National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2024



Brodhead-Heller Farm ("Wheat Plains")

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area

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Introduction

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

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

Scope of the CLI

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

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

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

Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

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

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

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

Use

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

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

General Information

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Brodhead-Heller Farm ("Wheat Plains")
Resource Classification:	Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	300033
Parent Landscape:	300023
Inventory Status:	Complete

Park Information

Park Name:	Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area
Alpha Code:	DEWA
Park Organization Code:	4320
Park District:	DEWA
Region:	Northeast
Restricted:	Yes

Landscape Description:

Brodhead-Heller Farm, also known as “Wheat Plains”, is part of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (NRA), which encompasses 67,210 acres along both sides of the Delaware River in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Established in 1965, the park provides unique opportunities to experience tranquil landscapes, rich human history, and striking scenery along 40 miles of the longest free-flowing river east of the Mississippi. The park acquired Brodhead-Heller Farm, located in Lehman Township, Pike County, Pennsylvania, in 1970.

Brodhead-Heller Farm is situated along US Route 209 on the western side of the Delaware River. The 209.1-acre property encompasses the remnants of one of the most prosperous Upper Delaware Valley farms of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. On the western side of Route 209, a collection of domestic and agricultural structures is arrayed linearly along a historic farm road that follows Route 209’s pre-1932 alignment. The structures include the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, a stately, three-story, wood frame building that displays an eclectic mix of Dutch, Georgian, Adam (sometimes called Federal), Italianate, and Colonial Revival styles. The building’s impressive appearance is the result of a succession of expansions and modifications that were implemented throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

To the rear of the farmhouse, a distinctive nineteenth-century spring house is built into the base of a wooded slope that defines the western portion of the cultural landscape. A short distance north of the spring house stands an early-twentieth century garage. Approximately five hundred feet north of these domestic structures is a large, mid-nineteenth century, wood frame barn that stands near the center of the farm’s historic barnyard. Several smaller agricultural outbuildings are distributed throughout the area surrounding the barn. Approximately one hundred feet south of the barn flows Brodhead-Heller Creek (historically known as “Brinks Creek”), which descends from higher elevations to the west and continues east toward the Delaware River, passing through a culvert beneath US Route 209.

On the eastern side of US Route 209, historic crop fields stretch across more than one hundred acres on the floodplain of the Delaware River. The fields were cultivated by the Brodhead family from the beginning of the nineteenth century and have remained in cultivation through special use permits under the National Park Service. Among the historic

crop fields stand a farmstand and a shed that were erected around 2005. The farmstand stands near a parking area at the edge of Route 209 and the shed is located approximately two hundred feet to the east, surrounded by community garden plots that were established around 2011.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Brodhead-Heller Farm is locally significant under National Register of Historic Places Criterion A in the area of Agriculture for its association with the development of agricultural practices in the Upper Delaware Valley, from the late-eighteenth century until the second half of the twentieth century. For nearly two centuries, Brodhead-Heller Farm was one of the most continuously prosperous farms in the region, adapting to changes in technology, economics, and demographics that repeatedly altered the context and practice of agriculture. The cultural landscape is also locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of Exploration/Settlement as one of the earliest European-American farmsteads in the Upper Delaware Valley, which was considered an important frontier for white settlement in the eighteenth century.

Brodhead-Heller Farm is also locally significant under National Register of Historic Places Criterion C in the area of Architecture as the site of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, which demonstrates the evolution of popular regional styles of domestic architecture from the late eighteenth to the early twentieth century. The continued prosperity of the farm throughout the historic period led to successive expansions of the farmhouse by its owners, who implemented architectural modifications that reflected the prevailing styles of their respective time periods.

The property’s period of significance is 1808–1965, beginning the year that Richard Brodhead acquired the property and likely built the first section of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, and ending the year that Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area was established to manage lands acquired as part of the now-defunct Tocks Island Dam project. The year 1965 is also when Edna (Hess) Brodhead Heller, the last of the Brodhead family associated with the property, died.

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION SUMMARY AND CONDITION

The historic integrity of Brodhead-Heller Farm is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance, 1808–1965, with the existing conditions as assessed in 2023 and 2024. Many landscape characteristics and features from the period of significance remain today. The Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, a stately, three-story, wood frame building displaying an eclectic mix of Dutch, Georgian, Adam, Italianate, and Colonial Revival architectural styles, remains in its historic location at the western edge of the Delaware River floodplain. The architecturally-significant building retains its historic character.

Throughout the approximately 210-acre landscape that surrounds the house, many historic landscape features also remain in place. These include a distinctive spring house and garage located directly northwest of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse as well as a historic barn and associated outbuildings located approximately five hundred feet to the north. The historic buildings and structures are all arrayed along a historic farm road that follows the former alignment of US Route 209, historically known as River Road. In 1932, US Route 209 was realigned and the segment running through Brodhead-Heller Farm was shifted approximately 150 feet to the east, where it remains today.

East of US Route 209, historic crop fields stretch across the floodplain of the Delaware River. The broad fields, which occupy more than one hundred acres between the eastern edge of the federal road and the western bank of the Delaware River, have remained in cultivation through special use permits administered by the National Park Service and retain their historic spatial character. Significant views across the fields from the farmstead on the western side of US Route 209 have also been preserved.

However, since 1965, some landscape characteristics and features at Brodhead-Heller Farm have been modified or removed. These include several outbuildings that historically served domestic and agricultural purposes and were located along the historic farm road, primarily near the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse and barn. Additionally, successional woody vegetation has encroached upon smaller fields that were historically maintained along the lower portions of the slope west of the farmstead, resulting in a loss of historic spatial character. Woody vegetation has also begun to take hold in areas surrounding the barn and other surviving agricultural outbuildings. Overall, Brodhead-Heller Farm retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Condition:

Brodhead-Heller Farm is in “poor” condition. A “poor” condition assessment indicates the property shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values. Several historic structures at Brodhead-Heller Farm, including the barn, evidence substantial structural deterioration and require major rehabilitation. This is also true for historic circulation features like the flagstone patio and walk in the vicinity of the farmhouse as well as the farm road, which all risk loss of integrity without substantial maintenance. Additionally, the historic bridge culvert that carried the farm road over Brodhead-Heller Creek has failed, limiting access to a large area of the cultural landscape. Encroachment of successional woody vegetation into areas of the landscape that were historically kept open also threatens the loss of historic spatial features.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

Brodhead-Heller Farm is categorized as a component landscape in the Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS). The Delaware Water Gap Landscape is identified as the parent landscape and contains more than sixty component landscapes. The list of component landscapes is under review by park and regional staff to prioritize the most important landscapes for future CLIs.

Landscape Type:

Historic Vernacular Landscape

Other Names:

Other Name:	"Wheat Plains"	**Other Name Type:**	Historic
Other Name:	Heller Farm	**Other Name Type:**	Current
Other Name:	Brodhead Farm	**Other Name Type:**	Historic

Site Plan



Site map, 2024, Drawing 1 of 2.



Site map, 2024, Drawing 2 of 2.

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 08/23/2024

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Historical research and existing conditions field documentation for this CLI were completed between October 2023 and June 2024 by James Mealey, Historical Landscape Architect at the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation in Boston, Massachusetts. The CLI has been developed in consultation with Jennifer Palmer, Cultural Resources Program Manager, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. She can be contacted at the park by email (Jennifer_Palmer@nps.gov) and telephone (570-588-6021).

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Interior Region 1
North Atlantic-Appalachian
1234 Market Street, 20th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107

1.A.2.(IR1-RSS)

Andrea Lowery
PHMC Executive Director/State Historic Preservation Officer
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
State Historic Preservation Office
Commonwealth Keystone Building, Second Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093

Dear Ms. Lowery:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) for the Brodhead-Heller Farm ("Wheat Plains") at Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. We seek to reconfirm our agreement on previously evaluated resources and your concurrence on the status of previously unevaluated resources identified in this CLI for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The report has been prepared by a team of historical landscape architects with the National Park Service (NPS) Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation and staff at Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. The CLI program and the enclosed report continue the NPS efforts to update our cultural resource inventories.

Through the CLI program, the NPS is currently undertaking 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 historically significant cultural 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 and conducting 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 property's overall significance. For landscapes found potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, the evaluation describes their character-defining features and assesses the landscape's overall historical integrity. It also raises questions about the landscape that need 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 properties 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 documents other characteristics such as vegetation, spatial organization, and views and vistas. The CLI is one component of the NPS inventory effort that also includes cultural resource inventories for historic structures, archeological sites, ethnographic resources, and museum objects. For example, the NPS Historic Structures Inventory (formerly List of Classified Structures) includes structural features of cultural landscapes, but the CLI takes a more

SHPO concurrence letter, September 20, 2024, page 1 of 6.

encompassing approach to the properties, inventorying all above-ground features in each park in which the NPS has a legal or mandated interest.

Previous Historic Property Evaluation:

The Brodhead-Heller Farm is part of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (NRA), which was established in 1965. In 1978 the Delaware River within the NRA was designated a scenic and recreational river under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The United States Government acquired Brodhead-Heller Farm in 1970.

On July 23, 1979, the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse and its dependent structures were listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Local-level significance was identified for the buildings in the areas of Agriculture, Architecture, and Exploration/Settlement. The general period of significance was identified as 1700–1899, but no specific beginning or end dates were provided. Aside from the farmhouse, the documentation referred to other structures as "several barns and other outbuildings" and generally described the Brodhead-Heller Farm structures as preserving "…perhaps better than any other in the vicinity, the sense of prosperity and good living, within an agricultural context, of the elite bottom land farms along the Delaware River." No specific features in the landscape were described in the documentation.

On April 22, 2008, your office determined that other landscape features were eligible for listing in the National Register. They included the farm road, farm lane, flagstone walkway, flagstone patio, Garage/Apartment, Spring House, Barn and Silo, Privy, Incinerator Ruin, Ice House Foundation Ruins, Bridge Culvert, Farm Lane Bridge, Wooden Shed, Farm Shed, animal pen, stone retaining walls, stone-lined waterway, well and basin, and slate dam and pond. The correspondences for this effort have not been found; it most likely was associated with a Determination of Eligibility project or an update to the NPS List of Classified Structures (now Historic Structures Inventory).

Current Findings:

The enclosed CLI for the Brodhead-Heller Farm fully evaluates the cultural landscape, particularly the associated landscape characteristics and features, and finds that the site's landscape retains integrity to the areas of Agriculture, Architecture, and Exploration/Settlement. As noted previously, fourteen of the property's features compiled on the attached list have already been listed in the National Register or determined eligible for listing. The CLI identifies an additional twenty-two resources related to natural systems and features, spatial organization, vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, views and vistas, and constructed water features that contribute to the significance and historic character of the property. An additional eight features have been evaluated as noncontributing because they are not historically significant. Six features have been evaluated as undetermined because future research is needed to determine their significance or verify their locations and conditions.

We call your particular attention to the Landscape Description, Boundary Description, National Register Information and the Statement of Significance, and Analysis and Evaluation Summary in the enclosed CLI.

Based on the CLI, we seek to reconfirm our agreement on previously evaluated resources and your concurrence on the status of resources and features identified in this CLI:

SHPO concurrence letter, September 20, 2024, page 2 of 6.

- The Brodhead-Heller Farm is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of Agriculture for its association with the development of agricultural practices in the Upper Delaware Valley, from the late-eighteenth-century until the second half of the twentieth century.
- The Brodhead-Heller Farm is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of Exploration/Settlement as one of the earliest European-American farmsteads in the Upper Delaware Valley, which was considered an important frontier for white settlement in the eighteenth century.
- The Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape is locally significant under National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as the site of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, which demonstrates the evolution of popular regional styles of domestic architecture from the late eighteenth to the early twentieth century.
- The property's period of significance is 1808–1965, beginning the year John Brodhead began to acquire parcels that compose the present-day Brodhead-Heller Farm cultural landscape and ending the year that Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area was established to manage lands acquired as part of the now-defunct Tocks Island Dam project. The end of the historic period also corresponds to the death of Edna (Hess) Brodhead-Heller, who had operated the farm since 1933.
- The categorization of contributing, non-contributing, and undetermined landscape characteristics and features (see attached list).

If you concur with these findings, we ask that you please sign on the space provided and return this letter to Jeff Killion, Interior Region 1 CLI Coordinator, by email: jeff_killion@nps.gov.
We would appreciate your response in **30 days**, if possible. Thank you for your attention to this inventory. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Killion at 508-455-8540 (telework cell).

Sincerely,

JONATHAN MEADE
Digitally signed by JONATHAN MEADE
Date: 2024.08.27 08:19:25 -04'00'

Jonathan Meade
Associate Regional Director
Resource Stewardship and Science

Enclosure/Attachment

cc:
Superintendent, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area

I concur with the National Park Service categorizations of the landscape resources and features for the Brodhead-Heller Farm, as contributing, non-contributing, and undetermined.

Andrea L. MacDonald — 9/20/2024

Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Officer — Date

Andrea L. MacDonald
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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NPS Cultural Landscapes Inventory – Brodhead-Heller Farm ("Wheat Plains")
Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area
List of Contributing, Non-Contributing, and Undetermined Landscape Features
August 2024

Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

The following landscape characteristics and associated features contribute to the property's historic character, though not all are considered countable resources according to the National Register of Historic Places. Features marked with a (*) were evaluated in the 1979 National Register documentation. Features marked with a (+) were evaluated in a 2008 Determination of Eligibility (DOE).

Natural Systems and Features
- Brodhead-Heller Creek
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Delaware River Floodplain
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Western Slope
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Mature Woodland

Spatial Organization
- Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse Site
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Barnyard
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – East Lawn
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Floodplain Fields
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Northwestern Field
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Southwestern Field

Vegetation
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Specimen Trees
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Mowed Turf

Circulation
- + Brodhead-Heller Farm – Farm Road
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Driveway
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Barnyard Access Lanes
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Floodplain Field Access Lanes
- + Brodhead-Heller Farm – Farm Lane
- + Brodhead-Heller Farm – Flagstone Walkway
- + Brodhead-Heller Farm – Flagstone Patio
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Stone-Lined Waterway Steps
- Brodhead-Heller Farm – Brick Steps Ruins

Buildings and Structures
- * Brodhead-Heller Farm – Farmhouse
- + Brodhead-Heller Farm – Garage/Apartment

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+ Brodhead-Heller Farm – Spring House
+ Brodhead-Heller Farm – Barn and Silo
+ Brodhead-Heller Farm – Privy
+ Brodhead-Heller Farm – Incinerator Ruin
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Ice House Foundation Ruins
+ Brodhead-Heller Farm – Bridge Culvert
+ Brodhead-Heller Farm – Farm Lane Bridge
+ Brodhead-Heller Farm – Wooden Shed
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Farm Shed
+ Brodhead-Heller Farm – Animal Pen

Views and Vistas
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Views across Floodplain Fields

Constructed Water Feature
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Stone Lined Waterway
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Well and Basin

Non-Contributing Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

Natural Systems and Features
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Successional Woods (post–1965)

Spatial Organization
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Community Garden

Circulation
Brodhead-Heller Farm – US Route 209 Parking Area
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Joseph M. McDade Recreational Trail

Buildings and Structures
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Pole Barn
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Roadside Farmstand
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Alpaca Shed

Small-Scale Features
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Community Garden Fence

Undetermined Landscape Characteristics & Associated Features

Buildings and Structures
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Agricultural Outbuildings
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Freestanding Silos
+ Brodhead-Heller Farm – Stone Retaining Walls

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Constructed Water Features
+ Brodhead-Heller Farm – Slate Dam and Pond

Small-Scale Features
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Metal/Wire Fence
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Presumed Barbecue Ruin

bcc:
Dennis Montagna, Region 1 History Program
Stephen Pisani, Region 1 Historic Architecture Program
Bethany Serafine, Region 1 History Program
Robert Page, Director, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation

SHPO concurrence letter, September 20, 2024, page 6 of 6.

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY
CERTIFICATION FORM

Brodhead-Heller Farm ("Wheat Plains")
Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area certifies the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) for the Brodhead-Heller Farm, including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Should Be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: 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 Cultural Landscape Inventory for the Brodhead-Heller Farm is hereby approved and accepted.

DOYLE SAPP Digitally signed by DOYLE SAPP
Date: 2024.08.23 14:09:38 -04'00'

Superintendent, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Date

CLI certification form, August 23, 2024.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
Pennsylvania	Pike County

Size (Acres): 209.1

Land Tract Number(s)

The Brodhead-Heller Farm CLI boundary encompasses the entirety of Delaware Water Gap NRA Tracts 8553 (208.69 acres) and 8552 (0.4 acres).

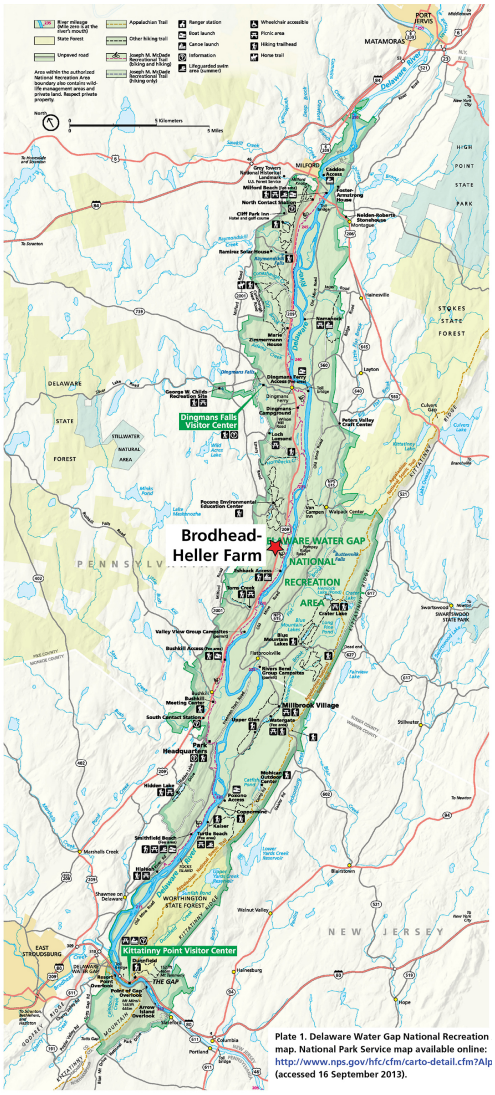
Boundary Description:

The limits of the Brodhead-Heller Farm CLI area are defined to the east by the western bank of the Delaware River. To the north, the site boundary is defined by a line that runs approximately 1,700 feet west from the river bank and crosses US Route 209 before turning to the north and running along the western edge of US Route 209 for approximately five hundred feet. The northern site boundary then again turns toward the west and climbs the steep wooded slope west of the farmstead for approximately 900 feet. The CLI area's western boundary is defined by a line that runs along the wooded slope west of the farmstead for approximately 3,200 feet, crossing Brodhead-Heller Creek on its course. The western boundary then turns to the east and descends the slope for approximately 365 feet before again turning south and running perpendicular to the slope for another eight hundred feet. Brodhead-Heller Farm's southern boundary is defined by a line that runs approximately 2,100 feet between the western bank of the Delaware River and a point on the wooded slope west of the farmstead.

Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
	Area	41.1487341	-74.9138331	
	Area	41.1516659	-74.9186553	
	Area	41.1526355	-74.9174144	
	Area	41.1550466	-74.9195588	
	Area	41.1481575	-74.9268502	
	Area	41.1475712	-74.9258105	
	Area	41.1457985	-74.9274727	
	Area	41.1418459	-74.921877	

Location Map:



Brodhead-Heller Farm is located west of the Delaware River, near the center of Delaware Water Gap National Recreatio Area. (Delaware Water Cap National Recreation Area --hereafter NRA)

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Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

Physiographic context describes the large-scale physical landscape forms and patterns within which the cultural landscape is located. Brodhead-Heller Farm is located near the western edge of the Valley and Ridge physiographic province, in an area known as the Pocono Front, a geologic boundary between the Valley and Ridge and Appalachian Plateaus physiographic provinces. The ecological transitions manifest as myriad habitat types within and surrounding Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. The eastern portion of Brodhead-Heller Farm is situated on the lowlands of the Upper Delaware Valley. The cultural landscape's western portion is defined by the steep slope that climbs from the valley floor to the Pocono Plateau. (NPS 2017)

Type of Context: Political

Description:

Political context is the overlay imposed on the landscape through general land use, zoning, legal restrictions,
transportation, utilities, population, and political jurisdiction (e.g., state, county, city, borough, or village). Brodhead-Heller Farm falls entirely within Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, west of the Delaware River, and is owned and managed by the federal government. It is located entirely within Lehman Township, Pike County, Pennsylvania.

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

Cultural context describes the human overlay on the physical form of the landscape. The area immediately surrounding Brodhead-Heller Farm is characterized by historic farms and villages situated within Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, the boundary of which is located approximately one mile west of the cultural landscape. Within the park, trails, campgrounds, and day use areas serve visitors. The Joseph M. McDade Recreational Trail, which passes through the eastern portion of Brodhead-Heller Farm, is a multi-use trail that runs along the western bank of the Delaware River from Hialeah Recreation Area to Milford Beach. Outside the park's western boundary, several suburban subdivisions have been developed within the woods of the Pocono Plateau.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 08/23/2024

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The Brodhead-Heller Farm cultural landscape meets the “Should Be Preserved and Maintained” management category because the property is significant at the local level under National Register of Historic Places Criteria A and C.

Management Agreements:

Type of Agreement: Special Use Permit

Management Agreement Expiration Date:

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative:

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. Surrounding Brodhead-Heller Farm, the landscape of the Upper Delaware Valley contributes to the property's historic setting. North and south of Brodhead-Heller Farm, the western bank of the Delaware River is defined by broad agricultural fields on the river floodplain, as it was during the historic period. Since the end of the historic period, woods have grown up in some areas of the floodplain that historically hosted agricultural fields, however this successional process was already taking place in many of these areas by 1965. On the portion of the eastern bank of the Delaware River that is visible from Brodhead-Heller Farm, woody succession has been more extensive since 1965, resulting in substantially more enclosure than existed during the historic period. West of Brodhead-Heller Farm, the densely wooded slope that climbs to the Pocono Plateau enhances the secluded and rustic setting of the property, as it did during the historic period.

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: SHPO Inadequately Documented

Documentation Narrative Description:

The Brodhead-Heller Farm is part of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (NRA), which was established in 1965. In 1978 the Delaware River within the NRA was designated a scenic and recreational river under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The United States Government acquired Brodhead-Heller Farm in 1970.

On July 23, 1979, the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse and its dependent structures were listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Local-level significance was identified for the buildings in the areas of Agriculture, Architecture, and Exploration/Settlement. The general period of significance was identified as 1700–1899, but no specific beginning or end dates were provided. Aside from the farmhouse, the documentation referred to other structures as “several barns and other outbuildings” and generally described the Brodhead-Heller Farm structures as preserving “…perhaps better than any other in the vicinity, the sense of prosperity and good living, within an agricultural context, of the elite bottom land farms along the Delaware River.” No specific features in the landscape were described in the documentation.

On April 22, 2008, the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) determined that other landscape features were eligible for listing in the National Register. They included the farm road, farm lane, flagstone walkway, flagstone patio, Garage/Apartment, Spring House, Barn and Silo, Privy, Incinerator Ruin, Ice House Foundation Ruins, Bridge Culvert, Farm Lane Bridge, Wooden Shed, Farm Shed, animal pen, stone retaining walls, stone-lined waterway, well and basin, and slate dam and pond. The correspondences for this effort have not been found; it most likely was associated with a Determination of Eligibility project or an update to the NPS List of Classified Structures (now Historic Structures Inventory).

According to research conducted for this CLI and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the “CLI Professional Procedures Guide,” the areas and periods of significance for the Brodhead-Heller Farm as well as several landscape features have not been adequately documented in the National Register or previous consultations with the Pennsylvania SHPO. Therefore, for the purposes of the CLI, the Brodhead-Heller Farm is considered “SHPO – Inadequately Documented.”

Eligibility: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 09/20/2024

Concurrence Narrative:

The Pennsylvania SHPO had no review comments on the CLI.

Significance Level: Local

Contributing: Individual

Classification: District

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

The Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape is locally significant under National Register of Historic Places Criterion A in the areas of Agriculture and Exploration/Settlement and locally significant under Criterion C

in the area of Architecture. The property's period of significance is 1808–1965, beginning the year Richard Brodhead acquired the property and likely built the first section of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, and ending the year that Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area was established to manage lands acquired as part of the now-defunct Tocks Island Dam project. The end of the historic period also corresponds to the death of Edna (Hess) Brodhead-Heller, who had operated the farm since 1933.

CRITERION A

Agriculture:
The Brodhead-Heller Farm cultural landscape is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of Agriculture for its association with the development of agricultural practices in the Upper Delaware Valley, from the late-eighteenth-century until the second half of the twentieth century. For nearly two centuries, Brodhead-Heller Farm was one of the most continuously prosperous farms in the region, adapting to changes in technology, economics, and demographics that repeatedly altered the context and practice of agriculture.

In 1798, when John Brodhead began acquiring the land that would become Brodhead-Heller Farm, the "golden age of agriculture in the Mid-Atlantic area" was just getting underway. During this period, which occurred between 1790 and 1840, farmers in the Upper Delaware Valley benefitted from improved transportation and a lack of serious competition from agricultural production in the West. They continued to farm the fields that their colonial predecessors, and the Lenape for thousands of years before them, had cultivated on the broad floodplain along the banks of the Delaware River. They also began to improve upon earlier farming practices. (Clemensen 1996: 57)

During this early period, the typical Upper Delaware Valley farm contained a farmhouse, often of wooden frame construction, and a variety of outbuildings including barns, spring houses, ice houses, sheds, and granaries. The farmhouse and associated outbuildings were often arranged in a linear pattern along a road, concentrating buildings and structures within a limited area to preserve as much land as possible for agricultural production. Other typical farm landscape features included simple yards in the proximity of the farmhouse, typically shaded by native deciduous trees and containing small garden beds. (Clemensen 1996: 51,57)

Throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, technological advancements and economic developments resulted in physical changes to the typical Upper Delaware Valley farm. Crop fields became larger with the advent of mechanization, and machine sheds were constructed to store their new farm implements. With increased competition from western grain and beef cattle, farmers in the Upper Delaware Valley began to dedicate more of their land to raising dairy cattle to produce butter and whole milk for nearby population centers. Corn production expanded to support the growing dairy operation, and new stables were built to house cattle. (Clemensen 1996: 62)

By the beginning of the twentieth century, some wooden silos were built adjacent to barns to store ensilage used to feed cattle. During the period from 1917 into the early 1920s, taller, glazed tile block silos appeared. After 1945, farmers built even larger concrete stave silos. Milk houses were attached to barns or sometimes constructed nearby. By the 1930s, hay began to be stored in sheds built of poles and sheet metal. With the introduction of automobiles, garages appeared, often near the house. At the same time, carriage houses and ice houses disappeared. After 1945 more spring houses fell into disuse and some were removed. (Clemensen, 1996: 62,76)

The present-day Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape possesses characteristics that evidence the farm's evolution in the context of these broader regional trends from the late-eighteenth to the mid-twentieth centuries. These include broad, level fields that spread across the extensive floodplain along the Delaware River's western bank; the wooden frame farmhouse oriented toward the fields and the river; a spring house, garage, and deciduous canopy trees in close proximity to the house; and barns and other agricultural outbuildings arranged linearly along the historic River Road.

Exploration/Settlement:
The Brodhead-Heller Farm cultural landscape is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of Exploration/Settlement as one of the earliest European-American farmsteads in the Upper

Delaware Valley, which was considered an important frontier for white settlement in the eighteenth century. The land that composes the present-day Brodhead-Heller Farm was included in the infamous “Walking Purchase” of 1737, through which Thomas Penn and John Penn, the sons of William Penn, claimed approximately 1,200 square miles of Lenape land. In July 1742, the Pennsylvania proprietors ordered the Lenape to move from the Walking Purchase area to the Wyoming Valley or Shamokim (Sunbury). Many Lenape then relocated to western Pennsylvania. (HSR 2022: I3; Clemensen 1996: 37; Review comments, J. Palmer, 15 August 2024)

European settlement on the Pennsylvania side of the Upper Delaware Valley increased in the 1730s and 1740s, with some families moving across the river from the New Jersey side. By 1755, as in New Jersey, several hundred people lived in scattered groups along the Pennsylvania side of the Upper Delaware River Valley. These areas included present-day Milford, Dingman's Ferry, Bushkill, and Shawnee/Stroudsburg. However, as on the New Jersey side of the Delaware River, the French and Indian War and the American Revolution retarded settlement during the second half of the eighteenth century. Consequently, by 1790, the area was still thinly settled. (Clemensen 1996: 22)

In 1798, John Brodhead acquired three parcels that constitute the present-day Brodhead-Heller Farm along the Great Road paralleling the western bank of the Delaware River, which had been laid out by Bucks County in 1750 and roughly followed the route of a pre-existing Native American trail known as the Minsi Path or Minisink Trail. On these parcels, John’s brother Richard would by the farm and build a farmhouse in 1808, and other Brodhead descendants would develop one of the most continuously successful farms in the Upper Delaware Valley. (HSR 2022: I3–I6)

CRITERION C

Architecture:
The Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape is locally significant under National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as the site of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, which demonstrates the evolution of popular regional styles of domestic architecture from the late eighteenth to the early twentieth century. The continued prosperity of the farm throughout the historic period led to periodic expansions of the farmhouse by its owners, who implemented architectural modifications that reflected the prevailing styles of their respective time periods.

The Farmhouse exhibits elements of Dutch, Georgian, Adam (sometimes called Federal), Italianate, and Colonial Revival styles. The earliest portion of the house was likely built in ca.1808 and measured 22 feet wide by 26 feet deep and featured a timber-framed side hall plan with two rooms on the first floor and two rooms on the second floor. Within approximately one decade of construction of the first portion, the house was doubled in size, bringing the building’s front façade to its current width. In ca.1820–1830, a kitchen addition was added to the rear of the building and was subsequently expanded around the last quarter of the nineteenth century to add extra service space. The final major campaign of alterations took place in 1907, when the pre-existing attic was elevated to create a third floor of livable space. The Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse retains many of its historic character-defining architectural features. (HSR 2022: I.22–I.23)

National Register Significance Criteria:

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

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

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Agriculture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Exploration - Settlement

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

National Register Criteria Consideration:

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

Time Period: CE 1808 - CE 1965

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Developing the American Economy	Agriculture	Small-Scale Commercial Agriculture (Crops, Orchards)	
Peopling Places	Colonial Exploration and Settlement	American Exploration and Settlement	
Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	Vernacular Architecture	

NRIS Information:

NRIS Name:	Brodhead Farm
NRIS ID:	79000242
Other Name:	Wheat Plains
Primary Certification Date:	07/23/1979

State Register Documentation:

Identification Number:	1977RE00115
Name:	Brodhead-Heller Farm (“Wheat Plains”)

National Historic Landmarks:

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
BCE 5000	Inhabited	Paleoindian people arrive in the Upper Delaware Valley, soon after the retreat of the ice covering of the Wisconsin Glaciation Age. (Clemensen 1996: 5)
CE 900	Inhabited	The Lenape inhabits the Upper Delaware Valley by the Late Woodland period. The Lenape practice agriculture along the Delaware River, growing corn, beans, squash, and probably sunflowers and tobacco. (Clemensen 1996: 7)
CE 1624	Colonized	Dutch settlement of the region begins when twenty-four settlers are sent by the Dutch West Indies Company, primarily to Fort Orange (Albany), New York. (Clemensen 1996: 13)
CE 1674	Land Transfer	The Dutch cede control of the New Netherland Colony to the English as a condition of the Treaty of Westminster, which ends the Third Anglo-Dutch War.
CE 1695 - 1700	Settled	The earliest European settlers in the Upper Delaware Valley, individuals of Dutch, Walloon, and Huguenot ancestry, reach the upper portion of that area around Machackemack (Port Jervis, New York) in the late 1690s. (Clemensen 1996: 16)
CE 1681	Colonized	William Penn is granted the charter for Pennsylvania, within which the present-day Wheat Plains Farm cultural landscape is located. (HSR 2022: I2)
CE 1718	Land Transfer	William Penn dies and bequeaths 10,000 unseated acres in Pennsylvania to his grandson, also named William Penn. (HSR 2022: I2)
CE 1727	Settled	In 1727, Nicholas Depui and his family, Huguenots from Ulster County, New York, settle near present-day Shawnee, not far above the Delaware Water Gap and approximately 15 miles south of the present-day Wheat Plains Farm cultural landscape. (Clemensen 1996: 20)
CE 1728	Land Transfer	The younger William Penn sells to William Allen the 10,000 acres he had inherited from his grandfather in 1718, including a 256-acre tract surveyed along the western bank of the Delaware River that encompassed a portion of the present-day Wheat Plains Farm cultural landscape. At the time, the Lenape had not released the land for European settlement. (HSR 2022: I2)
CE 1737	Land Transfer	In 1737, the proprietors of Pennsylvania claim approximately 1,200 square miles of Lenape land on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware River, including the present-day Wheat Plains Farm cultural landscape, in a “land swindle” known as the “Walking Purchase.” (Encyclopedia Brittanica)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1744	Land Transfer	William Allen sells to Garrett Brink two noncontiguous parcels within the lands he acquired from the younger William Penn in 1718. One of the parcels, amounting to 54 acres, makes up the western portion of the present-day Wheat Plains Farm cultural landscape. (HSR 2022: I4)
CE 1750	Built	Bucks County lays out a road along the western edge of the Delaware River, roughly following the route of a pre-existing Native American trail known as the Minsi Path or the Minisink Trail. The road is referred to as the Great Road during the 18th century and later as the River Road or the Milford Road in the 19th century. (HSR 2022: I3)
CE 1785	Settled	John Emmins obtains a warrant for a tract of 150 acres that spans the distance between the Great Road and the western bank of the Delaware River, encompassing parts of the present-day Wheat Plains Farm cultural landscape. (HSR 2022: I4)
CE 1785	Built	John Emmins constructs a house on the land between the Great Road and the Delaware River for which he had acquired a warrant earlier in 1785. (HSR 2022: I2)
CE 1792	Land Transfer	David Van Acken purchases Emmins’s rights to the 150 acres between the Great Road and the Delaware River, where Emmins had built a house in 1785. (HSR 2022: I4)
CE 1795	Land Transfer	David Van Acken sells the southern portion of the 150 acres he had acquired in 1792 to John McCarty. The tract conveyed to John McCarty amounts to 67 acres and includes the house that John Emmins had built in 1785. (HSR 2022: I4)
CE 1796	Land Transfer	William Nyce sells to John Nyce a vacant tract of 36 acres directly south of the 67-acre tract that John McCarty had acquired in 1795. (HSR 2022: I4)
CE 1798	Land Transfer	John Brodhead acquires the 67-acre parcel that John McCarty had acquired in 1795 and the 54-acre parcel that Garrett Brink had acquired in 1744. The two parcels are located on either side of the Great Road and compose the majority of the present-day Wheat Plains Farm cultural landscape. (HSR 2022: I6)
CE 1798	Inhabited	In 1798, tax records indicate that Richard Brodhead, a brother of John Brodhead, was residing in the house built by John Emmins in 1785. (HSR 2022: I7)
CE 1799	Land Transfer	John Nyce conveys to James Vanetten the 36-acre parcel he had acquired in 1796, which remained vacant. (HSR 2022: I4)
CE 1799	Land Transfer	John Brodhead acquires the 36-acre parcel that James Vanetten had acquired from John Nyce earlier in 1799, completing his acquisition of what would become the core of Wheat Plains Farm. (HSR 2022: I6)
CE 1808	Land Transfer	Richard Brodhead purchases Wheat Plains Farm from his brother John. (HSR 2022: I7)
CE 1808	Built	The earliest section of the Wheat Plains house is built, probably by Richard Brodhead. (HSR 2022: I7)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1800 - 1838	Built	The Wheat Plains spring house is built during the early 19th century. The present-day structure may reflect two building campaigns, with the southern end constructed first, followed by an expansion to the north. (HSR 2022: I55)
CE 1838	Land Transfer	Richard Brodhead sells Wheat Plains to his son Albert G. Brodhead. (HSR 2022: I8)
CE 1845	Built	Albert Brodhead rebuilds a barn at Wheat Plains Farm. (HSR 2022: I9)
CE 1871	Land Transfer	Albert Brodhead sells Wheat Plains to Cornelius Swartwout. (HSR 2022: I9)
CE 1894	Land Transfer	Robert P. Brodhead, grand-nephew of Albert Brodhead, purchases Wheat Plains from the Swartwout family. (HSR 2022: I9)
CE 1906 - 1907	Rehabilitated	Robert P. Brodhead renovates the Wheat Plains farmhouse, making various interior alterations and elevating the attic level. (HSR 2022: I14)
CE 1907	Built	Robert P. Brodhead builds the Wheat Plains garage as a carriage house and wash house. It is built on the site of an earlier building. (HSR 2022: I7)
CE 1907	Built	Robert P. Brodhead builds a tenant house at Wheat Plains Farm to house the farm manager. (HSR 2022: I7)
CE 1907	Built	Fanny Brodhead, wife of Robert P. Brodhead, installs tennis courts east of River Road at Wheat Plains Farm. (HSR 2022: I14)
CE 1920	Land Transfer	Robert P. Brodhead sells Wheat Plains Farm to his son William L. Brodhead. (HSR 2022: I14)
CE 1926	Established	River Road, also known as the Milford Road, becomes a federal road and is designated US Route 209. (HSR 2022: I15)
CE 1932	Moved	US 209 is improved through Pike County, resulting in the present-day alignment slightly to the east of the earlier River Road that ran in front of the Wheat Plains farmhouse. After the realignment of US 209, the pre-existing segment of River Road that ran through Wheat Plains Farm was designated as township road T309 until 1959. (HSR 2022: I15)
CE 1932	Destroyed	The tennis courts installed in 1907 are removed as part of the US 209 realignment. (HSR 2022: I15)
CE 1933	Land Transfer	William L. Brodhead dies, leaving management of Wheat Plains Farm to his widow Edna Brodhead. Edna would remarry to William Heller, and during most of the twentieth century the Wheat Plains farmhouse was known as the Heller House. (HSR 2022: I15)
CE 1934	Rehabilitated	The front walk leading to the Wheat Plains farmhouse is replaced by Edna Brodhead’s brother Frank Hess. (HSR 2022: I16)
CE 1950 - 1960	Rehabilitated	During the 1950s, Edna Brodhead makes improvements to the landscape immediately behind the Wheat Plains farmhouse, installing a flagstone terrace and a stone drainage channel. (HSR 2022: I16)

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1962	Planned	The U.S. Government authorizes the Tocks Island Dam and Reservoir project, intended to dam the Delaware River to create a 12,000-acre reservoir and provide flood control, hydroelectric power, water supply, and recreational opportunities. (HSR 2022: I16)
CE 1965	Land Transfer	Edna Brodhead dies, leaving Wheat Plains Farm to her children Edna Fairfield, Margaretta Jagger, and Robert P. Brodhead. (HSR 2022: I17)
CE 1965	Established	Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is established to provide “for public outdoor recreation and enjoyment of the proposed Tocks Island Reservoir and lands adjacent thereto…and for the preservation of the scenic, scientific, and historic features contributing to public enjoyment of such lands and waters.” (Public Law 89-158)
CE 1970	Land Transfer	The U.S. Government acquires Wheat Plains Farm from the Brodhead family as part of land acquisitions for the Tocks Island Dam and Reservoir project. (HSR 2022: I16)
CE 2000 - 2007	Inhabited	Wheat Plains Farm is leased by the National Park Service to the Klimzcak family. (HSR 2022: I18)
CE 2001 - 2002	Built	The Klimzcak family constructs a farm stand on the eastern side of US 209. (HSR 2022: I16)
CE 2019	Rehabilitated	The NPS paints the metal roof of the Pole Barn.
CE 2019	Rehabilitated	The NPS undertakes repairs to the roof and adjacent carpentry of the Wheat Plains farmhouse. As part of the work, a chimney is demolished at the rear of the house.
CE 2019	Rehabilitated	The NPS implements mold remediation at the Wheat Plains farmhouse and repaints the building’s northeastern façade.
CE 2022	Rehabilitated	The NPS undertakes in-kind repairs to the roof of the Wheat Plains Garage/Apartment.

Physical History:

EARLY HUMAN HABITATION OF THE UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY, ca.9000 BCE – 900 CE

Prior to 15,000 years ago, a glacier covered the Upper Delaware Valley, the area now occupied by the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. The ice covering of the Wisconsin Glaciation Age, as this era was called, began to melt about 15,000 years ago and resulted in the revegetation of the Delaware Water Gap area with a tundra covering. Mammoths and mastodons inhabited the land during this era. About 13,000 years ago, the tundra began to be invaded by a pre-boreal forest characterized by dense spruce-fir and pine species. As the forest coverage increased, the mammoth and mastodon population decreased and disappeared about 11,700 years ago. Beginning about 10,700 years ago, a true boreal forest, initially of pine-birch trees, began to be established and, with this event, the first Americans migrated to the area. These Paleoindians established the first of three occupation periods that occurred before the arrival of Europeans. (Clemensen 1996: 5)

The initial dense pine-birch boreal forests had a low biotic carrying capacity that was partly the result of cool temperatures and greater precipitation than the present day. Living in small groups, the Paleoindians led a nomadic life based upon seasonal movement to hunt, fish, and gather plants and plant seeds. These generalized hunters and gatherers camped in small open areas in the forest or lived in natural rock shelters and caves. In the hunt for caribou and other herding animals, they used a weapon with a distinct fluted projectile point that was shaped to allow it to be bound to a wooden shaft. (Clemensen 1996: 5)

Around 7,000 years ago, modern climatic conditions were attained. The biotic community increased at that time with a concomitant expansion in the human population. This adaptation set the stage for a thousand-year transition from the late Archaic era to the beginning of the Woodland period. During the transition or Terminal Archaic phase that began some 4,000 years ago, peoples moved northward and brought with them the broadspear. The projectile point for this instrument had a crafted slender point with a fish-tail type stem. Tools by which canoes could be made, such as celts and adzes, have been found from this era. Thus, people began to travel by water as well as on foot. Stone bowls and flat-bottomed cooking pots also appeared, carved from soft talc or soapstone. (Clemensen 1996: 6)

Like their Archaic predecessors, the population of the Early and Middle Woodland periods lived a life of hunting, fishing, and gathering. Their appearance about 3,000 years ago, however, portended a lifestyle change. Weapons became more sophisticated with the introduction of the bow and arrow, and thin projectile points were introduced from the north. Notched net sinkers gave evidence of continued fishing. True pottery of coil construction with coarse impressions emerged in the Early Woodland time. The earliest of these vessels were oval or elongated with a flat bottom and side handles. (Clemensen 1996: 6)

THE LENAPE OF THE LATE WOODLAND PERIOD, ca.900–1600

By the Late Woodland Period, the Upper Delaware Valley was the homeland of the Lenape. According to their legend, the Lenape originated west of the Mississippi and migrated eastward to the area of the Susquehanna, Delaware, Hudson, and Potomac Rivers. With their center around the Delaware River, they split into three bands, the turtle (Unami), turkey (Unalachtigo), and wolf (Minisink). Each band was matriarchal. The Minisink, or Minsi, settled in present-day northeast Pennsylvania and northwest New Jersey with their center around Minisink Island in the Upper Delaware Valley area. Their homeland may have extended south to the Delaware Water Gap. (Clemensen 1996: 7)

The Minisink of the Late Woodland period were part of wide-ranging trade and communication networks, including with downriver and coastal villages and tribes to the west. They lived in disbursed, single-unit houses in unfortified villages and farmed small plots along the river where they grew corn, beans, squash, and probably sunflowers and tobacco. Although agriculture supplemented their diet, hunting, fishing, and gathering still provided much of the Minisink's food. Bows and arrows were used to kill deer, elk, bear, turkey, and waterfowl, while smaller animals were trapped. Every part of an animal was used. The hide was tanned with animal brains for use as clothing. Sinew and gut were used for binding, claws and hooves for ornament, bone and antler for tools and weapons, and fat for body lotion and hair dressing. (Clemensen 1996: 7-8)

Fish provided a large part of the Minisink's diet. Most fish were caught in braided nets which could be as large as 420–480 feet long. Stones were incorporated into the nets for sinkers and small sticks served as floats. Larger fish like sturgeon probably were speared. Freshwater mussels were also gathered in large numbers and dried. Treks were made eastward to gather shellfish along the Atlantic Coast. Wild plants, nuts, berries, fruit, roots, and tubers were gathered. (Clemensen 1996: 7-8)

EARLY EUROPEAN COLONIZATION, FRONTIER, AND PIONEER PERIODS, ca.1600–1840

Living in the remote Upper Delaware Valley meant that the Minisink people did not make contact with the first European explorers and settlers as early as Native Americans near the coast and those in the lower Hudson and Delaware River regions. The Minisink, however, felt the effects of European civilization before meeting these white men, with European diseases, especially smallpox, preceding them in the Upper Delaware Valley. These epidemics, beginning in 1624, gradually reduced the Minisink population. At the same time, contact with other tribes to the east and south who traded with Europeans, brought the beginning of foreign products to the Upper Delaware Valley. The Minisink received apple and peach trees from these contacts and planted them at their villages. (Clemensen 1996: 9)

Like the settlers on the New Jersey side of the Delaware River, the early European pioneers who occupied the Pennsylvania area descended from Dutch, Walloon, and Huguenot inhabitants of New York. Unlike the New Jersey segment, the initial settlers located at the lower end of the Upper Delaware Valley. In 1727, Nicholas Depui, a Huguenot, and his family came from Ulster County, New York, and settled near present-day Shawnee not far above the Water Gap, approximately 15 miles south of the present-day Brodhead-Heller Farm.

In 1737, the proprietors of Pennsylvania claimed approximately 1,200 square miles of Lenape land on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware River in what is known as the “Walking Purchase.” The claim included the entire western portion of the Delaware River Valley, from present-day Wrightstown in the south to the New York border in the north. The present-day Brodhead-Heller Farm cultural landscape is located within the northern portion of this area. (Clemensen 1996: 20)

Early European settlement on the Pennsylvania side of the Upper Delaware Valley was concentrated in the fertile bottomlands along the western bank of the Delaware River. Cornelius Cole, the first European settler in Dingman Township, purchased land between Sawkill and Raymondskill Creeks, north of Brodhead-Heller Farm, in 1750. In the same year, Bucks County laid out a road along the western edge of the Delaware River that roughly followed the route of a pre-existing Native American trail known as the Minsi Path or the Minisink Trail. The road, running along the base of the bluffs that define the valley’s western edge, was called the Great Road during the eighteenth century and would later become known as River Road, Milford Road, and US Route 209. (Clemensen, 1996: 22; HSR 2022: I3)

By 1755, several hundred people lived in scattered groups along the Pennsylvania side of the river. These areas included present-day Milford, Dingman’s Ferry, Bushkill, and Shawnee/Stroudsburg. As on the New Jersey side of the Delaware River, the French and Indian War and the American Revolution slowed settlement. Consequently, by the end of the frontier period about 1790, the area was still thinly settled. (Clemensen 1996: 22)

John and Richard Brodhead Period, 1798–1840:
The Brodhead family had lived in the New World since the mid-seventeenth century. The first member of the family to emigrate to the Americas was Daniel Brodhead, who came to New York with Richard Nicolls, a leader of the expedition to capture New Netherlands from the Dutch in 1664, and served as commander-in-chief of one of his military units. Brodhead’s grandson, also named Daniel Brodhead, settled in northeastern Pennsylvania in 1738 on a portion of the land obtained by settlers within the Walking Purchase. His property, originally called Dansbury, encompassed East Stroudsburg in today’s Monroe County. Garrett Brodhead, son of the younger Daniel Brodhead, served as a lieutenant of a New Jersey regiment during the American Revolutionary War. (HSR 2022: I.5)

John Brodhead, son of Garrett Brodhead, was an early political leader in Wayne and Pike counties. When Wayne County was established in 1798, Brodhead was chosen as the initial clerk of courts, prothonotary, register of deeds, and recorder of wills. During his public service, John Brodhead became aware of various properties in the newly formed Wayne County that were coming up for sale and purchased several of them, including four tracts that would become his family’s Wheat Plains

Farm. Three of these parcels were contiguous to each other and were located in the fertile lowlands along the western edge of the Delaware River (Figure 1). The fourth parcel was located in the uplands further to the west and was known as “Industry’s Reward.” This fourth parcel is no longer part of present-day Brodhead-Heller Farm. (HSR 2022: I.5)

In 1798, Brodhead’s first purchase was a 67-acre parcel formerly owned by David Van Acken and then by John McCarty. The deed identifies the parcel as “all that Messuage or Tract of Land called China on Van Campens Mill Brook.” The parcel extended from the Great Road to the Delaware River. Brodhead then purchased a 54-acre parcel from Garrett Brink on the west side of the Great Road. In 1799, Brodhead purchased a third property to complete the set of three adjacent parcels, creating the Wheat Plains Farm. This 36-acre property was located on the south side of Brodhead’s first tract and also spanned the distance between the Great Road and the Delaware River. The parcel had been owned by the Nyce family and then James Vanetten. (HSR 2022: I.6)

Although John Brodhead was the first member of his family to own Wheat Plains Farm, it appears that his brother Richard Brodhead was the first to reside there. According to tax records, in 1798 Richard Brodhead was living in a house that John Emmins had built in ca.1785 on the eastern side of the Great Road. The building was located on the 67-acre parcel that John Brodhead purchased in 1798. Richard Brodhead, like his brother, was a prominent politician in the area. When Wayne County was established in 1798-1799, Richard Brodhead became the first sheriff. He later held almost every county and township elected position and served two terms in the Pennsylvania state legislature. He was an associate judge for eleven years and preferred to be called Judge Brodhead. He also served as postmaster for seven years and Brodhead’s home operated as one of the local post offices.

Richard Brodhead was likely responsible for the construction of the core of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse. He began construction in ca.1808, the same year he purchased Wheat Plains Farm from his brother John. At first, Richard Brodhead likely built a relatively modest 22-foot by 26-foot timber-framed building with a side hall floor plan featuring two rooms on each of its two stories. However, less than one decade later, the house was doubled in size. Not long after, in ca.1820–1830, a kitchen addition was added to the rear of the building. These successive expansions during the first half of the nineteenth century reflect Richard Brodhead’s prominent position in society and the general prosperity of the Upper Delaware Valley’s agricultural communities, which was supported by new varieties of grains and grasses as well as innovations in fertilizer. The two separate front entrances to the existing building may be related to Brodhead’s position as postmaster and his home’s role as a post office, with public business having been conducted through the northernmost door. (HSR 2022: I.7)

Richard Brodhead lived at Wheat Plains with his first wife, Hannah, until her death in 1831. In 1832, he married his second wife, Bathsheba. Richard and Hannah had several sons who rose to prominence during the nineteenth century. Their son William was a successful businessman in Pike County who also served as county commissioner. Richard Brodhead Jr. is the best known of their children; he was a politician of statewide importance, serving in the U.S. House (1843-1849) and the U.S. Senate (1851-1857). Other children included Charles Brodhead, a prominent businessman for whom Brodheadsville was named, and Albert G. Brodhead, who later owned Wheat Plains. The Brodhead family burial ground is located roughly 2,400 feet northeast of Wheat Plains and falls outside the Brodhead-Heller Farm CLI boundary. (HSR 2022: I.7)

In 1838, Judge Brodhead sold Wheat Plains to his son Albert G. Brodhead. In the deed, the father conveyed the property,
“...except the reservations rents rights and priviledges [sic] herein mentioned I.E. the rents, issues, and profits arising therefrom until [sic] the first day of April One thousand eight hundred and thirty nine Also the right of occupy[ing] during the life time of said Richard Brodhead four rooms wherein he now resides on the North end of the house Viz. two on the lower floor and two on the second floor[,] half the entry[,] half the cellar [,] and One half the Spring House [;] Sufficient room in the Garret floor, sufficient part of the garden Stable room in the Barn for a horse [,] a sufficient supply of all the fruit for family use [.] All of which reservations and privileges [sic] as above Shall cease and forever end at the decease of the said Richard Brodhead…” (Punctuation added for clarity). (HSR 2022: I.8)

Richard Brodhead lived at Wheat Plains until circa 1840. He then moved to Milford, where he died in 1843. Brodhead's remains were interred at the Brodhead-Courtright Farm Burial Grounds. His son Richard Brodhead Jr. had been elected to the U.S. House the previous month.

Brodhead-Heller Farm Landscape in ca.1840:
In 1798, when John Brodhead began acquiring the land that would become Brodhead-Heller Farm, the "golden age of agriculture in the Mid-Atlantic area" was just getting underway. During this period, which occurred between 1790 and 1840, farmers in the Upper Delaware Valley benefitted from improved transportation and a lack of serious competition from agricultural production in the West. They continued to farm the fields that their colonial predecessors had cultivated, particularly on the broad floodplain along the banks of the Delaware River, and began to improve upon earlier farming practices. Farmers began to use some crop rotation after 1815 in conjunction with raising red clover as a means to better manage their land. The most common rotation consisted of planting corn followed in succeeding years by oats, wheat, and clover. (Clemensen 1996: 57)

During this early period, the typical Upper Delaware Valley farm contained a farmhouse, often of wooden frame construction, and a variety of outbuildings including barns, spring houses, ice houses, sheds, and granaries. The farmhouse and associated outbuildings were often arranged in a linear pattern along a road, concentrating buildings and structures within a limited area to preserve as much land as possible for agricultural production. Other typical farm landscape features included simple yards in the proximity of the farmhouse, which might contain small garden beds planted with peonies, lilacs, sunflowers, and hollyhocks. After 1820, farmers began planting native deciduous trees in spaces around their houses to provide shade. Kitchen gardens were another common feature of early Upper Delaware Valley farms. Common vegetables were cabbage, turnips, onions, beets, peas, carrots, parsnips, squash, and pumpkins. (Clemensen 1996: x,51,57)

In 1840, the Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape demonstrated many of the typical characteristics of prosperous lowland farms of the Upper Delaware Valley during the period. The Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse stood in its present location, at the foot of the steep slope that climbs west to the Pocono Plateau from the valley floor. The house, which by 1840 had already been expanded twice from its original construction in ca.1808, was oriented east toward the Delaware River, which flowed approximately one-quarter mile to the east.

Directly northwest of the farmhouse stood a spring house that was constructed by 1838. The modest structure, with a footprint measuring thirty feet by fifteen feet, was built into the base of the slope behind the farmhouse. A small stream passed the spring house along the structure's front façade, which faced the rear of the farmhouse. The stream descended a narrow valley southwest of the spring house and was likely fed by several springs and seeps in the hillside. As is passed the spring house, the stream likely ran through a stone-lined channel. After passing the spring house, the stream continued north, where it met Brodhead-Heller Creek, which is labeled as "Brinks Creek" on a mid-nineteenth century property survey. The creek flowed to the east, where it meandered across the floodplain before emptying into the Delaware River.

Fronting the Brodhead family's farmhouse was River Road (also known as Milford Road), which paralleled the Delaware River's western bank and passed approximately twenty feet from the building's front door. Between River Road and the western bank of the Delaware River, the Brodhead family farmed approximately one hundred acres of crop fields, which were likely crossed by farm tracks that provided access. A house built by John Emmins in 1785 may have remained standing among the fields, but it would be gone by the second half of the nineteenth century. The Brodheads likely maintained smaller crop fields and pastures west of their farmhouse, on the lower portions of the slope that climbed west from the valley floor. Narrow farm tracks may have provided access to these areas from the western edge of River Road.

The 1838 deed that conveyed the farm from Richard Brodhead to his son Albert G. Brodhead mentions a barn and a garden that also existed at that time. The precise locations of these features is not known, however the barn may have sat somewhere along the edge of River Road north of the farmhouse. The garden was likely located near the farmhouse, potentially to the north. It may have

also existed west of the farmhouse, on the other side of River Road.

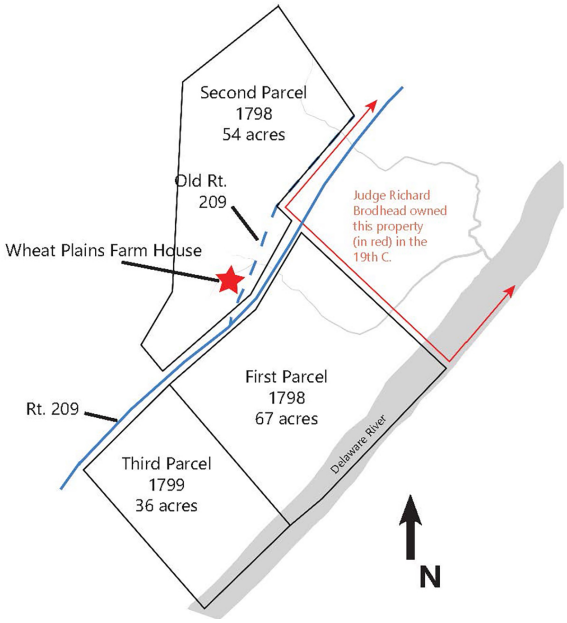


Figure 1. Diagram depicting the three contiguous parcels that John Brodhead purchased in 1798–1799 to compose the Brodhead-Heller Farm. (Ortega Consulting)

AGRICULTURAL MECHANIZATION AND THE RISE OF RECREATION, ca.1840–1930s

This period in the Upper Delaware Valley, as elsewhere, witnessed changes in farming practices. Agriculture became a capitalistic venture in which farming was transformed from hand labor to mechanization. Technology not only revolutionized farming implements, it also produced a far greater transportation network that, at first, centered around canals and railroads, and later employed internal combustion engine vehicles. At the same time, railroads brought competition from farm products in other areas of the nation, sparking changes in the region's agriculture. Western grain and beef cattle were increasingly shipped to the East with a resulting change in emphasis on the crops and animals raised in the Upper Delaware Valley and the region in general. For a time, Upper Delaware Valley farmers turned to dairy cattle to first produce butter and then whole milk for the growing population centers. Corn production expanded to support the growing dairy operation. (Clemensen 1996: 61)

Albert Gallatin Brodhead Period, 1838–1871:
Albert Gallatin Brodhead owned Wheat Plains from 1838 until 1871. A son of Judge Richard and Hannah Brodhead, he was born on the property in 1799 and lived there until he married Ellen Middagh in 1823. The young couple settled at Conyngham in Luzerne County, where Albert operated a general store and lumber yard. He arranged to have six teams of horses that traversed the distance to and from Philadelphia, with the teams staggered to allow three weekly deliveries of goods from the city. (HSR 2022: I.8)

During his years in Conyngham, the coal fields at Hazleton and Beaver Meadow opened, along with the canal and railroad connecting these operations to the Delaware River. The nearest source for supplies in this remote area of Pennsylvania was Brodhead's general store. With increased efficiency through the canal, he operated a profitable business. He also served four terms in the state legislature in the 1830s and voted in favor of the Common School Law, which established public schools throughout the Commonwealth. (HSR 2022: I.9)

After leaving the legislature, he purchased Wheat Plains from his father for $7,000, accepting the caveats listed earlier. Albert Brodhead moved to Wheat Plains in the spring of 1839, bringing his large book collection. Albert and Ellen Brodhead took care of Richard for around two years, after which Richard moved to Milford. In 1845, Albert Brodhead rebuilt the barn on the property. The existing barn structure at Brodhead-Heller Farm appears to be composed in part by the 1845 barn. (HSR 2022: I.9)

Farming in the mid-nineteenth century had lost its profitability, even when using the new techniques such as using gypsum or lime on the fields as early types of fertilizer. Albert closed the post office, and in 1866 he and Ellen purchased a house in Bethlehem adjacent to their only child, Charles Brodhead, who was then serving as the proprietor of the Moravian Sun Inn. Ellen died there in 1868, and in 1871, Albert sold Wheat Plains. Albert G. Brodhead died in Bethlehem in 1880. (HSR 2022: I.9)

The Swartwout Family Period, 1871–1894:
The Swartwout family owned Wheat Plains from 1871 to 1894. Cornelius Swartwout had been raised in Orange County, New York. His family had been close associates of Aaron Burr, and a relative named John Swartwout participated in a duel with DeWitt Clinton in 1802. In the mid nineteenth century, some family members Anglicized the family name to Swartwood, and although his son joined this effort, Cornelius Swartwout did not. Swartwout purchased the Wheat Plains farm in 1871 from Albert G. Brodhead, who provided Swartwout with an updated survey of the property (Figure 2). The Beers Atlas of 1872 identifies the property as “C. Swartwout” (Figure 3). The map places the farmhouse slightly too far to the east rather than on the appropriate parcel, again identified as #295. (HSR 2022: I.9–I.10)

Architectural evidence in the house indicates that Swartwout renovated portions of the building, including changes to the entrance. Swartwout died in the early 1880s, leaving his widow Eleanor and youngest son Cornelius Jr. living at Wheat Plains. Twelve years later, Eleanor sold the property to Robert P. Brodhead and moved to New Jersey, where she appears on the U.S. Census of 1910 living with her son James. She died there in 1912. (HSR 2022: I.10)

Robert Packer Brodhead Period, 1894–1920:
Robert P. Brodhead (1860-1922) owned Wheat Plains from 1894 until 1920 (Figure 4). He was a grandnephew of Albert G. Brodhead, the previous family member to own the property. Judge Brodhead’s son Garret Brodhead had a son Andrew J. Brodhead, who was the father of Robert P. Brodhead. Andrew Brodhead’s family lived in Mauch Chunk in the mid nineteenth century. Robert attended Wyoming Seminary and then worked in a lumber yard for two years. The lumber company sent him to the company’s office in New York City, which did not appeal to him. Robert Brodhead then supervised the construction of the Vosburg Railroad Tunnel from 1883 to 1886. His experience with the project led him to join the Brodhead Contracting Company, formed by his brother. Robert Brodhead worked on the construction of a portion of the Lehigh Valley Railroad in New York State and a portion of the Lehigh Valley Railroad mountain cutoff near Wilkes-Barre. He also assisted with the reconfiguration of the stock yards of a steel company in Youngstown, Ohio and the construction of the Palisade tunnel on the New York, Susquehanna & Western Railroad. (HSR 2022: I.10)

Robert Brodhead maintained his primary residence at Kingston, Luzerne County, but he kept a close connection with Wheat Plains (Figure 5). Early in his ownership, he hired the Schweitzer family to operate the farm, with the Brodhead family staying there in summers. The Schweitzers maintained a herd of Jersey cows as well as horses. Eventually Andrew J. Brodhead, father of Robert P. Brodhead, moved to the property; he is reported to have selected a favorite spot on the front porch from which he could “spit downhill and over his left side.” (HSR 2022: I.14)

In the first decade of the twentieth century, Robert Brodhead embarked upon improvements to the property, including renovating the farmhouse in 1906-1907 (Figure 6). At this time, the dining room fireplace was renewed, the stairs in the rear addition were rebuilt, and the attic level was elevated to create additional useable rooms. Brodhead installed an accordion door in the south room, which divided the music room to the west from the living room to the east. The accordion door could be opened so the larger space would accommodate dances. A ca. 1910 photograph of the front of the

farmhouse shows several small-scale landscape features and plantings in the area immediately surrounding the building, including board fences on both sides of River Road, a large deciduous canopy tree near the house's southwestern corner, a newly planted deciduous tree near the house's northwestern corner, and a deciduous climbing vine on the house's front façade (see Figure 6). (HSR 2022: I.14)

During these years, Brodhead also constructed the existing garage as a carriage and wash house. A tenant house was built in 1907 to house the farm manager; but was later demolished. Fanny Brodhead, wife of Robert P. Brodhead, installed tennis courts east of River Road, where the later Route 209 would be built in the mid-twentieth century. In 1920, Brodhead sold Wheat Plains Farm to his son William L. Brodhead, who had managed the property for several years by that time. (HSR 2022: I.14)

William L. Brodhead Period, 1920–1933:
William L. Brodhead operated a highly successful farm at Wheat Plains in the twentieth century. During his father's ownership, William Brodhead was the farm manager. However, in the summer of 1921 he lost his right hand in an accident with a corn shredder. Later in the 1920s, Brodhead fell while fishing and broke his spine, and after contracting sleeping sickness during a visit to recuperate in Panama, he spent the final five years of his life in the State Hospital at Allentown, where he died in 1933 at the age of 35. (HSR 2022: I.15)

In 1926, during the final illness of William L. Brodhead, River Road was designated as U.S. Route 209 through southeastern Pike County. The road was improved through Pike County in 1932 as part of a strategy by the administration of President Herbert Hoover to use federal money for infrastructure improvements to combat the Great Depression. The wider, modern road deviated in some locations from the historic River Road. In front of the Wheat Plains Farmhouse, the new Route 209 was built on a lower grade east of the previous alignment, running through the former Wheat Plains tennis courts. Vestigial sections of the historic River Road continued in use in some locations as spurs or loops off the new Route 209. This included the section that ran past the Wheat Plains Farmhouse and connected it to the barn and other agricultural outbuildings to the north. For a brief period at the middle of the twentieth century, this road segment was managed by the township with the designation of T306. However, by the second half of the twentieth century, the road segment functioned primarily as the farm road at Brodhead-Heller Farm. (HSR 2022: I.15)

The Brodhead-Heller Farm Landscape in ca.1930:
By ca.1930, the Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape evidenced more than 130 years of continuous agricultural operation and prosperity. Although technological and economic developments had resulted in substantial changes over the previous century, the landscape retained many of the major characteristics it had possessed in 1840 (Figure 7). These included the overall spatial organization featuring broad crop fields spread across the Delaware River floodplain and the Brodhead-Heller farmhouse at the floodplain's western edge. The spring house remained immediately northwest of the farmhouse, and a series of other outbuildings, including the barn constructed in 1845, were arrayed in a linear cluster to the north. However, in 1930 the lane along which the farmstead was organized was no longer River Road, which had been realigned approximately 125 feet to the east in 1926. The former road alignment continued to provide access to the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse and outbuildings and met the new River Road alignment at one intersection north of the barn and another south of the farmhouse.

The outbuildings north of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse included a garage standing approximately fifteen feet north of the spring house. The two-story structure, which was erected in 1907, had a footprint measuring approximately thirty feet by twenty feet. In 1930, the farm also featured tenant houses, one of which may have been documented in the 1871 property survey standing northwest of the barn (see Figure 2). Agricultural outbuildings included a smoke house, located south of the spring house, and an ice house, located south and uphill of the smoke house. In the area surrounding the barn, there existed a pig house, corn crib, chicken house, and an assortment of sheds.

By 1930, the barn itself had been expanded from its original 1845 construction, which consisted of a

gabled bank barn with a footprint measuring approximately fifty feet by forty feet. An addition to the original barn's southeastern corner approximately doubled the structure's footprint. The Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse also underwent major alterations during the early twentieth century. In 1907, Robert P. Brodhead added a third floor, a new sleeping porch to the building's southern side, and a second story to the front porch. (HSR 2022: I.5)

In 1930, the Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape also featured several domestic features in the area surrounding the farmhouse. These included an area with narrow paths and ornamental plantings immediately south of the house. The garden area, which was situated on a knoll, was directly connected to the house's second floor sleeping porch by a short bridge or "catwalk." Also south of the farmhouse, near the former River Road alignment, stood a wooden gazebo. To the west, the ground plane between the farmhouse and the spring house may have been maintained as lawn with a series of brick walks connecting the adjacent structures. On the house's eastern and northern sides were planted deciduous and evergreen trees.

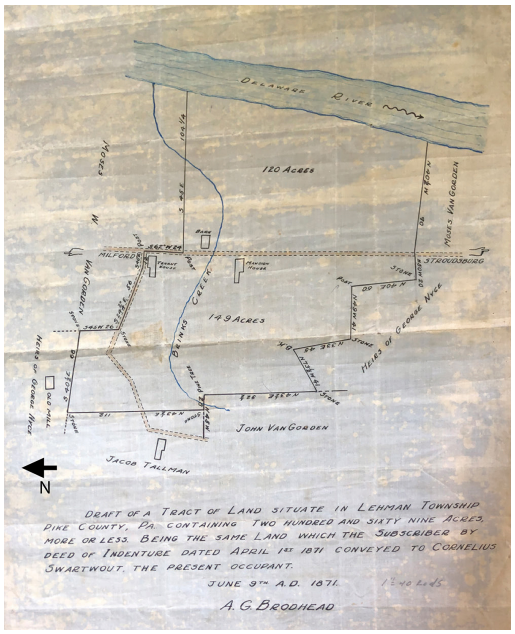


Figure 2. An 1871 property survey of Brodhead-Heller Farm. (Brodhead Family Archives)

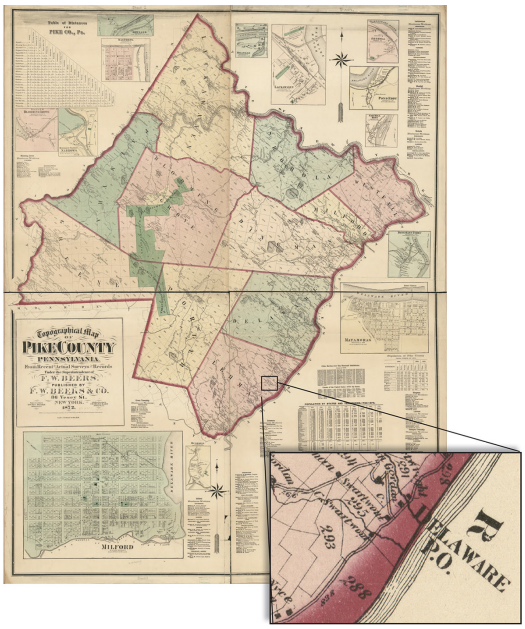


Figure 3. The 1872 Beers Atlas of Pike County with detail showing C. Swartwout listed as property owner of the Brodhead-Heller Farm tract. (Pennsylvania State Archives)

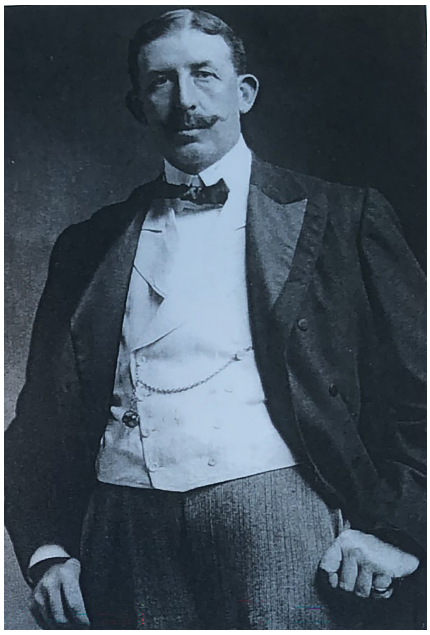


Figure 4. Robert Packer Brodhead in ca. 1900. (NPS and Brodhead Family Archives)



Figure 5. Robert Packer Brodhead (left) and his family on the front porch of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse in 1899. (NPS and Brodhead Family Archives)



Figure 6. Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse in ca.1910, soon after the last major campaign of modifications. (NPS and Brodhead Family Archives)

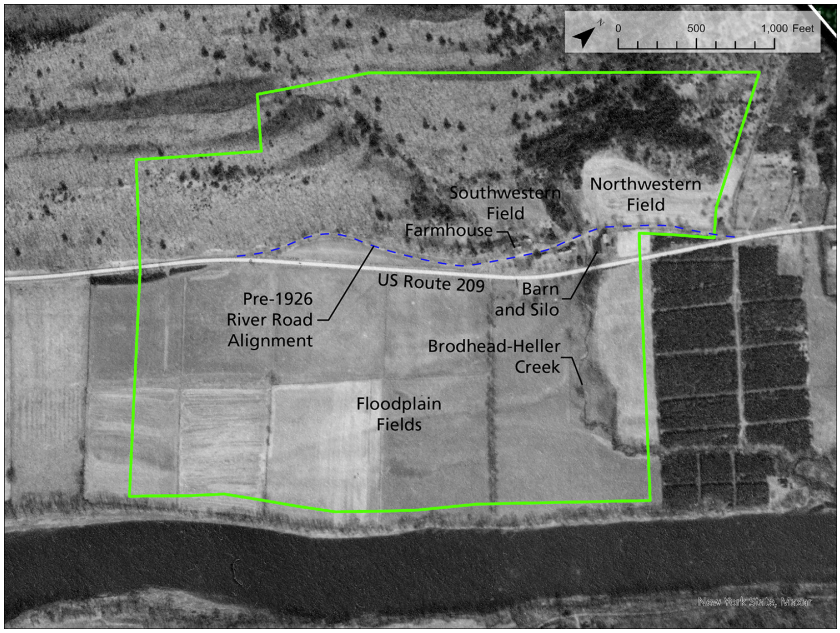


Figure 7. 1939 aerial photograph of Brodhead-Heller Farm (New York State, Maxar, US Department of Agriculture)

THE GREAT DEPRESSION AND INCREASED COMPETITION, ca.1930s–1965

The depression of the 1930s caused an economic hardship on the Upper Delaware Valley farmers and accelerated the trend of a decreased farm population in most townships. During the initial stages of this reduction, many farmers obtained additional income by opening their homes to summer boarders. Many farmers who held smaller acreages were forced from the land, while a number of those who managed to retain their property reverted almost to a subsistence lifestyle. Assessment records for the Pennsylvania townships indicated that the average farm acreage under cultivation declined with the farm population. Many of those farmers who remained in the valley turned to dairying or raising chickens. These efforts ultimately proved futile as limited land prevented the remaining Upper Delaware Valley farmers from efficiently competing with larger dairy and poultry raising concerns in the surrounding region. (Clemensen 1996: 78,81)

Edna Brodhead Period, 1933–1965:
Edna (Hess) Brodhead, the widow of William L. Brodhead, oversaw the farm beginning in 1933. Soon after her husband's death, Edna opened the "Wheat Plains Farm & Tea House" on the property and produced postcards to help advertise the business to travelers (Figure 8). The postcard identifies the road in front of the farmhouse as the "State Road" with the pre-1932 alignments. Edna rented rooms to hunters and travelers as well as cross country skiers during the winter months. Edna's brother Frank Hess replaced the front walk in 1934. Soon thereafter she was re-married to William Heller, and during the third quarter of the twentieth century the Wheat Plains farmhouse was often called the Heller House. In the 1950s, Edna Heller improved the back yard area where two brick walks connected the farmhouse to the spring house. At this time she installed the current flagstone patio between the farmhouse and the drainage channel. The flagstone patio was installed adjacent to a pre-existing concrete slab that served as the foundation for a summer kitchen. Edna continued to operate Wheat Plains until her death in 1965. (HSR 2022: I.16, I.64)

The Brodhead-Heller Farm Landscape in ca.1965:
During the middle of the twentieth century, despite the decline of Upper Delaware Valley agriculture throughout the twentieth century, the Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape continued to possess many of the characteristics that had defined it for several generations (Figure 9). These included the distinctive farmhouse, spring house, garage, and cluster of other outbuildings arrayed along the former alignment of River Road. Near the northern end of the farmstead cluster was the spacious wood frame barn.

The overall spatial organization of the Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape was also perpetuated (Figure 10). Broad crop fields remained in cultivation along the western bank of the Delaware River, and smaller fields or pastures were maintained west and uphill of the farmstead. By the 1960s, several small structures appear to have been located among the fields on the floodplain east of the farmstead. These may have included a farmstand as well as sheds or other utilitarian structures.

During this period, several documented modifications were made to the landscape surrounding the farmhouse. These include the creation of a flagstone patio in the space between the farmhouse and the spring house, adjacent to the stone-lined stream channel. Additionally, at the front of the house, the entry walk was repaved. These improvements were likely related to Edna Brodhead's operation of the Wheat Plains Farm & Tea House" on the property. Photographs from the 1950s also indicate that extensive garden beds were also maintained around the farmhouse during this period (Figure 11).

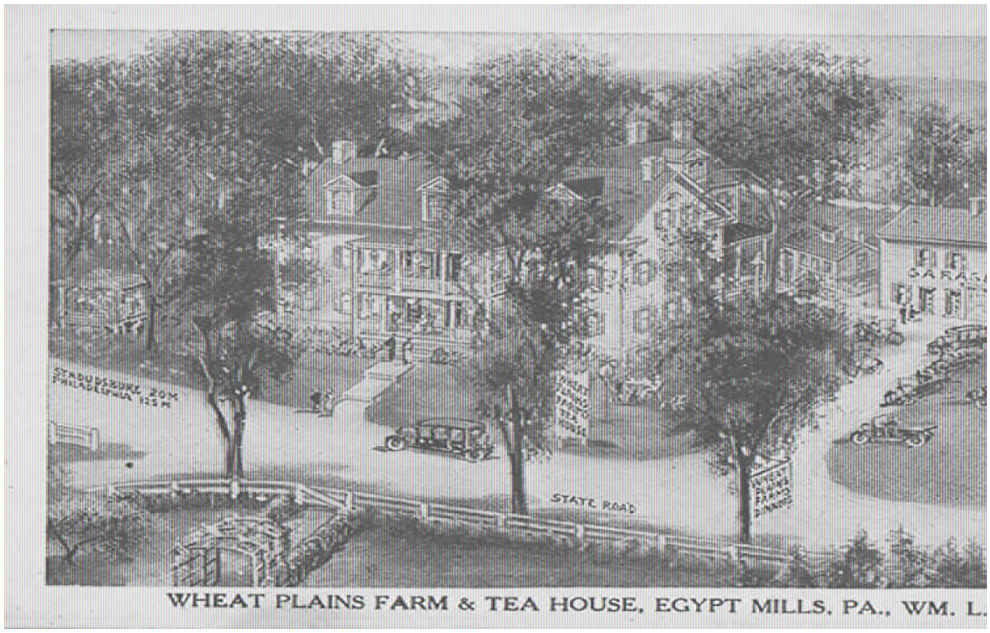


Figure 8. Twentieth century postcard advertising the Wheat Plains Farm & Tea House. (NPS)

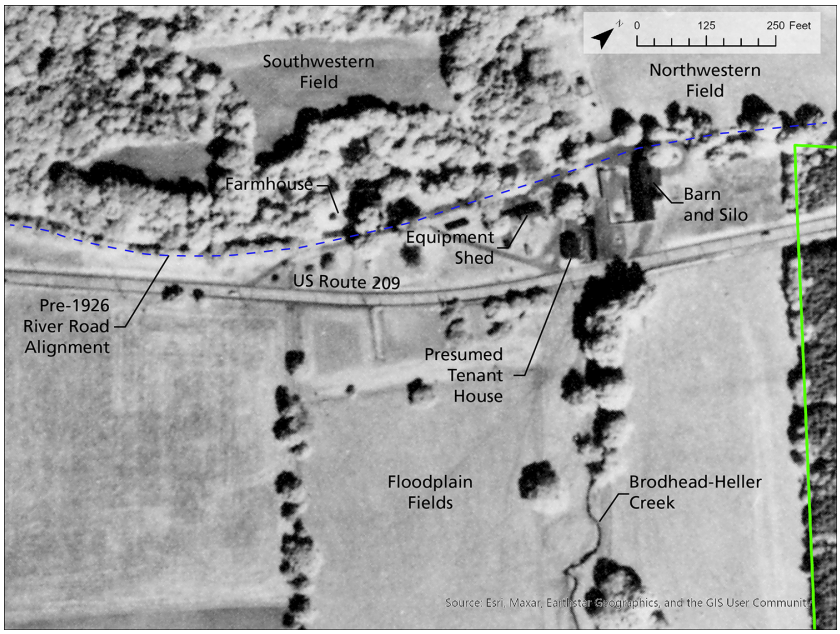


Figure 9. 1952 aerial photograph of the core of Brodhead-Heller Farm (Esri, Maxar, NPS)

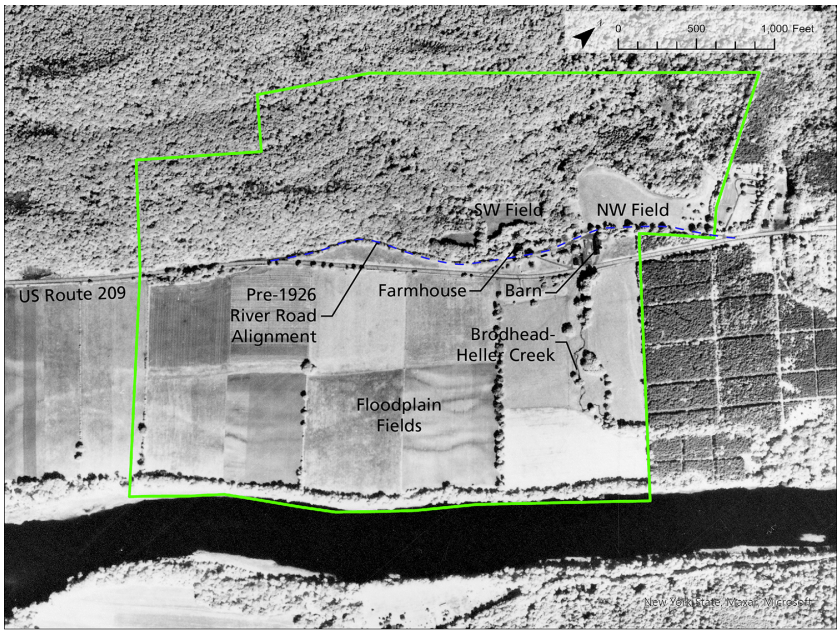


Figure 10. 1952 aerial photograph of Brodhead-Heller Farm (NewYork State, Maxar, NPS)



Figure 11. Brodhead family members standing next to a garden at the northeastern corner of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse in the 1950s. (NPS and Brodhead Family Archives)

TOCK'S ISLAND DAM AND DELAWARE WATER GAP NRA, 1965–2024

Proposals to harness the Delaware River for hydroelectric power, water supplies, and flood control occurred beginning in the late nineteenth century. By the 1890s, with the increased use of electricity, a number of proposals began to appear to dam the river as a source of hydroelectric power. At the same time, city officials from Philadelphia and New York City began to formulate plans to dam the

Delaware as a source of clean water for their growing populations. By the 1920s, the river's future concerned water supply, not hydroelectric power. Attempts by New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and New York in that decade to develop a tri-state compact for water apportionment failed to achieve an agreement. New Jersey rejected a compact on two occasions. In the early 1930s the US Army Corps of Engineers developed the first comprehensive water-resources plan for the Delaware River Basin that encompassed navigation, hydroelectric power, flood control, irrigation, and water supply. The report resulted in two requests for dams. The city of Philadelphia filed for federal funds to construct a dam and a newly created Electric Power Company of New Jersey applied for a permit to build three hydroelectric dams, of which one was to be located at Tocks Island (within the future Delaware Water Gap NRA). Nothing came of the Philadelphia request, while New York City, Philadelphia, and other city officials opposed the plan of the New Jersey power company because they coveted the river as a source of drinking water. By the later 1930s, several public entities began surveys of the Delaware River with the objective of reducing water pollution and developing a water supply. Two of the more active of these groups were the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin (Incodel) formed by representatives of New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, and the Philadelphia Water Bureau. The Philadelphia Water Bureau survey, however, did not begin until the end of the Second World War. This bureau rejected the Tocks Island site for a dam because of geological problems. Instead, it chose Walpack Bend plus two other sites near the Water Gap for dams, but, by the late 1940s, the bureau abandoned its dam-building plans. In the meantime, Incodel pressed forward with dam proposals, including a Walpack Bend dam, only to be defeated in the early 1950s by opposition in Pennsylvania. The US Army Corps of Engineers entered the picture once more following the severe flooding in August 1955 caused by Hurricanes Diane and Connie. (Clemensen 1996: 1-2)

In the 1950s a dam and reservoir project was proposed on the river near Tocks Island to provide clean water to supply New York City and Philadelphia and also control flooding. In 1962 the US Congress authorized construction of the dam, approximately fifteen miles downstream (south) of Wheat Plains. The proposed dam would have created a lake-sized reservoir roughly 40 miles long and a mile wide. This lake and the land surrounding it were to be organized as the Tocks Island National Recreation Area. Lands were to be acquired by willing sellers or through condemnation and eminent domain, embittering local residents and launching environmental protests.

In 1965 under a new name, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area was authorized in the Act of September 1, 1965 (P.L. 89-158, 79 Stat. 612). The park's authorization aimed to provide "for public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment of the proposed Tocks Island Reservoir and lands adjacent hereto...and for the preservation of scenic, scientific, and historic features contributing public enjoyment of such lands and waters." The original legislation assumed that the US Army Corps of Engineers would build and manage the reservoir and the National Park Service would administer the surrounding recreation area. (Clemenson 1996: 1-2; GMP 1987: 1; Hutson, 1992: 143; Review comments, J. Palmer, 15 August 2024)

A few earnest voices against the dam grew to an uproar by 1971. New studies challenged the wisdom of converting a scenic river into a stagnant body of water. Decision-makers in the basin states recoiled at the studies' projected costs of expanding local infrastructure for a new recreation area that would attract so many millions to a previously quiet place. In 1975, the Delaware River Basin Commission, composed of the four basin-state governors and one federally-appointed commissioner, voted to shelve indefinitely the Tocks Island Dam project. In 1978 the section of the Delaware River within the National Recreation Area was designated a scenic and recreational river under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, effectively blocking the erection of a dam on the river. That same year all federal lands acquired by the Army Corps were transferred to the National Park Service. Consequently, the Delaware River remained a free flowing waterway (the dam project was officially deauthorized by Congress in 2002). (Clemenson 1996: 1-2; GMP 1987: 1; Hutson, 1992: 143; Review comments, J. Palmer, 15 August 2024)

The United States purchased Brodhead-Heller Farm from the Brodhead descendants in 1970 as part of land acquisitions for the Tocks Island Dam and Reservoir. The children of William Brodhead and Edna Heller (Edna Fairfield, Margaretta Jagger, and Robert P. Brodhead) sold the farm to the federal government for $360,000. While many buildings throughout the newly-established recreation area

were demolished after the properties were sold to the federal government, the buildings on the Wheat Plains property were not.

Since the 1970s, Brodhead-Heller Farm has been managed as part of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. The property was leased to Josh Heller in 1972 and then to the Klimzcak family from 2000 until 2007. Under National Park Service management, several major preservation maintenance projects have been completed at the property. These include roof replacements and exterior painting on the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse and the garage.

The Brodhead-Heller Farm Landscape in 2024:
After 1965, very few substantial modifications were made to the Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape (Figures 12 and 13). Most major buildings and structures remained in place, including the farmhouse, spring house, garage, and barn. These features are arrayed along the pre-1932 alignment of US Route 209 (formerly River Road), which continues to function as the historic farm road at Brodhead-Heller Farm (Figure 14). However, several historic outbuildings were removed from the landscape over the last several decades. These include several sheds that formerly stood where a metal pole barn was erected by the National Park Service at the end of the twentieth century. A corn crib directly south of the pole barn collapsed in 2007 and all remaining debris was removed. South of the farmhouse, the historic ice house and smoke house were also demolished. Additionally, no tenant houses survived by the beginning of the twenty-first century. North of the barn, several additional outbuildings were added during the second half of the twentieth century, including several grain silos.

Following the turn of the twenty-first century, two one-story, wood frame structures were built among the crop fields on the Delaware River floodplain (Figure 15). The structures include a farmstand near Route 209, with a footprint measuring forty feet by forty feet, and a smaller shed standing approximately 250 feet farther east. These features are not the same that stood among the fields in 1965, as those structures were demolished by the end of the twentieth century. The smaller shed stands between community garden plots that were established around 2011.

Under National Park Service management, the broad crop fields along the river bank have continued to be farmed through a special use permit, which has preserved their historic spatial character (Figure 16). However, the smaller, historic fields west of the farmstead have not continued in use and were undergoing woody succession by the beginning of the twenty-first century (Figure 17). Succession has also obscured the historic garden space on the knoll directly south of the farmhouse while specimen trees planted directly east and north off the farmhouse have developed to maturity, some approaching one hundred feet in height.

Brodhead-Heller Farm has largely sat vacant since 2007, and the lack of regular human activity has resulted in declining landscape conditions. By 2024, a culvert that carried Brodhead-Heller Creek under the pre-1926 River Road alignment failed, leaving the historic road impassable and the area around the barn mostly inaccessible. The conditions of the historic barn and its associated outbuildings have also suffered and the agricultural structures are not usable in their current state.

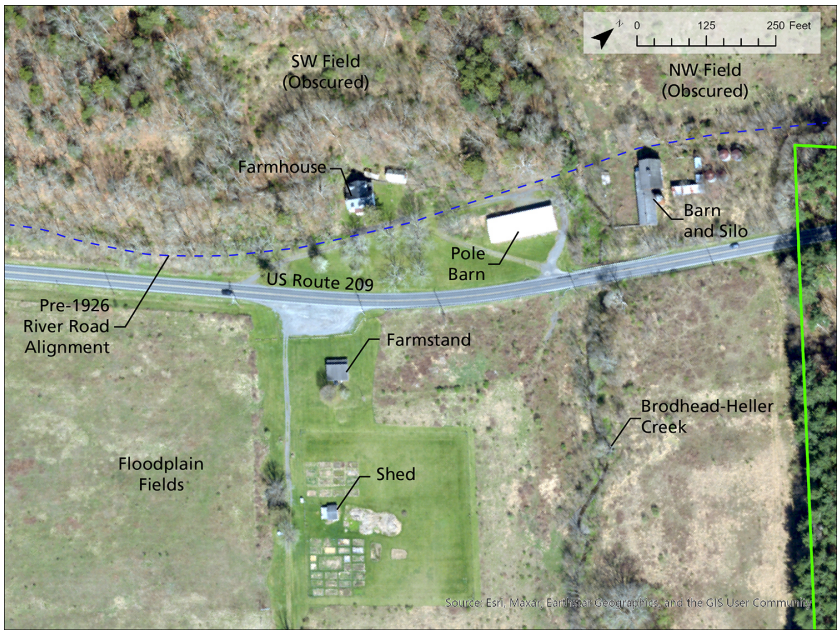


Figure 12. 2022 aerial photograph of the core of Brodhead-Heller Farm (NewYork State, Maxar, NPS)

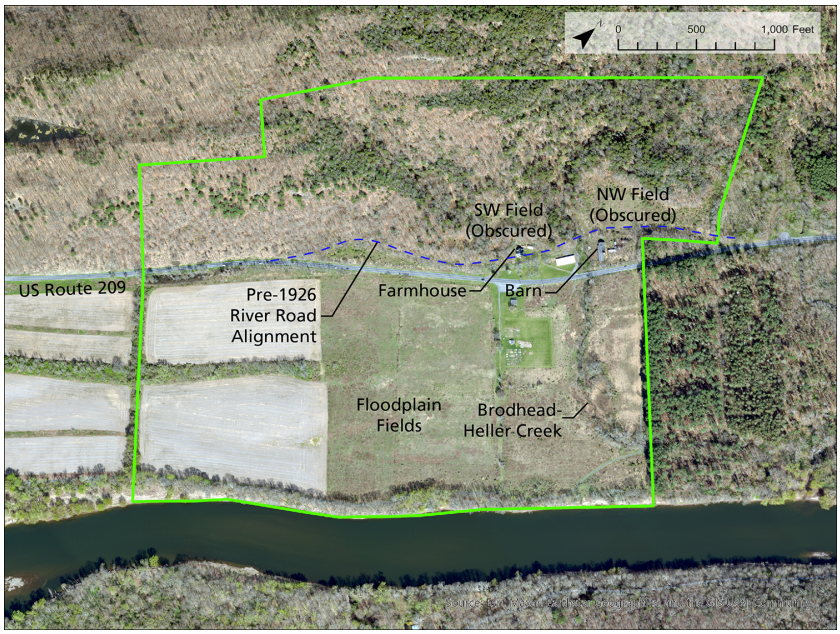


Figure 13. 2022 aerial photograph of Brodhead-Heller Farm (NewYork State, Maxar, NPS)



Figure 14. Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse (left) situated along the historic farm road (right), looking north, 2023. The non-historic pole barn is visible in the middle ground on the right and the historic barn is visible in the background. (Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation--hereafter OCLP)



Figure 15. A non-historic shed (center right) and farmstand (left middle ground) that were constructed on the historic floodplain fields around 2005, looking northwest, 2023. The Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse is visible in the left background, and the historic barn is visible in the right background. (OCLP)



Figure 16. View across the floodplain fields at Brodhead-Heller Farm, looking west, 2023. The Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse is visible in the left background and the pole barn is visible near the center. Note the steep slope that climbs west to the Pocono Plateau in the distance. (OCLP)



Figure 17. The southwestern field, which was kept open during the historic period, looking southwest, 2023. Woody succession has begun to encroach upon the field since the end of the historic period. (OCLP)

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Agriculture/Subsistence	Farm (Plantation)	Farm (Plantation)	Yes	No	Yes
Domestic (Residential)	Single Family Dwelling	Single Family House	Yes	No	Yes
Agriculture/Subsistence	Agricultural Field	Agricultural Field	Yes	Yes	No
Agriculture/Subsistence	Agricultural Outbuilding	Barn	Yes	No	No
Landscape	Natural Area	Forest	No	Yes	No
Landscape	Leisure-Passive (Park)	Leisure-Passive (Park)	No	Yes	No
Agriculture/Subsistence	Livestock	Livestock	Yes	No	No
Agriculture/Subsistence	Storage (Granary/Silo)	Storage (Granary/Silo)	Yes	No	No

Public Access:

Public Access: Unrestricted

Public Access Narrative:

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Study Status: Yes-Restricted Information

Ethnographic Narrative:

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area has been working with their tribal partners to develop an Ethnographic Overview and Assessment for the entire park, which is currently in final form.

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The historic integrity of Brodhead-Heller Farm is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance, 1808–1965, with the existing conditions as assessed in 2023 and 2024 . Many landscape characteristics and features from the period of significance remain today. The Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, a stately, three-story, wood frame building displaying an eclectic mix of Dutch, Georgian, Adam, Italianate, and Colonial Revival architectural styles, remains in its historic location at the western edge of the Delaware River floodplain. The architecturally-significant building retains its historic character.

Throughout the approximately 210-acre landscape that surrounds the house, many historic landscape features also remain in place. These include a distinctive spring house and garage located directly northwest of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse as well as a historic barn and associated outbuildings located approximately five hundred feet to the north. The historic buildings and structures are all arrayed along a historic farm road that follows the former alignment of US Route 209, historically known as River Road. In 1932, US Route 209 was realigned and the segment running through Brodhead-Heller Farm was shifted approximately 150 feet to the east, where it remains today.

East of US Route 209, historic crop fields stretch across the floodplain of the Delaware River. The broad fields, which occupy more than one hundred acres between the eastern edge of the federal road and the western bank of the Delaware River, have remained in cultivation through special use permits administered by the National Park Service and retain their historic spatial character. Significant views across the fields from the farmstead on the western side of US Route 209 have also been preserved.

However, since 1965, some landscape characteristics and features at Brodhead-Heller Farm have been modified or removed. These include several outbuildings that historically served domestic and agricultural purposes and were located along the historic farm road, primarily near the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse and barn. Additionally, successional woody vegetation has encroached upon smaller fields that were historically maintained along the lower portions of the slope west of the farmstead, resulting in a loss of historic spatial character. Woody vegetation has also begun to take hold in areas surrounding the barn and other surviving agricultural outbuildings.

INTEGRITY

The National Register of Historic Places defines integrity as the ability of a property to convey its significance through physical resources. The National Register program identifies seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Retention of these qualities is necessary for a property to convey its significance; however, not all seven aspects must be present to retain integrity. The following evaluation is based on an 1808–1965 period of significance for Brodhead-Heller Farm. Overall, Brodhead-Heller Farm retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Location:
Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred. Brodhead-Heller Farm remains in its historic location along US Route 209, bounded to the east by the western bank of the Delaware River and to the west by the steep slope that climbs to the Pocono Plateau.
Evaluation: Retains integrity of location.

Design:
Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. Brodhead-Heller Farm retains integrity of design in the distinctive architecture of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse and other historic buildings and structures. The landscape also retains its historic spatial organization, with the farmstead arrayed along the historic farm road and broad crop fields on the floodplain of the Delaware River to the east.
Evaluation: Retains integrity of design.

Setting:
Setting is the physical environment of a historic property. Brodhead-Heller Farm's surroundings continue to evidence the historic agricultural character of the bottomlands of the Upper Delaware Valley. Broad fields on the river floodplain east of US Route 209 and steep forested slopes to the west continue to define the cultural landscape's setting, as they did during the historic period.
Evaluation: Retains integrity of setting.

Materials:
Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property. Brodhead-Heller Farm retains integrity of materials in the wood frame construction of historic buildings and structures, as well as the stone masonry of their foundations. Compacted earth and gravel surfaces of farm lanes as well as mowed turf and specimen trees also represent historic landscape materials.
Evaluation: Retains integrity of materials.

Workmanship:
Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. Brodhead-Heller Farm retains integrity of workmanship in the construction of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, spring house, barn, and other historic structures, which evidence local, historic building techniques.
Evaluation: Retains integrity of workmanship.

Feeling:
Feeling is the property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. Brodhead-Heller Farm retains the feeling of a working nineteenth and twentieth century farmstead through its relatively isolated setting, large crop fields on the Delaware River floodplain, and surviving domestic and agricultural buildings and structures arrayed along the historic farm road.
Evaluation: Retains integrity of workmanship.

Association:
Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. Brodhead-Heller Farm retains historic associations with the prominent Brodhead family and the agricultural practices of the Upper Delaware Valley throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
Evaluation: Retains integrity of association.

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 (1808–1965), 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: Buildings and Structures

Historic Condition (to 1965):
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. Buildings and structures served both domestic and agricultural purposes during the historic period at Brodhead-Heller Farm. The Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse was the primary residential building. In ca.1808, Richard Brodhead constructed the building's first section at the western edge of the Delaware River floodplain, overlooking the fields his family would farm for nearly two centuries. After several expansions in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, by the end of the historic period the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse was a stately, three-story, wood frame building with a footprint measuring approximately fifty feet by fifty feet that displayed an eclectic mix of Dutch, Georgian, Adam (sometimes called Federal), Italianate, and Colonial Revival styles.

In the area surrounding their farmhouse, the Brodhead family built several domestic outbuildings. These included a spring house that was constructed in ca.1838 approximately ten feet from the rear of the farmhouse. A one-story stone and frame structure with a gable roof and a footprint measuring approximately thirty feet by fifteen feet, the spring house was built into the base of the slope that defines the western portion of the Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape. A channelized stream passes by the structure's front (eastern) façade.

Approximately fifteen feet northeast of the spring house, a garage was constructed in 1907 with a footprint measuring approximately twenty-five feet by twenty feet. The gable-roofed structure, which also contained an apartment on the second story, was reached by a short driveway leading from the farm road to double garage doors on its front (eastern) façade. The same channelized stream that passed the spring house ran along the front façade of the garage. Other domestic outbuildings in the area surrounding the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse included a smoke house, located south of the spring house, and an ice house, located south and uphill of the smoke house. North of the garage were located a privy and a stone hearth/incinerator.

During the historic period, agricultural structures at Brodhead-Heller Farm were concentrated in the barnyard. Sitting near the center of the barnyard was a barn that was originally constructed as a bank barn by Albert Brodhead in 1845 and later expanded. During the first half of the twentieth century, a silo was constructed on the barn's northern façade. By the end of the historic period, the structure had a footprint measuring approximately fifty feet by one hundred feet.

A collection of agricultural outbuildings sat in the landscape surrounding the barn, including a pig house, corn crib, chicken house, and an assortment of sheds. Also within the barnyard were constructed retaining and free-standing walls that delineated spaces for livestock. Near the end of the historic period, a series of new silos and other outbuilding were constructed north of the barn. Other structures at Brodhead-Heller Farm during the historic period included two modest bridges or culverts that carried the farm road and the farm lane over Brodhead-Heller Creek and the stream that ran past the spring house and garage. At least two tenant houses also existed during the historic period, but their precise locations have not been documented.

Evaluation:
Since 1965, most major historic buildings and structures at Brodhead-Heller Farm have remained in place, including the farmhouse, spring house, garage, and barn (Figures 33–36). Also surviving are a historic privy and the remnants of a hearth or incinerator, although both have fallen into disrepair (Figure 37 and 38). A collection of agricultural outbuildings remains in the area surrounding the barn at Brodhead-Heller Farm. However, the locations of the barn and the associated outbuildings were inaccessible during the field investigation for this CLI due to failure of the bridge culvert that carried the farm road across Brodhead-Heller Creek. Although visible from the core of the farm, a detailed investigation of these structures was not possible.

Several historic outbuildings have been removed from the landscape over the last several decades. These include several sheds that formerly stood where a metal pole barn was erected by the National Park Service at the end of the twentieth century (Figure 39). A corn crib ruin (HSI #82325)

directly south of the pole barn collapsed in 2007 and after 2008 all remaining debris was removed. South of the farmhouse, the historic ice house and smoke house were also demolished. The stone foundation of the ice house remains in place (Figure 40). Additionally, no tenant houses survived by the beginning of the twenty-first century.

Following the turn of the twenty-first century, two one-story, wood frame structures were built among the crop fields on the Delaware River floodplain. The structures include a farmstand near Route 209, with a footprint measuring forty feet by forty feet, and a smaller shed standing approximately 250 feet farther east (see Figures 15 and 31). These features are not the same that stood among the fields in 1965, as those historic structures were demolished by the end of the twentieth century. The smaller shed stands between community garden plots that were established around 2011.

The 2008 NPS Historic Structures Inventory for Brodhead-Heller Farm identified two loose “Stone Retaining Walls (HSI #478687)” at the property but did not include images of the features. The walls were no observed during field work in 2024.

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
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Farmhouse	205244	Contributing	82326		Location	32378	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm - Garage/Apartment	205245	Contributing	82324		Location	32376	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Spring House	205246	Contributing	82323		Asset	17268	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Barn and Silo	205247	Contributing	82319		Location	32367	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Privy	205248	Contributing	83025		Asset	17266	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Incinerator Ruin	205249	Contributing	83024		Asset	17265	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Ice House Foundation Ruins	205250	Contributing	1157782		Asset	1120741	No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Bridge Culvert	205251	Contributing	82327		Asset	19630	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Farm Lane Bridge	205252	Contributing	82313		Asset	19633	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Wooden Shed	205253	Contributing	82317		Location	32390	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Farm Shed	205254	Contributing	1157545		Location	32390	No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Animal Pen	205255	Contributing	82321		Asset	17260	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Pole Barn	205256	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	79663	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Roadside Farmstand	205257	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	82677	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Alpaca Shed	205258	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	85746	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Agricultural Outbuildings	205259	Undetermined					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Freestanding Silos	205260	Undetermined					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Stone Retaining Walls	205261	Undetermined	478687				No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 33. The Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, looking west, 2023. The southern end of the garage is visible in the background to the right. (OCLP)



Figure 34. The Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, looking west, 2023. The southern end of the garage is visible in the background to the right. (OCLP)



Figure 35. The garage, looking northwest, 2023. (OCLP)



Figure 36. The barn and silo as seen from the southern side of Brodhead-Heller Creek, looking north, 2023. A wooden shed stands in front of the barn, partially obscuring the building. The site of the barn and silo were not accessible during the field investigation for this CLI. (OCLP)



Figure 37. A historic privy, looking north, 2023. (OCLP)



Figure 38. The remains of a historic hearth or incinerator, looking northeast, 2023. (OCLP)



Figure 39. The pole barn, looking northeast, 2023. (OCLP)



Figure 40. The stone foundation remains of an ice house that stood southwest of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, looking east, 2023. (OCLP)

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

Historic Condition (to 1965):

Circulation refers to the spaces, features, and applied material finishes that constitute systems of movement in a landscape. During the historic period, a system of farm roads, lanes, and walks provided access to buildings, structures, gardens, fields, and woodlots throughout the Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape. The farm road served as the landscape's primary circulation feature, providing access to the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, barn, and other important structures while also serving as an organizing element in the landscape. The farm road was also a segment of River Road (designated as U.S. Route 209 in 1926), a public thoroughfare that paralleled the western bank of the Delaware River and connected farmsteads and villages on the Pennsylvania side of the Upper Delaware Valley. In 1932, River Road was realigned and the segment running through Brodhead-Heller Farm was shifted approximately 150 feet to the east. After this realignment, the pre-existing road segment through Brodhead-Heller Farm served as the farm's primary access road, and intersections were maintained with the new Route 209 north of the Barnyard and south of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse.

Branching off the farm road were several lanes that provided access to areas of the Barnyard and to the field uphill and west of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse. A driveway leading to the garage adjacent to the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse also branched off the farm road. East of Route 209, a series of unpaved lanes also provided access to the fields on the Delaware River floodplain. Same lanes ran perpendicular to Route 209, leading to the bank of the Delaware River, while others paralleled the road and the river bank.

Pedestrian circulation features also existed at Brodhead-Heller Farm during the historic period. These included a flagstone entry walk leading from the western edge of the farm road to the front porch of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse. At the rear of the farmhouse, a flagstone patio occupied the space between the farmhouse and the stone-lined channel carrying a stream past the spring house and garage. Both the flagstone patio and walk were installed in the 1950s, when Edna Brodhead-Heller was operating the "Wheat Plains Farm & Tea House." From the western edge of the flagstone patio, a set of stone steps built into the eastern wall of the stream channel led down to the spring house. The stone steps were likely constructed during the nineteenth century, simultaneously with the spring house and stream channel. A concrete slab sitting between the farmhouse's rear façade and the eastern edge of the flagstone patio was the foundation for a summer kitchen that predated the patio. At the southern edge of the patio, a set of brick steps climbed the steep slope to the top of a knoll where a series of narrow walks led through a garden area.

Evaluation:
Since 1965, most historic circulation features have been maintained at Brodhead-Heller Farm. These include the farm road, farm lane, barnyard access lanes, floodplain field access lane, flagstone entry walk, flagstone patio, brick and stone steps to the spring house (Figures 22–28). The farm road remains the central organizing circulation feature of the farmstead, and the segment of the road that passes the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse has been maintained with asphalt pavement. However, the northern segment of the road, along the historic barnyard, has been reduced to a trace due to diminished use and maintenance.

Access lanes have also been maintained on the floodplain fields, however most have become faint traces due to lack of use. The driveway adjacent to the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse has also become diminished due to decreased use and maintenance (Figure 29). The brick steps adjacent to the flagstone patio at the rear of the farmhouse remain in place, however their condition has declined substantially (Figure 30). The historic garden area at the top of the knoll mounted by the stairs has become overgrown with successional vegetation, and the historic paths through the former garden area have become obscured. The segment of US Route 209 that passes through Brodhead-Heller Farm follows the historic alignment that was created in 1926. At the eastern edge of Route 209, a new parking area was installed at the end of the twentieth century (Figure 31). Around 2010, the National Park Service routed the Joseph M. McDade Recreational Trail through the easternmost portion of the floodplain fields at Brodhead-Heller Farm (Figure 32). The trail mostly parallels the western bank of the Delaware River, and crosses Brodhead-Heller Creek over a short wooden bridge.

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
Brodhead-Heller Farm Farm Road	205233	Contributing	82838		Location	32389	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Driveway	205234	Contributing	tbd				No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Barnyard Access Lanes	205235	Contributing	tbd				No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Floodplain Field Access Lanes	205236	Contributing	tbd				No
Brodhead-Heller Farm –Farm Lane	205237	Contributing	82837		Location	32381	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm –Flagstone Walkway	205238	Contributing	484322				No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Flagstone Patio	205239	Contributing	83027		Asset	17263	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Stone-Lined Waterway Steps	205240	Contributing	tbd				No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Brick Steps Ruins	205241	Contributing	tbd				No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – US Route 209 Parking Area	205242	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm –Joseph M. McDade Recreational Trail	205243	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	32473	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 22. View of the farm road that passes in front of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, looking south, 2023. The unpaved lane to the left leads to an intersection with US Route 209. Note the visible continuation of the pre-1932 River Road corridor through the woods near the center of the image. (OCLP)



Figure 23. The farm road as it passes the non-historic pole barn (right), looking north, 2023. The segment of the road that runs along the historic barnyard has been reduced to a trace. (OCLP)



Figure 24. A historic barnyard access lane that passes the northern end of the pole barn, looking east, 2023. (OCLP)



Figure 25. The farm lane, which climbs the slope behind the garage (left) to reach the southwestern field, looking southwest, 2023. (OCLP)



Figure 26. The historic flagstone entry walkway at the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, looking west, 2023. (OCLP)



Figure 27. The historic flagstone patio at the rear of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse (right), looking north, 2023. At the time of the field investigation, the patio was covered with leaf litter. Note the spring house visible in the left middle ground and the garage in the left background. (OCLP)



Figure 28. A set of stone stairs built into the eastern wall of the stream channel, which provide access to the spring house (visible to the right), looking south, 2023. (OCLP)



Figure 29. The historic driveway that leads to the garage (right), looking southwest, 2023. The driveway has been reduced to a trace due to lack of use and maintenance. The Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse is visible to the left. (OCLP)



Figure 30. The brick steps adjacent to the flagstone patio at the rear of the farmhouse, looking south, 2023. A brick structure attached to the steps, visible to the right, may have served as a barbecue or hearth. (OCLP)



Figure 31. The parking area at the eastern edge of US Route 209, viewed from the western side of the road, looking east, 2023. The non-historic farmstand is visible near the center of the image. (OCLP)



Figure 32. A segment of the Joseph M. McDade Recreational Trail runs along the western bank of the Delaware River at the eastern edge of Brodhead-Heller Farm, looking north, 2023. (OCLP)

Landscape Characteristic: Land Use

Historic Condition (to 1962):
Land uses are the principal activities in a landscape that form, shape, and organize the landscape as a result of human interaction. During the historic period, land use at Brodhead-Heller Farm primarily consisted of residential uses concentrated in areas surrounding the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse and agricultural uses distributed throughout the remaining portions of the landscape. East of Route 209, agricultural fields were the predominant land use on the Delaware River floodplain. Smaller agricultural fields and pastures were maintained west of the farmstead, on the lower portions of the steep slope that climbs to the Pocono Plateau. Other agricultural land uses were concentrated in the Barnyard.

Evaluation:
Since the end of the historic period, agricultural land uses have been perpetuated at Brodhead-Heller Farm through the farming of historic crop fields on the Delaware River floodplain under special use permits managed by the park. Residential uses were also continued for some time following the end of the historic period through residential leases. However, the leases were discontinued in 2007, and the property has since largely been vacant. In addition to agriculture, historic preservation and recreation are primary land uses at the Brodhead-Heller Farm cultural landscape.

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

Historic Condition (to 1965):
Vegetation includes deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, and herbaceous plants and plant communities, whether indigenous or introduced in the landscape. During the historic period, managed vegetation at Brodhead-Heller Farm included specimen trees, mowed turf, and garden beds containing woody and herbaceous plants. Specimen trees, which included both deciduous and evergreen species, were located within the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse Site, the East Lawn, the Barnyard, and the Floodplain Fields. The trees, which were intended to provide shade, flank circulation features, and define spaces, included specimens of maple (Acer spp.), walnut (Juglans spp.), elm (Ulmus spp.), pine (Pinus spp.), and spruce (Picea spp.). Mowed turf was maintained within the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse Site and the East Lawn, where it enhanced the areas' residential character and preserved open views of the surrounding landscape. Garden beds appear to have been concentrated immediately surrounding the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse (see Figure 11).

Evaluation:
Since the end of the historic period, historic specimen trees and areas of mowed turf have been maintained at Brodhead-Heller Farm. Approximately sixteen deciduous and evergreen trees are distributed throughout the east lawn, including specimens of maple, walnut, and spruce (see Figure 19). A historic spruce tree stands near the northeastern corner of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse. On the Delaware River floodplain, several deciduous and evergreen trees flank the floodplain field access lane that leads east from Route 209 to the western bank of the Delaware River (Figure 21). These include specimens of pine and elm. Mowed turf has been maintained within the East Lawn and Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse site (see Figure 19). Some field areas on the Delaware River floodplain, which were historically planted with field crops, are also maintained as mowed turf, particularly near the non-historic roadside farmstand, shed, and community gardens (see Figure 21). Since the end of the historic period, the garden beds that historically existed around the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse have been lost.

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
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Specimen Trees	205231	Contributing			Asset	1757072	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Mowed Turf	205232	Contributing			Asset	1124938	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 21. A segment of the floodplain field access lane (right) that leads from US Route 209 to the western bank of the Delaware River (not visible in the distance), looking east, 2023. Note the rows of specimen trees that flank the lane and the mowed turf in the foreground. (OCLP)

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

Historic Condition (to 1965):
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. Broad eastward views of the crop fields on the Delaware River floodplain were a defining feature of the Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape during the historic period. These views were particularly intended to be enjoyed from the front of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse. The maintenance of the east lawn as an area of mowed turf dotted with specimen trees served to preserve the distant views.

Evaluation:
Distant views of the crop fields on the Delaware River floodplain remain a defining feature of the Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape (Figure 41). The National Park Service continues to regularly mow the east lawn to keep open the historic view from the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse.

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
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Views across Floodplain Fields	205262	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 41. View across the farm road (foreground) and US Route 209 to the floodplain fields from the front porch of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, looking east, 2023. (OCLP)

Landscape Characteristic: Natural Systems and Features

Historic Condition (to 1965):
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. During the historic period, major natural systems and features that influenced the character of the Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape included the topography of the Delaware River floodplain and the steep slope that climbs west to the Pocono Plateau, as well as Brodhead-Heller Creek and the dense woods that occupied the slopes west of the farmstead.

The fertile soil and level topography of the Delaware River floodplain, which defines the eastern portion of Brodhead-Heller Farm, led John Brodhead at the end of the eighteenth century to acquire the land that his relatives would cultivate for nearly two centuries. The soil's fertility would facilitate the continued prosperity of his descendants, and the floodplain's flat topography allowed for sweeping views toward the Delaware River that defined the landscape's character throughout the historic period.

In ca.1808, Richard Brodhead, John's brother, decided to build his farmhouse at the western edge of the floodplain, at the base of the steep slope the climbs west to the Pocono Plateau. Defining the western portion of the Brodhead-Heller Farm cultural landscape, the steep slope was primarily wooded by the end of the historic period, except for small fields or pastures that were maintained by the Brodhead family. The mature woodlands characterizing this slope provided a sense of enclosure at the farm's western edge, in stark contrast to the vast, open character of the floodplain fields to the west.

Evaluation:
Following the end of the historic period in 1965, natural systems and features have continued to define the character of the Brodhead-Heller Farm landscape. The topography of the Delaware River floodplain and the steep slope that climbs west to the Pocono Plateau remain largely unaltered, respectively defining the western and eastern portions of the cultural landscape (see Figure 16). Mature woodlands on the steep slope west of the farmstead continue to provide a sense of enclosure that contrasts the open floodplain to the east (Figure 18). However, since the end of the historic period, successional woody vegetation has encroached upon some areas of the landscape that were historically kept open. These include the historic fields that were maintained to the northwest and southwest of the farmstead (see Figure 17). These areas of successional woods do not contribute to the landscape's historic character.

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
Brodhead-Heller Creek	205219	Contributing					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Delaware River Floodplain	205220	Contributing					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Western Slope	205221	Contributing					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Mature Woodland	205222	Contributing					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Successional Woods (post–1965)	205223	Noncontributing – Incompatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 18. View toward the steep slope at the western edge of Brodhead-Heller Farm, looking southwest, 2023. The northern facade of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse is visible to the left and the spring house is visible at center. The southern end of the garage is visible at right. (OCLP)

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization

Historic Condition (to 1965):
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. During the historic period, the spatial organization of Brodhead-Heller Farm was defined by topography, vegetation, and structures that delineated distinct spaces in the landscape. These included sites of major buildings and structures, including the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse and the Barn. Other distinct spaces included the broad crop fields on the Delaware River floodplain and the smaller fields that were maintained to the northwest and southwest of the farmstead. Additionally, between the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse and Route 209, the East Lawn was maintained with mowed turf and specimen trees.

By the end of the historic period, the site of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse included the spaces immediately surrounding the building as well as areas to the northwest, where the Garage/Apartment and other domestic outbuildings were located. In total, the area of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse Site covered approximately one-half acre. It was defined to the south and west by the wooded slope that climbs west to the Pocono Plateau. To the east, it was defined by the western edge of the Farm Road and to the north by the eastern bank of the stream that flowed past the spring house and garage/apartment. During the historic period, the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse Site had a domestic character, with mowed lawn, specimen trees, and garden beds (see Figures 6 and 11).

In contrast, the barnyard possessed the character of a working agricultural landscape during the

historic period. Located on the eastern side of the Farm Road, north of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, the Barnyard spread across nearly two acres. The space's western boundary was delineated by the eastern edge of the Farm Road. The Barnyard's northern edge was defined by a wooded area at the parcel boundary and its eastern edge ran along the western shoulder of Route 209. To the south, the Barnyard met the northern end of the East Lawn. Within the Barnyard sat the Barn and Silo as well as an assortment of agricultural outbuildings that included wooden sheds, chicken coops, and pig houses. Areas within the Barnyard were further delineated by fences and walls.

The east lawn was maintained along the western edge of Route 209, south of the Barnyard and east of the Farm Road. Within the East Lawn, several specimen trees were planted among areas of mowed turf. The relatively open character of the space, punctuated with canopy trees, preserved views from the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse Site toward the fields on the Delaware River floodplain to the east. The floodplain fields, another spatial feature, spread across more than one hundred acres between Route 209 to the west and the Delaware River to the east. Throughout the historic period, the fields were kept open through the cultivation of crops. Access lanes and rows of deciduous trees served to subdivide the fields.

During the historic period, two smaller fields were kept open on the western side of the Farm Road. The larger of the two fields, which measured approximately six acres by the end of the historic period, was located directly northwest of the Barnyard. The second field, which measured approximately two acres, was located directly west and uphill from the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse Site. This second field was bisected by a stream, the lower section of which passed by the Spring House and Garage/Apartment in a stone-lined channel.

Evaluation:
Since 1965, most major spatial organization features have been maintained at Brodhead-Heller Farm. The historic fields on the Delaware River floodplain have remained in cultivation under a special use permit, preserving their open character. Additionally, the National Park Service has continued to regularly mow the East Lawn and the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse Site, perpetuating their spatial definition and character (Figure 19).

However, woody succession has led to the diminishment of the historic character of some spatial features. This is particularly true of the fields that were historically maintained to the west of the Farm Road. After the end of the historic period, these fields fell into disuse and successional vegetation began to take hold (see Figure 17). Although their spatial definition has remained perceptible during the early successional phase, the historic spatial features are at risk of being obscured completely over the coming years. Successional vegetation has also begun to colonize the barnyard, and several portions of the space that were historically kept open have become difficult to access (Figure 20). A community garden was established on the floodplain fields around 2011 and is defined by a non-historic wire fence that separates it from the surrounding fields (see Figure 15).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse Site	205224	Contributing					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Barnyard	205225	Contributing					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – East Lawn	205226	Contributing					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Floodplain Fields	205227	Contributing					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Northwestern Field	205228	Contributing					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Southwestern Field	205229	Contributing					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Community Garden	205230	Noncontributing – Compatible					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 19. The east lawn, in the foreground, and the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse site, in the background, looking west, 2023. Note the mowed turf maintained in these spaces as well as the deciduous and evergreen specimen trees. (OCLP)



Figure 20. A portion of the historic barnyard, as viewed from the southern edge of Brodhead-Heller Creek, looking northwest, 2023. A wooden shed is visible near the center of the image and the historic barn is visible to the right. The northwestern field is visible in the distance to the left. (OCLP)

Landscape Characteristic: Constructed Water Features

Historic Condition (to 1965):
Constructed water features are built features and elements that utilize water for aesthetic or utilitarian functions in the landscape. At the rear of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse, a distinctive, rock-lined channel was created during the nineteenth century to carry a stream past the spring house. The channel may have been constructed at the same time as the spring house in ca.1838, as the spring house's eastern foundation wall formed the western edge of the channel. In 1907, when the garage was built, the channel may have been extended to also carry the stream past this structure, and eventually into Brodhead-Heller Creek. The stream appears to have been fed by several sources, including springs and seeps in the hillside to the west of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse. There was also a well, and possibly a pump, east of the garage.

Evaluation:
The historic stream channel remains at the rear of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse and continues to carry a stream past the spring house and garage (Figure 42). In front of the spring house and garage, the channel is approximately one foot wide and three feet deep and the walls of the channel are constructed of rustic fieldstone. In front of the spring house, the channel is open from above while a concrete slab covers the section that passes the garage. To the south and uphill of the stone-line stream channel, a small stone structure may mark the location of a spring that feeds the stream passing through the channel. A historic well cover is still located east of the garage (pump no longer present) (Figure 43).

The 2008 NPS Historic Structures Inventory for Brodhead-Heller Farm identified a "Slate Dam and Pond (HSI #082328)" at the property but did not include images of the feature or a description of its location. The slate dam and pond were not observed as part of the field investigation for this CLI.

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
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Stone Lined Waterway	205263	Contributing	82329		Asset	17264	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Well and Basin	205264	Contributing	83028		Asset	17267	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Slate Dam and Pond	205265	Undetermined	82328				No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 42. The stone-lined stream channel that passes the spring house (visible to the right) and the garage (behind the photographer, not pictured), looking south, 2023. (OCLP)



Figure 43. A historic well cap near the driveway that leads to the garage, which is visible in the background to the right, looking southwest, 2023. (OCLP)

Landscape Characteristic: **Small Scale Features**

Historic Condition (to 1965):
Small-scale features are elements that provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the landscape. During the historic period, small-scale features at Brodhead-Heller Farm included fences that delineated spaces, contained livestock, and protected areas of the landscape. Photographs from the early twentieth century show post and board fences near in the area of the east lawn (see Figure 6). Other photographs show rustic, split-rail fencing surrounding a pasture that may have been located west of the barnyard. A postcard from the middle of the twentieth century advertising the “Wheat Plains Farm & Tea House” shows a board fence along the farm road as well as a decorative arbor structure, although the feature may be a product of the artist’s creative license (see Figure 8). Other small-scale features included an assortment of agricultural equipment that would have been distributed throughout the barnyard.

Evaluation:
Very few historic small-scale features remain at Brodhead-Heller Farm. Most fencing has been removed, including the post and board fences that once existed east of the Brodhead-Heller Farmhouse. Some sections of wire fence may exist in the barnyard the barn, but much of that area was inaccessible during the field investigation for this CLI. Additionally, a brick structure attached to the brick steps at the southern end of the flagstone patio is presumed to be the ruins of a historic barbecue (see Figure 30). A non-historic wire fence surrounds the community garden on the floodplain fields (see Figures 15 and 21).

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
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Community Garden Fence	205266	Noncontributing – Compatible					No
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Metal/Wire Fence	205267	Undetermined	82322		Asset	1124940	Yes
Brodhead-Heller Farm – Presumed Barbecue Ruin	205268	Undetermined					No

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 5

Next Assessment Due Date: 08/23/2029

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Poor

Assessment Date: 08/23/2024

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Brodhead-Heller Farm is in “poor” condition. A “poor” condition assessment indicates the property shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values. Several historic structures at Brodhead-Heller Farm, including the barn, evidence substantial structural deterioration and require major rehabilitation. This is also true for historic circulation features like the flagstone patio and walk in the vicinity of the farmhouse as well as the farm road, which all risk loss of integrity without substantial maintenance. In their current condition, several features present hazards to visitors and park staff. Additionally, the historic bridge culvert that carried the farm road over Brodhead-Heller Creek has failed, limiting access to a large area of the cultural landscape. Encroachment of successional woody vegetation into areas of the landscape that were historically kept open also threatens the loss of historic spatial features.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Deferred maintenance on historic buildings and structures and surrounding landscape features will negatively impact landscape condition if not addressed. Deferred maintenance has resulted in hazardous conditions in several areas of the landscape, including in the barnyard and around the flagstone patio, where the brick steps ruins and stream channel present the possibility of major injury. Any future project to address deferred maintenance shall ensure perpetuation of the landscape's historic character.

Date Identified: 08/23/2024

Type of Impact: Vegetation/Invasive Plants

Other Impact:

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Narrative: Continued encroachment of woody vegetation into historically open areas of the cultural landscape are negatively impacting the landscape condition.

Date Identified: 08/23/2024

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Treatment Type: Undetermined

Treatment Completed: No

Document Type: General Management Plan

Title:

IRMA Link:

Narrative:

The 1987 General Management Plan (GMP) for Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area establishes a general treatment approach for park cultural landscapes, stating:
“Cultural landscapes will be retained by keeping vegetation and agricultural use patterns near historic structures. Outbuildings, farm support structures, and fence rows will be kept wherever possible to maintain farmsteads and existing landscape configuration. Proposed treatment levels for related structures will depend on their physical condition and the potential need of a structure for agricultural purposes or adaptive uses. Based on the contribution of all features, individual structures could either by kept, or recorded and removed, with their component pieces being used for salvage materials to restore other historic properties.” (GMP 1987: 33)

The 2022 draft, “Historic Buildings Strategy for Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area” assigned the Brodhead-Heller Farm to Prioritization Category “A,” which indicated that the resource is in “Good” or “Fair” condition and has “excellent” historic context/interpretive value. However, no treatment approach for the landscape has been identified.

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography:

Citation Author	Citation Title	Year of Publication	Citation Publisher	Citation Type	Citation Location	Citation Number
Bodle, Wayne K.	National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, Brodhead Farm (“Wheat Plains”) [NR]	1977	n/a			
Clemensen, A. Berle	Preliminary Historic Resource Study, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area	1996	n/a			
National Park Service	Historic Buildings Strategy for Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (draft)	2022	n/a			
National Park Service	General Management Plan for Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area [GMP]	1987	n/a			
National Park Service	Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area: Geologic Resources Inventory Report [GRIR]	2017	n/a			
Ortega Consulting	Historic Structures Report of the Brodhead “Wheat Plains” Farm, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area [HSR]	2022	n/a			
Palmer, Jennifer	Review comments on CLI, 15 August 2024	2024	n/a			

US Army Corps of Engineers	A Comprehensive Study of the Tocks Island Lake Project and Alternatives	1975	n/a			