the state park period.

Land uses have similarly evolved since the eighteenth century. Prior to and after the encampment period, the primary land uses that characterized the area were residential and industrial. Agricultural, commercial, and institutional uses were also present; in many cases they arose in support of the region's industrial activities. Clearly, during the encampment period most area land uses were overshadowed by the military presence, although residential, agricultural, and industrial uses continued to exist. After 1893, land uses began a primary shift from industry to an emphasis

on tourism and recreation, particularly to the east of Valley Creek. The Village of Valley Forge to the west of Valley Creek has remained an active residential, institutional, and commercial community, that co-exists with park uses. Tourism and recreation at the park encompass a variety of land use types, such as interpretation/museum, administration, office, museum, maintenance, and visitor services. The state park period retains the highest degree of integrity. Integrity to the other periods of significance is diminished.

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
Valley Forge Encampment (Village of Valley Forge)	97296	Contributing					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 within the component landscape most closely approximates the state park period, and can be traced to management policies and commemorative programs established during the early twentieth century. The vegetation-related programs which were effected during this period included: reforestation of Mounts Misery and Joy; planting of ornamental and commemorative trees and shrubs; establishment of expanses of lawn in the vicinity of the Headquarters; planting of shrubs along the banks of the river and alongside the railroad embankment; and enhancement of the Valley Creek floodplain. These developments replaced the agricultural fields and orchards on the river terrace north of Nutt's Road (now Valley Forge Road/State Route 23) and woodland over much of Mount Misery that characterized vegetation during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Many of the features established during the state park era continue to be in evidence today. Post state park-era alterations to vegetation have included the growth of successional woodland over formerly open fields north of Valley Forge Road and west of Valley Creek.

Little is known about the area's vegetation prior to the encampment. Prehistoric period vegetation may have been dominated by the temperate deciduous forest that is thought to have blanketed the East Coast at the time of European Contact. Oaks, chestnuts, and hickories likely dominated the slopes of Mount Misery. More mesic species, such as maples and beeches, would have edged the banks of Valley Creek and the Schuylkill River. Hydric species, including maples, sycamores, and elms, likely dominated floodplains and wet areas. It is not known to what extent native people manipulated the existing woodland cover in order to promote hunting or to cultivate plants for food. Nor is it known whether the first Europeans in the region—the Swedish and Dutch—were involved in agriculture, or in any way altered local vegetation as they traversed the area on beaver hunting expeditions.

The Valley Forge region began to be settled by European immigrants in the early 1700s. Over suitable areas, subsistence agriculture evolved as the primary land use. Early residents, however, were forced to contend with the clearing of woodland areas before cultivating crops. Slowly, fields were established over much of the river terrace north of Nutt's Road. Locally, it is thought that by the mid-eighteenth century, 70 percent of the land in the region had been cleared for cultivation, while 30 percent of the land remained in woodland. This ratio of wooded to cleared land likely predominated in the region for at least a century. Crop fields were typically fenced, and livestock was allowed to graze freely beyond the limits of the fenced fields. Woodland, which served as a critical source of wood for fuel and building material, typically occupied steep slopes, floodplains,

and other areas that were marginal for cultivation. Within the Washington's Headquarters area, the steep slopes of Mounts Joy and Misery remained wooded throughout the period, and provided a critical source of fuel for local iron forges.

Farming practices during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries typically exhausted soils. Crop fields had to be abandoned after a few years of cultivation. These typically reverted to woodland, although second or third growth woodlands were not generally of the same character as the original deciduous forests. Second-growth tree cover was affected by the depleted nature of post-agricultural soils and the fact that livestock were typically allowed to forage in them. Foraging by livestock also likely reduced the ground cover, shrub, and understory tree layers within these second-growth woodlands.

Within the agricultural landscape north of Nutt's Road, vegetation elements typically included hedgerows along property and field boundaries; witness trees, which were individual specimens utilized or planted to mark property boundaries; cultivated crop fields; watered meadow for pasture; orchards; and kitchen gardens. The crops that were typically grown within the region during this period included: wheat, oats, rye, hay, Indian corn, flax, potatoes, hemp, buckwheat, clover, cabbages, pumpkins, hops, turnips, beans, and onions. Orchards also existed in association with various dwellings, including the Isaac Potts house. The fruit trees that were typically grown in local orchards during this period included apples, peaches, plums, pears, and cherries.

The Revolutionary War-era encampment of the Continental Army had a profound effect on local vegetation. Agricultural fields were stripped and trampled, fence rails were removed, and the Mount Misery woodlands were harvested to provide wood for fuel and for hut construction. Duportail's map of the 1777-1778 encampment indicates the character of the landscape, likely at the beginning of the cantonment. The map indicates that much of the landscape was wooded, including the hillsides of Mounts Misery and Joy, the banks of Valley Creek and the Schuylkill River, and the margins of primary roads. The creek's floodplain is indicated as meadow (referred to as "prée") on Duportail's map. Period accounts of the encampment indicate that, by the end of the encampment, the area had been denuded of tree cover.

Despite the devastation wrought by the encampment, it is thought that the landscape slowly recovered its former character. Agriculture was re-established over the gently rolling river terrace north of Nutt's Road. The hills of Mount Misery and Mount Joy slowly reverted to woodland. An 1893 survey of the region provides relatively detailed information about vegetation within the vicinity of Washington's Headquarters, including the existence of small-scale farming activity, orchards, and gardens. Scattered tree cover appears to have edged Valley Creek, the rail line, and the industrial complexes at the time. Woodland is shown as the dominant vegetative cover on Mount Joy, and while not shown on the map, likely also covered Mount Misery. Because few eighteenth or nineteenth century maps depict vegetative cover, the 1893 survey provides useful information about the landscape at the beginning of the state park era.

During the state park era, vegetation was substantially manipulated to recreate the encampment era scene, and in support of the establishment of a commemorative park. As noted earlier, the state initiated various planting projects within the area. For example, portions of Mount Misery and the margins of Valley Creek were reforested, while the floodplain of the creek was re-graded to establish a meadow of wildflowers and grasses, ornamental and commemorative plantings and expansive lawns were established near Washington's Headquarters, and agricultural fields were abandoned and converted to grass fields, parking areas, or allowed to revert to woodland (Figures 18 and 19).

Evaluation:
Generally, all of the component landscape's existing vegetation patterns and features may be traced to the early state park era when former agricultural fields were transformed into lawn, ornamental plantings, parking and meadows, and steep slopes were reforested. Ornamental plantings that characterize the Washington's Headquarters area evolved during the twentieth century state park era to replace the open agricultural character of the area that was apparent during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Even the woodland that currently covers Mount

Misery is quite different in character from the woodland that existed here during the eighteenth century. Following state park-era reforestation efforts on Mount Misery and within the Valley Creek gorge, trees have been allowed to reach and maintain a mature size, rather than being harvested for fuel as they would have during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. While area vegetation retains a high degree of integrity for the state park era, it does not retain integrity of vegetation for the other periods of significance. The features that survive from the various periods and areas of significance are listed as contributing below.

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
Grove of Trees (Ve-35)	97297	Contributing			Location	39559	No
Meadow or Lawn Area (Ve-9)	97299	Contributing			Location	237280	No
Ornamental / Commemorative Planting (Ve-32)	97300	Contributing			Asset	1127183	No
Woodlands along Valley Creek (Ve-21)	98119	Contributing					No
Woodlands on Mount Misery (Ve-13)	98120	Contributing					No
Hedgerow (Ve-36)	97298	Noncontributing			Location	56991	No
Screen planting (Ve-34)	97302	Noncontributing				39563	No
Successional Growth/Woodland (Ve-33)	98118	Noncontributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 18. Ornamental / Commemorative Planting, Ve-32, and Washington Yard Wall, S-80, view southwest. (OCLP, 2019)



Figure 19. Meadow or Lawn Area, Ve-9, and Maryland Brigade Hut Replica, S-62, view northeast. (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. Little is known about designed views within the Village of Valley Forge component landscape during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. During prehistoric periods, the upland knolls and hills of Mount Misery and Mount Joy would have afforded long views of the surrounding countryside that could have been utilized by indigenous people for hunting or defensive purposes. The long views available from these locations contributed to the selection of Valley Forge as the encampment site for the Continental Army during the winter and spring of 1777-1778, for their defensive potential. The establishment of the Reading rail line during the nineteenth century resulted in obstructing views between the Washington's Headquarters area and the Schuylkill River.

It is possible that an orchestration of views was taken into consideration as part of park planning within the Washington's Headquarters area during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, although no documentary evidence has been reviewed to support this theory. Some park-related features such as the large visitor parking area near Headquarters were originally sited so as to limit the views of intrusive elements from this important resource. However, this feature was later removed because it was deemed visually intrusive.

Evaluation:
No significant views have been identified within the Village of Valley Forge component landscape for any of the historic periods. It appears that the landscape was less wooded over much of the river terrace landscape prior to the twentieth century, and that vegetation is now obscuring the broader views of the landscape that were available during previous periods. Nineteenth century photographs generally indicate that views of the village were afforded from the roadways, providing an overall sense of the extent of the community that is no longer possible.

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
	98121	Undetermined					No

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 6

Next Assessment Due Date: 02/20/2030

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 02/20/2024

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Earlier impacts from erosion have been addressed through streambank rehabilitation and are no longer considered a significant threat to the landscape. Additionally, visitation damage to historic charcoal hearth sites has been alleviated and the sites have been stabilized. Washington's Headquarters and the surrounding area were rehabilitated in 2010, bringing both Headquarters and the Valley Forge Train Station to good condition. Both are currently used for visitor contact and interpretation. Visitor access has also been improved with the installation of a comfort station in 2009 as well as an accessible path leading from the comfort station to the Headquarters area. Many buildings in the Village of Valley Forge are occupied residences, and thus are maintained by private citizens. Other park-maintained residences such as the David Potts properties are generally in good condition, though many are vacant.

A condition assessment of "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.

Condition Assessment: Good

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: Good

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. A parking lot that adversely affected the setting has been removed and the meadow has been restored. Missing trees have been replaced and the train station has been rehabilitated. An assessment of "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.

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 09/05/2003

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Erosion is a problem along the streams and is pronounced at Washington's Headquarters where the bank is being undercut, exposing and endangering building foundation ruins and developed resources such as a water line and sewer main. An exposed water line needs immediate protection to prevent freezing this winter. Deferred maintenance is negatively impacting the railroad station. There is damage from visitors walking on and through the historic charcoal hearths located on Mount Misery. The deer browse from an increased population is negatively affecting understory vegetation.

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: Both Internal and External

Impact Narrative: 20th century subdivision and commercial development that is not in character with the 19th century industrial village exists to the west of and in the western portion of the component landscape.

Date Identified: 07/29/2005

Type of Impact: Adjacent Lands

Other Impact:

External or Internal: External

Impact Narrative: Twentieth century subdivision and commercial development that is not in character with the nineteenth century industrial village exists to the west of and in the western portion of the component landscape.

Date Identified: 02/20/2024

Type of Impact: Erosion

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Erosion is a problem along the streams and is pronounced at Washington's Headquarters where the bank is being undercut, exposing and endangering building foundation ruins and developed resources such as a water line and sewer main. An exposed water line needs immediate protection to prevent freezing this winter (2003-4).

Stabilization costs include:
Stabilize Streambank (PMIS 99957) = $100,000
Stabilize Deteriorated Dam (PMIS 24516) - $11,760

Date Identified: 07/29/2005

Type of Impact: Pests/Diseases

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Narrative: The deer browse from an increased 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 deer browse from an increased population is negatively affecting understory vegetation.

(See PMIS 92929 noted in Landscape CLI.)

Date Identified: 07/29/2005

Type of Impact: Visitation

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: There is damage from visitors walking on and through the historic charcoal hearths located on Mount Misery.

(See Landscape CLI stabilization estimates.)

Date Identified: 07/29/2005

Type of Impact: Visitation

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: There is damage from visitors walking on and through the historic charcoal hearths located on Mount Misery.

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 Village of Valley Forge 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 Village of Valley Forge landscape included the Encampment Landscape, Encampment-Era Historic Structures, the Commemorative Landscape, Valley Creek, Encampment-Era Archeological Resources, 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 village landscape included Pre- and Post-Encampment Archeological Resources, Post-Encampment Cultural Landscapes and Historic Structures, and Recreation Activities. (FD 2019: 7-9)

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

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Landscape Documents:

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

Source