

The British Left Hook - Preparing for Battle

Sconnettown & Strodes Mill Strategic Landscapes Plan

A Specific Plan of the Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan



Prepared by
Chester County
Planning Commission
& John Milner Associates, Inc.

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The 7th
Pennsylvania
Regiments
Brandywine Flag



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Chapter 1 Introduction

The 2013 Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan (2013 Plan) identifies and prioritizes significant battlefield areas and battle elements¹, which contribute to the overall battlefield cultural landscape and are well suited for further study, planning, and possible protection and/or interpretation. Battlefield areas, termed ‘strategic landscapes’, encompass key battle events and features², the latter broadly categorized as physical geography (terrain, land areas used by troops and civilians and natural features such as wetlands, watercourses, and landforms) and cultural topography (settlement patterns and built features such as roads, fords, buildings, farms, and villages). The 2013 Plan identifies and recommends 13 battlefield strategic landscapes for further consideration and planning.



Battle demonstration. (courtesy Chadds Ford Live)

Strategic landscapes are being examined in phases due to the complexity of the battle and large size of the battlefield (approximately 35,000 acres). This plan for Sconnettown/Strode’s Mill Strategic Landscape (Map 1-1), along with plans for Marshallton Strategic Landscape and Trimble’s Ford and Jefferis’ Ford Strategic Landscapes, represents phase one battlefield strategic landscapes planning. Together, the four Landscapes form the northern Brandywine Battlefield, where tactical battle staging³ occurred during the morning and into the afternoon the day of the battle, September 11, 1777. Strategic landscapes and their features are areas to focus battle-related local planning, land conservation, historic resource protection, and heritage interpretation efforts. Collectively, those planning efforts within the battlefield honor and preserve areas that exhibit Chester County’s role in American history and our nation’s founding into the future, and simultaneously maintain sense of place and enhanced quality of life for residents and visitors.

Plan Purpose

The purposes of this plan are to examine and delineate the following for Sconnettown/Strode’s Mill Landscape:

- Role in the battle as part of the northern battlefield, location and conclusion of the successful British advance via Gen’l Howe’s flanking maneuver, and relationship with the local civilian community.
- Historic context, extant structures, roads, and lands that contribute to a still readable battlefield landscape.
- Strategies for resource, land/open space, and heritage interpretation planning, including outlining Strode’s Mill village as a center for interpretation of the preparation for battle.

An overview of the Landscape (this Chapter), its significance to the battle (Chapter 2), and battle history, battlefield importance, and recent planning (Appendix A) provide perspective for this plan. This plan examines particular battle events via study of physical geography and cultural topography and review of reference materials (Chapter 3), and identifies battle-era built features (Chapter 4). This plan clarifies battle elements from the 2013 Plan for these Landscapes and develops locally oriented strategies for planning (Chapter 5) and heritage interpretation (Chapter 6). Appendices supplement plan chapters: battle-era properties documentation (Appendix

¹ Battle elements include battle events, e.g. a skirmish, and features, e.g. a historic building.

² For planning purposes, features can be correlated with natural resource, open space, historic resource, land, and road planning.

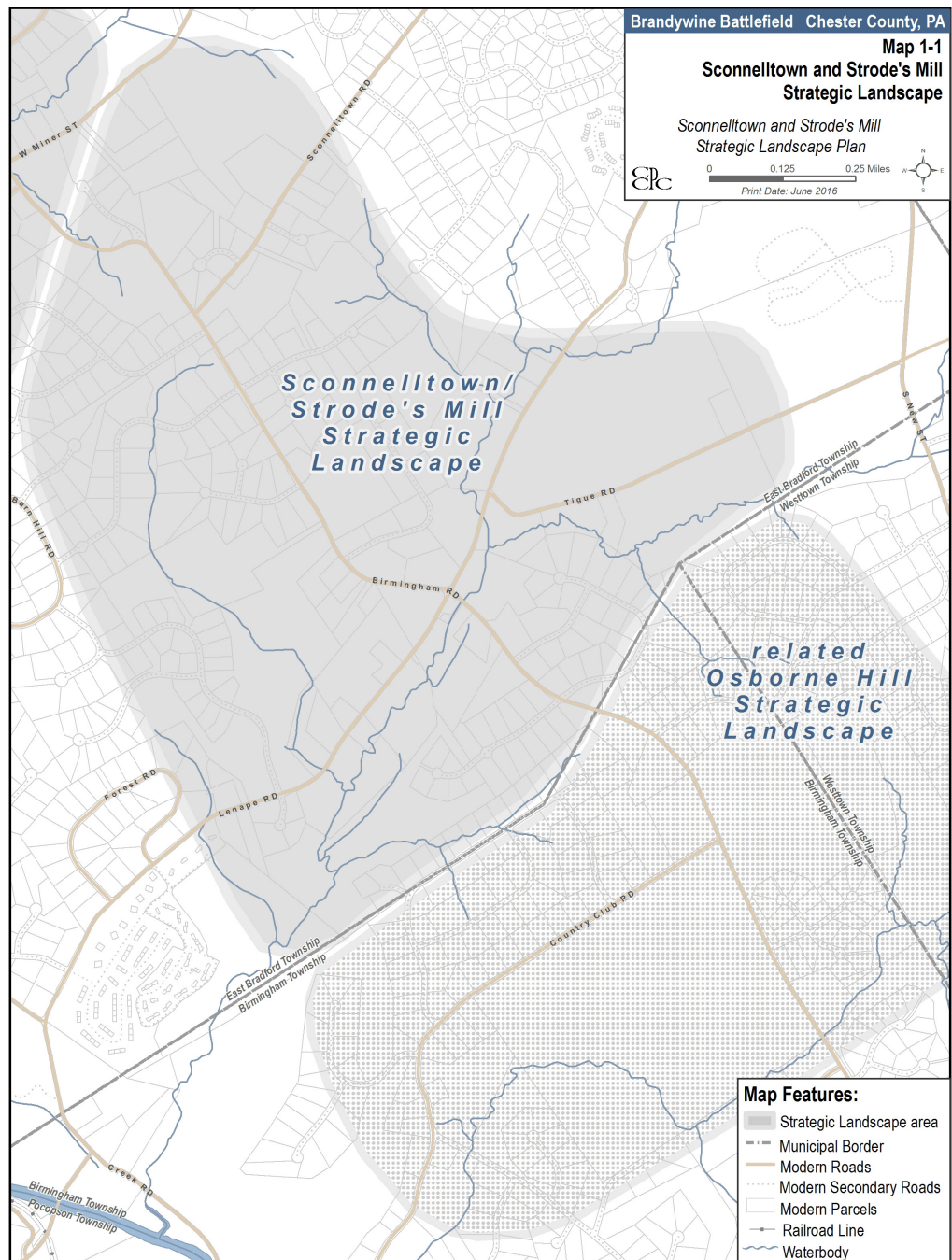
³ Tactical battle staging in the northern battlefield includes: American reconnaissance (Marshallton and Trimble’s Ford Landscapes), northern British tactical flanking advance (Trimble’s and Jefferis’ Fords Landscapes), and last leg of the flanking advance/ Preparing for Battle (Sconnettown/Strode’s Mill Landscape). Osborne Hill Landscape is related to Strode’s Mill as an area of battle staging/preparation; however, it will be discussed in earnest as part of the core battle in future battlefield strategic landscapes plans.

B), themed heritage tour (Appendix C), and interpretive signage and displays (Appendix D), and Joseph Townsend's firsthand account (Appendix E).

Strategic Landscape and Plan Names

This Landscape is named for its two significant battle-related places, and the plan is named for the completion of the Crown Forces¹ flanking march and their halt for organizing and 'Preparing for Battle'.

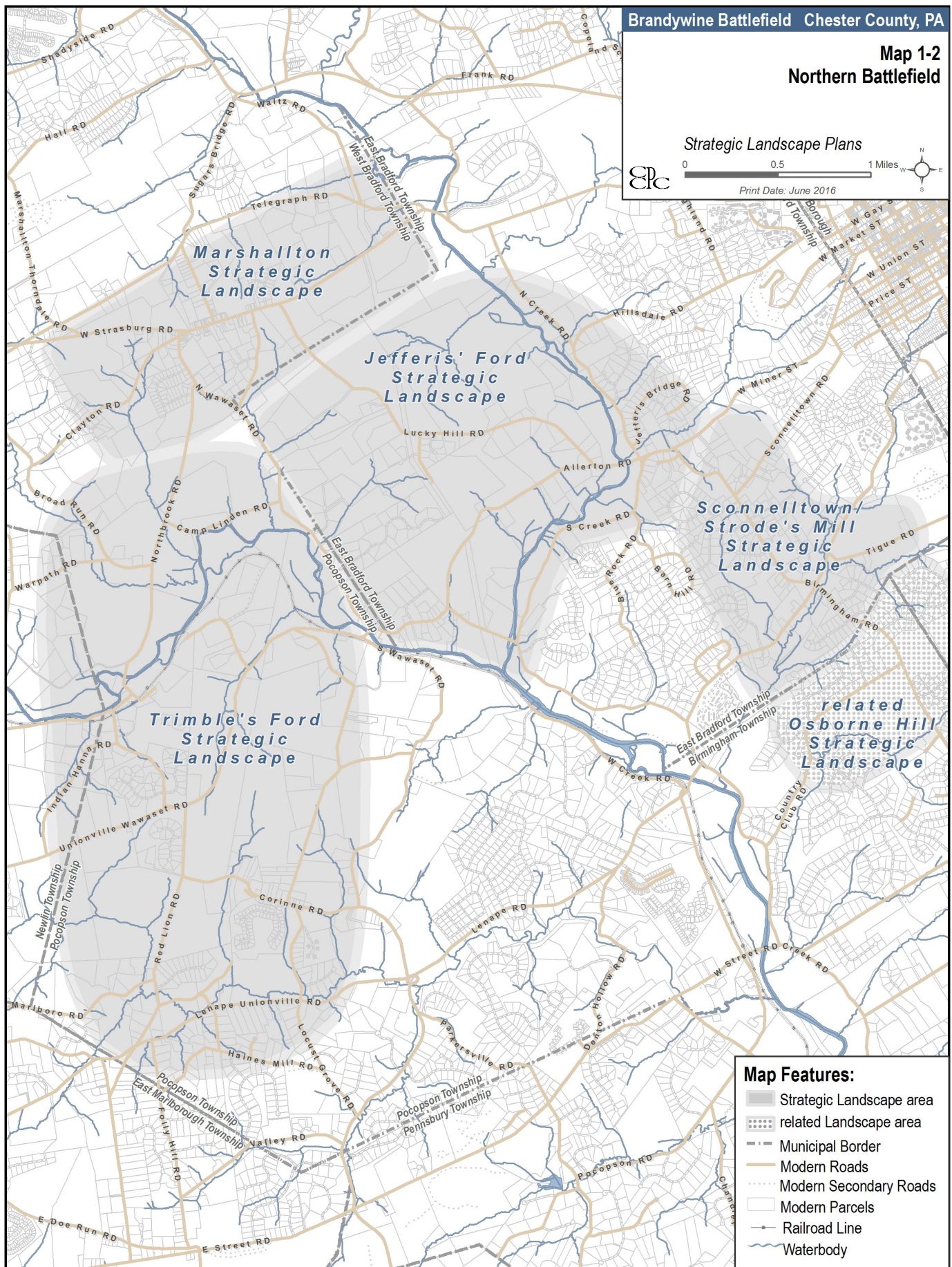
Strategic Landscape outlines (Maps 1-1 and 1-2²) provide generalized areas for study and planning. Based on analysis for this plan, Landscape outlines changed from the 2013 Plan, a shift anticipated by the 2013 Plan when recommending further landscape studies. Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape area begins east of Jefferis' Ford (at today's Jefferis' Ford Bridge) on lands owned by Emmor and James Jefferis at the time of the battle. The Landscape follows (battle-era and modern) Birmingham Road, passing through the former hamlet at Sconnettown and continuing to historic and present-day Strode's Mill village, site of one of Chester County's earliest milling operations, and past battle-era Richard Strode's farm. The Landscape ends at today's boundary between East Bradford and Birmingham Townships and the abutting and related Osborne Hill Landscape³.



¹ During the Philadelphia Campaign of 1777, British troops along with Hessian soldiers and local loyalists can together be referred to as 'Crown Forces'.

² Strategic Landscapes represent generalized areas for study and planning purposes and their mapped outlines do not denote firm boundaries.

³ Osborne Hill Landscape will be studied in future strategic landscape planning for the core combat areas.



Plan Need

The 2013 Plan provides a foundation and framework for ongoing battlefield planning. The role of this Landscape in the overall battle is touched upon in the 2013 Plan as the staging area where Crown forces halted for around 2-hours to regroup, organize, and prepare prior to the main combat that would begin in the late afternoon, after having completed a long, arduous flanking march that began much earlier that same morning in the Kennett Square area.

The 2013 Plan indicates there remains a significant historic landscape in this area, describing the Landscape's modern-day context as an area with open lands, historic structures, and 18th century character worthy of preservation. The 2013 Plan recommends the role of this Landscape in the battle be further explored, and this plan implements that recommendation. This plan analyzes, clarifies, and expands upon assumptions from the 2013 Plan, furthering the understanding of the battlefield, and specifically this Landscape, for continued planning, education, interpretation, and preservation. This plan provides a focused and locally implementable supplement to the 2013 Plan.

To facilitate analysis, understanding, and planning, the northern British flanking advance is examined in three stages, which together encompass Gen'l Howe's flanking tactic, the intent of which was to bypass and evade American Forces. The flank began well west (left) of American Forces positioned along the Creek, traveling far enough north and then east to cross the Creek at unguarded fords and forming a northwestern-arcing march (aka the 'British Left Hook' for battlefield strategic planning purposes). 'Stage I' entails the Crown Forces encampment the eve before battle in and near present-day Kennett Square Borough and the start of the flanking march north. 'Stage II' comprises the bulk of the flanking march advance. 'Stage III', the topic of this plan, entails the final stage of the flank advance through Sconnettown to Strode's Mill, where the flanking advance ends to prepare for battle and the approach to Osborne Hill.

Plan Contributors

This project is largely funded through a grant to Chester County from the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP), which provides competitive funding for battlefield studies and planning nationwide. Created in 1991 and signed into law by Congress in 1996, this National Park Service program is a federal partnership initiative to assist communities in identifying and planning for interpretation and protection of the nation's significant historic battlefields and related resources, as well as raise awareness of their importance for future generations. ABPP addresses wars that occurred on American soil.

Chester County Planning Commission staff completed this project, with input from East Bradford, West Bradford, and Pocopson Townships, Friends of Martin's Tavern, Friends of Strode's Mill, and ABPP representatives. A team of local volunteers and Chester County Archives staff conducted research using original primary source materials in Chester County's Archives. John Milner Associates (JMA), a historical and archeological consultant with expertise in military terrain analysis, historic and archeological resources, physical geography land study, and cultural and military history (specifically the Revolutionary War in the Philadelphia region), conducted geophysical field study, provided battle interpretation, and vetted technical plan information. Landowners voluntarily offered to work with the project team. This project could not have occurred without this extensive and skilled team working collaboratively and alongside local residents.



'Statement of Significance' to the Battlefield

This plan looks to National Park Service guidelines for historic American battlefields¹ and 2013 Plan methodology to describe the specific significance (termed 'Statement of Significance') of the Sconelltown/Strode's Mill Landscape in relation to the battlefield and battle. Outlining significance provides a context by which to examine and evaluate battle elements and defining features for their role in the Landscape and battlefield overall.

Brandywine Battlefield, a National Historic Landmark (NHL) since 1961, is among the most precious and important treasures in our nation. As related to the northern battlefield, NHL information states: "Washington's defeat at the Battle of Brandywine was a consequence of his failure to appreciate the geography of the region. The stream itself had little defensive value for, although it necessitated fording, the fords were so numerous that it was almost impossible to defend all of them. The British realized this, and after a forced march crossed upstream of Washington's army at a ford Washington did not even realize existed." It further states: "The significance of the Battlefield...is increased as a consequence of the degree to which the area has remained unchanged."

Firsthand accounts provide insight on the role of the Landscape in the northern battlefield and in particular the path of the British advance and success of their flanking maneuver. Words from the diary of Capt. Johan Ewald, a Hessian officer at the lead of the northern flanking column, inform of the conditions after the Jefferis' Ford crossing and the great surprise of the Crown Forces at the absence of American guards at the Ford and the narrow passage from the Ford. (Author Tom McGuire's interpretation of this part of the advance including Ewald's words are reprinted here)

'About noon, Ewald and the advanced guard approached Jefferis' Ford. Surprised to find it unguarded, he crossed and then paused at the bottom of a long notch or defile between two high hills. A narrow road twisted its way to the top through the woods between the hills. Lord Cornwallis came to the head of the column, and Ewald expressed concern that it would be the perfect spot for an ambush. A dozen Jagers fanned out and moved slowly up the road in pairs, carefully spacing themselves, fully prepared to react in case of attack. Ewald himself passed through "this terrible defile, which was over a thousand paces long," and could not believe that it was left unguarded. Cornwallis himself followed and was astonished that the patrol they had skirmished with earlier [Lt. Col. Ross' patrol] was not posted here. Ewald felt that "a hundred men could have held up either army the whole day."

(McGuire 2006:193-194 with quotes from Capt. Ewald's Diary:84)

The Landscape's significance to the battlefield is threefold. 1) It is the part of the northern battlefield where the final stage of the British advance occurred and where Gen'l Howe was able to successfully complete his flanking maneuver and evade the American Army by tactically navigating approximately 9,000 troops on a 9-hour circuitous march through difficult terrain. 2) The Strode's Mill area is the location where Gen'l Howe halted his advance, after completing their successful march, at their destination on the northern bank to the nearby high ground of Osborne Hill that provided Gen'l Howe outstanding views of the impending battleground to the south. 3) It is the area where Gen'l Howe strategized and prepared for battle, while letting his troops rest after their arduous march. This Landscape represents the transition from Gen'l Howe's focus on navigating the flank to that of preparing for the core battle, having the perspective that at this point (and location) the British had prevailed in their objective and 'won' the flanking element of their overall battle strategy.

In addition to delineating the transition point on the battlefield from the flanking approach to core battle area, the Landscape provides insight into the next chapter of Chester County history after the Revolutionary War. Taverns/public houses, mills, and meetinghouses formed the destinations and community centers of the battle-era

¹ Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America's Historic Battlefields, National Register Bulletin #40 (National Park Service, 2000).

Brandywine Valley, however this settlement pattern was already beginning to give way to growing crossroads communities. At the time of the battle, the Strode’s Mill area consisted of several farm properties, but 40 years later it had grown into a thriving village. Conversely, the small hamlet at Sconnelltown (similar to Trimbleville) that was present at the time of the battle ceased to exist in the 19th century.

Relationship to the NHL

The intent of the Brandywine Battlefield National Historic Landmark designation is to recognize the significance of the battle in the founding of the U.S. and in determining the course of American history. Marshallton Landscape is not included in the NHL boundary as its significance to the battle was not understood when the boundary was originally delineated. The 2013 Plan and *2010 Battle of Brandywine Historic Resources Survey and Animated Map Study* (2010 Study) were the first planning documents that brought forth the area’s importance for local planning. Marshallton Landscape is located northwest of core battle combat areas, which the NHL generally captures in its bounds. Marshallton Landscape contributes to the intent of the NHL for its largely intact Brandywine Valley colonial landscape that still reflects the story of the battle (military events and local community impacts) and the battle’s contribution to American independence. The Landscape today retains landforms, topography, buildings, roads, and structures that existed at the time of the battle *and* played a pivotal role in the battle and its outcome.

Historic Context and Setting Overview

Sconnelltown/Strode’s Mill Landscape is located in historic and modern-day East Bradford Township. The movement of Crown Forces from Jefferis’ Ford to Strode’s Mill is recorded in military diaries and journals, and period maps depict the Landscape. The Landscape is also the location of a firsthand diary account by Joseph Townsend, a young Quaker, who witnessed the Crown Forces on their march through Sconnelltown on-route to the Strode’s Mill area. Townsend’s account appeared in the 1881 *History of Chester County* by J. Smith and Gilbert Pope, and described, among other aspects of the day, the general reaction local residents had upon seeing so many British soldiers in their uniforms “creating a sea of scarlet through the valley.” Townsend’s recollections bring to life the army with details of the Crown Force troops and “assorted rabble” moving through the approximately 2-mile Landscape area. Battle-era structures and sites still exist today which corroborate Townsend’s account of troop movements on the day of battle.



“and while we were reasoning with them, our eyes were caught on a sudden by the appearance of the [British] army coming out of the woods into the fields belonging to Emmor Jefferis, on the west side of the creek above the fording place.”
Joseph Townsend, account as witnessed at Sconnelltown, September 11, 1777.

Critical to this Landscape is the final and significant terrain obstacle that faced Crown Forces after the Jefferis’ Ford crossing: a difficult narrow twisting road that passed through a gorge on the uphill climb to the Bradford Heights at Sconnelltown. Gen’l Cornwallis called for a halt to allow troops and horses to rest after the gorge climb realizing the extreme strain and struggle the terrain had placed on the troops and horses not long before they were to go into battle. Remarkably in this Landscape, the Crown Force flanking column had not been challenged nor its route disputed by American troops. The failure of Gen’l Washington to identify this significant terrain obstacle that could have easily been used to the advantage of the Americans was another notable failure of intelligence that day for the Americans. Based on the historic record, the location of the gorge or “terrible defile” is ascribed from Jefferis’ Ford and the Wheelwright Shop site on the Bradford Heights.

It cannot be underemphasized that the Crown Force’s transition from the flanking advance period (~5am-2pm) to preparations for core battle combat (~4pm-6:30pm and 7pm-7:30pm) took place in and around this milling

seat from Sconnettstown to Osborne Hill with Strode's Mill at the center of activity. From the perspective of the British, the flanking march had been a success, and the Strode's Mill area served as the place for troops to prepare for battle after completing the arduous march that began at 5am that day and for Gen'l Howe to change course and focus from navigating a successful flank to that of strategizing for combat.

In analyzing battle-era roads related to Sconnettstown/Strode's Mill Landscape, it is clear that the 1725 Road passing through the early beginnings of Marshallton Village continued straight through Taylor's Ford toward Philadelphia in a southeasterly direction on today's Lucky Hill Road. The 1725 Road then crossed at Jefferis' Ford where it merged into the 1719 Birmingham Road, passing through the center of this strategic landscape on its way to Dilworthtown. The dominant topographic feature of Osborne Hill (one of the highest points in the area) would have been clearly visible from the 1735 Road (today's Lucky Hill Rd) in the Jefferis' Ford Landscape.

Existing Conditions and Integrity

The Sconnettstown/Strode's Mill Landscape consists of a mix of contemporary suburban development and colonial-era farmsteads, the Jefferis' Farm, and the Strode's Mill village. Although Sconnettstown no longer is extant, the location of the historic Wheelwright Shop is visible in the landscape. In addition, three structures discussed in the Townsend eyewitness account still stand: Strode's Mill, the Richard Strode house, and the colonial residence on George Strode's property overlooking Birmingham Road. George Entriken's farm and house ruin are also preserved. He built the mill for the Strode family. Although development has occurred in Strode's Mill, the preserved historic structures, road infrastructure, Bradford Heights, and preserved open space retain sufficient integrity so as to clearly convey the 1777 landscape as recorded in British records and Joseph Townsend's account. Located only a short distance from West Chester Borough, the landscape speaks to historic themes related to the battle and to the colonial era (including the growth experienced following the Revolution) in Chester County.

The Sconnettstown/Strode's Mill Landscape of today consists of colonial-era farmsteads alongside contemporary rural suburban development, Strode's Mill village, the site of Sconnettstown (a battle-era hamlet situated above Jefferis' Ford), and the 1719 Birmingham Road. While Jefferis' Farm and Ford are physically located in Jefferis' Ford Landscapes, they are discussed in this Landscape as well due to their proximity and relevance to events in this Landscape. Richard Strode's residence and Strode's Mill are contributing resources in Strode's Mill (village) National Register Historic District. At the time of the battle, it is surmised that there was a blacksmith shop and store near the mill, but there are no extant buildings from that era. Like so many Chester County crossroads, it wasn't until after the Revolution that villages began to rapidly replace the taverns, meetinghouses, and mills that had once been primary destinations.

The Sconnettstown/Strode's Mill Strategic Landscape, as it exists today, still displays the approach to the battle. The defile through which the Crown Forces maneuvered is apparent on Birmingham Road. While portions of this area are now residential subdivisions, the area still conveys its agricultural heritage, and the general appearance of the 18th century battlefield landscape. Osborne Hill still dominates the area, and the valley containing Strode's Mill is still extant. The gorge is still apparent today the modern road landscape as are battle-era structures; thus the Landscape still contains critical geophysical and built features related to the battle and its outcome.



Richard Strode farmhouse on Birmingham Rd.



Sconnettstown Wheelwright Shop Site at the Bradford Heights on Birmingham Road.

The Landscape begins on the western side of the Brandywine Creek on the fields once owned by Emmor Jefferis. The location of the modern day Jefferis' Ford Bridge is essentially at the historic ford, and the farm is a contributing resource to the Worth-Jefferis Rural Historic District. This district is quite large, containing nearly 2,000 acres, including 10 farms that are prominent features. While the landscape has undergone change, namely residential development, it has been designed in a way to be sheltered from public views and historic landscapes and is not intrusive to the district. Several barns were built on historic foundations of their predecessors in compatible size, shape, and materials as the historic barns they replace. A pattern of farmsteads, fields, and rolling country delineated by hedgerows and small tree groves remains and reflects the agricultural history of the district.

The 2013 Plan indicates the Landscape contains a high potential for historic resource protection and interpretation, particularly given the open farmlands along roadways that provide a unique opportunity for interpretation. Property owners generally value historic resources and open lands and actively work to preserve both. An active local historical commission in East Bradford Township promotes continued viability and preservation of the area. Critical to the Sconnettstown/Strode's Mill Landscape is (recently purchased) Strode's Mill Barn, which was by East Bradford Township. Working in partnership with Friends of Strode's Mill, the Township is envisioning a public access use for the property, to include a Brandywine Battlefield interpretation center. The recommendations and findings in this plan can assist the Township in making this a reality.

Historic Contextual Themes

The significance and analysis of these Landscapes to the battle speaks to several overarching battlefield themes, broadly categorized as 'military events', '18th century landscape', and 'local community'. Under (one or more) of those broad categories fall specific themes for this plan of:

- British advance and tactical flanking maneuver
- Preparation for battle
- Battle impact on local residents
- Power and prosperity in the Brandywine Valley, before and after the American Revolution
- Brandywine Valley in the 18th century
- Still readable battlefield landscape
- Quaker roots and Peace Testimony

Landscape history also mirrors major themes in the overall history of Chester County: Brandywine Valley Quaker settlement, lasting historic villages, prosperous industry/commerce foundations, and the American Revolution. Landscape themes are found throughout this plan and are the basis for heritage interpretation (Chapter 6).

Themes for the comprehensive battlefield, and this plan as relevant, correlate and are being coordinated with Museum of the American Revolution's (MAR)¹ Revolutionary War interpretative themes. MAR's major themes can be summarized as: 'Citizens turned Revolutionaries', 'Surviving the Darkest Hours', 'Radical Nature of Revolution', and 'Lasting Meanings'. As Sconnettstown/Strode's Mill Landscape is just one part of the much larger Revolutionary War, and has a unique cultural affiliation as part of the Brandywine Valley's largely Quaker roots, not all MAR themes speak directly to the Landscape. For this Landscape, themes of the British flanking advance, preparation for battle, and battle impact on local citizens fall under 'Radical Nature of the Revolution'; and a still readable Brandywine Valley colonial landscape, Quaker roots/Peace Testimony, and Power/prosperity in the Brandywine Valley before and after the American Revolution fall under 'Lasting Meanings'. The overarching theme for the Battlefield as a pivotal moment in the American Revolution, discussed in the 2013 Plan, speaks to all MAR's themes.



Strode's Mill Barn (left , proposed battle interpretative Heritage Center) and Strode's Mill (right) still exist on Birmingham Road in the extant Strode's Mill village, which is a National Register Historic District.

¹ MAR is the national Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia, which is coordinating their efforts to interpret the battle with Brandywine Battlefield Task Force.



Geophysical Landscape and Battlefield Analysis

This chapter uses geophysical field study of features (land area, natural, landform, built, below-ground) and reference materials to analyze prior assumptions¹ from the 2013 Plan/2010 Study about the battle and battlefield in and near the Landscape. This includes reviewing the: 1) Landscape's role as part of the northern battlefield, 2) last stage of the British advance under Gen'l. Howe's flanking strategy, and 3) preparation for battle. This chapter takes a holistic historical view of the battle in and near this Landscape and provides related recommendations, while Chapter 4 focuses on distinct built features. For local planning purposes, this analysis seeks to clarify the Landscape's role as to where and what battle events occurred to develop planning strategies (Chapter 5) and speak to heritage interpretation themes (Chapter 6).



Looking south on Birmingham Road along the "defile" noted by Ewald. Note the steep climb (still present today) and the deeply incised roadbed.

Analytic methods used include the 2010 Study KOCOA analysis, 2013 Plan defining features and historic resources inventories, reference maps (historic atlases, aerial photographs, topographic maps), primary sources (firsthand accounts, road petitions, deeds, civilian property loss records), secondary sources (battle histories), field study, and historic archeological assessment, as well as review of battle-era cultural topography and settlement patterns in Chapter 4. Historic and military archeological consultant JMA, a CCRG Company (formerly John Milner and Associates, Inc.) conducted this analysis with assistance from researchers in Chester County Archives.

KOCOA Military Terrain Analysis

KOCOA² analysis evaluates physical geography and cultural topography and identities defining features that help explain a battle and inform about its events and outcomes. ABPP describes defining features as those natural and built features named in battle accounts, historic maps, or other sources that help locate and ground-truth battle events in the modern landscape. Physical geography (natural) feature examples include terrain, watercourses, ridges, or ravines. Cultural topography (built) feature examples include places/settlement patterns (villages or farms); structures (mills, houses, or meetinghouses); or other manmade features (roads, paths, woodlots, or farm fields). The 2010 Study KOCOA analysis is used in the 2013 Plan, which takes a further look at defining features for planning and interpretation purposes. Both analyses are the starting point for this plan.

This plan uses KOCOA to analyze, update, and/or interpret previously understood battle events related to this Landscape – where the last stage of the British advance successfully concluded and preparation for battle occurred. For example, this plan uses KOCOA to better understand the battle event of the British flanking march route via mapping and comparing locations of battle-era properties and owners and battle-era roads, through which the path of the march becomes evident. However, battle events are not isolated activities, and so to understand how this Landscape fits into the overall battle from a military and physical terrain perspective, analysis at times stretches beyond the Landscape's bounds. Figure 3-1 provides updated defining features related to military activity within and related to the Landscape.

¹ Appendix A red *italics* wording shows assumptions being studied from a battle timeline perspective.

² Appendix A further describes a KOCOA analysis. Cultural topography encompasses the built environment and is addressed in Chapter 4.

Roadways - as communication routes and avenues of approach for military troop movements - are critical KOCOAs defining features for battlefield military strategy analysis as well as cultural topography and battle-era settlement pattern analysis. Understanding where roadways were located at the time of the battle is necessary for understanding primary reports from the field of battle and locations where battle activities would likely have occurred. One of the extraordinary outcomes of this project (Chapter 4) is the research undertaken by Chester County Archives, whereby an approximated battle-era road network has been mapped for this project using the best-known primary source material at the time of this plan.

Map 3-1¹ depicts battle-era known public roads, fords, and Figure 3-1's defining features. Map 3-2 depicts an approximation of these features in today's landscape.

*Figure 3-1: Sconnettstown/Strode's Mill Landscape
and related KOCOAs Military Terrain Defining Features
(updated from the 2010 Study and 2013 Plan)*

<i>DEFINING FEATURE</i>	<i>KOCCA CATEGORY</i>
Jefferis' Ford archaeological site (County Bridge #111 on modern Allerton Rd)	Key Terrain, Obstacle
1725/1764 Road to Turk's Head village/ Philadelphia (modern Strasburg Rd, Lucky Hill Rd, Allerton Rd, W. Miner St)	Avenue of Approach, Observation
1719/Birmingham Road (modern Birmingham Rd)	Avenue of Approach, Observation
Brandywine Creek, east branch	Obstacle
1725 Road "Defile" (modern W. Miner St. east of Jefferis' Ford to Birmingham Rd) 1719/Birmingham Road "Defile" (modern Birmingham Rd from W. Miner St to before approx. Sconnettstown Rd)	Key Terrain, Obstacle, Avenue of Approach
Battle-era Bradford Heights (historic and modern ridge/high ground in vicinity of modern Paxson Dr and Sconnettstown Rd)	Key Terrain, Observation
Osborne Hill in battle-era East Bradford and Westtown Townships (ridge/high ground on Birmingham Rd in modern Birmingham and Westtown Townships)	Key Terrain, Observation

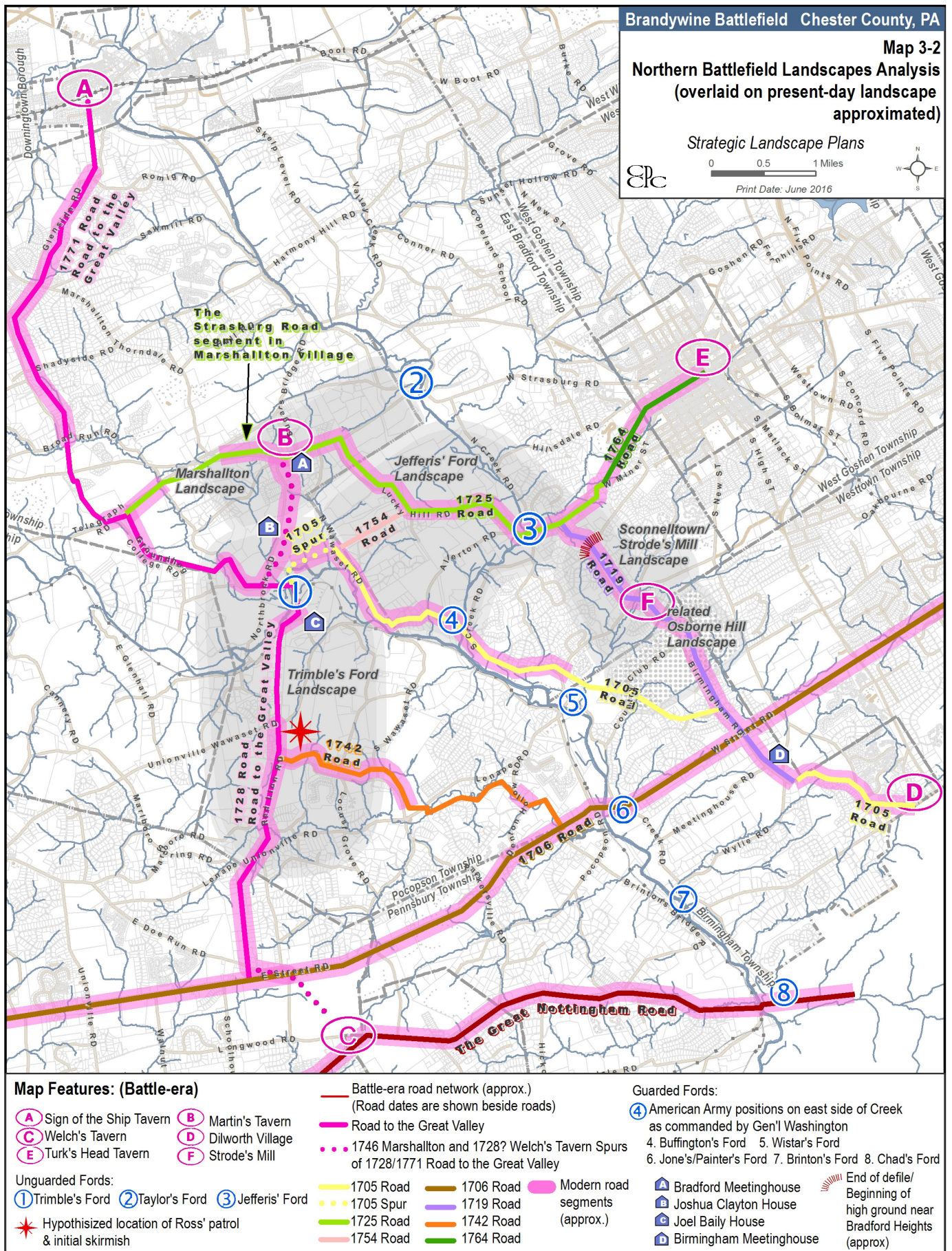
Note: use of 'Road' indicates the approximate battle-era roadbed and road alignment still exists.

JMA further explains KOCOAs in terms of military terrain analysis from an on-the-ground view: a soldier looks at fields, woodlots, ridges, buildings, waterways, etc., for their military value, how they could be integrated into offensive or defensive positions, and how they fit into potential for offensive or defensive military action. This is not only important for understanding why a commander would (or would not) position infantry, artillery, or cavalry at a certain place on the terrain or at a certain point during the engagement (why faulty positioning could have disastrous consequences), but also helps to interpret the authenticity of battlefield maps. Further, evaluation of terrain from a military point of view can help provide reasonable explanations to 'fill in' gaps in current knowledge of battle events caused by a scarcity of primary sources. For example, military usage of terrain would demand troops be deployed under the cover of landforms and natural features, such as ridges, woodlots, or low-lying ravines, shielding troops from the enemy's view. Similarly, depending on the task assigned during any stage of an engagement, troops might be deployed via a road if speed is of the essence or via a woodlot or circuitously if the element of surprise is paramount. Taking these and similar military aspects into consideration, terrain becomes an integral part of the reconstruction of battle events and 'the stage' in which the events unfold.

A KOCOAs analysis is a valuable tool for planning and interpretation purposes, as it identifies extant features that still define the battle/battlefield and that are paramount to protect for all efforts in preserving the battlefield and history of the battle in the American Revolution and as part of Chester County's legacy. Future actions should be made with a focus on protection of such features, including lands and structures.

¹ 1777 Fords of the Brandywine Map depiction by Clifford Parker, Chester County Archives. Base map is 1847 Map of Chester County, Pa: from original surveys by S.M. Painter & J.S. Bowen, projection and drawing by J.S. Bowen, engraved by Edw'd Yeager, Philadelphia. Battle-era roads provide a delineation of best available primary source information in Chester County Archives as researched by Archival staff.





Sconnelltown/Strode's Mill Landscape Battlefield Analysis

The analysisⁱ discusses the Landscape from a military battle perspective using field/geophysical study and reference materials. It also takes into account Landscape significance (Chapter 2) and the broader battle (Appendix A), as well as historic context (Chapter 4) and themes (Chapter 2 and 6) of military events (the last leg of the British tactical flank); settlement patterns (Brandywine Valley in the colonial era through 1800 and a still readable battlefield landscape); and battle impact on the local community (civilians at large and specifically Quaker community). This analysis explores battle-related events that took place within and/or are related to this Landscape, including: 1) Crown Force flanking route, 2) Jefferis' Ford Crossing, 3) Reported looting at Jefferis' Farm, 4) Birmingham Road "Defile", 5) High Ground at Sconnelltown/Strode's Mill, and 6) nearly/related Osborne Hill. This analysis was completed by project consultant JMA, thus prose may read differently than other plan sections. Refer to Map 3-1 for analysis references and Figure 3-1 for battle-era road's approximate correlation to modern roads.

Crown Force Flanking Route

This analysis examines the Crown Forces' route under Gen'l. Howe's tactical flank in their endeavor to circumvent and outmaneuver Gen'l. Washington and the American Forces' main position defensive near Chad's Ford. It is the final phase of the march and the location where General Cornwallis called for one of the few full rest stops for his army during the flanking march. It is also where the final advance to Osborne Hill began. This Landscape marks the transition between the northern battlefield landscape where the 9-hour, approximately 14-mile British flanking march took place from around 5 am to 2 pm, and the major combat period of the battle between 4 and 6 pm with heavy casualties and gunfire.

Jefferis' Ford Crossing

There are few first-person descriptions of the ford crossing itself. Von Muenchhausen comments that the waters at Jefferis, like those at Trimble's, were up to three feet deep (von Muenchhausen 1974:31). Perhaps the most detailed description of the ford area is provided by local resident Joseph Townsend. A member of the Society of Friends, he was attending a week-day meeting at the Richard Strode's wheelwright shop (Parcel 51-7-81 at 901 Paxon Road, *Sconnelltown Wheelwright Shop*) when he heard a disturbance caused by several local people who were visibly upset because the Crown Forces were coming. As Townsend and some others strived to calm the locals down, "...our eyes were caught on a sudden by the appearance of the army coming out of the woods into the fields belonging to Emmor Jefferis, on the west side of the creek, above the fording-place. In a few minutes the fields were literally covered over with them, and they were hastening towards us. Their arms and bayonets, being raised, shone as bright as silver, the sky being clear and the day exceedingly warm..." (Townsend 1846, quoted in Futhey and Cope 1881:75).

Looting at Jefferis' Farm

Several secondary historical sources report that liquor was stored at the Jefferis farm, located west of the ford, and that this liquor was broken into by Hessian soldiers and consumed. This is a difficult story to confirm or refute, as elements of it may have some truth. Whether Hessians were the responsible party is problematic.

Prior to the battle there was considerable movement of vehicles, troops, and supplies from Wilmington to the Chad's Ford area as Washington's army shifted position in response to Sir William Howe's movement out of Newark. The roads behind the American lines (generally east of the Brandywine) were alive with activity. The pension record of Pennsylvania militiaman John Clarke states that previous to the Battle of Brandywine he "was

employed by Benjamin McCowan who was in the service of the Wagon Master Genl. to collect wagons and horses for the use of the American Army to convoy the baggage of the Army to the battle ground - the neighborhood settlement was composed principally of what was then termed "Hickory quaquoes" [Hickory Quakers] - most inveterate Tories and the wagons and horses were obtained by impressment...." (Clarke 1853).

Harris (2014:260 n33) attributes the story to an 1877 article published in Lippincott's Magazine of Popular Literature and Science by Howard Jenkins. In the story, Jenkins relates that:

"Emmor Jefferis, who lived at the ford in a substantial house, was surprised at such an arrival of visitors. There lay in his ample cellar great store of wines and other liquors, silks, cloths, etc., the most valuable goods of some of the merchants down at Wilmington, which they had hauled up to this point when they considered their own town threatened. As the British pressed their company upon Emmor with great unreserve, they speedily found the prize in the cellar. The casks were rolled out, the heads knocked in, and the officers, quaffing the old madeira, drank to its rebel owners, whose chagrin may be imagined when they heard of its fate...." (Jenkins 1877:325).

Jenkins may in turn have gotten the story from Nile's Weekly Register, and the editor of the paper, Hezekiah Niles. As reported sixteen years earlier in the West Chester Village Record (February 16, 1861), Niles was actually born in October 1777 a few weeks after the Battle of Brandywine at the residence of James Jefferis on the east side of the main (east) branch of the Brandywine near Jefferis' Ford. The Village Record proudly claimed the noted publisher as a "Chester County man" and Niles himself wrote more than once in the Weekly Register that the "...myrmidons of George the 3d, threatened to bayonet him, before his was born...." (Anonymous 1861). As reported in the Village Record:

"...When Howe's army moved from the Head of Elk for Philadelphia, it was generally expected that the march would be by way of Wilmington, Delaware, - and many of the inhabitants of that place sought to evade the evils of such a visit by retiring, with whatever property they could conveniently remove, up the country to and around the forks of the Brandywine. A number of grocers and merchants sent their choice liquors, and other valuables, to the house of Emmor Jefferis, (now David McConkey) on the West side of the ford, - where they happened to be exactly in the route of the enemy, and became the prey of the spoilers. Mrs. Niles, being a resident of Wilmington, and near her confinement, sought a refuge in the family of James Jefferis....The Hessian auxiliaries of Britain were notorious for maltreating and plundering the inhabitants. They menaced the life of Mrs. Niles for hesitating to surrender her personal property...." (Anonymous 1861).

From these accounts, likely based on verbal conversations with actual participants, it seems that the area around the forks of the Brandywine was considered "safe" by the inhabitants of Wilmington and northern New Castle County, as they sought to get out of the way of the two armies. Confirmation of the movement of goods and civilians comes from Major General Nathanael Greene. Greene commented on this refugee movement in a letter to his wife dated 10 September, the day prior to the battle. He wrote that "...here are some of the most distressing scenes imaginable. The Inhabitants generally desert their houses, furniture moving [sic], Cattle driving and women and children traveling on foot. The country all around resounds with the cries of the people. The Enemy plunder most amazingly [sic]...." (Greene 1980:154-156).

The owners of the goods purportedly damaged and/or consumed by the Crown Forces at Jefferis' Ford may have made claims for such damages, but those claims would not be with the Chester County Depredation Files. Instead, since the owners were reputedly Wilmington, Delaware, merchants, the damage claims from Delaware should include their records. Unfortunately, the damage claims for New Castle County, and Christiana Hundred where the borough of Wilmington was situated, are not as detailed or thorough as those for Chester County. The published summary in the Delaware Public Archives only provides a list of claimants and the amounts of the claims; few of the claims provide any detail as to what was damaged (DPA 1919:1196).

The list for Christiana Hundred is entitled "Damages in Christiana Hundred don [sic] by the Enemy" suggesting that the majority of the claims were likely for properties occupied by Crown Forces following the Battle of Brandywine. Total damages claimed in Christiana Hundred were over 4,719, higher than for other sections of the county. On September 13 at least two battalions of the 71st Regiment of Foot occupied Wilmington. This was augmented over the following days by the combined Hessian regiment, the wounded men from the battle, and the Hessian Mirbach regiment, bringing the occupation force to a total strength of nearly 2,200 men, a number nearly double the population of Wilmington. When the British and Hessian forces departed in mid-October, they destroyed their temporary fortifications and closed the hospital.

Birmingham Road "Defile"

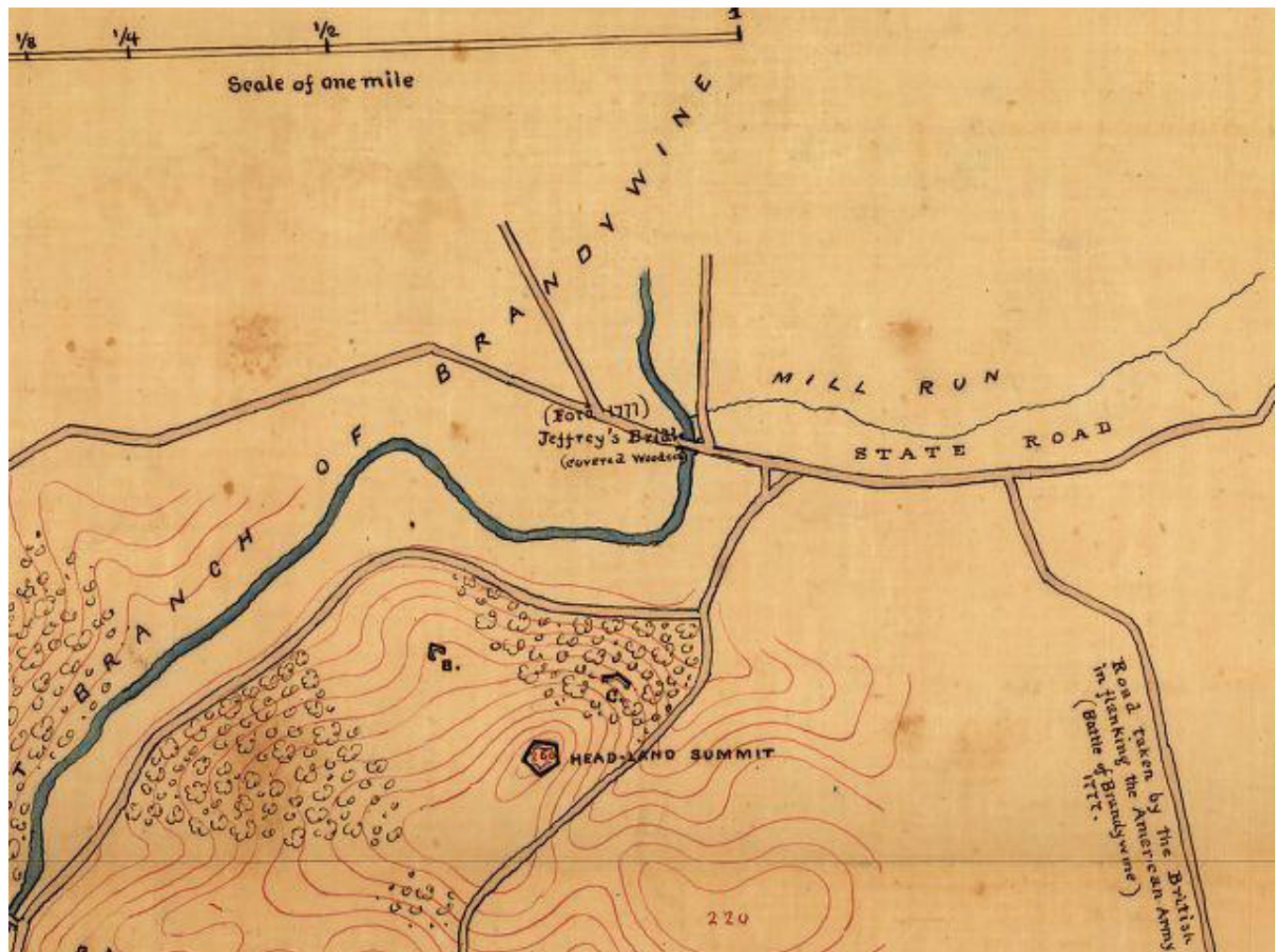
Upon clearing Jefferis' Ford, the Crown Forces column turned right (east) on the Birmingham Road which led toward high ground around Sconnelltown and eventually to Birmingham Meeting House (elev. approximately 390 ft.). The route that column took was into what Ewald referred to as a "terrible defile." The road is identified on Whiting's 1863 map of the Brandywine (Figure 3). Ewald (1979:84) wrote that:

"About two o'clock in the afternoon the army crossed the Brandywine, which has two branches enclosed by hills, where the road ran up along a deep and winding precipice. I halted on this side of the defile, where Lord Cornwallis himself came to me. My guide asserted that if we did not meet the enemy here, he must have been defeated by General Knyphausen, whose fire we had heard during the whole day and which moved on with us.

I took twelve jaegers and let them pass the defile by twos, two hundred paces apart, with instructions to take post as soon as all twelve were across and had reached a point where they could see far around. But as soon as the van of the enemy was encountered, they were to retreat by twos.

I was astonished when I had safely reached the end of this terrible defile, which was over a thousand paces long, and could discover nothing of the enemy a good half hour away. Lord Cornwallis, who had followed me, was surprised himself and could not understand why the warning post [he may be referring to Ross' detachment] with which I had fought from morning until around noon was not stationed here. The pass had been left wide open for us, where a hundred men could have held up either army the whole day."

Quaker Joseph Townsend also reported the use of the Birmingham Road in his recollections. He noted that after the Crown Forces crossed at Jefferis' Ford he made his way home, which was located in the direction of the Turk's Head (today's West Chester). He anticipated that the Crown Forces would march passed his home but when that did not happen, he went to find out why. He found that the flanking column had turned, "when in sight of Jefferis' Ford we discovered that they had turned their course towards Birmingham; and were passing by where the meeting [Friends meeting] on that day had been held...The space occupied by the main body and flanking parties [of the Crown Forces] was near half a mile wide"(Townsend 1846, quoted in Futhey and Cope 1881:75).



Detail of the Map of the Reconnaissance of the Brandywine Creek (Whiting 1863), locating Jefferis Ford at the bridge crossing, and depicting the location of Birmingham Road and the "defile."

High Ground in Vicinity of Sconnettown

The Birmingham Road led over a rise in the vicinity of Sconnettown (elevation approximately 360 feet) before descending into Plum Run valley where Strode's Mill was located. In 1777 Sconnettown was a loose agglomeration of dwellings and shops (most notable was a wheelwright shop) that is virtually nonexistent today. The high ground was critical for the Crown Forces flanking column to acquire, and it is noted by several of the British and German officers in their reports.

Montessor (1881:416) calls it an "open clear height." Both Royal engineer Archibald Robertson (1777) and an anonymous British officer (Anonymous 1777) note that after passing Jefferis' Ford, the column reached a "height" or were "gaining the height" where the column gathered itself before the battle. Finally, von Muenchhausen (1974:31) mentions a "steep, barren height" where the army formed into columns of brigades (this might be Osborne Hill). Having passed the defile noted above, the high ground at Sconnettown was a welcome sight and allowed the soldiers, wagons, and artillery pieces in the flanking column some time to regroup before the battle. Joseph Townsend's account notes that he observed the movement of the army and met several of the officers, while at a home in Sconnettown that "...was elevated, so that on the first floor, where we stood, we had a pretty full view of the [Crown Forces] army as they passed along" (Townsend 1846, quoted in Futhey and Cope 1881:75).



View from near Osborne Hill along Birmingham Road looking southeast toward the American

Crown Forces rested and regrouped for about an hour on the Sconnettown high ground and down into the Plum Run valley to the east where Strode's Mill was situated. Cornwallis formed his units into three columns of brigades that measured nearly a half-a-mile in width, and proceeded to move towards Osborne Hill (Harris 2014:267).

Osborne Hill Area

Osborne Hill is a dominant landform (approximately 370 ft. elevation) to the southeast of the Plum Run valley where Route 52 (not present at the time of the battle) passes Strode's Mill. It is situated approximately one and a quarter miles from Sconnettown. British engineer Captain John Montessor noted that during the approximately one-hour halt after ascending the defile to Sconnettown, the Crown Forces observed the movements of the American forces in their front (Montessor 1881:416). Notations on Archibald Robertson's map indicate that the Crown Forces deployed while on the heights at Sconnettown, and then moved forward towards Osborne Hill "in three Columns— The centre Column composed of the Jaegers, two Battalions of Light Infantry, two Battalions British [grenadiers], and three Battalions of Hessian Grenadiers in the Road—The Brigade of Guards and 16th Regiment of light Dragoons formed the right Column, and the 4th Brigade British the left Column, about 400 Yards distant on each side of the Road— The third Brigade British formed the Reserve and moved along the Road in the Rear.—"(Robertson 1777)

Quaker Joseph Townsend was awed by the view of the Crown Forces coming over Osborne Hill. He wrote that:

"On turning our faces back [to the west] we had a grand view of the British army, as they advanced over and down the side of Osborne's Hill and the lands of James Carter; scarcely a vacant space left. While we were amusing ourselves with the wonderful curiosity before us, to our great astonishment and surprise the firing of the musketry took place. The advance-guard aforementioned, having arrived at the Street Road, were fired upon by a company of the Americans who were stationed in the orchard north of Samuel Jones' brick dwelling-house. The attack was immediately returned by the Hessians, who, stepping up the bank of the road, alongside of the orchard, used the fence as a breastwork, through which they fired upon the company that commenced the attack. From the distance at which we were from them, —though in full view until the smoke of the firing covered them from our sight,—I was under no apprehension of danger, especially when there was such' a tremendous force coming on and ready to engage in the action; nevertheless, I concluded it best to retire, finding that my inconsiderate curiosity had prompted me to exceed the bounds of prudence" (Townsend quoted in Futhey and Cope 1881:75).

The contemporary battle maps prepared by British and Hessian officers depict the high ground at Osborne Hill and the movement of the Crown Forces towards the American battle line forming at and near the Birmingham Meeting House.

Historic Military Archeological Potential

Based on the battle and landscape analysis by JMA, historic archeological potential related to battle military events in this Landscape was assessed.

Fields of conflict are temporary, albeit seminal, events, superimposed on preexisting cultural landscapes. This Landscape witnessed a variety of cultural actions - transportation systems, agricultural development, settlement patterns, population change – that exerted influence on the land prior to the engagement on 11 September 1777 and that continued to exert influences on the field after the battle. Land uses, such as pasture and field patterns, farmsteads and husbandry buildings, change as they give way to ultimate progression; roads are altered, vacated,

rerouted, or widened, woodlands are reduced or removed from the landscape, and structures are expanded, modified, or razed. Despite these transformations, the archeological evidence of conflict is often quite resilient and can be discovered through archeological investigation.

Archeological character of the flanking march is different than a formal battle combat situation. In the Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape the two hour short-term halt took place and no major combat action occurred during the march in this location. Overall, the archeological evidence of battle-related military activities with this Strategic Landscape is considered to have low potential. The principal military action that occurred on 11 September was the movement of nearly 9,000 men, artillery, and horses through the Chester County landscape. Such a movement, while extremely impressive to witness, was likely fairly ephemeral in regards to the physical evidence (ie. military artifacts) that it would leave as an archeological "footprint." Crown Forces formations did stop and rest after reaching the heights at Sconnettown, but such action was of short duration and would leave comparatively small archeological signatures.

The potential also exists for post-battle military archeological remains. The post-battle Crown Forces encampment was a temporary, short-term camp occupied for several days (September 11 to September 16). Such encampments could be quite devastating on local farms, buildings, and landscapes. Quaker Joseph Townsend reported that "...we had a full opportunity of beholding the destruction and wanton waste committed on the property of the peaceable inhabitants of the neighborhood, and on the ground of the encampment. Those who were obliged to remain thereon had their stock of cattle destroyed for the use of the army, their horses taken away, and their household furniture, bedding, etc., wantonly wasted and burned. It was not uncommon to see heaps of feathers lying about the farms, the ticks having been stripped off and made use of, and the remains of small pieces of valuable furniture lying about their fireplaces, in the fields, unconsumed, when there was no want of timber and fence-rails, which might have been used for their cooking, etc.; but being in an enemy's country, inhabited by rebels, there was no restraint on the soldiery or rabble which accompanied them..." (Townsend 1846, quoted in Futhey and Cope 1881:77). The camp was also a tactical position with advanced pickets and avenues of approach, and influenced by the limitations imposed by the local terrain (slope, woods, water supply). Archeological distinctions may be possible to make regarding the camp layouts (known as 'castramentation') and the level of military standardization (Whitehorne 2006:29).

Temporary and transient short term camps are often distinguished by the presence of lost ammunition or discarded items. Short-term temporary camps occupied for several days can be readily distinguished by their comparatively more robust archeological signature, since large numbers of soldiers and camp occupants leave physical evidence of their passing in the form of lost or discarded ammunition, uniform parts, and food remains, and that signature can be present for years. For example, the American camp occupied by Washington's Army for eight days (18-26 September 1777) in New Hanover Township, Montgomery County, was still marked by physical remains nearly six decades after the event. In a reminiscence of the "camp at Pottsgrove" written at the beginning of the twentieth century, the landowner recalled that in his childhood (circa 1820s) the area occupied by the American camp was characterized by "...enough leaden musket balls and grape and canister balls and pieces of shell to fill an old straw bread basket full" and that the butchering area for livestock to supply the troops was still readily apparent (Bertolet 1903:3).

Casualties at the Battle of Brandywine have been variously reported but are generally accepted to have been heavy. The 1989 cultural resources management study estimates approximately 2,000 men as casualties, with no more than 350 of those potential burials accounted for (Webster et al. 1989:50). Burial parties were employed following the battle for several days. Crown Forces burial details likely gathered dead bodies, excavated pits or trenches, and buried these in groups (McGuire 2006:268). Joseph Townsend commented on the relatively poor quality of the burial parties in the vicinity of the Birmingham Meetinghouse, noting that "...The ground which they had lately occupied at Birmingham, being now cleared and left in a desolate condition, exhibited a scene of destruction and waste. Some few of the inhabitants who remained thereon, and some others who were returning

to the places of abode, found it necessary to call in the assistance of their neighbors to rebury many of the dead, who lay exposed to the open air and ravages of beasts and wild fowls, having, in consequence of the late heavy rains, been washed bare, and some few of them had never been interred. I was one among the number who attended and performed that duty" (Townsend 1846, quoted in Futhey and Cope 1881:77).

Given the extensive amount of land encompassed by the Brandywine battlefield, these burial sites are likely found in a number of locations on the battlefield. Battlefield burials are known to be present at Birmingham Meeting House, Kennett Meeting House, and "at a few smaller grave sites scattered in or near the battlefield" (Webster et al. 1989:50).

Flanking March Artifacts and/or Features

Jefferis' Ford

At Jefferis' Ford the movement and temporary halt of a large body of soldiers is unlikely to leave a strong archeological signature. Both the march and halt were short-term events, not lasting long enough to have a significant archeological footprint. While soldiers did wait in the fields to cross, the potential for dropped buttons, buckles, buttons, or other military artifacts is likely low as they were not present for a long enough duration to yield lasting significant archeological evidence. Potential to yield significant military archaeological evidence associated with the flanking march in Jefferis' Ford Landscape is considered to be low. Civilian recorded property damages caused by the Crown Forces did have a significant impact on the area but the archeological signature of that effect is considered to be low.

Sconnelltown/Strode's Mill Landscape

Based on the above discussion of archeological potential, the likelihood of battle-related artifacts or evidence of troop movements within the Sconnelltown/Strode's Mill Landscape is considered to be low, but there is potential for post-battle, encampment related archeological remains. The occupation of this ground by several thousand men and horses, their temporary camp areas (which would have been established following military protocols), the need for firewood for heating and cooking, the need fresh food (livestock) and the butchering of such livestock, and the actions of burial parties all may leave archeological signatures. The locations of such areas may require additional historical research to accurately pinpoint camp areas, and subsequent archeological survey to verify such locations.

Built Feature Landscape Elements

Jefferis' Ford

Archeological evidence of built features landscape elements is low at the ford location. Based on the historical record, the location of Jefferis' Ford itself is at the current bridge crossing, and thus likely resulted in considerable ground alteration since its use in 1777. The placement of the bridge directly at the ford makes the potential recovery of archeological evidence low.

Sconnelltown/Strode's Mill Landscape

While the village of Sconnelltown is no longer extant, a number of period structures are present that provide an indication of the community. These include Parcel 51-4-27.1A at 898 Frank Road, *Col. John Hannum House*, circa 1760, Richard Strode's Wheelwright Shop, Parcel 51-7-81 at 901 Paxon Road, *Sconnelltown Wheelwright Shop*, and Parcel 51-7-113.1 at 415 Birmingham Road, circa 1777, the location from which Crown Forces were observed as they entered Sconnelltown (see Appendix B, Historic Resources Inventory).

Recommendations

Using the analysis undertaken in this chapter, the following recommendations were developed. Parties that may carry out a recommendation are noted after the related recommendation.

- 3-1. Update 2013 Plan mapping to reflect the findings in this chapter. This includes the: probable location of the home Townsend viewed the Crown Forces; probable grave sites at the Birmingham Meeting House of the Crown Forces; updated 1777 road network approximation; and other information depicted on Map 3-1. (Chester County Planning Commission (CCPC))
- 3-2. Update 2010 KOCOA analysis and mapping to reflect the findings in this chapter. This includes: defining features and KOCOA categories in Figure 3-1, and items listed in Recommendations 3-1 and 3-2. (CCPC)
- 3-3. Provide updated information to battlefield communities, particularly East Bradford Township, to which the Landscape applies. This information can be used in municipal histories, for historical commission resources identification and documentation purposes, and for educational and outreach efforts (e.g. Chester County Towns Tours & Village Walks). (CCPC)
- 3-4. Provide updated information to Brandywine Battle Task Force (BBTF) members, in particular its Steering Committee members who guide and lead BBTF. (CCPC)
- 3-5. Provide updated information to local heritage sites (e.g. Friends of Strode’s Mill, Chester County Historical Society, and Brandywine Battlefield Park) and environmental stewardship organizations (e.g. Brandywine Red Clay Alliance), so they can incorporate the information into their historic interpretation, education, and stewardship outreach and efforts. (CCPC, municipal historical commissions, BBTF)
- 3-6. Provide updated information to land conservation groups (e.g. Brandywine Conservancy and Natural Lands Trust) and Chester County Open Space Department for their use in coordinating and boosting land conservation and open space preservation to enhance quality of life, and possible public access and interpretation of historic landscapes. (CCPC, municipalities, BBTF)

ⁱ Sources: Catts, Wade P. (2004) “Give Them as Much Trouble as You Possibly Can:” The Battle of Cooch’s Bridge (Iron Hill), Delaware, September 3rd, 1777. Revised text of oral presentation given at Glasgow High School on the Occasion of the 225th Anniversary of the Battle, August 23, 2002.

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Historic Context and Built Features Inventory

The 2010 Study provides a preliminary ('windshield') inventory of all historic resources (battle and non-battle era) in the battlefield and preliminarily identifies battle-era roads. Building on the 2010 Study, the 2013 Plan refines the historic resource inventory, identifies historic landscapes, and provides a preliminary inventory of evident defining features. The 2013 Plan recommends further evaluation of identified battle-era historic resources and defining features, particularly in strategic landscapes.

This plan takes the next step to 'fine tune' identification of battle-era built features of historic resources and roads in and near the Landscape. To do this, features are considered as to whether and how they support Landscape significance¹ in the battlefield. Specifically, this chapter 1) reviews previously identified battle-era historic resources (2013 Plan) and roads (2010 Study), 2) evaluates whether they are also KOCOA built defining features, 3) considers their relationship in the contemporary landscape, and 4) provides related recommendations. Analytic methods used include the 2010 Study KOCOA analysis, 2013 Plan historic resource and defining features inventories, reference maps (historic atlases, aerial photograph), primary sources (firsthand accounts, road petitions, deeds), secondary sources (battle and township histories), and field study. Specific property deed information is found in Appendix B.

"...We then returned to the aforesaid wheelwright-shop, to assemble with Friends in holding our week-day meeting, it being near the hour appointed. While we were sitting therein some disturbance was discovered near the house and about the door, which occasioned some individuals to go out to know the cause,...and while we were reasoning with them our eyes were caught on a sudden by the appearance of the army coming out of the woods into the fields belonging to Emmor Jefferis, on the west side of the creek, above the fording-place. In a few minutes the fields were literally covered over with them, and they were hastening towards us. Their arms and bayonets, being raised, shone as bright as silver, the sky being clear and the day exceedingly warm...."

(Joseph Townsend's battle account, see Appendix E)

KOCOA Cultural Topography Analysis

Chapter 2 describes the 2010 Study's KOCOA analysis and Chapter 3 focuses on aspects of KOCOA related to military strategy and geophysical battlefield analysis. This chapter focuses on aspects of KOCOA related to the built environment or cultural topography – places and built features found in battle accounts, historic maps, or other sources that help locate and identify the same in the modern landscape. Cultural topography (or built) feature examples are places/settlement patterns (villages, milling seats, farmsteads, or properties); structures (mills, houses, meetinghouses, or barns); or other manmade features (roads, fords, traces, woodlots, earthworks, or farm fields). For local planning purposes, KOCOA built features can generally be considered 'historic resources'.

Figure 4-1: Scanneltown/Strode's Mill Landscape and related Cultural Topography Defining Features
(updated from the 2010 Study and 2013 Plan)

DEFINING FEATURE	KOCOA CATEGORY
Historic Resources in Figure 4-2	Key Terrain
Scanneltown Wheelwright Shop site	Observation
George Strode property and House	Observation
Richard Strode Farmhouse	Observation
1725 Road "Defile" (modern W. Miner St. east of Jefferis' Ford to Birmingham Rd) 1719/Birmingham Road "Defile" (modern Birmingham Rd from W. Miner St to before approx. Scanneltown Rd)	Key Terrain, Obstacle, Avenue of Approach
1719 Birmingham Road (modern Birmingham Rd)	Avenue of Approach, Observation
Emmor/James Jefferis lands along Brandywine Creek	Key Terrain, Avenue of Approach
Jefferis' Ford archaeological site (modern (County Bridge #111 on modern Allerton Rd)	Key Terrain, Obstacle

Note: use of 'Road' indicates that the approximate battle-era roadbed and road alignment still exist.

¹ See 'Statement of Significance' in Chapter 2.

This plan uses KOCO A to review, update, and/or interpret previously identified built features in or near this Landscape. These may include: farmsteads, homesteads, houses, wheelwright shops, meetinghouses, roads, and the village. East Bradford Township contains extant battle-era military-related and civilian built features. Today, Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape is located in East Bradford Township, as it was in 1777. Figure 4-1 provides updated KOCO A cultural topography in and/or related to this Landscape.

Historic Context

Historic context is an element of Landscape significance. This section goes into further discussion about the Landscape context summarized in the 'Statement of Significance' (Chapter 1). Historic context shows patterns or trends that help explain an occurrence, property, structure, building, or site. Key elements of historic context are themes, geographical limits, and chronological periods, which provide perspective to understand and identify features as contributing to the Landscape. For this evaluation, the geography is the approximate Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape boundary and time period is 1777. Relevant themes are: British tactical flank and advance, battle preparation, 18th century Brandywine Valley, still readable battlefield landscape, battle impact on local residents, and enduring Quaker community roots.

Understanding historic context is necessary to more definitively identify built features as battle-era contributing historic resources. Features can be examined for how they correspond with Landscape significance, and convey information about battle event and plan themes. Built features that are 'contributing resources' have characteristics that embody aspects of Landscape or battlefield significance and plan themes, while features that are also 'defining' relay information about battle military events.

Brandywine Valley

More so than many places in the American colonies, Chester County farms enjoyed fertile soil, moderate climate, and access to nearby markets. Here the early, primarily Quaker, settlers quickly realized the value of the rich soils and that the Brandywine Creek with its many tributaries and considerable slope, could power numerous mills. To the north, settlers found added resources of a limestone valley (Chester County's Great Valley), iron ore, and more powerful creeks to sustain ironworks and mills. Within 30 years of original settlement, increased demand and population led to building a second iron forge and additional mills in the County. By the 1790s, Brandywine Creek powered over 70 mills, and over 130 at the height of use.

The Brandywine Creek's east and west branches join to form its main stem at the 'Forks of the Brandywine' in East Bradford, with the west branch considered the 'parent' of the main stem. West Branch Brandywine Creek Multiple Resources and Thematic National Register Area was completed as part of a planning effort, which led to the successful designation of the lower Creek as part of the state Scenic River system, the focus of which is to support water quality and flow and protect pastoral scenic and historic characteristics including historic mill dams. The Thematic Area denotes the Creek's significance as the 'heart' of the Brandywine Valley and focus of regional identity historically and today. For Lenni-Lenape Indians, the Creek was a source of food. For colonial (and 19th century) settlers, the Creek provided fertile soil for agriculture and hydropower for milling. In modern times, the Creek provides drinking water and recreation. The Thematic Area melds historic resources, landscapes, and natural resources, particularly the Creek. It encompasses villages, including Trimbleville and Northbrook, with commonalities of historical and architectural significance in origins, as 18th century milling seats augmented with modest houses and cottage industries.

Flour, wheat, corn, pork, beef, flaxseed, butter, and iron after 1750, were all important products produced in Chester County and surrounding counties, and were exported from Philadelphia to as far away as China. Although farms in the Brandywine Valley produced a wide variety of products, it was still a relatively modest

yield overall. Physical clearing of land required rigorous manual labor and took a long while. By the time of the battle the region had been settled for 80 years, yet most farms still had uncleared lands. Fallow lands, woodlots, and meadows took up a relatively large proportion of cleared land. Livestock were few and usually found their own forage, roaming unfenced. Orchards and vegetable and herb gardens, as family food sources, rounded out the typical farmstead land-use pattern. More prosperous farms were located on the many creek tributaries, which would also power mills and serve as centers for trade before villages developed during the mid-18th century.

William Penn's surveyors charted lands in Chester County in the late 1600s and many land patents were granted by the early 1700s. At the time of the battle, the majority of property owners in the Brandywine Valley were Quaker. A key tenant of Quaker faith was testimonies or descriptions of faithful actions. The Peace Testimony (the majority of Quakers practiced) were actions to promote peace and refrain from participation in war. These actions were documented by individuals as 'Sufferings' and recorded at their Meetinghouses as testimonies of good conscience. Non-Quaker property owners filed Depredation claims against the Crown and/or plunder claim 'deductions' on their state tax assessment, indicating they had experienced losses from battle actions¹. Due to their nature, depredations generally include more detailed information than plunder claims or sufferings. Sufferings and claims² by landowners were researched for this plan to provide a broad understanding of 'on the ground goings on' that occurred, level of support (or lack thereof) both armies experienced, and the impact of the battle on the civilian community. Sufferings and Claims are key information for this plan as, when mapped as to their location of occurrence, they reveal places where troops were present. This information, combined with understanding the 1777 road network and location of properties/owners, as well as first person accounts and histories, is critical for analysis and helping to identify the path of the British flank.

Sconnelltown/Strode's Mill Landscape

East Bradford Township Historic Context

Bradford Township was established in 1705, being named after the town of Bradford, England. In 1731, Bradford was divided into East and West Bradford. The early Quakers found the area to be an ideal setting due to its abundant natural resources and convergence of the east and west branches of the Brandywine Creek that could support many mills. One of the most successful was Strode's Mill (today a popular framing studio where artist Andrew Wyeth had much of his work framed), established by John Willis, George Carter, and Samuel Scott. The mill was a grain, flour, saw, and cider mill. Several other mills powered by the Creek and its tributaries include Grubb's, Woodward's, Shrack's, Dixon's, and Bower's mills. A tilt hammer mill was established in the 1790s near Taylor's Ford, one of the fords that existed at the time of the battle.



Abiah Taylor Homestead on the 1725 Road.

Within East Bradford, in 1805, one of Chester County's earliest and distinguished stone arch bridges, Cope's Bridge, was built on the Strasburg Road, replacing a ford. The bridge lies in historic Copeville and today's Taylor-Cope Historic District. This district is adjacent to Jefferis' Ford and Marshallton Landscapes, within the battlefield, and denotes one of the earliest settlements in the County. Abiah Taylor settled on 430 acres in 1702, and in 1719

¹ Plunder claims – Individuals identified as 'plundered' in the state tax assessment compiled following the events of September 1777. The local tax assessment took place in late fall and early winter of 1777 and was then returned to the County Assessor's by January 5, 1778. Individuals who were plundered had their taxes forgiven or abated. (Chester County Tax Records, S-1a). Depredation claims – A register compiled in November 1782 that contains accounts of property of Chester County residents seized or (not as frequently) destroyed, without compensation, by the Crown Forces, aided by 'adherents' (Pennsylvania Tories), during their march toward and occupation of Philadelphia, from the fall of 1777 until June 1778. Most of the accounts are for damages that occurred during Crown Force marches through Chester County in mid-September 1777. Township and borough tax assessors, acting upon the orders of the County Commissioners, collected these accounts in their respective municipalities.

² Research included Sufferings, Plunders, and Depredations known at the time of this plan, which varied per community. It is not known if this variation is because no Sufferings or Claims occurred in a community, or instead if records are privately held by individual families or have been lost.

built a mill on Taylor Run. By 1777, Taylor owned a saw mill, grist mill, farm, hatter’s shop, and inn on the Strasburg Road. His residence, barn, and mill house still stand and are contributing resources within the district. In 1840, Copesville resident Gilbert Cope, and James S. Futhey, authored the legendary *History of Chester County*. In the 19th century, the bottom corner of East Bradford became part of modern Birmingham Township.

The 1725 Road was a key transportation corridor connecting families to the 1719/1705 Road and the larger region including Chester, Philadelphia, and the early established (c.1684) Concord Quarterly Quaker Meeting. Later roads (1744 and 1764) provided more direct access to Turk’s Head, which would become the new County seat of West Chester replacing the Chester and Philadelphia markets, as well as the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. There were four major fords affording passage in this affluent area: Jefferis’, Taylor’s, Buffington’s, and Wistar’s.



Looking back at Emmor Jefferis farm in distance, fields and the 1725 Roadbed site standing at Jefferis’ Ford. Preserved land is a highlight of the battlefield.

The Worth/Jefferis Rural Historic District is mostly located in East Bradford with a portion extending into West Bradford. The district includes 10 farms and 47 contributing resources on approximately 1,800 acres. The district reflects a settlement pattern representative of original English Quaker settlement, distinct collection of rural Pennsylvania agricultural buildings (barns, farmhouses, and tenant houses associated with the 10 farms), and landscape elements of roads, fields, rolling terrain, hedgerows, and farmsteads.

Historic Structures, Properties, Sites

This section reviews, refines, and updates previously inventoried battle-era historic resources from the 2013 Plan. It seeks to refine identification of battle-era built features that speak or contribute to the overall story of the Landscape in the battlefield as contributing resources (Figure 4-2a). It also notes those resources that relate to battle events as KOCOIA built defining features. For the purposes of this plan, historic resources include battle-era buildings, structures, sites, and properties. Resources are looked at in terms of Landscape significance, context, and settlement pattern, using analytical methods listed on page 4-1. Historic resources identified through this analysis also represent aspects of plan themes. Contributing resources, whether they are defining features, National Register, or other designation, are equally valuable resources that tell the story of differing but important aspects of the battle and battlefield and are worthy of protection. This section also notes historic resources that are interpretive features for heritage interpretation in Chapter 6 (Figures 4-2a and 4-2b) and other extant battle-era historic resources inventoried in the 2013 Plan (Figure 4-2b) that still contribute to the battlefield, and, as such, are carried forth into this plan but are generally in need of additional research.



Structures and sites provide locational evidence of battle events, such as troop movements. This is the site where Joseph Townsend watched Crown Forces pass through Sconnettown.

Prominent regional development patterns, building types, and architectural design choices characterize the Landscape and embody the pattern of colonial life. Development and buildings were largely main residences, tenant houses, and outbuildings on homesteads that dotted the landscape near roads for access to farm products and markets. This is why today many historic buildings are found abutting the edge of roads, as roads were widened and improved over the centuries since the battle. Regional development patterns also included early crossroads settlements with tradesmen (blacksmith or wheelwright shops), homes, and taverns. Some buildings in the Brandywine Valley also served the unanticipated, impromptu role as field hospitals, officer’s headquarters, and troop concealment for the battle. Most structures were owned/built by original settlement families (primarily

Quaker), with a few erected by or for farm staff, millers, and tavern owners. Buildings are mostly conservative and practical in design, befitting the tastes of their builders. Structures were often built in phases and expanded, even in the early colonial era, to reflect changes in multi-generational growth or inclusion of a new use. Common architectural elements include: 2-story, stone construction, side-gable roofs, and representations of English Colonial vernacular building types popular in the region.

In order to accomplish this analysis, research and analytical mapping presenting a depiction¹ of the battle-era development pattern (Map 4-1²) was undertaken by Chester County Archives using primary source materials. Mapping displays known property lines, owners, and roads as they likely existed in 1777, providing a good representation of the battle-era landscape. This is critical in analyzing the battlefield, as insight on the development pattern (road network and location/ size/ ownership of properties) is necessary to identify extant features contributing and/or relating to the Landscape. The mapped 1777 landscape can then be compared to historic accounts and battle and township histories to understand the civilian population (major families, locations of their properties and their relatives properties in association/distance to one another), and ascertain today's locations of historic accounts and battle-era structures/properties. In addition, though more relevant in other strategic landscapes, property location/owner mapping is used to trace the Crown Forces advance through the battlefield using Quaker sufferings and civilian recordings of plundering claims.³

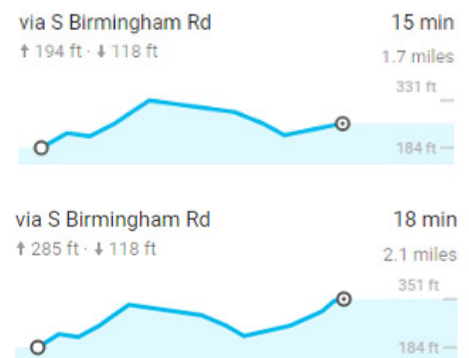
Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape Battle Events

East Bradford Township Description

Battle military activity that occurred in this Landscape took place in battle-era and modern East Bradford Township, beginning after (just east of) the crossing at Jefferis' Ford on lands owned by Emmor and James Jefferis and extending around 2-miles and ending in/around today's Strode's Mill Historic District and the related (abutting) Osborne Hill Landscape. Buildings located here provide examples of rural vernacular architecture from the colonial to federal periods, and reflect the simple and conservative lifestyle of their Quaker builders. After crossing the ford, Crown Forces traveled first on the 1725 Road and then the 1719/Birmingham Road climbing the "terrible defile" to the high ground of the former hamlet at Sconnettown. The Birmingham Road, which continues to bear the same name today, then continues to intersect with the 1720/1745 Road (modern PA 52/Lenape Rd) at one of Chester County's earliest milling sites of Strode's Mill. A thriving mill in 1777 with records indicating a store building and blacksmith shop, the area grew in the early 1800's into an important village with numerous buildings and services, including East Bradford Boarding School for Boys (c. 1796). Birmingham Road continues south past Richard Strode's farm to the boundary of today's East Bradford and Birmingham Townships. It was near the mill that Gen'l Cornwallis ordered Capt. Ewald and his advance guard to halt while the Crown Force army continued to struggle up the "terrible defile formed by two high hills [Sconnettown and Osborne Hill]

"....Having crossed the second ford, Lord Cornwallis surveyed the road ahead with Ewald. It was about noon as they observed the long notch or defile between two high hills and the narrow road that twisted its way to the top. A dozen Jagers fanned out and moved slowly up the road in pairs, spaced carefully and prepared for an attack. Ewald moved through "this terrible defile, which was over a thousand paces long" and could not believe it was unguarded. Cornwallis followed and was astonished that the patrol they had skirmished with earlier (aka Ross) wasn't posted here as "a hundred men could have held up either army the whole day."

(McGuire 193-194)

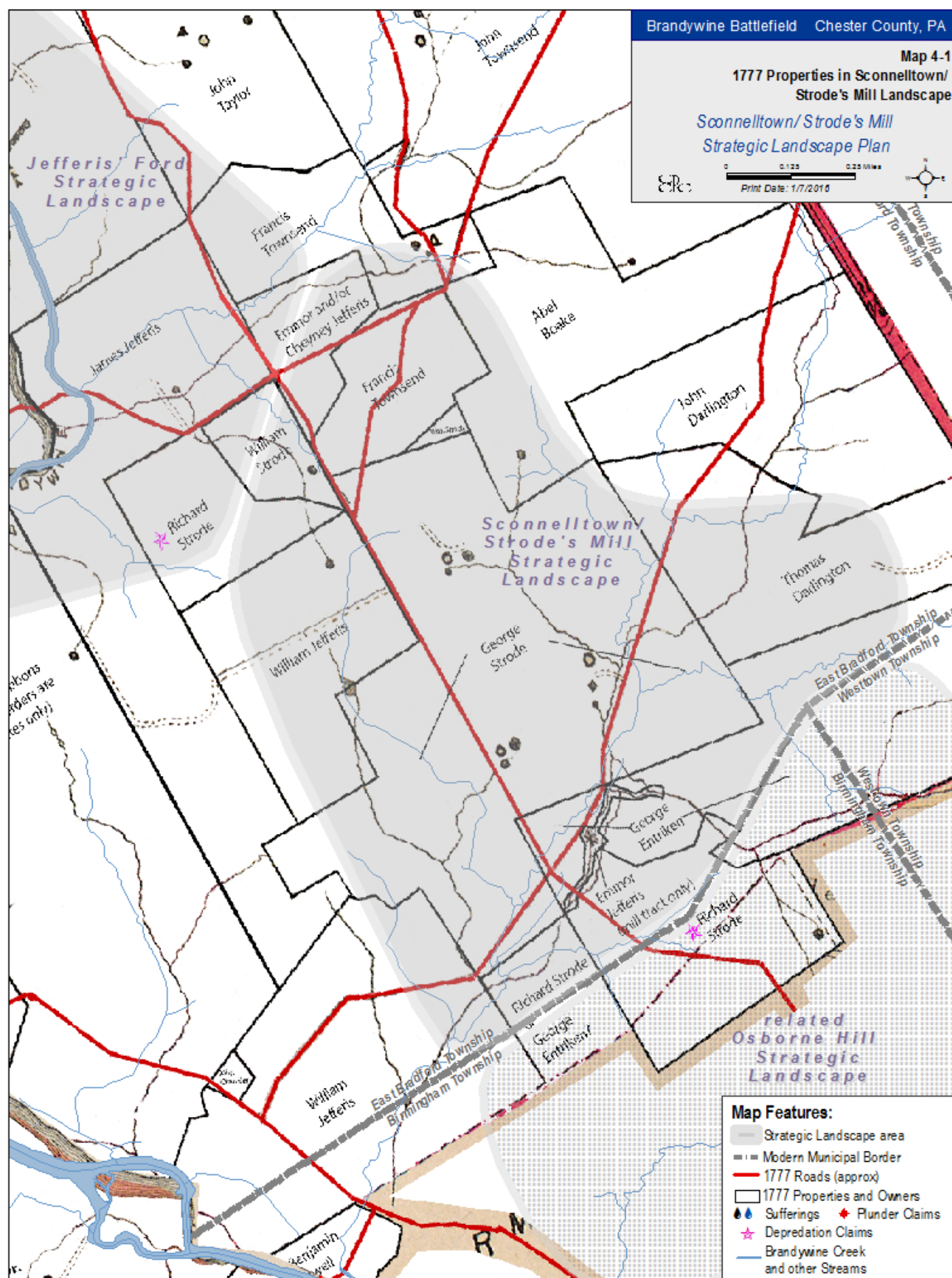


Approximate elevations Crown Force troops would have experienced marching from Jefferis' Ford to the Strode's Mill (top) and Osborne Hill (bottom) vicinities. (Courtesy Google maps)

¹ It is important to note when looking at the developed battle-era landscape maps that they are depictions. For example, there were instances during the process of mapping roads that researchers found roads were improperly laid out, not completed, used but not officially recorded, or abandoned but road vacating was never recorded. As well, minor paths, e.g. farm lanes, would not have been recorded, and it was found during the research process that during the 19th century records from the 18th century were destroyed.

² Base Map: Breou's Official Series of Farm Maps, Chester County, 1883

³ See Trimble's and Jefferis' Fords Strategic Landscapes Plan for more explanation.



and a narrow road [the 1725 and 1719 Roads]". This marching maneuver took the army over two-hours to traverse. The graphics to the right depict elevations of the march, and provide a sense of the significant topography the troops needed to navigate over a relatively short distance.

Chester County poet James B. Everhart summed up Sconnettstown's status in 1868, the year he published a long poem about the Revolutionary War site. In the opening lines he asks, "Whoever heard of Sconnettstown? - a village long ago" and then goes on to describe it as an unusual historical landmark, a place where "scarce a vestige can be found / of tenements or tomb." What is known is that the Wheelwright Shop Site attributed to Sconnettstown is located on Bradford Heights, above the Brandywine Creek, and the site of Jefferis' Ford. The day of the Battle of Brandywine, a Quaker midweek meeting was being held at the Sconnettstown Wheelwright shop owned by Richard Strode, a tanner by trade. (A Richard Strode filed a depredation claim from the battle but it is not clear if it was for this property or a property at Strode's Mill, as there were two Richard Strodes along Birmingham Road.) The faithful could not use the Birmingham Meeting which had been seized by the Continental forces as a hospital and thus had relocated to the Sconnettstown Wheelwright shop.

We are fortunate today to have the eyewitness account of a young Quaker, Joseph Townsend, of the activity. Located about a half mile from Jefferis' Ford on a high hill, a clear view of the surrounding countryside was afforded. Townsend reported that the meeting was suddenly interrupted by a disturbance outside and those in attendance "found it to be an alarm amongst some of our neighboring women that the English Army was coming and they murdered all before them – young and old." Trying to calm the women, Townsend reported their eyes were caught suddenly by the appearance of the army coming out of the woods into the fields belonging to Emmor Jefferis, on the west side of the Creek above the fording place. It would take two hours for the army to pass through the defile while Cornwallis waited near Strode's Mill. Once the army had reached the heights, three columns moved forward, one on Birmingham Road and two on either side about 400 yards on each side of the road. Townsend noted "the space occupied by the nearer body and flanking parties was near a mile and a half wide." They moved forward in this manner until they stopped to regroup, rest the horses and prepare for their final march to battle about a half mile from Osborne's Hill in and around Sconnettstown and Strode's Mill. Townsend helps us picture the scene that day as the 9,000 men moved about in the two mile area, "The regular march of the British army consisted of horse and foot, artillery, baggage and provision wagons, arms and ammunition, together with a host of plunderers and rabble that accompanied the army....Their passing took nearly four hours." (See Appendix E for Townsend's Full Account)



The lands associated with Emmor Jefferis' farm at Jefferis' Ford are still preserved. In the distance the two hills where Sconnettstown stood on the Bradford Heights and which formed the 'defile' can be seen.

Defining Features

Battle related claims were not utilized for this plan when determining property owners directly impacted by the final approach to Osborne Hill, due to East Bradford's records not being very informative, unlike other townships' records. What is informative is the fact that troops were moving at least a quarter of a mile on either side of Birmingham Road based upon General Cornwallis' orders and ranging up to three-quarters of a mile from the road based upon young Townsend's report. In addition, Townsend names or describes several properties in his report. As a result, the property owners that were directly impacted within a half mile of Birmingham Road can be determined and are listed:

James and Emmor Jefferis (brothers) property was on the east side of the Brandywine Creek. It was over their fields (below the Bradford Heights) where Joseph Townsend and those in Sconnettstown first witnessed the Crown Force troops.

Richard and William Strode's property was the location of the Wheelwright Shop where the eyewitness account took place and was located on the Bradford Heights above the “treacherous defile.”

George Strode's property ran along the entire eastern side of Birmingham Road. Of the two farmhouses standing from the period, the one closest to Strode's mill sits above Birmingham Road. In his summary of events, Townsend states, “We passed through them (the army) until we reached one of the most eligible houses in the town (Sconnettown).” He also adds “The house we were in was elevated, so that on the first floor, where we stood, we had a pretty full view of the army as they passed along.”

Strode's Mill and its associated buildings in the National Register Historic District was settled when John Willis, George Carter, and Samuel Scott erected a grist mill on a tributary of the Brandywine Creek on Willis's land around 1721. It was one of a half dozen mills operating nearby, including Francis Chads' corn mill (1707), James Huston's corn mill (1719), Abiah Taylor's grist and saw mill, and his brother's, Joseph Taylor's mill at Lenape. Emmor Jefferis owned the corn and grist mill property which was known as Strode's Mill at the time of the battle even though his son Emmor, Jr. appears to have worked at the mill.



Battle-era Strode's Mill (right) and later Barn (left) on the 1719 Birmingham Road.

George Entriaken's farm and house site (a ruin remains) was likely the furthest east of the landowner's directly impacted during the battle preparations. The property was originally owned by John Willis, who built the mill for the Strode family, and a mill race remains today.

Richard Strode, a blacksmith, owned the farm within close proximity of the mill. He purchased the mill in 1784. George Entriaken was a miller and owned what is today known as Strode's Mill from 1735-1772 when he sold it to Emmor Jefferis. He owned property to the north and east of the mill in 1777. Although records show he owned a blacksmith shop and store house on “the road to Kennett” (today's Route 52), the shops and tenant houses standing today on this property, were built after 1800.

Historic Resources Contributing to the Brandywine Battlefield Overall in/near the Landscape

A field remains near the site of William Jefferis' property and has long been rumored to be the site where “drunken Hessian soldiers” passed out. There would have been a long back-up at Jefferis' Ford while 8,500 soldiers crossed. Emmor Jefferis was forced to guide the British across the ford, thus his house was free to ransack and possibly exposed to the discovery of the alleged liquor being stored there for a merchant in Wilmington. A much more likely explanation is that this was but one of the many fields where the 8,500 exhausted soldiers paused to rest and reorganize at the command of their general.

John Taylor's 1777 property and farm site: A log structure is credited with being burned on the day of the battle. The rebuilt log structure forms the core of the current home. The site is improbable although it is on the 1735 road bed leading north from Birmingham Road (now a trace road). It appears to be too far north of troop movement, which was focused on securing the Bradford Heights. Further research may yield new findings.

Historic Resources Contributing to the Landscape

While the 2013 Plan takes a macro look at battle-era historic resources and evident defining features throughout the battlefield, this plan takes a micro look at historic resources present at the time of the battle in or near the Landscape and that contribute to Landscape significance or plan themes that may also inform about battle events

occurring in these Landscape. Figure 4-2 updates the 2013 Plan historic resource and defining features inventories¹ for this Landscape. Structures and sites listed in the figures stood at the time of the battle. They are listed by their c.1777 property owner or tenant names unless otherwise indicated. In all figures, 'Map IDs' with an 'N' indicate newly identified historic resources since the 2013 Plan. Figures also show current historic resource designation status (e.g. resources in and designated as contributing to a Historic District) and indicate suggested future designation based on this plan analysis. Resource designations include: designated as National Historic Landmarks (NHL), individually listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NR), contributing to a National Register Historic District (HD), identified as a KOCOIA built defining feature (KOCOIA), and recommended to be considered for National Register eligibility as individual resources or as part of a current historic district (NRE), as locally significant (Local) or an interpretive resource (Interp²).

Figure 4-2a: Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape Contributing Historic Resources & Current and Recommended Resource Designation Status

MAP ID	PARCEL NUMBER	PARCEL ADDRESS	OWNER/ASSOCIATION	CURRENT STATUS				RECOMM. STATUS		
				NHL	NR	HD	KCOA	NRE	LOCAL	INTERP
EAST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP										
51.12	51-7-115	945 Tigue Rd	Associated with, but not listed in Strode’s Mill HD: George Entriiken House Site. A ruin remains.						Y	Y
51.14	51-7-113.1	415 Birmingham Rd	Associated with, but not listed in Strode’s Mill HD: George Strode’s property and probable residence (that Townsend describes in his battle account)		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
51.15	51-7-132	1000 Lenape Rd	Strode’s Mill HD: Emmor Jefferis mill property with Strode’s or Entriiken-Strode’s Mill, c.1721. Key landscape element showing general location where Gen’l. Cornwallis reviewed his troops and prepared for the approach to Osborne Hill.		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
51.17	51-7-137.1	645 Birmingham Rd	Strode’s Mill HD: Richard Strode property and Residence		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
51.22	51-7-135	972 Tigue Rd	Associated with, but not listed in Strode’s Mill HD: George Entriiken property. Prior owner was John Willis who built Strode’s Mill. Extant mill race.					Y	Y	Y
51.27	51-7-81.1 51-7-81.2 51-7-31 51-7-31.6 51-7-81	900, 902 Paxson Dr. 110, 140, 115 Birmingham Rd	Associated with, but not listed in Strode’s Mill HD: Richard Strode and Jefferis properties. Possible Sconnettown Wheelwright Shop site from where Joseph Townsend reports seeing Crown Forces cross Brandywine Creek at Jefferis’ Ford.				Y	Y	Y	Y
51.31N	51-7-14	975 W. Miner St.	Associated with, but not listed in, Worth-Jefferis HD: James Jefferis Farm site. (Emmor’s Brother) (James Jefferis – Depredation, alternate location*) ¹				Y	Y	Y	
51.10	51-7-21	1090 Allerton Rd	Worth-Jefferis HD : Emmor and James Jefferis properties adjacent to Brandywine Creek. From Bradford Heights to the east, Joseph Townsend witnessed Crown Forces traversing these lands during their Creek crossing at Jefferis’ Ford. (James Jefferis - Depredation, alternate location*) ¹		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
51.32N	Bridge site 51-7-21 51-7-7.1	PHMC Site 1090, 1104 Allerton Rd	Associated with, but not listed in, Worth-Jefferis HD: Jefferis’ Ford archaeological site (at modern Jefferis’ Ford County Bridge #111 on Allerton Rd) and surrounding lands that Crowns Forces traversed				Y	Y	Y	Y

*The depredation claim is for a James Jefferis, who is either the son or brother of Emmor.

¹ Also see Breaching the Fords/British Advance Plan for Trimble's and Jefferis' fords.

¹ In the 2013 Plan, Historic Resources are listed in Figure 3.6 and Defining Features in Figure 3.9, and both are shown on Map 3.12.

² See heritage tours in Chapter 6 and Appendix C

Additional Historic Resources Contributing to the Battlefield

Figure 4-2b lists and Map 4-2 depict other extant battle-era historic resources inventoried in the 2013 Plan that contribute to the battlefield and have the possibility of being battlefield defining features. Further investigation of these resources is needed, but is outside the scope of work for this plan. Unlike the prior tables, Figure 4-2b does not include columns for ‘KOCOA’ and ‘NRE’ as this information has yet to be determined via further studies.

Figure 4-2b: Historic Resources Contributing to the Brandywine Battlefield Overall in/near the Landscape & Current and Recommended Resource Designation

MAP ID	PARCEL NUMBER	PARCEL ADDRESS	OWNER/ASSOCIATION	CURRENT STATUS			RECOMM. STATUS	
				NHL	NR	HD	LOCAL	INTERP
		Roads	Other battle-era roads shown in Map 4-3				Y	Y
EAST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP								
51.01	51-5-75	890 W. Strasburg Rd	Taylor-Cope HD: Abel Boake or Dr. Joseph Pierce property. Probable site of Malt Mill. More research needed.		Y	Y	Y	Y

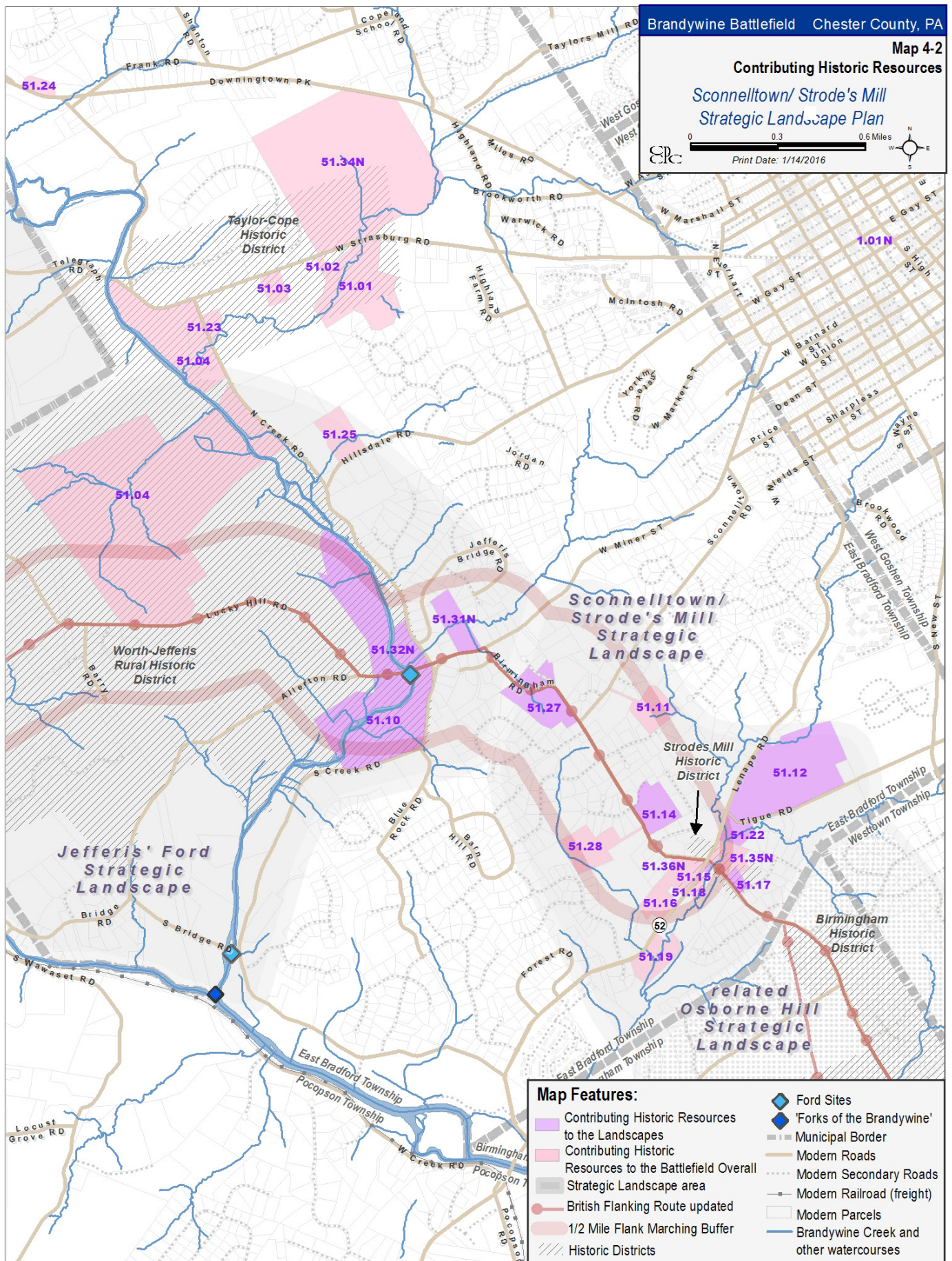
Figure 4-2b: Historic Resources Contributing to the Brandywine Battlefield Overall in/near the Landscape & Current and Recommended Resource Designation

MAP ID	PARCEL NUMBER	PARCEL ADDRESS	OWNER/ASSOCIATION	CURRENT STATUS			RECOMM. STATUS	
				NHL	NR	HD	LOCAL	INTERP
51.02	51-5-74	922 W. Strasburg Rd	Taylor-Cope HD: Joseph Cope property with Black Horse Inn, c. 1740		Y	Y	Y	Y
51.03	51-5-73	940 W. Strasburg Rd	Taylor-Cope HD: Abiah Taylor property with Mill House, c.1745		Y	Y	Y	Y
51.04	51-5-68 51-5-69	450 N. Creek Rd 447 Lucky Hill Rd	Worth-Jefferis HD: Thomas Worth property and residence, c. 1739.		Y	Y	Y	Y
51.11	51-7-82.1	950 Sconnelltown Rd	George Strode property with farmhouse. Research is needed to determine date of the farmhouse.				Y	
51.16	51-7-36.1	1027 Lenape Rd	Strode’s Mill HD: Richard Strode property with post-1777 blacksmith and wheelwright shops and residence (extant). Possible 1777 blacksmith shop site		Y	Y	Y	
51.18	51-7-133.1	1018 Lenape Rd	Strode’s Mill HD: Strode Tenant House		Y	Y	Y	
51.19	51-7Q-351	1046 Lenape Rd	Strode’s Mill HD: Strode Tenant House		Y	Y	Y	
51.23	51-5-72.1 51-5-68.1	525 N. Creek Rd	Taylor-Cope HD: Abiah Taylor House and Barn, c.1724		Y	Y	Y	Y
51.24	51-4-27.1A	898 Frank Rd	Col. John Hannum residence and mill site. Chester County militia leader who was captured at his residence and imprisoned in Philadelphia. Accompanied ‘Squire’ Thomas Cheyney near Trimble’s Ford. ¹		Y		Y	
51.25	51-5-83	975 Hillsdale Rd	John Taylor property. Credited as local lore site of 1777 log structure burned down by Crown Forces. The rebuilt log structure forms core of current later home. Site was on the 1735 Road, now a trace road, north of the flank on W. Miner St				Y	Y
51.28	51-7-34	414 Birmingham Rd	William Jefferis property. Local lore rumored site of Hessian soldiers sleeping off alcohol seized near Jefferis’ Ford.				Y	Y
51.34N	51-5-43	903 W. Strasburg Rd	Taylor-Cope HD: Joseph Parke property and Residence		Y	Y	Y	Y
51.35N	51-7-137.2	Lenape Rd at Birmingham Rd	Strode’s Mill HD: Strode Barn, c. 1815. Recommended for new ‘British Attack Heritage Center’ in Chapter 6.		Y	Y	Y	Y
51.36N	51-7-37	590 Birmingham Rd	Strode’s Mill HD: Richard Strode property. Possible site of 1777 Miller’s House. More research needed.			Y	Y	
WEST CHESTER BOROUGH								
1.01N**	1-9-120	1 N. High St	Turk’s Head Tavern site		Y	Y	Y	Y

*The depredation claim is for a James Jefferis, who is either the son or brother of Emmor.

**Outside the battlefield, however informs about plan themes.

¹ See Behind the Lines Plan for Marshallton Strategic Landscape.



Historic Roads

Analyzing previously identified historic resources for this planning effort revealed the unexpected need to also reconsider the assumed battle-era road network; it was determined that key roads thought to have existed at the time of the battle actually appeared to be later roads. To that end, this section reviews and updates the assumed battle-era road network from the 2010 Study. It also examines roads for the role they played in the battle, whether they are KOCOAs built defining features, and their relationship with the contemporary landscape. Roads - as built features under KOCOAs - are a key feature for battlefield analysis as further discussed in Chapter 3. Understanding where roads were located at the time of the battle, and especially in relation to properties and structures, is needed to interpret and map the battle-era built environment. The mapping clarifies and allows for the comparison of locations of places and their proximity to one another as referenced in historic accounts, deeds, road petitions, and civilian property loss records. For local planning purposes, this information is needed to craft planning and interpretation strategies.



The 1725 Road looking toward Jefferis' Ford.

In addition to the obvious benefit of clarifying the battle-era road network for a better understanding of existing conditions and settlement patterns at the time of the battle, this review of roads also became necessary to carry out the basic plan goals to identify historic resources, defining features, and locations of battle events in the modern landscape. Roads identified as built defining features represent aspects of plan themes of settlement patterns, and/or association with military events or battle impact on the local community.

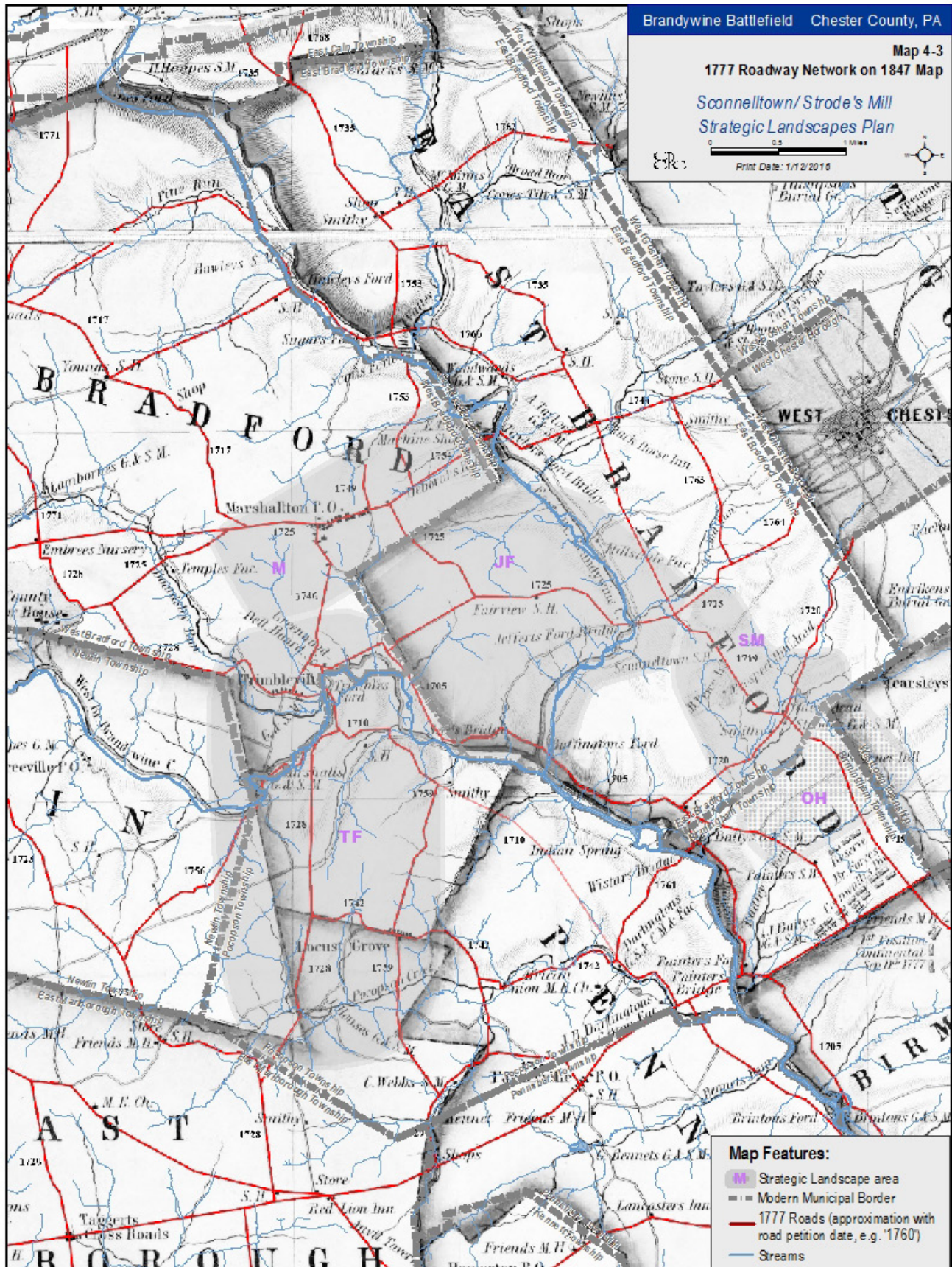
Chester County Archives, together with local volunteers, re-examined the battle-era road network using primary source materials. Their detailed research and analytical mapping provides a visual approximation of the public road network and properties and owners present at the time of the battle. The mapping depicts the battle-era development pattern. The approximated battle-era road network is overlaid on both 1847 (Map 4-3¹) and 1883 (Maps 4-1a and 4-1b) maps of Chester County. Doing so shows how roads relate to longstanding historic places, some of which are referenced in battle-related accounts. This mapping updates the battle-era road network shown in the 2010 Study and 2013 Plan, and should be used in place of those roads.

The battle-era road network compiled and mapped for this plan is considered a depiction as delineating historical information of varying degrees of specificity and availability is a challenging and imperfect task. For example, Brandywine Creek and municipal borders have altered over time. Modern Pocopson Township, which lies in the heart of the battlefield, did not yet exist as an incorporated municipality in 1777 and its lands were originally parts of other townships (Map 4-2). However, the mapped depiction of battle-era roads provides the best and possibly first detailed modern delineation of the battle-era road network that employed detailed primary source research. Battle-era roads were mapped using original road petitions, deeds, and justification of information with historic maps². Knowledge of battle-era properties was needed to map battle-era roads and vice versa – road petition descriptions and property line/owner/deed descriptions were compared against one another to confirm historic information and accuracy in mapping. Dates on Map 4-3 shown next to roads indicate road petition dates. There may have been additional public roads in existence in 1777, for which documentation no longer exists or is not available. Given the large size of tracts in the area in 1777 and the need for property owners to have access to public roads to conduct business and life affairs, private farm lanes would have also existed in 1777. However, being private means no road petitions were filed and thus they can only be located when

¹ 1777 Fords of the Brandywine Map depiction by Clifford Parker, Chester County Archives. Base map is 1847 Map of Chester County, Pennsylvania: from original surveys / by S.M. Painter & J.S. Bowen; projection & drawing by J.S. Bowen; engraved by Edw'd Yeager, Philadelphia. 1777 roads provide a delineation of best available primary source information from Chester County Archives as researched by Archival staff.

² 1847 and 1883 maps were used as they are considered the most accurate as well as the closest known and readily accessible historic mapping to the battle period.

named in other reference materials. To speak to the latter, both 1847 and 1883 County maps show farm lanes, some of which plan researchers conjecture were likely also in place at the time of the battle. Development during the 70 years between battle and the 1847 map likely would have added roads, but the area remained rural.



The 18th century road network was generally formed through a system of approved roads (via road petitions) that connected destinations, typically mills, taverns, crossroad villages, and places of worship. Primary roads with similar destinations would share the same road name. For example, there were several ‘Roads to the Great Valley’, all leading to the industrial corridor in the colonial-era Caln Township and the County’s Great (limestone) Valley, through which the official ‘Great Valley Road’ traversed. Road spurs were referred to in the same manner as their related primary road. Roads from the era were not given the level of systematic road naming that exists today. As such, road dates on Map 4-3 are the primary way this plan can provide ‘road names’ to trace a road’s role in the battle.

Figure 4-3: Sconnelltown/Strode’s Mill Strategic Landscape Contributing Historic Roads and KOCOA Defining Features & Recommended Historic Resource Designation

ROAD TYPE	ROAD NAME	CURRENT STATUS				RECOMM. STATUS	
		NHL	NR	HD	KOCOA	LOCAL	INTERP
Modern Roads	1719/Birmingham Road (modern Birmingham Rd)				Y	Y	Y
Modern Roads	1725 Road “Defile” (modern W. Miner St. east of Jefferis’ Ford to Birmingham Rd) 1719/Birmingham Road “Defile” (modern Birmingham Rd from W. Miner St to before approx. Sconnelltown Rd)				Y	Y	Y
Road Trace	1735 Trace that extended north of the 1719 Birmingham Rd (archaeological battle-era road sites from modern W. Miner St. north towards Strasburg Rd)				Y	Y	Y
Modern Roads	1725/1764 Road to Turk’s Head village/Philadelphia (modern W. Miner St in this Landscape)				Y	Y	Y

The battle-era landscape depiction provides a basis for understanding the public road network available to the Crown Forces and American Forces, as well as civilians impacted by the battle and the local community at large. In analyzing the roads identified for this study, it is clear that the 1725 Road which passed through the early beginnings of Marshallton Village continued straight toward Taylor’s Ford and the Goshens to Philadelphia, or in a southeasterly direction on today’s Lucky Hill Road and then merged into the 1719 Birmingham Road which led to Dilworthtown or continued eastwardly to Turk’s Head. Road infrastructure in the Sconnelltown/Strode’s Mill Landscape is directly related to battle activity and plan themes, as discussed in Chapter 3.

Recommendations

Using the analysis undertaken in this chapter, the following recommendations were developed. Parties that may carry out a recommendation are noted after the related recommendation.

Overarching Recommendation: A KOCOA analysis is a valuable tool for planning and interpretation purposes, as it identifies extant features that still define the battle/battlefield. Protecting those resources is paramount in efforts to preserve and/or interpret the battlefield and history of the battle in the American Revolution and as part of Chester County’s legacy. All future actions should be made with consideration and focus on protection of KOCOA identified defining features, including battle-related historic structures and their associated contextual surrounding lands and historic landscapes.

- 4-1. Develop a strategy to undertake a Thematic/Multiple Property National Register eligibility nomination for the northern battlefield, which could include historic resources, historic districts, roads, fords and other built features identified in this chapter and Chapter 3. The strategy should outline funding and hiring an architectural historian to assist. (BBTF Historic Resources/Interpretation Subcommittee, West Bradford Historical Commission, East Bradford Historical Commission, Pocopson Historical Committee, PHMC)

- 4-2. Further research of identified historic properties and resources using information in this plan as a starting point. (East Bradford Historical Commission)
- 4-3. Update Township historic resource inventories to reflect Figure 4-2a, including recommended resource designations. (East Bradford Historical Commission)
- 4-4. Research the other extant battlefield historic resources from the 2013 Plan listed in Figure 4-2b and update Township historic resource inventories to reflect these contributing overall battlefield resources. (East Bradford Historical Commission)
- 4-5. Research families living in the Landscape. Focus on families named in this plan to understand the dynamics between them and their motivations to support the Revolutionary War effort or live by the Quaker Testimony of Peace. (East Bradford Historical Commission)
- 4-6. Research the 'rise and demise' of Sconnettown as an active 19th century hamlet. (East Bradford Historical Commission)
- 4-7. Determine how to integrate newly attributed and/or associated resources into their respective historic districts. This could entail including them in the Township historic resources inventory and designating them as locally significant resources. This could also include updating National Register documentation for the Strode's Mill Historic District and Taylor- Cope Historic District as well as the West Branch Brandywine Creek Multiple Resources and Thematic Area, whether or not the updated information is officially submitted to the National Register. (East Bradford Historical Commission)
- 4-8. Continue to refine 1777 property and road network mapping. (CC Archives with volunteer researchers)
- 4-9. Update information and mapping in the 2013 Plan. (CCPC)
- 4-10. Undertake heritage interpretation recommendations in Chapter 6, with emphasis on interpretation from public corridors and places. (East Bradford Historical Commission, East Bradford Strode's Barn Reuse Committee, and Friends of Strode's Mill)



Chapter 5

Planning Strategies

Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape is an associated battle site of the northern Brandywine Battlefield area. The 2013 Plan provides general land conservation and historic resource recommendations for the battlefield as a whole. This chapter refines those recommendations, using clarified battlefield elements and defining features (Chapters 3 and 4) to focus on specific historic resource and land conservation opportunities. Battlefield planning and protection is simultaneously a historic resource protection, land conservation, and overall land use and development management effort.

Land Conservation Overview

From its founding in 1682, Chester County, and the battlefield area, became a highly successful agricultural community. By 1777, the battlefield was largely a farm community dominated by crop production. High quality soils and moderate climate made the area ideal for agricultural production¹. The farming tradition continues to this day, preserving many of the colonial-era farmsteads. The battlefield and larger Brandywine Valley region are fortunate to have municipal governments that promote open space lands preservation, conservation organizations with long-term experience in protecting land, and property owners with an interest in long-term land and resources stewardship and conservation.

Under Pennsylvania law, municipal level regulations have the authority in most land use decisions. A variety of ordinance-based options for conserving land have been used in the battlefield under the Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), PA Act 247. Many of the 15 battlefield municipalities have adopted provisions in their zoning and subdivision ordinances limiting development of sensitive sites. Some municipalities have enacted provisions that promote land conservation via the land development process, whereby land is designated to remain undeveloped or to have limited development. Often this takes the form of open space/conservation design development, whereby units are grouped on smaller lots and large 'common' land areas (aka 'restricted' or 'protected' open space) remain as farms, preserves, historic landscapes, parklands, passive recreation, or undeveloped and managed by a homeowner, condo, or like association. When conservation is just for one site or lot, it sometimes is referred to as a 'conservation tract or lot'. Land is protected via notations on recorded subdivision documents, conservation or agricultural easements, deed restrictions, or restrictive covenants, which run with the land, prohibit additional unspecified use or development, and provide notice and documentation that land has reservations on its use.



Land conservation allows retention of a still readable battlefield landscape for future generations.

The most effective tool for land conservation has been its outright protection via fee-simple acquisition or conservation easement (open space or agriculture) held by a land trust or government entity. Some municipalities have put forth and accepted land preservation referendums whereby an additional tax is assessed at the municipal level to be used for the permanent protection of land. Use of preserved land usually is based on reasons for its preservation; as such it could be undeveloped open space to protect important natural resources, a nature preserve to protect sensitive habitats, active farm land, passive recreation, parkland, and/or a historic landscape including key feature interpretation. For the 2013 Plan, public input noted that protecting land through purchase

¹ See Chapter 2 in the 2013 Plan for more information.

or easement can be costly for municipalities, while protection via ordinance standards is a more affordable but not permanent option, dependent on how standards are structured.

Land stewardship is significant in the battlefield dating back to William Penn land grants. The battlefield remains home to descendants of original Quaker colonists, who continue to be stewards of their lands and historic structures as part of their family’s cultural heritage. More broadly, many individual property owners have a committed interest in stewardship and preservation, and the protection of the battlefield as a national treasure. This committed interest, in large part, is what has distinguished planning and protection of the battlefield from other places. Several land trusts, such as Brandywine Conservancy and Natural Lands Trust, have been active in the northern battlefield in assisting property owners and development with land conservation. The northern battlefield is also fortunate to be home to Brandywine Red Clay Alliance (BRC Alliance), which owns over 300 acres of conserved lands used for agriculture, trails, open space, and environmental education programs. BRCA seeks to advance water conservation and environmental education. Through their stewardship, BRCA has been active in land conservation of the northern battlefield.

Land Conservation Policy and Analysis

East Bradford Township

East Bradford Township, where the entirety of Sconnettstown/ Strode’s Mill Landscape is located, highly supports open space, greenways, and land conservation in Township policy. The Township has planning strategies that guide land conservation, including a Comprehensive Plan; Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Protection Plan; Greenways, Trails, and Gateways Plan; and Official Map, as well as a Recreation Commission that addresses open space. The Township is also working to plan for an extensive connected greenway and habitat preserve system. The Township is part of the multi-municipal Brandywine Greenway Plan project, a coordinated approach of planning for a natural and cultural resources conservation corridor via an interconnected system of protected lands and linkages, centering on Brandywine Creek. Figure 5-1 provides an overview of land conservation related policies, which identifies how the Township already has a variety of land conservation/open space protection measures in place.

Figure 5-1: East Bradford Township Land Conservation-related Policies Summary

DOCUMENT	CURRENT STANDARDS
Zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Open space generally can be used for: agriculture, horticulture, woodlands/preserves, parks, individual water supply. <input type="checkbox"/> Open space development option (60% required open space in R-1, 50% in R-2, 40% in R-3, and 35% for single-family detached and 50% for two-family and multifamily in R-4. Open space configuration based on environmental impact assessment to minimize negative impacts of development and maximize site feature conservation, views, and useful open spaces. Open space management plan required). <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/horticulture uses (min. 10acs) permitted in most zones. <input type="checkbox"/> Net-out of constrained natural resources and infrastructure areas from open space and development calculations. <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental impact assessment report identifying and assessing the effects of proposed development on natural, historic, open space, and visual features. Review by Environmental Advisory Council. <input type="checkbox"/> Scenic road standards including scenic vistas along those roads. <input type="checkbox"/> Natural resource protection provisions (steep slopes, woodlands, riparian buffers, floodplains, ag soils, Penn trees).
Subdivision and Land Development (SLDO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Open space for residential and nonresidential development to be consistent with Township Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan and Linking Landscapes (2,000sf/du, 500sf/1,000sf nonres). <input type="checkbox"/> Open space and recreation design standards (interconnectivity to adjacent open space, parkland, trails, landscaping requirements, and minimum individual area to be usable as open space). <input type="checkbox"/> Fee-in-lieu of park or open space land dedication in new development. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing features identification (natural, historic, archeological, and Brandywine Scenic River Overlay).

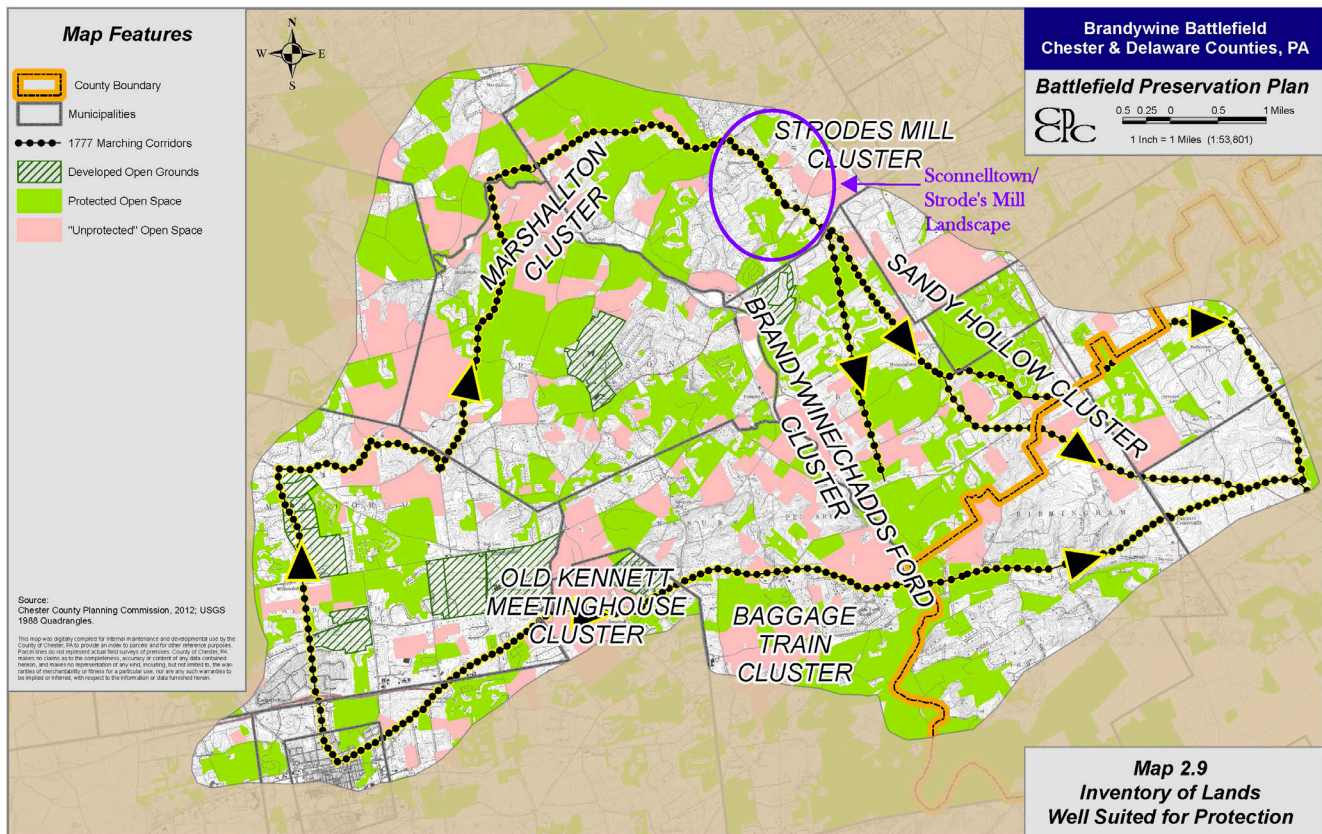
A substantial portion of the Township is currently protected open space (HOA lands, Township parklands, conservation or agricultural eased lands) and Township policy promotes land conservation efforts. The Township

is currently updating their Comprehensive Plan with a focus on specific planning concerns and needed improvements, but overall Township policy is expected to remain unchanged.

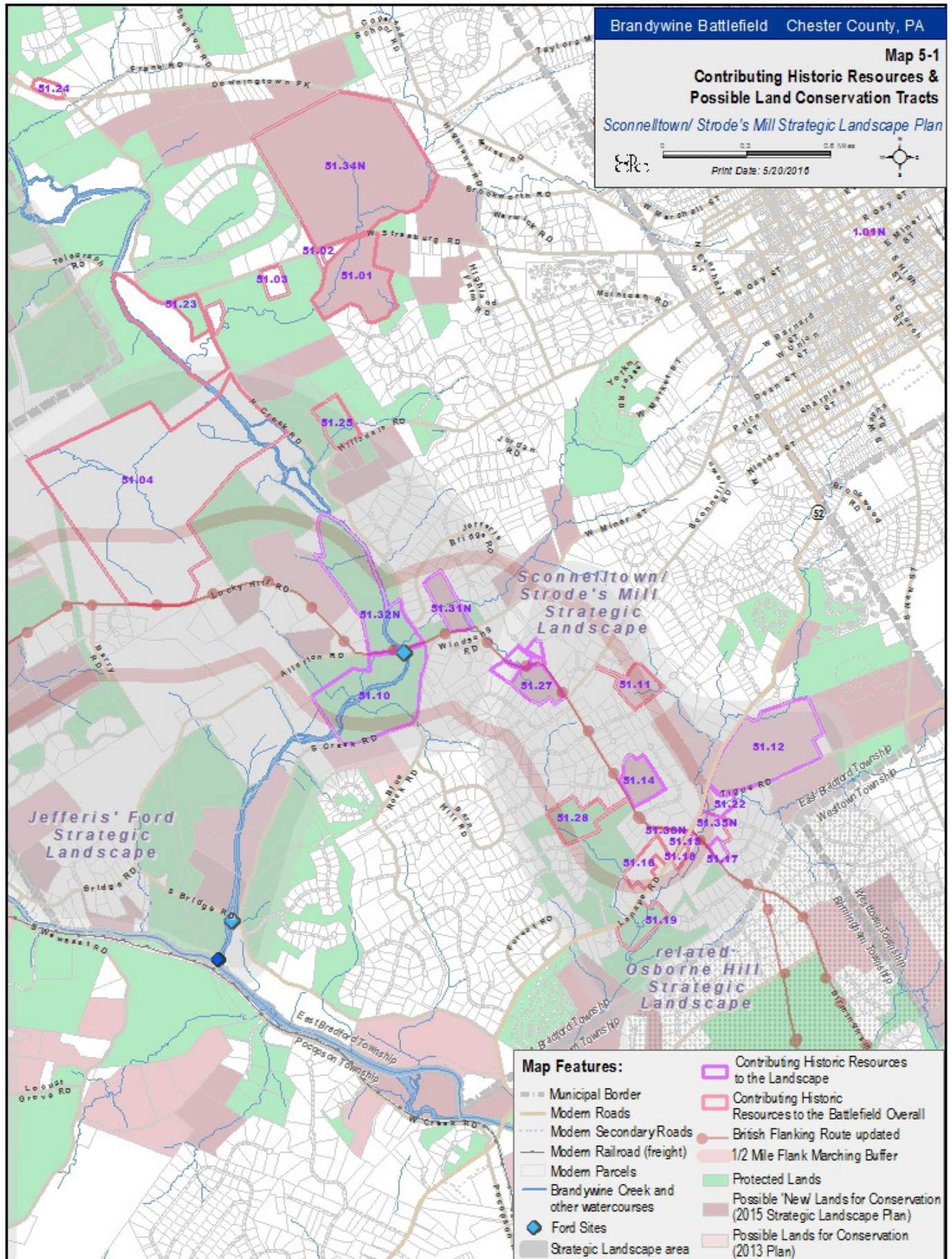
Sconnelltown/Strode's Mill Landscape

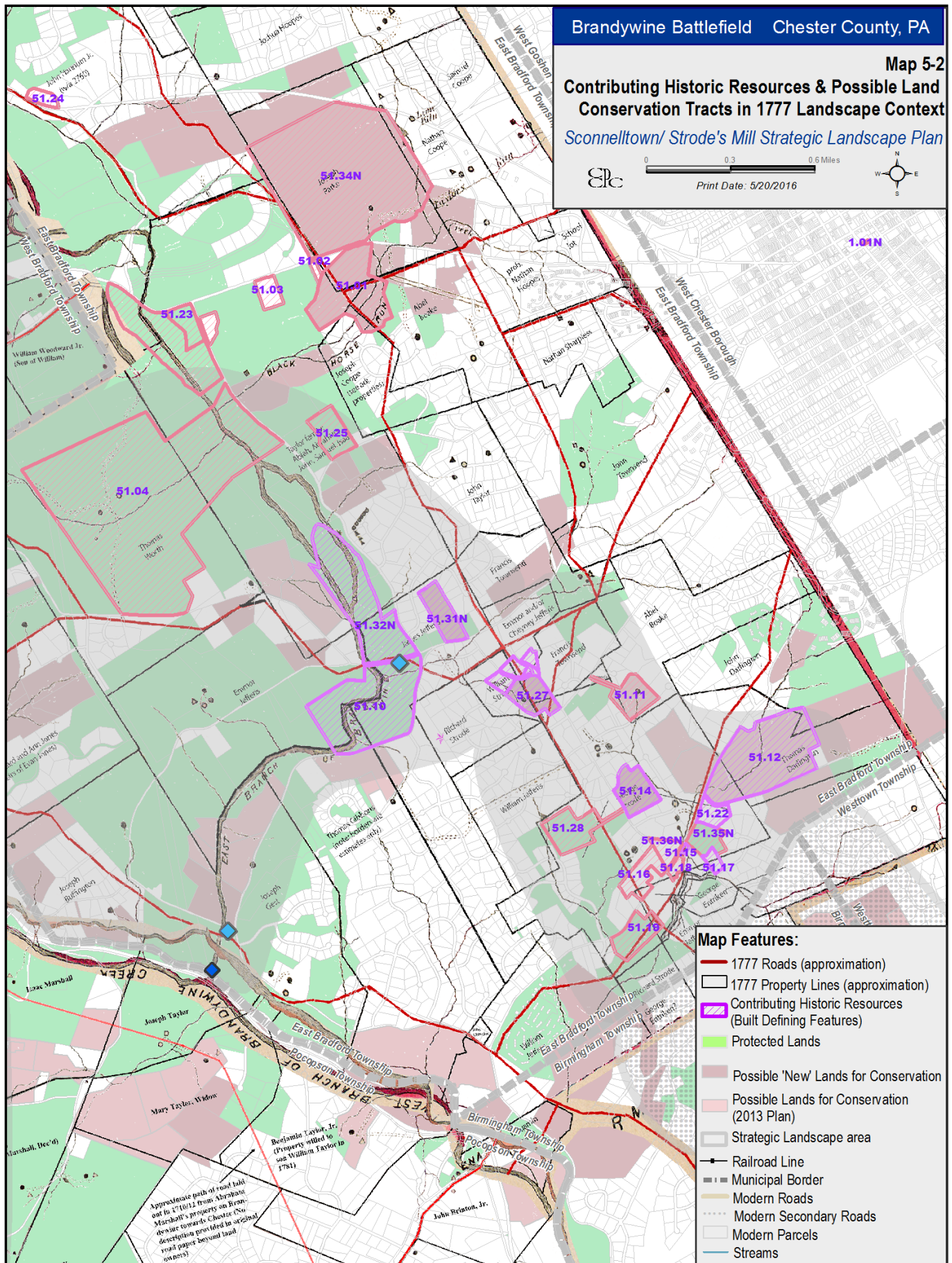
Much of the land conservation effort in the battlefield has focused on preservation of viable farmland, natural resources, and/or historic landscapes relating to the core battlefield engagement zones, such as Meetinghouse Road Corridor in Birmingham Township. There has been less focus on the marching corridors and other associated battle areas, such as the northern battlefield. This is somewhat expected as until the 2010 Study, these areas were not given adequate consideration as part of the battlefield, much less as areas where battlefield protection efforts should be focused.

The 2013 Plan took the next step to assess strategic landscapes for their overall existing and potential land protection. Map 2.9 from the 2013 Plan is included here to show the broader context of how this Landscape fits into overall battlefield land protection. As indicated in the “unprotected” parcels on Map 2.9, there is a potential for protecting a cluster of land in the Landscape. Projects that have potential for protecting large clusters of land are more competitive for possible funding. As administrative costs are about the same to preserve large or smaller tracts, land preservation programs often prioritize connectivity and larger acreage opportunities.



Northern battlefield lands have been well maintained in village, large lot suburban, and rural patterns, which creates a positive setting for additional land conservation. The 2013 Plan indicated that although the Strode's Mill Cluster is small, there are a number of properties with standing historic structures. Maps 5-1 and 5-2 depict potential land conservation opportunities based on current analysis, particularly in relation to existing protected lands, undeveloped land well-suited for protection, battle events, extant historic resources, natural features, and buffering. Within the Landscape itself, overall potential for land conservation is low, though there are a few key parcels that should be considered. Potential is high towards the Landscape fringes, in adjacent battlefield areas, and in nearby strategic landscapes.





Updated¹ 2013 Plan mapping on the contemporary landscape (Map 5-1) shows current protected lands and lands for possible future protection. Updated mapping is also overlaid on battle-era development pattern mapping² (Map 5-2) to display the information within the context of the battle-era landscape. For example, it can be seen that open lands, one of which is the Emmor and James Jefferis lands that join the Brandywine Creek to Bradford Heights, have part of the Emmor Jefferis House and Mill on the parcel. Many of the newly identified tracts contain a battle-era historic resource and its original associated lands. These new tracts also largely include open lands that were once part of a battle-era farmstead or homestead. Identified tracts are generally larger (10 acres+). However, key smaller tracts that contain a battle-era historic resource, greening link, or are part of battle-era individuals/families original properties are also identified. Tracts beyond the Sconelltown/Strode's Mill Landscape are deliberately included to provide an open land buffer around the Landscape that could serve as a transition area between the battlefield and possible future development. Using this mapping, specific recommendations for land conservation and historic resources protection are noted at the end of this chapter.

Historic Resources Protection Overview

Chester County has been fortunate, particularly within many areas of the battlefield, to have stewardship-minded landowners who are interested in preserving their historic resources. The battlefield is still dotted with period historic structures that highly contribute to completing the 'picture' of the still readable 1777 landscape. Farming traditions have contributed to the preservation of many colonial-era structures that are part of the original farmsteads. Within Sconelltown/Strode's Mill Landscape, there remain 18th century structures that 'witnessed' behind the lines battle activity. As with land conservation, the battlefield and the surrounding Brandywine Valley are fortunate to have municipal governments and active citizen volunteers that promote historic resource protection. East Bradford Township is a good example of such historic preservation promotion, as evidenced through their Township policy and ordinance protection provisions discussed below. Many County municipalities also participate in the Chester County Historic Preservation Network, a group who actively advocates for ongoing historic resources preservation throughout the County.

One of the most effective tools for historic resource protection is a property owner's stewardship and willingness to maintain and continue the viability of their historic structures for future generations. Land conservation and historic resource preservation on larger parcels in the battlefield have tended to go hand-in-hand in part because the battlefield literally remains home to many decedents of the original Quaker colonists, who continue to act as stewards of both their lands and historic structures. More broadly, many individual property owners have a committed interest in stewardship, preservation, and the protection of the battlefield as a national treasure. This committed interest, in large part, is what has distinguished planning and protection of the battlefield from other places.

Like land conservation, historic resource protection is enabled under the Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), PA Act 247. The MPC calls for historic resources protection to be integrated into local planning policy and zoning regulations. Many of the 15 battlefield municipalities have adopted provisions in their zoning and subdivision ordinances that encourage the protection of historic resources, allow adaptive reuse to promote their continued economic vitality, and regulate their demolition. Often in Chester County this takes the form of a historic resource zoning overlay, whereby provisions addressing historic resource protection are added to base zoning. For example, this may include permitting modification of area and bulk requirements to account for the unique character of individual resources and help preserve its setting/context; additional uses as incentives for continued resource use; or review of proposed building changes. Historic resource overlay zoning is often employed in

¹ Updated with current parcels, protected lands, roads, and other relevant information since 2013.

² Refers to battlefield-era development pattern mapping created for battle events and historic resources verification in Chapters 3 and 4.

situations where there is not a sufficient concentration of resources to form a local historic district. This tool is flexible and usually employed municipal-wide.

Likewise, the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SLDO) can include provisions requiring identification of extant historic resources on proposed plans and Historic Impact Statements, which require an analysis to determine the impact of new development on historic resources within and near the proposed development tract. East Bradford's regulatory provisions are noted below. The zoning ordinance provisions are extensive while the SLDO is silent on historic resource protection.

The Historic District Act of 1961, PA Act 167, offers a different approach to resource protection. It enables municipalities to protect historic and architectural character through regulating the erection, reconstruction, alteration, restoration, demolition, or razing of buildings within a certified local historic district. Local historic districts established under this Act must be formally certified through the Pennsylvania and Museum Commission (PHMC). This Act also requires the appointment of a HARB to advise the local governing body on the appropriateness of building activity in the district. This type of protection provisions has tended to be less well used in Chester County, likely due to the less dense development pattern and largely more scattered rural historic resources. However, there are two Certified Historic Districts in East Bradford Township, the Taylor Cope Certified Historic District, and the one which is in the Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape, Strode's Mill Certified Historic District.

Historic Resource Protection Policy and Analysis

The Board of Historical Architecture Review (HARB), along with the historic districts mapping and general standards are included in the zoning ordinance. This type of protection enables municipalities to protect historic and architectural character through regulating the erection, reconstruction, alteration, restoration, demolition, or razing of buildings within a certified local historic district. For example, the zoning standards for the demolition of historic resources in East Bradford Township requires permitting, a 45 day review by the Historical Commission, and enforcement procedures to be enacted by the Board of Supervisors.

The Historical Commission is established under Township Code in Chapter 11. Article XX of the Zoning Ordinance includes more details for the Historic Resource Protection Standards. The protection standards permit modification of area and bulk requirements to account for the unique character of individual resources and provision for rehabilitation of historic resources under the compliance of the Secretary of Interior's Adopted Standards for Rehabilitation. Provisions for the special development opportunities for historic resources are included to extend historic building lifespan and utility. Likewise, the permitting of adaptive reuse is included in zoning provisions but is limited mainly to residential districts and sets forth specific by-right uses, some include: small-scale single use retail, day-care center, museum, gallery or cultural studio. Though incorporated in the zoning provisions for the township as opposed to the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, the standards address landscaping and buffering as well as an historic resource impact statement when a subdivision or land development is proposed where a specific type of resource is located. An historic resource impact statement identifies historic resources, and assesses effects of proposed development on natural, historic, and scenic features, requires review by the Historical Committee and when necessary enforces appropriate mitigation measures.

The Historic Neighborhood Commercial District in the Township, promotes the use of historic structures through adaptive reuse for retail and office uses that are compatible in scale to the surrounding neighborhood. Although the District does not extend into Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape, the design standards and historic resource protections demonstrate the township's commitment to historic resource protection. The Historic Neighborhood

Commercial District promotes continuation of historic land use and development patterns that will be compatible to the surrounding historic setting. The district allows provisions to be modified to better achieve district purposes; requires building activities relate to/emulate context and historic character; promotes historic resource design guidelines; promotes adaptive reuse; and requires review of building demolition.

Figure 5-2: East Bradford Township Historic Resource Protection-related Policies Summary

DOCUMENT	CURRENT STANDARDS
Zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Open space development designed to preserve features identified in environmental impact assessment including historic resources and scenic preservation. ❑ Township-wide historic resource protection standards (special use opportunities/standards to encourage adaptive reuse, historic rehabilitation standards, modification of area/bulk, demolition standards (demolition by neglect, delay of demolition, denial of demolition), required buffering of historic structures from new development on-site and from new commercial development up to 100ft off-site, adaptive reuse promoted in residential districts). ❑ Historic Resource Impact Study (evaluates development impact on historic resources on-site and up to 300 ft off-site; to be prepared by a historic preservation/architectural professional). ❑ Additional use of bed-and-breakfast permitted only in historic structures. ❑ Act 167 local historic districts standards (Strode’s Mill and Taylor Cope Historic Districts). ❑ Brandywine Scenic River district (conserves sensitive features including historic resources and visual attributes). ❑ Historic resource/character preservation promoted in C-3 Historic Neighborhood Commercial District (buffering historic resources from new development, compatible new building or historic rehabilitation in proportion/scale). ❑ Environmental impact assessment report identifying and assessing the effects of proposed development on natural, historic, open space, and visual features. Review by Environmental Advisory Council.
Subdivision/Land Development (SLDO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Existing features identification (natural, historic, archeological, and Brandywine Scenic River District) on-site and within 50 ft for below-ground and 300 ft for above-ground historic features from a development tract boundary.

General Land Conservation Recommendations

This plan recommends expanding on the successful land conservation that has occurred to date. This can occur by linking existing protected lands to form an interconnected network. East Bradford Township promotes land conservation in their Township policy, and these recommendations build upon this. Parties that may carry out a recommendation are listed under the related recommendation. Land conservation recommendations include:

Overarching Recommendation: Conserve lands that contain battle-era historic resources and/or are within the half-mile flanking buffer as a first priority for Landscapes’ preservation. Future actions should be made with a particular focus on protection of KOCOIA identified defining features, including battle-related lands and historic landscapes, and their interrelated historic structures.

- 5-1. Encourage East Bradford’s Historical Commissions to add to the Historic Resource Map those historic properties newly identified by this plan. (East Bradford Township)
- 5-2. Work with other northern battlefield municipalities to establish a special project to protect lands in the 2013 Plan’s Strode’s Mill Cluster, including those identified on Maps 5-1 and 5-2 in this plan. Strode’s Mill is a small clustering of protected and unprotected lands but holds a number of historic resources that are extant. This area has a potential for clustering to establish a greater area for conservation. This cluster is well suited to be the focus of conservation involving a land trust and the Township. Special funding could be sought to protect this area both as farmland and as a remaining landscape that illustrates the same land conditions as when the Battle of Brandywine was fought.

As part of this project, consider establishing a special fund dedicated to conserving lands in the battlefield. The economic downturn of the late 2000s reduced available funding for land conservation, among other programs. As a result, there is more competition for funding and funders are also more inclined to request cash matches. As most civic groups and public entities have very tight budgets and are unable to provide the cash match, it would be useful to consider a special fund. Options for this include an ongoing fund raising campaign or a referendum for a land conservation tax to be levied. How this fund would be managed and whether it is a Township, multi-municipal, County, or other effort are initial considerations. (East Bradford, Pocopson, West Bradford, and Newlin Townships, Chester County Open Space Dept, Land Trusts)

- 5-3. Establish a Township land conservation advisory committee. This committee could identify and prioritize opportunities to protect land, beginning with lands shown on Maps 5-1 and 5-2. Such a locally-based committee can coordinate directly with landowners within the Township, and serve as a liaison between landowners and land trusts who have staff and resources needed to protect lands. Municipal open space committees can also coordinate on projects that cross municipal lines. (East Bradford Township)
- 5-4. Expand land conservation provisions in ordinances. The Township still contains larger tracts that could be subject to development. Regulatory provisions can play a significant role in setting aside open lands within new developments. Conservation design can be permitted thorough regulation, leading to increased preservation of historic resources, viewsheds, and battlefield lands. Zoning provisions should be revisited to promote land conservation in the battlefield, particularly in the R-1 district, which the majority of land in the Township is zoned. The Township could reexamine the tools of open space design option to incorporate transferable development rights in the R-1 and targeted growth areas. SLDO provisions could include site-sensitive and conservation design standards, whereby key features such as battlefield resources and lands, are protected and development is placed on other less significance lands on a tract.. (East Bradford Township)
- 5-5. Continue to participate in and implement greenway planning in the Township and for the multi-municipal Brandywine Creek Greenway Plan. The Township through its Greenways, Trails, and Gateways Plan is advancing an extensive connected greenway and habitat preserve system. The Township is also part of the multi-municipal Brandywine Creek Greenway Plan, which is in initial implementation stages. All participating municipalities have a 'to do' plan implementation list. The Brandywine Greenway Plan project boundaries encompass portions of the battlefield, and it as well as other greenway planning, consistent with battlefield protection. (East Bradford Township)
- 5-6. Revisit the Official Map and Ordinance to address land conservation in the battlefield. Denote key battlefield lands worthy of preservation on the Official Map, using information in this plan. Map 5-2 in particular should be consulted as it ties the modern landscape, protected lands, possible lands for protection, historic resources, and the battlefield landscape into one analysis. (East Bradford Township)
- 5-7. Protect and promote farmlands and agriculture as an industry and historic land use in the battlefield. Agricultural land preservation is another method and funding source to help protect battlefield lands and speaks to the continuance of the landscape in its historic context as farmland. (East Bradford Township)
- 5-8. Work with other battlefield communities to protect lands as part of a larger open space network that extends throughout the battlefield. Throughout the battlefield are properties that have been conserved for various reasons other than the battle. Regardless of the original reasons for conservation, these tracts serve to support battlefield preservation. Whether the primary intent is natural, historic, agricultural preservation, any land preservation would help create a network of open space.

In developing a network of open lands, there needs to be a balance between public access and the carrying capacity of the land. Access is a key aspect of land maintenance, with lands varying in their ability to 'host'

visitors. Recreational open lands need suitable parking and other amenities to accommodate public access. Sensitive natural areas may have less ability to accommodate significant public access so as not to be damaged by overuse. Other publicly funded protected lands should be 'off-limits' for public access, such as wetlands, farm fields, and hallowed battle grounds. (Battlefield Municipalities, Chester County Open Space Dept, Land Trusts)

- 5-9. Encourage adoption of consistent, or at least compatible, definitions for protected open space in ordinances throughout the battlefield. This can be promoted through the Township continuing to participate in the Battlefield Task Force and its subcommittees, and would require regulatory amendments by battlefield municipalities. (Battlefield Municipalities)
- 5-10. Continue open space fee-in lieu provisions in the Township, and encourage the adoption of provisions in municipalities throughout the battlefield. Through this approach, a developer would be required to provide a specific amount of open lands for certain types of development (usually large scale residential), or pay a fee which can be used by the Township to fund the future acquisition of open space. Accepting a 'fee-in-lieu of open space' can be effective in cases where it would not contribute to expansion of/access to overall network, or would not provide significant recreational benefit to residents of the development. (East Bradford Township and Battlefield Municipalities)
- 5-11. Continue to encourage land trusts working in coordination with the Township and landowners to be the primary agents for land conservation in the Landscape. During the financial boom of the 1990s and early 2000s, land trusts were able to garner funding to protect known significant properties in the battlefield. Since that time, more information has been gathered about the extent of the actual battlefield land coverage and land trusts have gained further experience with landowners, available funding sources, and public programs for land preservation. The economic downturn of the late 2000s reduced available funding, but land trusts remain the primary organizations with the experience and staff to pursue funding and coordinate with landowners.

The Township can serve in an educational liaison role by providing information about available conservation options on the Township website, newsletters, and mailings. Additionally, Township officials and land trusts could meet with interested landowners to make them aware of specific benefits and opportunities to protect their lands. (Land Trusts, Landowners, East Bradford Township)

- 5-12. Manage conserved lands in a manner consistent with long-term battlefield planning. Language should be included in conservation easements about the importance of being part of the battlefield and retaining battle-era historic resources. This could take the form of requiring historic resources are maintained or allowing an additional primary use on the conserved lot in the easement, thereby giving opportunity for historic resources to be re-used and remain viable. Due to the era in which they were developed, many older conservation easements that exist in the battlefield allow for only one primary use on the property. This has created a situation where historic resources have been at jeopardy for being mothballed at best and demolished at worst to make way for a new building, usually a large residence, on the property. Land conservation and historic resources protection need to be better intermeshed going forward, particularly as smaller lots targeted for conservation often include historic resources and historic resource protection is a 'positive' in ranking lots for public land conservation funding.

The very landscape of the battlefield is a feature that could also be used to promote historic interpretation. Lands could be managed in way that continue to display practices of the colonial era, for example including compatible fencing, signage, hedgerows, or shrubbery.

Conserved land also results from land development open space. It is typically managed by a homeowners association (HOA) made up of volunteers, who may not have expertise in land management. This land should be managed in a manner consistent with battlefield planning. For example, HOAs wanting to create a community building can use fencing, material, and building scale and proportion that blend with colonial landscape features. (East Bradford Township, East Bradford Historical Commission, Land Trusts)

- 5-13. Encourage landowners who own unprotected open lands to manage the sensitive natural resources on their property. Many protected properties in the battlefield are adjacent to private land that may never be protected. These unprotected lands, of varying sizes, can still be managed in a way that promotes quality environments. For example, a residential property next to protected woodlands could be planted with native trees along the common border, and thus extend the forest canopy, even if there is recreational residential lawn space underneath. Likewise, stream banks on smaller private lots can be vegetated with trees or kept as seasonally mowed tall grass in a 5 to 15 foot-setback 'low mow zone.' More information can be found in CCPC's 'Taking Control of Your Land: A Land Stewardship Guide for Landowners'. (East Bradford Township)

General Historic Resource Protection Recommendations

This plan recommends expanding on the successful historic resource protection that has occurred to date. This can occur by broadening historic resource protection standards and implementing Township Comprehensive Plan recommendations. East Bradford Township promotes historic resources protection in their Township policy, and these recommendations build upon this. Parties that may carry out a recommendation are listed under the related recommendation. Historic resource protection recommendations include:

Overarching Recommendation: Protect battle-era historic resources, particularly those within the half-mile flanking buffer as a first priority. Future actions should be made with a definite focus on protection of KOCO identified defining features, including battle-related historic structures and their associated contextual surrounding lands and historic landscapes.

- 5-14. Complete PA Historic Resource Survey Form for each historic resource verified in this plan. The analysis and information in this plan represents another step towards battle-era resources documentation. The next step would be documenting resources in a consistently accepted manner by using the PA Historic Resource Survey Form. This level of information provides the Township and Task Force with a solid basis for resource protection. Documentation on this Form should use the information provided in this plan and be completed in a manner consistent with the standards of PHMC's Bureau of Historic Preservation (BHP). (East Bradford Historical Commission)
- 5-15. Undertake a comprehensive review of current Township historic resources regulations. The goal is to ensure regulations adequately protect historic resources Township-wide and specifically address those related to the Landscape and battlefield. Regulations should be examined as to whether they provide clear and consistent protection of historic resources with consideration also of the importance of sense of place and quality of life factors that protected resources inherently provide. The following types of items should be addressed in revising historic resource protection regulations: (East Bradford Township Planning and Historical Commissions)
- Ensure regulations guide new, infill, and re-development so that the built environment is compatible with, and designed to complement historic resources.
 - Ensure historic definitions are consistent across the regulatory framework.

- Ensure there is a clear process for review and early coordination between applicants and the Township for proposals that may impact historic resources.
 - Encourage voluntary review of rehabilitation and alternation plans related to historic resources.
 - Obtain or develop materials to assist with evaluation of historic resource-related proposals, such as design guides.
- 5-16. Ensure that the Historic Resources Impact Study required in zoning specifically identifies the battlefield, as defined in the 2010 Study and Sconnettstown/Strode's Mill Landscape as defined in this plan, and battle-related historic resources inventoried in Chapter 4. Such a requirement would make developers more aware of historic resources, and able to design their projects to accommodate preservation. (East Bradford Township)
- 5-17. Modify zoning provisions to provide a density bonus to development provided that existing structures are reused sensitively. This incentive permits historic resources to be preserved through land development without impacting the yield or maximum number of units or lots permitted in zoning. This allows historic resources to effectively be 'bonus' units in a development. The current unified development area allows additional dwelling units/lots in reused and preserved historic structures as bonus units, with the caveat that they that must be conserved permanently via restrictions/easements. This type is requirement provides a good incentive for historic resource reuse and protection, however requires that ordinance language also specify that sensitive preservation and reuse of historic resources will occur in exchange for this bonus, This tool can be coupled with permitting additional special uses for these resources to further encourage their viability and reuse. (East Bradford Township)
- 5-18. Continue to encourage incentives for historic preservation and adaptive reuse for the purpose of resource protection and the continued viable future use of historic structures. Zoning should be revised to more broadly promote adaptive reuse of historic structures. This would include additional uses permitted for historic resources. Adaptive reuse can preserve buildings that are inherently part of Landscape and battlefield character but that can no longer accommodate their original use. Broader utilization of adaptive reuse is supported in other battlefield municipal zoning ordinances. Adaptive reuse is featured as a tool on Chester County's Discover the Future website, where more information is available. (East Bradford Township)
- 5-19. Require professional architectural assessment when a land development or subdivision is determined in the Historic Resources Impact Study to have an impact on identified historic resources. (East Bradford Township)
- 5-20. Encourage adoption of consistent or at least compatible definitions for historic resources in ordinances throughout the battlefield. This can be promoted through the Township continuing to participate in the Battlefield Task Force and its subcommittee, and would require regulatory amendments by battlefield municipalities. (Battlefield Municipalities)
- 5-21. Consider creating minimum standards and adopting a historic battlefield protection overlay district in zoning. This overlay could supplement existing historic resources provisions and would address protection of resources in the Landscape, especially for those outside of the C-3 District. The 2013 Plan includes an outline of key items to include in a historic overlay. Thornbury and Pennsbury Townships, Chester County include a special battlefield protection zoning overlay, which should be consulted as a starting point. Such an overlay would cover only those parts of the Township that are within the battlefield and would focus on battle-related historic resources, sites, landscapes, objects, and their interrelation to each other, other defining features, battle and village history, and the proposed development or building activity. Additionally, the Township could investigate expanding this concept to encompass other historic resources,

creating a Township-wide historic resource protection overlay. There are many models of historic resources overlays in Chester County and battlefield communities. (East Bradford Township)

- 5-22. Include Landscape defining features as a consideration as important features in land development design. During the sketch plan process, the Township should encourage the use of site sensitive and open space development design, particularly on larger historic properties. When open space development design is used, the Township should consider requiring significant historical and archeological resources be retained and viewsheds protected on conserved open lands or on a separate lot. If other development design is proposed on a key battle Landscape tract, the Township should require the historic resources to be preserved, or adaptively reused, as part of the development of the land. (East Bradford Township, East Bradford Planning Commission)
- 5-23. Consider working with the Task Force and other battlefield municipalities to investigate developing battlefield design guidelines. Given the current design guidelines and experience in applying such guidelines, Township assistance and guidance with this task would help other battlefield communities. Such an effort could help provide guidance for redevelopment, rehabilitation, reuse, infill, or new construction that preserves the character and scenic values of the Landscape and battlefield overall. The Township's TND-2 zoning district has an excellent set of design guidelines that could be used as a starting point for this broader effort. Such guidelines should be presented in a guidebook and take into account preservation standards developed by the Secretary of the Interior. Chester County Community Planning Handbook (Tool #45) provides additional information. (Battlefield Municipalities)
- 5-24. Consider applying for designation as Certified Local Government (CLG). The CLG program provides technical assistance, greater access to the national preservation network, direct participation in the National Register nomination process, and small grants to local governments seeking to preserve historic resources. In Pennsylvania, the program is administered by PHMC and a match is required for projects undertaken with CLG funding. Only a few of the Battlefield municipalities are designated as being a CLG and the rest should consider becoming designated. Municipalities apply directly to PHMC as detailed in their Guidelines for Implementation of the Certified Local Governments Program in Pennsylvania and Certification Worksheet for the Pennsylvania Certified Local Governments Program.

Specific Historic Resource and Land Protection Recommendations

Historic properties and resources identified in Chapter 4 and their associated lands have protection recommendations as follows:

Strode's Mill or Entriken-Strode's Mill

Map ID: 51.15

Description: Stabilized remains of the circa 1721 Mill are an interpretive site.

Recommendation: This highly significant historic structure is recommended for continued preservation and for use as an interpretive site and community gathering outdoor space. The Township Historical Commission are working with Friends of Strode's Mill on interpretation efforts for this property, which can help lead to ongoing public awareness and preservation. The property is situated in a prime location for Sconelltown/Strode's Mill battle interpretation.

Strode's Mill Historic District & Associated Sites

Map ID: 51.14, George Strode's 1777 property and probable residence.

Map ID: 51.17, Richard Strode Farm

Map ID: 51.12, George Entrioken House, ruin remains.

Map ID: 51.22, Originally owned by John Willis, builder of Strode's Mill, mill race remains.

Map ID: 51.35N, Strode Barn, c. 1815

Map ID: 51.16, Blacksmith and wheelwright shops, blacksmith though to be at site in 1777.

Map ID: 51.18 & 51.19, Strode Tenant House(s).

Description: Multiple resources associated with Strode's Mill Historic District.

Recommendation: These resources and properties constitute potential land preservation tracts and significant historic structures recommended for continued preservation. The Township Historical Commission should work with Friends of Strode's Mill to encourage interpretation and preservation of the related resources now on multiple properties. The Township should consider land conservation possibilities for these tracts. If these properties come up for development, the Township should work with the property owner to determine how to preserve elements of Sconnettown/ Strode's Mill Landscape through protecting lands and built features on this tract.

Taylor-Cope National Register Historic District

Map ID: 51.23, Abiah Taylor house and barn, c. 1724.

Map ID: 51.02, Taylor property, Black Horse Inn, c. 1740.

Map ID: 51.03, Taylor property, Mill House, c. 1745.

Map ID: 51.34N, Taylor property, residence.

Map ID: 51.01, Pierce property, Cope Malt Mill.

Description: Multiple resources, circa 1720-1740, associated with the Taylor- Cope National Register District.

Recommendation: These resources and properties constitute potential land preservation tracts and significant historic structures recommended for continued preservation. The Township Historical Commission and Historic Architectural Review Board should work to encourage interpretation and preservation of the related resources now on multiple properties. The Township should consider land conservation possibilities for these tracts. If these properties come up for development, the Township should work with the property owner to determine how to preserve elements of Sconnettown/ Strode's Mill Landscape through protecting lands and built features on this tract.

Sconnettown Wheelwright Shop Site

Map ID: 51.27

Description: The site of the Wheelwright Shop on the Bradford Heights overlooking Brandywine Creek and the Jefferis Bridge, is located on the property of a modern home or across the road where a barn stands. As the site where Joseph Townsend first recorded seeing the Royal Army, this is a highly significant site although no historic resources remain.

Recommendations: Work with the East Bradford Historical Commission to document this historic site and possibly install a historic marker. Interpret the historic Sconnettown village within the battlefield.

Thomas Worth House & Farm

Map ID: 51.04

Description: Significant circa 1740 historic house and grounds.

Recommendation: This highly significant historic structure and grounds are recommended for preservation. The Township should consider land conservation possibilities if not already in place. If this property comes up for development, the Township should work with the property owner to determine how to preserve the house and grounds.

William Jefferis property site

Map ID: 51.28

Description: William Jefferis 1777 property site, rumored site of Hessian soldiers sleeping off alcohol seized at Jefferis' Ford.

Recommendation: Due to its close association with William Jefferis and the rumored site of the Hessian resting place before battle, the site should be considered for preservation. Additional research should be conducted on this resource.

Col. Hannum Residence and Mill Site

Map ID: 51.24

Description: Significant house and mill site. John Hannum inherited the property from his father in 1773.

Recommendation: These significant historic resources and property are recommended for continued preservation. The Township Historical Commission should work with Friends of Strode's Mill to encourage ongoing preservation and interpretation.

James Jefferis Farm Site and Property

Map ID: 51.31N

Description: Associated but not listed in Worth-Jefferis Historic District, James Jefferis Farm Site and 1777 property.

Recommendation: This property constitutes a land conservation possibility. The significant historic structures are recommended for continued preservation. The house needs to be further documented and then a preservation plan of action determined. In coordination with preserving this property, the Township Historical Commission should also work to have this property listed in the Worth-Jefferis Historic District.

George Strode's Properties

Map ID: 51.11

Description: George Strode's 1777 property containing a farmhouse.

Recommendation: This property constitutes a land conservation possibility. The Township should work with the property owner to raise awareness about and encourage land conservation. Further research is needed to determine if the extant buildings are from the colonial period and whether they stood at the time of the battle. If this property comes up for development, the Township should work with the property owner to determine how to preserve elements of Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape through protecting lands on this tract and possibly built features, pending further research.

Emmor and James Jefferis Lands

Map ID: 51.10

Description: Part of Emmor Jefferis House and Mill. Lands adjoining the Brandywine Creek below Bradford Heights.

Recommendation: This property constitutes a land conservation possibility. The significant historic structures are recommended for continued preservation. The Township should work with the property owner to raise awareness about and encourage land conservation. If this property comes up for development, the Township should work with the property owner to determine how to preserve elements of Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape through protecting lands and any built features on this tract.

John Taylor Property

Map ID: 51.25

Description: Property and farm site.

Recommendation: This property constitutes a rebuilt log structure that forms the core of the current home. A log structure was credited with being burned on the day of battle. The site is north of the troop movement on Birmingham Road, although it was on the 1735 road (now a trace road). The Township should work with the property owner to raise awareness about and encourage land conservation. Further research is needed to determine if any historic structures remain and if so whether they stood at the time of the battle. The Township should consider land conservation possibilities for this tract. If this property comes up for development, the Township should work with the property owner to determine how to preserve elements of Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape through protecting lands on this tract and possibly built features, pending further research.

Turks Head Tavern Site

Map ID: 01.01N

Description: A historic marker notes the location of the tavern where West Chester Borough began. The property was owned by Isaiah Matlack in 1777. It was first owned by Phineas Eachus.

Recommendation: Verify the location and work with West Chester Borough HARB to preserve the historic marker and interpret the tavern and its history at the historic Chester County Courthouse across the street.



Interpretation Strategies: Preparing for Battle Heritage Center

Due to the size and complexity of the battlefield, the 2013 Plan proposes a series of Gateways, Heritage Centers, Interpretive Sites, and Viewing Corridors (2013 Plan Map 5.1) as a means to organize public interpretation and education. It places strategic landscapes into one or more of these categories for their future interpretation and study. As the transitional point in the northern battlefield from the flanking march advance to the core battle, the Sconnelltown/Strode's Mill Landscape is a place for a Preparing for Battle Heritage Center and its related interpretation.



Strode's Mill (right) and Barn (left) still mark the roadbed the British followed toward battle

The 2013 Plan also indicates that Strode's Mill Village, located at the eastern-most point in the British Left Hook area and the start of the Birmingham Hill/Meetinghouse Road Core Combat Area and Viewing Corridor (Map 5.1), has high potential for interpretation. This is enhanced by its location at the intersection of Route 52 and Birmingham Road, where a number of extant historic resources have been preserved. Records show that the British seized goods from Richard Strode, after whom the village was named. Strode's Mill has been adaptively reused as an art gallery and serves as a community gathering point (as it was in 1777). The 2013 Plan indicates opportunities should be examined for establishing a historic interpretation center in the Landscape, as it is the Gateway to the National Landmark where the battle took place, approximately a half mile ahead on Birmingham Road at Osborne Hill in Birmingham Township.

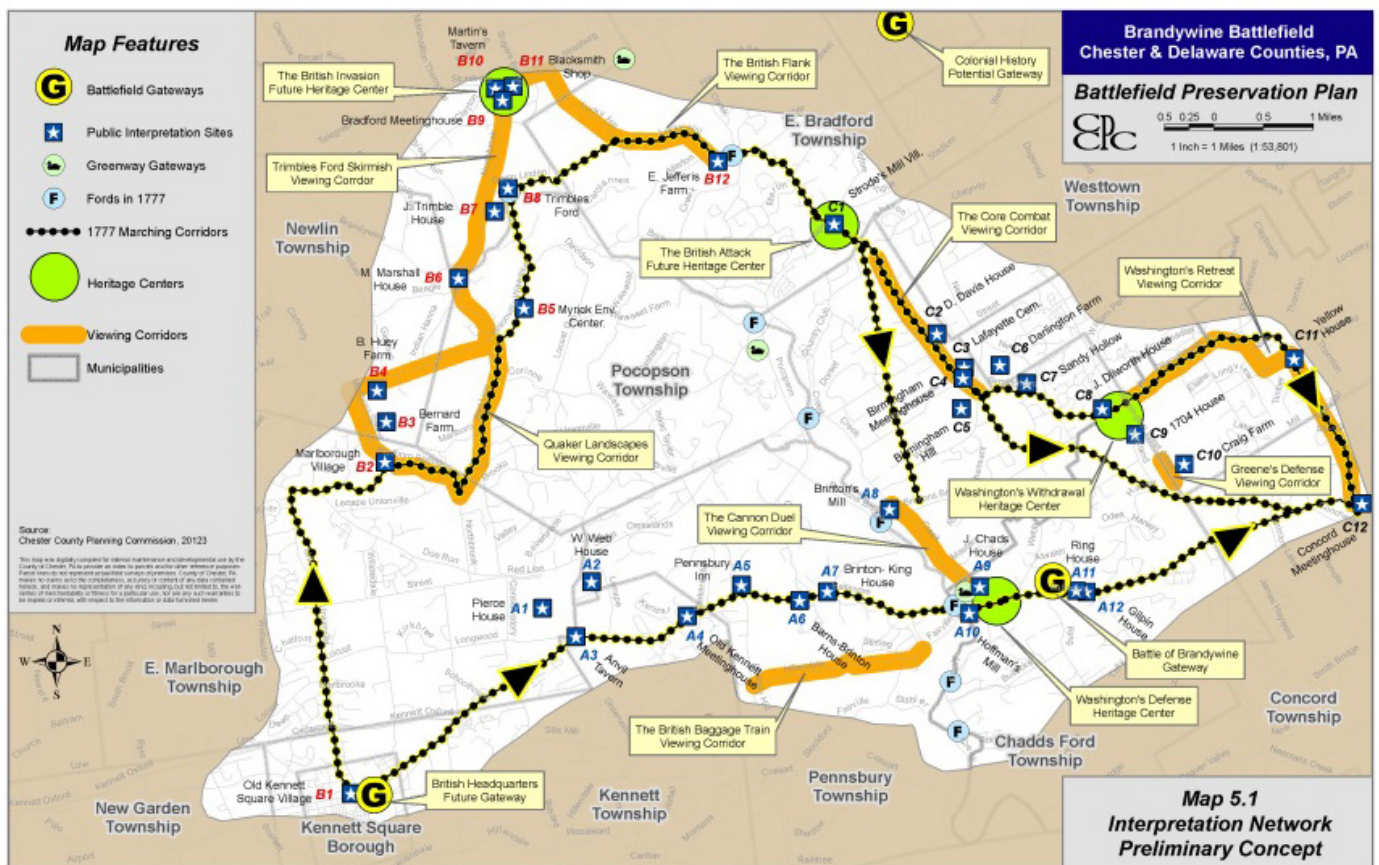
The 2013 Plan indicates opportunities should be examined for establishing tours of critical corridors where the flanking march occurred, with information on tours available in the Strode's Mill interpretation site. This chapter provides an outline of opportunities for heritage interpretation and, along with its related conceptual Heritage Tour (Appendix C) and corresponding Interpretative Signage (Appendix D), is intended to be a guide for implementation by local entities. This chapter calls out and recaps key concepts that are detailed in the rest of the plan so prose may be somewhat repetitive herein.

The authenticity of historic sites and places discussed in this chapter is what makes them so critical and attractive for battlefield interpretation. While interpretation provides important heritage recreation and education benefits to the community via a better understanding of what is literally 'in their back yards', the strategies in this chapter respect that the battlefield spans existing local communities where people live and work today.

Setting the Stage for Interpretation

Map 5.1 from the 2013 Plan is included here to display the interpretative network concept that is partially detailed through this chapter. Heritage Centers are proposed to be located within a strategic landscape that has a cluster of historic resources where visitors may stop for 15 to 30 minutes to learn about a particular aspect of the battle. From the Heritage Center, a visitor can be directed to related public Interpretation Sites and Viewing Corridors or Heritage Tours which offer public access to the related strategic landscapes. Battlefield Gateways are sites in or near the Battlefield with ample parking and restroom facilities. They could host larger numbers of

visitors who wish to get an experience of 30 to 90 minutes. These locations would offer indoor facilities that would provide the same information as a Heritage Center but also include displays like in a museum. Strode's Mill Historic District physically marks the end of the British Left Hook area and the start of the Birmingham Hill/Meetinghouse Road Combat Area (which will be studied further through a future grant). With the established art gallery in the historic Strode's Mill and numerous historic resources, the historic district meets the necessary criteria to be a Heritage Center. Its proximity to the proposed Colonial History Gateway in West Chester Borough (the site of the Turk's Head Tavern and the Chester County Historical Society) provides visitor amenities such as restaurants, shopping, and educational displays and programs at the Chester County Historical Society. As the location where General Cornwallis called for one of the few full rest stops for his army during the flanking march, and where the final advance to Osborne Hill began, this Heritage Center will provide the transition between the northern battlefield landscape and the site of battle. It will provide interpretation for the flanking march, explore historic themes related to the Chester County colonial landscape and the impact of the American Revolution on it, and provide interpretation for the core combat of the battle. Preparing for Battle Heritage Center would direct visitors to the following interpretive sites and corridors:



- Tours of Scennelltown and Strode's Mill through the first person narratives that day
- Birmingham Hill, Birmingham Meetinghouse and Sandy Hollow Core Combat Interpretive Sites
- The Core Combat Viewing Corridor on Birmingham Road
- Washington's Retreat Heritage Center at Dilworthtown
- The newly proposed Mills, Taverns & the Militia Tour to Marshallton Village where the tours "A Testimony of Peace" detailing the Quaker traditions in the Valley and the impact of the battle on residents, and "Ford to Ford" detailing the British Flanking March begin. ("A Testimony of Peace" tour also ends at Strode's Mill.)
- The proposed Brandywine Battlefield Gateway at West Chester Borough which would include the visitor amenities of the Borough in general and displays and educational information at the Chester County Historical Society in particular.

It is currently proposed that the development of interpretation narratives related to the major combat zone will be accomplished during the future study of the Birmingham Hill/Meetinghouse Road Combat Area. This will include the development of a heritage tour from the Preparing for Battle Heritage Center to Osborne Hill through the battlefield, extending to Dilworthtown and the proposed Washington's Retreat Heritage Center in Birmingham and Chadds Ford Townships. (See Page 5-25 Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan.)

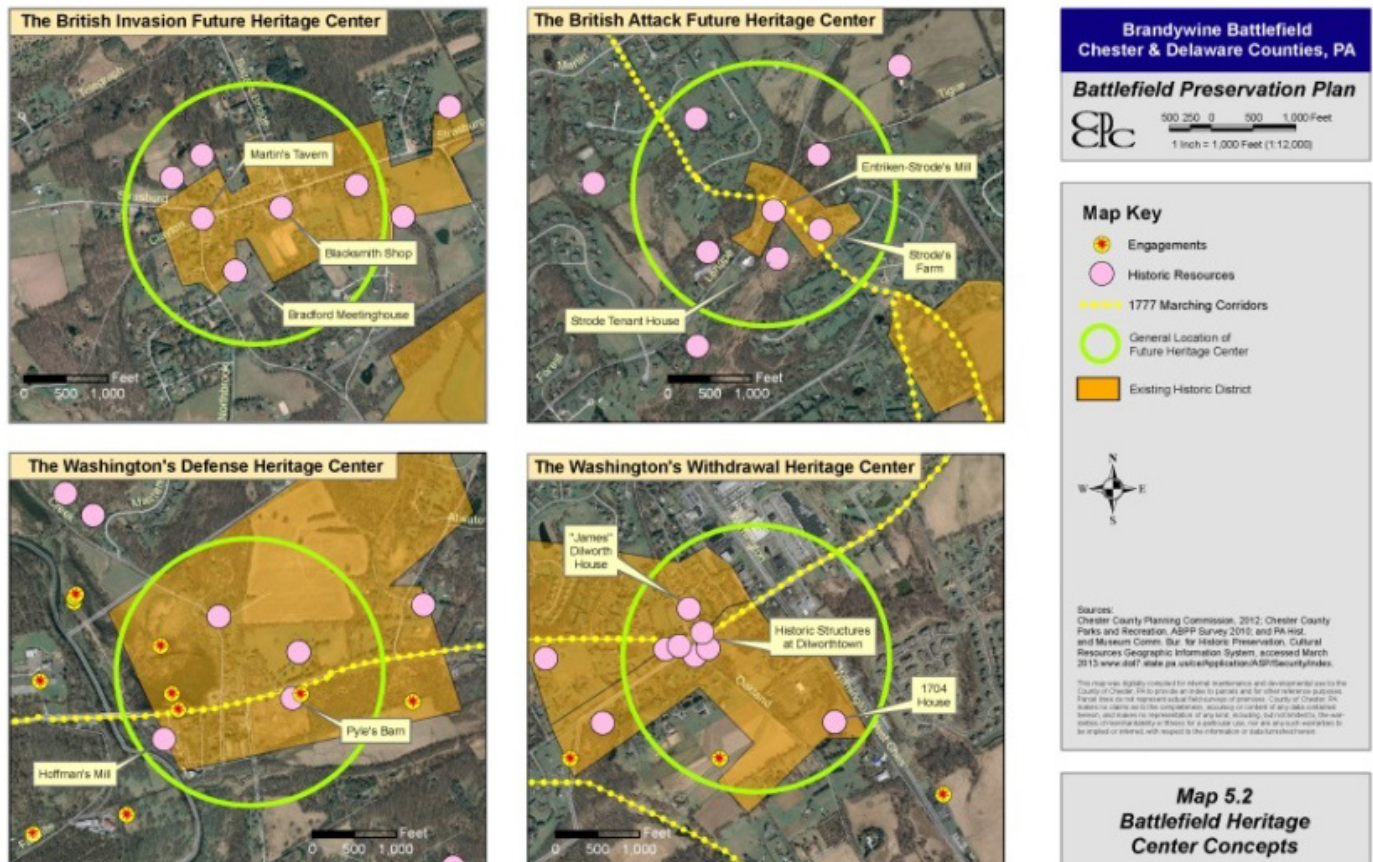
The concept for the Preparing for Battle Heritage Center is currently being included in the planning for the Township's recently purchased Strode Barn property. A Study Committee has been appointed by East Bradford Board of Supervisors. East Bradford is working with a non-profit group, Friends of Strode's Mill, to assist in planning for the use of the Strode Barn and acreage as a passive municipal park. The Barn is located on the northeast corner of the Route 52 and Birmingham Road intersection adjacent to Strode's Mill (pictured on page 6-1). The Strode Barn Study Committee, consisting of architects, historians, residents, and planners is charged to:

- Develop a vision for the property based on factors such as the history of the property/site, the role the area played in the Revolutionary War, the site's relevance with regards to the Plum Run Greenway initiative, and the site's relevance with regard to the Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway.
- Meet with Township officials/Supervisors to come to agreement on the vision.
- Develop a demolition/redevelopment process to implement the vision.

Preparing for Battle Heritage Center: Overview for Interpretation Purposes

As discussed, the location of Strode's Mill Village makes it an excellent location for the proposed Preparing for Battle Heritage Center Map 5-2 from the 2013 Plan is included here to display concepts for this Heritage Center). Today, as it did in 1777, Birmingham Road provides access for visitors to key battlefield viewing corridors and interpretive sites related to General's Howe and Cornwallis 9-hour flanking march. Visitors to this site can learn about the layout of a rural historic crossroads village, how the British prepared for active combat, and the battle's military strategy. East Bradford Township recently purchased Strode Barn, adjacent to Strode's Mill, and is studying the feasibility of creating a visitors center and park on the property. This would be an ideal location for the proposed Heritage Center. (Map 5.2) The Sconnelltown/Strode's Mill Landscape begins just after the Jefferis Ford Bridge. It is here that the open fields end and West Miner Street leads uphill (through the historic "defile") to Birmingham Road and the Bradford Heights where the Sconnelltown Wheelwright shop once stood at the intersection of Paxson Road. From here the landscape extends less than two miles on the 1719 Birmingham Road which continues to bear that name today. It stops just southeast of the intersection of Route 52 and Birmingham Road at the Richard Strode Farm. This intersection is the location of one of the County's earliest milling sites, Strode's Mill.

In this Landscape, General Cornwallis ordered Ewald and his advance guard to halt at Strode's Mill while the army struggled up the steep road as we still do today through the defile which stood between Jefferis' Ford and the small hamlet of Sconnelltown perched on the Bradford Heights. Here they were approximately a half mile away from Osborne Hill on the other side of the valley, one of the highest points in the area. The event might have been a footnote in history but for the diary a young Quaker named Joseph Townsend. Townsend's reminiscence appeared in the 1881 volume, *History of Chester County* by J. Smith and Gilbert Pope, and described, among other aspects of the day, the general reaction local residents had upon seeing so many British soldiers, "their uniforms creating a sea of scarlet through the valley." He also provided a careful description of the army's march from Strode's Mill to Osborne Hill.



Townsend and his friends would have had plenty of time to observe the British. It would take two hours for the army to pass through the defile while Cornwallis waited near Strode's Mill. Based upon military journals, once the army reached Bradford Heights, the command was issued to form three columns to move forward: one on the Birmingham Road and two on either side about 400 yards on each side of the road. Townsend noted "the space occupied by the nearer body and flanking parties was near a mile and a half wide." They moved forward from Jefferis' Ford in this manner until they stopped to rest about a half mile from Osborne's Hill in and around Strode's Mill.

Although Scennelltown does not exist today, the site of the Wheelwright Shop where young Townsend witnessed the British advance still does. One can readily access Jefferis' Ford and follow the route the troops took in close proximity. As described in Chapter 4, Strode's Mill and its associated buildings in the National Register Historic District was settled when John Willis, George Carter, and Samuel Scott erected a grist mill on a tributary of the Brandywine Creek on Willis's land around 1721. It was one of a half dozen mills operating nearby. Emmor Jefferis owned the corn and grist mill property which was known as Strode's Mill at the time of the battle, and his son Emmor, Jr. appears to have worked at the mill. Richard Strode, a blacksmith, owned the farm and two tenant properties within close proximity of the mill, which he purchased in 1784. George Emotion was a miller and owned what is today known as Strode's mill from 1735-1772 when he sold it to Emmor Jefferis. He owned property to the north and east of the mill in 1777.

Interpretive Themes

Chapter 5 of the 2013 Plan recommends establishing unifying interpretive themes for the battlefield. This plan takes that step and identifies themes based on the area's significance, which speaks to several overarching themes broadly categorized as 'military events', '18th century landscape', and 'local community'. Aspects of these themes are interlaced. Under (one or more) broad categories fall specific themes for this area that directly reflect reasons for the area's significance:

Military events theme:

- British advance and tactical military flanking strategy
- A future theme and narrative is also proposed for this site based upon the completion of the Birmingham Hill/Meetinghouse Road Combat Strategic Landscape Plan: British and American military strategy during the core combat of the battle.

Military events and Local community themes:

- Battle impact on local civilians
- Loyalists and the Chester County Militia

Local community and 18th century landscape themes:

- Brandywine Valley settlement patterns in the colonial era through 1800
- Quaker roots and Peace Testimony
- Still readable battlefield landscape

These themes reflect components for interpretation via the Preparing for Battle Heritage Center and related Viewing Corridors and Heritage Tours:

- Chester County Militia and its impact on power before and after the revolution
- Battle impact on the civilian population, including Quaker Peace Testimony
- Still readable Brandywine Valley colonial landscape
- KOCOA analysis of the landscape obstacles during the flanking march
- Superior British field intelligence
- The British and Continental Preparing for Battle after the successful flank
- Analysis of the core combat of the Battle (detailed in a future plan)

Chester County history related themes: Area history also mirrors major themes in the overall history of Chester County including multi-generational rural agricultural tradition, Brandywine Valley Quaker settlement, prosperous commerce/industry foundation, and the American Revolution.

Museum of the American Revolution (MAR) related themes: The primary theme for Brandywine Battlefield overall as a pivotal moment in the American Revolution speaks to all of Museum of the American Revolution's (MAR) Revolutionary War interpretative themes. The Landscape interpretive themes can also be categorized under the broad MAR themes. To reflect MAR interpretive themes, the following is recommended:

- Citizens turned Revolutionaries: Chester County Militia and prosperity and power before and after the revolution; Continental preparation for the battle after the successful flank.
- Radical Nature of the Revolution: Battle impact on the civilian population, British advance and strategic outflanking of Gen'l. Washington's position near Chad's Ford; KOCOA analysis of the landscape obstacles during the flanking march; the strategic British Preparing for Battle; analysis of the core combat of the battle (detailed in a future plan)
- Lasting Meanings: Still readable Brandywine Valley Colonial Landscape; the Quaker Peace Testimony

Thematic Narrations

Specific themes for the area can be organized into thematic narrations or stories for public consumption. The narratives (see below) could be conveyed throughout the Northern Battlefield at the Behind the Lines Heritage Center in Marshallton and the Preparing for Battle Heritage Center in Strode's Mill and through related Heritage Tours, Viewing Corridors, and Interpretive Sites for the area.

Role of the northern battlefield in the overall battle Thematic Narration:

This would tell the story of the battle in northern battlefield. It would incorporate information from strategic landscapes plans for Marshallton, Trimble's Ford, Jefferis' Ford, and Sconnettown/Strode's Mill, as well as from the 2013 Plan as needed. While the Breaching the Fords/British Advance area coincides with the mid stage of the British flank, this narrative would also feature the last stage of the flank from the successful crossing at Jefferis' Ford to the British halt and Preparing for Battle at Strode's Mill and nearby Osborne Hill. Possibly this narrative could be expanded and coordinated with the Heritage Center proposed near Kennett Square to also discuss the first stage of the flanking march that started in the Kennett Square area.

Successful British flanking tactic and conflicting American reconnaissance Thematic Narration:

Battle staging¹ on both sides occurred during the morning and into the afternoon of September 11, 1777 in the northern battlefield. This entails the successful British military strategy under Gen'l. Howe to avoid, via a tactical flanking maneuver, the bulk of the American Army arrayed near Chadds Ford. This also entails the American's inability to gather reliable field intelligence of the British flank, even with active field patrols. This is the story of how Gen'l. Howe was able to successfully navigate 9,000 troops plus a 'baggage train' of supplies on a 9-hour, approximately 14-mile circuitous march through difficult terrain that included two unguarded Creek fordings to outflank the American Army.

Important to this story is the battlefield's National Historic Landmark information that states: "Washington's defeat at the Battle of Brandywine was a consequence of his failure to appreciate the geography of the region. The stream itself had little defensive value for, although it necessitated fording, the fords were so numerous that it was almost impossible to defend all of them. The British realized this, and after a forced march crossed upstream of Washington's army at a ford Washington did not even realize existed."

Terrain, physical geography, and natural resources in the northern battlefield Thematic Narration:

This narration would largely rely on information in Chapter 3 that discusses the area's terrain and what soldiers (British and American alike) would have experienced in 1777 while traversing the rough terrain. Before the time of bridges, regular watercourse crossings, including their adjacent floodplains and wetlands, was via fords which served as 'waterway roads' of the period.

Roads, fords, taverns, meetings, and hamlets in colonial Chester County Thematic Narration:

This narration would largely rely on information in Chapter 4 that discusses the area's settlement patterns including existing roads, properties, key structures and destinations of meetinghouse, mills, residences, blacksmith shops, taverns, and the like, along with local property owners, tenants, and their family histories and effect on colonial settlement and the landscape of today.

¹ Tactical battle staging in the northern battlefield includes American reconnaissance (Marshallton and Trimble's Ford Landscapes), northern British tactical flanking advance (Trimble's and Jefferis' Fords Landscapes), and last leg of the flanking advance/Preparing for Battle (Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape). Osborne Hill Landscape is related to Strode's Mill as an area of battle staging/preparation; however, it will be discussed in earnest as part of the core battle in a future battlefield strategic landscapes plan.

Techniques to locate Trimble's Ford Thematic Narration:

This narration would heavily rely on information in the Trimble's Ford/ Jefferis Ford Strategic Landscapes Plan that discusses the reasons and techniques (documentation and in the field) to locate Trimble's Ford and roads traces leading to/from.

Interaction between two invading armies and the local community Thematic Narration property losses:

Primary accounts giving a sense of conflicts and cooperation between both armies and the local community could be featured. Reported property losses (in the form of Plunder claims, Depredation claims, and Quaker Suffering), diary entries, letters, field reports and other others could provide the basis for this narration. They would need to be supplemented by additional interpretation to fill-in needed gaps to create an understandable story. This could be expanded to also discuss primary source research (document and field) including the information and sources used to map battle-era roads and properties, as well as, discuss types of documented accounts that still exist from the colonial-era.

Local support or lack thereof for the war effort Thematic Narration:

One of the unique aspects of the battlefield that sets it apart from other battlefield is the pacifist Quaker community that largely made up the Brandywine Valley residents at the time of the battle. Effectively, the battle brought an invasion of two armies into the community. Quakerism is an intriguing story that has just become more of a recent focus, particularly in light of the increased interest in the Underground Railroad in the region with the recent creation of the First State National Monument and its related sites. This narrative could include information about Quaker settlement in the Brandywine Valley, their philosophy (including Testimony of Peace and Quaker 'Sufferings'), and the enduring Quaker presence in the region, including some of the same families in the same house and lands as at the time of the battle.

Juxtaposed against the Quaker testimony of peace is the story of the men who joined the Chester County militia, including what they gained as a result of the success of the American Revolution and how they reshaped the valley in which they lived. The interaction of the militia and Quakers continued throughout the war and is documented in notes from the Meeting for Sufferings maintained at the Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College (Media, PA).

Celebration of outstanding local commitment to open space land conservation and historic resource protection Thematic Narration:

This narrative would stress that the persevering stewardship of property owners and local entities in the area is what has enabled the battlefield landscape, including historic building and open lands, to endure to this day. This has occurred through ongoing and committed open space land conservation and historic resource protection efforts. Examples of historic resource preservation, sensitive reuse, open space land conservation efforts, and recognition of parties involved would be included. Important to this narrative is the battlefield's NHL information that states: "The significance of the Battlefield...is increased as a consequence of the degree to which the area has remained unchanged."

Thematic Narration Treatment: Example for this Area

A thematic treatment is needed for each of the interpretive themes and related thematic narrations identified in this plan. This thematic treatment supplements Heritage Tours, Viewing Corridors, Interpretive Sites, and the Heritage Center concepts by developing the specific means and strategies by which to inform viewers about themes. These means and strategies would form the basis for future educational material, outreach, signage, etc. As these treatments would need to be vetted and developed once thematic narrations are decided upon, this section provides an example of how this could work using one of the thematic narrations listed above.

Theme: The role of roads and population centers in colonial Chester County

In September 1777, two opposing armies numbering more than 30,000 soldiers and camp followers invaded the primarily Quaker Brandywine Valley. The population of the county in 1800 was approximately 27,000. An estimated 4,500 people were living in the immediate battlefield area in 1777. Key to understanding the nuances of the battle is understanding the colonial road system. The troops relied upon the road system, which was designed to link destinations rather than population centers, as they were minimal. In addition to delineating the transition point on the battlefield from the Avenue of Approach to Core Area, the Strode's Mill/Sconnettown Landscape provides insight into the role of the transportation network in the battle.

The Brandywine watershed was one of the key regions in William Penn's 1681 land grant where the early, primarily Quaker, settlers of Chester County quickly realized that in this fertile valley they had found a... "veritable paradise and refuge from oppression." The valleys of the Brandywine Creek and its tributaries had rich soils, and the steep incline of the Creek could support numerous mills, over 130 at the height of use. The dramatic drop is due to the lower Brandywine's underlying geology, as it is situated on the fall line of the rocky Piedmont and broad, flat Coastal Plain formations. This geology had a strong impact on the colonial settlement patterns.

As Penn had intended, Philadelphia flourished as a market center for this region rich in natural and cultural resources. It became the focus of many regional and county activities, from commerce and shipping to the creative arts and government administration. A significant contribution to the rise of Philadelphia was the Quaker Yearly Meeting which attracted many prominent farmers and leaders from the region to "not only seek silence and inspiration but also to purchase imported goods and to negotiate loans with merchants, the chief lenders." The importance of the political and financial control yielded by Quakers in Philadelphia cannot be overstressed. Until the Revolutionary War, Philadelphia rivaled Boston and New York as the most important city in the colonies. The Revolutionary War was the first in a series of challenges to the Quakers that began to break down their previously unified social order.

This vital and positive Quaker heritage manifested itself in the cultural and built landscape. In 1777, of the five religious centers in the battlefield, there were four Quaker meetinghouses and the Baptist meeting house on Route 1 (the Great Nottingham Road.) During the colonial settlement period, taverns/public houses, mills, and meetinghouses formed the destinations and community centers of the Brandywine Valley. The wealthy, largely Quaker population determined road networks that linked their residences to these destinations. By 1777, a system of roads formed that connected the county seat at Chester with the Great Valley in Central Chester County and the markets in Lancaster and Philadelphia. The east/west roads were relatively direct, many having been laid out by William Penn to serve Philadelphia. The north/south roads, however, often followed tortuous routes along wealthy property owners' land while winding up and down the many creek valleys.

One of the critical components of the Battle of Brandywine was the superior field intelligence of the local countryside that the British appeared to have during their strategic flanking march. The largely Quaker population knew the precise routes of transportation within their valley, but they remained silent unless pressed into service by either army. It was the loyalists to the British Crown that led General Howe and General Cornwallis to successfully navigate the web of roads and fords that had developed since the early 1700's.

Concepts/Topics to be provided as part of interpretation:

- Today's battlefield incorporates 35,000 acres in a suburban landscape of Philadelphia. Discuss the colonial landscape, within the modern one.
- Describe the colonial land settlement patterns: 100 acre farms held by primarily Quaker families, mills established along the Brandywine Creek and its tributaries, meetinghouses built for community, and taverns, wheelwright and blacksmith shops to serve travelers.
- Describe the road network that connected residences with primary destinations.
- Describe the importance of fords and the role of the Brandywine Creek in the battle.

- Explain the road network development as an example of what happened throughout the County.
- Explore the development of population centers after the Revolutionary War and discuss if colonial freedom resulted in more opportunity for Americans.

Locations:

- Sconelltown/Strode's Mill Historic District
- 1777 Road Network at Strode's Mill
- Turk's Head Tavern Site in West Chester
- Strasburg Road
- Taylor-Cope Historic District
- Stroud's Preserve: Taylor, Cope and Worth families
- Cope's Bridge and Copesville
- Ingram Mill Park and John Hannum
- Marshallton: Blacksmith Shop, Martin's Tavern, Bradford Meetinghouse

Outreach and communications:

- A Brochure can interpret the theme and direct people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be directly interpreted.
 - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; Heritage Tourists
- A webpage could explore the theme and direct people to the sites, where the theme may or may not be interpreted.
 - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; School Children; Virtual Visitors
- Visiting the sites with the information from the brochure or webpage can provide visitors with the experience of a site existing during the battle.
 - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; School Children; Heritage Tourists
- Interpretive signs can be placed along the tour routes at appropriate public stops.
 - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors
- An interpretive sign at Bradford and Marlborough Meetinghouses that explores the lesser-known story of the impact the Battle had on the Quaker community.
 - Audience: Local and Regional Visitors; School Children; Heritage Tourists

Interpretive Places

Themes can be explored through displays featured at the Preparing for Battle Heritage Center and related Interpretive Sites in Sconelltown and Strode's Mill Village, and through Viewing Corridors and Interpretive Sites in the surrounding area viewed on Heritage Tours. The viewer's experience is intended to begin at the Heritage Center to gather historic and logistical information and then guided to Interpretive Sites in the village or on Heritage Tours. Viewing Corridors are roadway segments with low to moderate traffic volumes that provide views of landscapes, buildings, and natural features relevant to the battle and reflective of the battle-era landscape. Interpretive Sites are battle-era structures, roads, properties, and natural and land areas that still exist in the contemporary landscape. They are chosen based on their relevance to tell the story of one or more interpretive themes and their potential for public viewing. Sites include both those that are publically accessible and private properties that are viewed solely from the public right of way. Heritage Tours link Interpretive Sites and Viewing Corridors for confined public interpretation.

Each strategic landscape plan includes a proposed Heritage Tour concept as a starting point for local interpretation, however additional Heritage Tours ideas are encouraged. The Preparing for Battle Heritage Center would provide the beginning or ending point for two of the three tours identified in the northern battlefield

strategic landscapes plans. It will also be the start of the tour of the core combat area in the proposed strategic landscape plan for Birmingham Township. Below is a summary of historic sites in Sconnelltown and Strode's Mill followed by the proposed "Mills, Taverns & the Militia" Heritage Tour, as the featured tour for the Preparing for Battle area. Appendix C provides the detailed tour and map.

Sconnelltown/Strode's Mill Preparing for Battle Heritage Center Interpretive Places

Interpretation is largely based upon the memoir of Joseph Townsend, and unless noted, all quotes are attributed to him. Appendix F provides the full account. It should be noted that property addresses are not given for interpretive places unless they are public sites.

The Lands of Emmor Jefferis Viewing Corridor

"Suddenly those assembled saw an army coming out of the woods into the fields belonging to Emmor Jefferis....In a few minutes the fields were literally covered with them...Their arms and bayonets, being raised, shone as bright as silver, the sky being clear and the day exceedingly warm." Crossing Jefferis Bridge on Allerton Road one can still see the fields that were once covered with troops.



Fields belonging to Emmor Jefferis.

Sconnelltown Wheelwright Shop Viewing Site

In 1777, Richard and William Strode owned the property that the Sconnelltown Wheelwright shop stood upon. Futhey and Cope give the best remaining description of the "hamlet known as Sconnelltown." It was located on the Birmingham Road. In 1881 a schoolhouse still stood. The wheelwright shop where Joseph Townsend and his fellow Quakers were meeting, since the Birmingham Meetinghouse had been seized, was a large structure that stood on the east side of the road and at the brow of the hill almost opposite the now demolished schoolhouse. Today, a large flat area (pictured right) opposite the pictured barn, gives us a good sense of where the buildings stood. In his account, Townsend noted Sconnelltown was on a high point overlooking Jefferis' Ford.



Sconnelltown Wheelwright Shop Site on the Bradford Heights on Birmingham Road.

George Strode Farm Viewing Site

In his account, Townsend notes having hurried home to check on his house and his two sisters and found that all was peaceful on the road to Turk's Head. Returning to the wheelwright shop, he realized the British troops had turned toward Birmingham. "The space occupied by the main body and flanking parties was half a mile wide." Curious, they asked to see the army and were sent by the men to their captain who was located in "one of the most eligible houses in the town." From this house, which was elevated, Townsend noted that they had a full view of the army as they passed by. It was here that he saw Gen. Cornwallis: "He was on horseback, appeared very tall and sat very erect. His rich scarlet clothing, loaded with gold lace, epaulets etc. occasioned him to make a brilliant and martial appearance."



George Strode Farm viewing site.

In 1777, George Strode and William Jefferis owned the remaining property on Birmingham Road between Sconnelltown and Strode's Mill. Of the two historic properties remaining, the most likely house where Townsend stood is pictured right. It is clearly elevated over the road. A second property was on the Strode property but far from the main road.



William Jefferis Farm Viewing Site

Across Birmingham Road from the George Strode Farmhouse is a field where local lore holds that British or Hessian soldiers, who had seized liquor at Emmor Jefferis' farm, slept off the effects of drinking. Townsend's report clearly describes the large area and crowded conditions while the 9,000 men halted to refresh their horses and wait for the full army to pass through the "terrible defile" that led up from Jefferis' Ford to the high ground of Sconnelltown.



This field would have been filled with soldiers, most likely resting, not drunk.

Strode's Mill, Barn Interpretive Site

Settlement at Strode's Mill began around 1721 when local resident John Willis and his neighbors erected a mill. It was well located on the Plum Run, a tributary of the Brandywine Creek. Surrounding the mill were hundreds of acres of farmland growing wheat and the new grist mill prospered. In 1784, Richard Strode, a blacksmith, who lived in a handsome stone dwelling on Birmingham Road he built in 1772 owned a "store house" and smith shop. The Strode Family had a significant standing in the community and their successful pork product business was housed in the barn adjacent to the mill in 1875. This is the barn that is being investigated by East Bradford Township as a potential interpretive center.

Richard Strode Residence Viewing Site

In Joseph Townsend's narration, he provides many details of his encounters on the day of the battle. "It might be observed that most or all of the officers who conversed with us were of first rank, and were rather sour, portly men well dressed and of genteel appearance and did not look as if they had ever been exposed to any hardship, their skins were as white and delicate as is customary for females brought up in large cities or towns." Continuing his narrative, Townsend noted that as the army resumed their march he asked a friend to join him as they hurried down Birmingham Road to the advance guards who "were of German troops" located between the dwelling of Richard Strode and Osborne Hill.



Richard Strode residence.

Mills, Taverns & the Militia Heritage Tour: Interpretive Places

The final tour is intended to provide the visitor with a sense of Chester County colonial history and the setting for the Battle of Brandywine in the valley. It will offer a glimpse into those residents who supported the revolution and joined the Chester County Militia, juxtaposing them against their pacifist Quaker neighbors and family members and those who remained loyal to the Crown. Most of the tour takes place on the northern borders of the battlefield where population centers were starting to form along the Strasburg Road.

The 1777 Road Network from Strode's Mill Viewing Corridor

Strode's Mill was well situated in 1777. The Birmingham Road (1719) was a primary corridor between the county seat at Chester and the Great Valley on the east side of the Brandywine Creek. Although the northern section of the road above Sconnettstown does not exist today, there were three intersecting roads in 1777 that led to the growing market center around Turk's Head Tavern. In 1786, Turk's Head would become the new county seat called West Chester. The 1720/1745 Road that intersected Birmingham Road forded the Brandywine at Wistar's Ford, providing ready access to the Great Nottingham Road and from there east to Philadelphia or west toward Kennett. Population grew so rapidly that the drive into West Chester on the 1745 road (today's Route 52) reflects the 19th century landscape, rather than the colonial. You will pass George Entriken's farm on the right, leaving the village. He owned the mill from 1735 to 1772 when he sold it to Emmor Jefferis. Be sure to stop at Baldwin's Book Barn (pictured above) to begin exploring Chester County History.



Baldwin's Book Barn.

Turk's Head Tavern Site and the Chester County Historical Society Interpretive Site

Although the Society of Friends regarded drunkenness as a great veil, it did not fault members for making money selling liquor. Thus, the Quaker ownership of Turk's Head Tavern (like Martin's Tavern in Marshallton) was not as curious as it might seem. The initial license was granted in 1761 to Phineas Eachus and a tavern opened at the crossroads that connected Lancaster to Philadelphia and Wilmington to Pottstown. In 1777, the land where the tavern stood was on Isaiah Matlack's property in West Goshen, and he signed the original petition for the tavern. Although the name and its history are complex stories, the location turned out to be the most central in Chester County and is now opposite of the historic Chester County Courthouse. The county seat moved to the Turk's Head crossroads in 1786 and the new town was named West Chester. In the end, it was the central location for commerce that moved those in power to relocate the county seat. In 1789, Chester and the townships around the Chester River formed Delaware County. Although Turk's Head Tavern did not play an active role in the Battle of Brandywine, shots were fired near it a week later on the morning of the Battle of the Clouds. As you pass the Historic Chester County Courthouse on High Street the location is immediately on your right where the Susquehanna Bank currently stands. The West Chester Historical Society at 225 N. High Street is a short drive on High Street and well worth the visit to explore the history of Chester County.



Historic depiction of downtown West Chester.

Strasburg Road (Route 162) Viewing Corridor

On leaving West Chester from the Historical Society you will travel on Market Street to Route 162, the historic drover's route to market between Turk's Head and Lancaster. Watch for this house on your right as it marks the beginning of the Taylor-Cope National Historic District. Being a 'free market road', the Strasburg Road became one of East and West Bradford's main thoroughfares and bustled with miller's wagons and drovers. These drovers would herd their sheep, cattle, pigs, and turkeys from Lancaster to Philadelphia for sale, stopping each evening at an inn along the road. Settlement patterns are still evident in today's landscape.



This house marks the beginning of the Taylor Cope Historic District when approaching from the East.

Taylor-Cope Historic District Viewing Sites

Within the district there are 16 historic resources that date from 1724 to 1906. These show the evolution of the area, from a founding plantation and mill to the growth and decline of industrial sites. By 1730, there were two fine brick mansion houses in the district constructed by the Abiah Taylor Family. You will pass the Black Horse Tavern on your left first and then the Abiah Taylor farm and barn. The early farms are set back from the Strasburg Road on higher ground, while the inn and working buildings in Copesville face the road and are located within a few feet of the pavement. The Abiah Taylor farm and barn is the earliest of the Taylor properties and is a rare example of English Colonial

architecture. With its steep gable roof, single pile construction, hall/parlor plan, Flemish bond brick walls and evidence of a leaded glass sash it is one of the few examples of first period architecture in Chester County.



Abiah Taylor Homestead on the 1725 Road.

Stroud Preserve: Taylor/Worth Families Interpretive Site

The first stop is at the Stroud Preserve on Creek Road. This area preserves the colonial properties of Thomas Worth and Abiah Taylor. Thomas Worth, Jr., son of Thomas (1649-1731) and Isabelle Davidson Worth, was a Quaker and member of Darby and later Bradford Monthly Meeting. He married Mary Fawcett and the couple had the following known children: Samuel, Susanna, Lydia, Rebecca, Hannah, Ebenezer, Joseph, and Mary. He obtained (transaction unrecorded) 350 acres (northern portion) of what was once part of his father's 500 acre tract in East Bradford. He occupied this tract from 1739, when he moved from Darby to East Bradford, until his death in 1778. The 350 acre tract is the source of three modern day parcels: the primary residence (built around 1739) and the tenant houses on Lucky Hill Road, residence is private today and 80 acres are in easement.



Stroud Preserve on Creek Road.

Copes Bridge & Copesville

At the turn of the century, farming moved toward animal husbandry and sheep and cattle increased on the Taylor/Cope farms. A tilt hammer mill was established on the Brandywine in the 1790's and Cope's Bridge was completed in 1805. Copesville grew and thrived as the Cope family supplied casting for the E.I. DuPont's mills in Wilmington. They cast the Corinthian columns for the new Chester County Courthouse in 1845. Stately homes and worker residences remain near the bridge from the time period reflecting the prosperity of the milling village.



A stately home representative of those from Copesville.

Ingram Mill Nature Area & John Hannum Interpretive Site

The Ingram Family was one of the founding Quaker families. The Ingram Mill Nature Area is a good place to stop and consider the story of politician, businessman and colonial militiaman John Hannum, who exemplified the younger generation of men who made their fortunes supporting the Revolution. His house, which is on the National Register, is located about a mile north of the park and is a private residence. Appointed to the Committee of Observation for Chester County in 1774, he commanded the 1st Battalion of the Chester County Militia. Hannum and his friend Thomas Cheney witnessed the crossing of the British at Trimble's Ford. He was later taken captive by the British and held prisoner in Philadelphia. In 1784, he was one of three men selected to build a new court house and prison for the County of Chester, located within one and a half miles from the Turk's Head Tavern. Prior to the construction of the new courthouse, he built the Washington Hotel on High Street and profited from the new county seat. He was a delegate to the PA Convention to ratify the Federal Constitution in 1787. His residence and mill were located north of the Strasburg Road on the same road that Strode's Mill stood on.



Ingram Mill Nature Area.



John Hannum House.

Recommendations

The Brandywine Battlefield Task Force and its newer Historic Resources, Education, and Interpretation Subcommittee includes representatives from historical commissions and sites throughout the battlefield. The key to successful implementation of interpretation for this area of the battlefield is for the Task Force to identify a Preparing for Battle Heritage Center Interpretation Subcommittee consisting of representatives from the East Bradford Historical Commission and Strode's Mill Subcommittee, Friends of Strode's Mill, Natural Lands Trust and area residents and merchants. The following are recommendations for such a subcommittee to develop a cohesive interpretation program for the Heritage Center in Strode's Mill Village. All of the following recommendations could be advanced by the subcommittee in coordination with various partners:

- 6-1. Continue to support and advance the reuse of Strode's Mill as the site of the Heritage Center. Should this site not be feasible for this use, seek an alternate site.
- 6-2. Create a display area in the proposed Heritage Center to house interpretive materials for the Preparing for Battle Heritage Center. This should include the three proposed Heritage Tours, the animated map of the battle, and copies of the Strategic Landscape plan elements.
- 6-3. Coordinate advancing the Heritage Center to be a Township park and interpretation center. Gateways and heritage centers are generally compatible, whereby they are both available for public viewing access. Strode's Mill Village is in line with East Bradford's Township policy in their Greenways, Trails, and Gateways Plan'. A 'gateway' as defined in that plan shares similar qualities with this plan's heritage center recommendation, including evoking a sense of place and connection to the community fabric, enhancing and integrating historic, natural, and cultural features, and being visually accessible to the public.
- 6-4. Develop a strong working partnership with the other Heritage Centers for interpretation of the battle.

- 6-5. Develop a driving tour and smart phone app for the three Heritage Tours created in this plan and other northern battlefield landscape plans.
- 6-6. Hold two annual special events to highlight the British flanking march and the Chester County Militia's attempts to warn Gen'l Washington and thwart the British flanking strategy.
- 6-7. Build the historic themes for the Preparing for Battle Heritage Center into public events in in East Bradford Township.
- 6-8. Guide visitors to the Chester County Historical Society in West Chester and to the amenities offered in the historic county seat. Build historic themes into the menus throughout the Borough. Entrees or special drinks could reference colonial and military wording or beverages.
- 6-9. Coordinate with the Brandywine Creek Greenway project to build historic interpretation, and specifically the role of the creek in the battle, into their public outreach and interpretive efforts.
- 6-10. Publicize and celebrate land conservation efforts at heritage sites associated with the battlefield to publicly display the inherent relation between battlefield protection and land conservation. In the past, public education efforts for the battlefield have focused on battle history or colonial-era topics. However, the history of land preservation over the last 40 years could also be presented to the public in this forum. Such publicity would celebrate the efforts of local landowners and entities, while providing information to the public about the multi-faceted benefits of land conservation. (East Bradford Township, Land Trusts, Battlefield Municipalities)



Appendix A

Battlefield Significance

This appendix provides a historical overview of the battle and time sequence for the northern Brandywine Battlefield where tactical battle staging occurred the morning and into the afternoon of September 11, 1777. The northern battlefield consists of the strategic landscapes of Marshallton, Trimble's Ford, Jefferis' Ford, and Sconnetown/Strode's Mill. While not part of the northern battlefield, Osborne Hill Strategic Landscape is considered to be a 'related' landscape due to its relationship and relevance to the Strode's Mill area in regard to the finish of the British Advance and the 'lull' in action on the northern front while the Crown Forces halted to 'rest and regroup' after a long trek over rolling terrain and through water bodies on a humid late summer day. (This relationship is addressed in the 'Preparing for Battle' Plan for Sconnetown/Strode's Mill Strategic Landscape). The historic overview this appendix provides has been adapted from the 2013 Plan information by the project consultant JMA.

Further, this appendix takes a step back from Strategic Landscapes analysis to look at the broader picture of the entire Brandywine Battlefield and the battle itself. The reason for this broader look is to set the stage for how Strategic Landscapes fit into the larger battlefield landscape. This appendix summarizes the significance of the battle as a defining moment in local, state, and national history and provides an overview of recent battlefield planning efforts. It also reinforces the battlefield's national importance, as recognized in *Landscapes2* (Chester County's Comprehensive Policy Plan), and validates its significant contribution to the County's quality of place, which is a key element of VISTA 2025 (Chester County's economic development strategy).

Historical Overview of the Battle

The late summer of 1777 in the upper Delmarva Peninsula witnessed the start of the military campaign that resulted in the capture of Philadelphia by Crown Forces (25 September 1777). Two years of warfare had preceded the Philadelphia Campaign, with much of the principal military action on land occurring in New England, New York and New Jersey. Crown Forces setbacks occurred in December 1776 (First Battle of Trenton) and in early January 1777 (Battle of Princeton). These reversals resulted in the Crown Forces wintering in New York City and in the vicinity of New Brunswick and Perth Amboy, New Jersey, and American Forces taking up winter quarters around Morristown, New Jersey.

During May and June 1777, the inability of Gen'l. Sir William Howe to force a decisive battle or outmaneuver Gen'l. George Washington in New Jersey led to the movement by sea of the balance of Crown Forces from Staten Island to Elk Neck in Maryland. Numbering approximately 15,000 men, the Crown Forces were transported by the British fleet up the Chesapeake Bay and landed at the Head of Elk on 25 August. Their intent was to advance overland to capture Philadelphia, the fledgling capital of the United States (Black 1998:124).

In a series of hard-fought engagements, American and Crown forces battled each other across the landscape and on the waters of Northeastern Maryland and the Lower Delaware Valley. In a series of engagements – Cooch's Bridge (3 September), Brandywine (11 September), Battle of the Clouds (16 September), and Paoli (20-21 September) – Crown Forces maneuvered and fought their way to the colonial capital of Philadelphia, which was taken on 25 September (McGuire 2006). By far the largest of these engagements – both in terms of land area covered and numbers of troops actively involved – was the Battle of Brandywine.

The terrain between Head of Elk in Maryland and the Schuylkill and Delaware River valleys over which the two armies maneuvered in the late summer and early fall of 1777 was markedly different from the ground in central

New Jersey where fighting had occurred in the early summer campaigning. There, as Howe’s army attempted to maneuver towards the rebel nation’s capital of Philadelphia, Washington’s army had significant high ground – the Watchung Mountains – to his rear, into which he could retire if forced to, and out of which he could launch forays upon the rear and right flank of Crown Forces. In southeastern Pennsylvania and the adjacent counties of New Castle and Cecil, the rolling hills of the Piedmont were cut by generally west-to-east-flowing streams such as the Christina River, the White and Red Clay Creeks, and the Brandywine. Washington was able to use these drainages to his advantage, establishing a principal defensive line along the Red Clay Creek, and a secondary line closer to Wilmington along the lower reaches of the Brandywine. Howe avoided these defensive positions by continuously maneuvering to his left, or west, thus outflanking the American positions (he did this along the Red Clay Creek on 8 September, at the Brandywine on 11 September, and in the forcing of the Schuylkill River fords on 22 September). Unlike the American positions in New Jersey, Washington had no natural anchor for his right, or west flank, thus making it difficult to defend against Howe’s maneuver (Taaffe 2003:63-64).

Washington’s position along the Brandywine clearly blocked the direct route of advance towards Philadelphia (today’s US Route 1 corridor) and because of the broad valley and steep hills along the north side of the Creek was a strong post for his army. The river presented a major geographic obstacle for Howe’s army and the American position included temporary earthworks and prepared positions. The Brandywine position presented a great opportunity for Washington to offer battle, but the principal drawback about Washington’s defensive line was that the Brandywine had multiple crossing points over which the Crown Forces could advance, too many crossing points to adequately defend.

On September 11, 1777, Sir William Howe’s army launched a two-pronged attack on the American position along Brandywine Creek. One column commanded by Hessian Gen’l. Kynphausen departed Kennett Square along the Great Nottingham Road (current US Route 1), and attacked Gen’l. George Washington’s troops stationed at Chad’s Ford. A second column, commanded by Howe and Lord Charles Cornwallis, followed a more circuitous route, travelling north from Kennett Square, crossing the Brandywine Creek first at Trimble’s Ford (the approximate site is accessible today by walking in open fields and on farm paths through private property), and then turning east and fording the Brandywine again near what is now a bridge at old Jefferis’ Ford. The column arrived at an area near Birmingham Road in Birmingham Township and from there they attacked Washington’s northern flank from right rear. American formations responded to this maneuver by forming a series of defensive lines, but were out-maneuvered. The final action of the day occurred along the Old Wilmington Road south of Dilworthtown when Maj. Gen’l. Nathanael Greene positioned his brigade and the remnants of other Continental formations in a semi-circular line that was able to blunt the Crown Forces advance. As evening approached and daylight waned, Washington’s Army retreated east along modern US Route 1. His forces reformed near the City of Chester in what is now Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

Time Sequence of Battle Events as related to the Northern Battlefield

Several assumptions about military-related battle events discussed in the 2013 Plan were further examined for this project. For Trimble’s and Jefferis’ Fords Strategic Landscapes, they are shown in *italics* below. Likewise, they are shown in *italics* for Marshallton Landscape and in *italics* for Scconelltown/Strode’s Mill Landscape. Some of the assumptions apply to and thus are exploded for more than one Landscape, however only the primary Landscape to which they are ‘attached’ is highlighted below.

Before 5AM in Marshallton village: American patrol under Lt. Col. Ross (that spotted the British northern flank) *arrives in Marshallton near the Tavern* and begins to patrol the vicinity for British activity. Another patrol under Maj. Spear of the Chester County Militia (8th Battalion) was at the Tavern in the early morning or evening before

the battle. Chester County Militia (1st Battalion) under Col. John Hannum established their headquarters at Martin's Tavern in the village of Marshallton, and were joined by Maj. Spear and by some pro-Independence civilians including Thomas "Squire" Cheyney the evening before the battle.

British form two columns of troops – a northern flanking column (northern battlefield) and an eastern column (southern battlefield, to be studied in future strategic landscape plans)

Before 5AM to 6:45AM: British Gen'l Cornwallis's Division lines up and forms into a northern flanking column, then moves from Kennett Square along Unionville Road, then east along Marlboro Road, *then north along to Red Lion Road to near Haines Mill Road*. As ordered by Gen. Washington, before sunrise Maj. Spear leaves Martin's Tavern to scout for British formations. Before sunrise, Spear rides south to Welch's Tavern near present-day US 1 and Longwood Road at Longwood Gardens. Spear sees no British Troops.

7AM to 7:45AM: *Cornwallis's Division continues to move north along Red Lion Road to Unionville-Wawaset Road. From there, they turn west onto Bragg Hill Road, which is the road that leads to Trimble's Ford*. The rear of Cornwallis's Division is still on Unionville Road near Street Road.

British northern flanking column crosses the Brandywine Creek's west and east branches

8AM: Cornwallis' Division, specifically the Hessian Field Jaegers Corps and the British Light Infantry Battalions, begin crossing the Creek's western branch at Trimble's Ford. South of Martin's Tavern *near Northbrook Road and Strasburg Road*, American Col. Hannum and Squire Cheyney ride into the countryside from Martin's Tavern and witness *at an undefined location* a cloud of dust rising from Cornwallis's Division approaching Trimble's Ford from the south to cross the Brandywine Creek. Cheyney rides to warn Gen'l Washington who is at the Ring Road House in Chadds Ford.

9:30AM: Ross' detachment of American light infantry (70 men) *arrives in Marshallton near Martin's Tavern* and begins scouting the area for British troops. Cornwallis's Division continue to cross Creek at Trimble's Ford and begin to move *east on Lucky Hill Road and then Allerton Road* to Jefferis' Ford.

10:45AM: *Ross's Detachment moves south to Northbrook and North Wawaset Roads.*

11:00AM: British's 4th Brigade is the last military formation of Cornwallis's Division to cross the Creek at Trimble's Ford. *Ross's Detachment exchanges gunfire with British's 4th Brigade at Trimble's Ford and a brief skirmish ensues.*

11:15AM: Ross sends a note to Gen'l Washington to report the British have crossed the Creek and are flanking to the north.

11:45AM: Cornwallis's Division begins crossing the Creek's eastern branch at Jefferis' Ford. Sir William Howe forces Emmer Jefferis, a Quaker farmer, to guide the British in fording the Creek. Cornwallis' Hessian Corps cross the Creek and then turn south onto Birmingham Road, while Cornwallis' Division wait to cross at the ford. Squire Cheyney arrives at Chadds Ford and tells Gen'l Washington of Cornwallis's troops marching to the north, but is not believed.

Noon: Cornwallis's Division continues crossing the Creek at Jefferis' Ford. Gen'l. Washington receives Ross's note stating that the British are to the north. Incorrectly believing his troops in the southern battlefield are confronting the majority of the British Army, Gen'l. Washington forms an attack on British troops lined up on the west side of the Creek.

12:45PM: Maj. Spear delivers information to Maj. Gen. Sullivan of no British activity to the north. Sullivan conveys this information to Gen’l Washington, who thinking a trap reconsiders his strategy.

British northern flanking column arrive at Strode’s Mill and halt to stage their attack

1:00PM: Joseph Townsend, a member of the Birmingham Meeting, witnesses the advance of Cornwallis’s Division through Sconnelltown *at Birmingham Road and Sconnelltown Road*. Cornwallis’s Division halts their advance and begin to organize near Strode’s Mill at present-day Birmingham Road and PA 52. The British Light Infantry and the Hessian Corps line up on the south side of PA 52 just south of Strode’s Mill.

1:15PM: Hessian Corps *move south along Birmingham Road to near present-day County Club Road*. Gen’l Washington orders troops to go north on Birmingham Road to near Meetinghouse Road where they see Cornwallis’ troops.

1:30PM to 2:15PM: Most of Cornwallis’s Division reach and stop to rest on Osborne Hill *north of PA 52 and west of Birmingham Road* to prepare for battle.

Battle Action Summary

The Battle of Brandywine was a complicated, multi-phase event involving nearly 30,000 troops and lasting from sunup to sundown on September 11, 1777. Map 1.11 from the 2013 Plan (below)¹ provides a snapshot of what was a complex battle. At 5 a.m. the morning of the battle, British Gen’l Howe’s army launched a two-prong attack on the American position along Brandywine Creek. One column departed Kennett Square along the Great Nottingham Road and attacked American troops at Chadds Ford, as Gen’l Washington had expected (Map 1.11-A, B). A second Crown Force column followed a more circuitous route, travelling north from Kennett Square and then east, crossing the Creek further north than the Americans expected, first at Trimble’s Ford and then again at Jefferis’ Ford, arriving at Strodes Mill/Osborne Hill (Map 1.11-A, B, C, D, E) where they regrouped. From there the Crown Forces attacked to the south, confronting Gen’l Washington’s late planned northern troop defense line and out-maneuvering American Forces from the side (Map 1.11-E, F). American Forces were pushed further south where they regrouped near the village of Dilworthtown to organize a last defensive stand (Map 1.11-G, H), using non-traditional ‘guerrilla warfare’, the first of many times Gen’l Washington would employ the tactic during the war. While the sun was fading in the evening, Maj. Gen’l Greene positioned his brigade and the remnants of other American formations in a semi-circular line that was able to hold off and blunt the Crown Forces’ advance. This allowed American Forces to retreat east, reforming near the City of Chester. (Appendix A provides a more detailed battle history.)

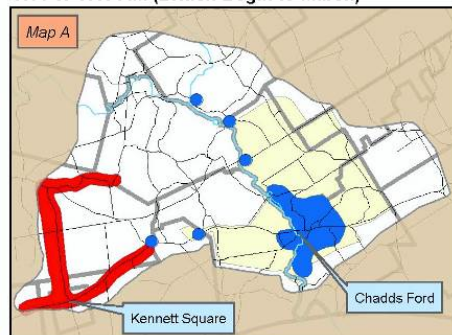
Battlefield Significance

Brandywine was a defining battle of the American Revolution and specifically the British Campaign in 1777 to overtake and occupy Philadelphia, the colonial capital. The battle was significant as it involved the highest ranked officers of both the American Army and British Army, Gen’l Washington and Gen’l Howe. Although the Americans were unsuccessful in preventing British occupation of Philadelphia, the battle demonstrated the American Army had the ability to slow and withstand a direct engagement with the most organized and powerful army in the world at the time, and still rally to fight again. The battle did not result in Gen’l. Washington’s

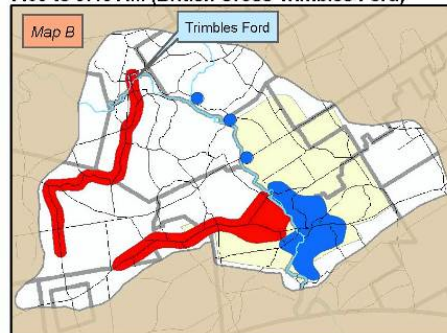
¹ Crown Forces are shown in red, American Forces in blue, 2010 Study battlefield boundaries in white and 1992 NHL planning boundaries in off-white.

capture by the British nor the destruction of his army. Together, the Brandywine and Saratoga battles signify the turning point of the war in favor of the Americans, sparking the interest in allegiance from France for the American cause.

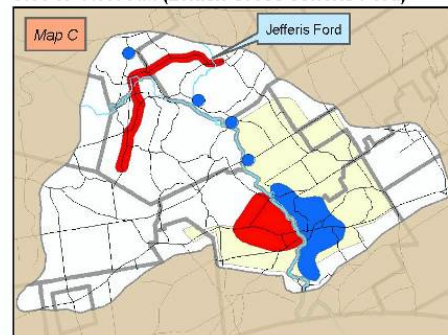
5:00 to 6:45 AM (British Begin to March)



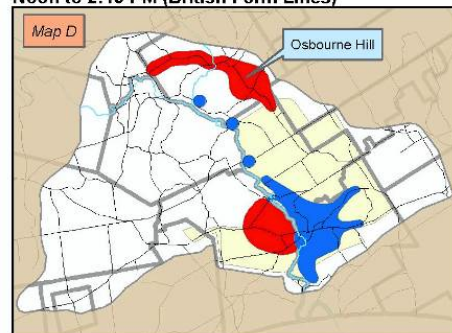
7:00 to 9:15 AM (British Cross Trimble's Ford)



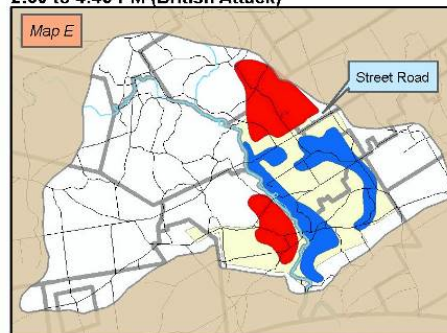
9:30 to 11:45 AM (British Cross Jefferis Ford)



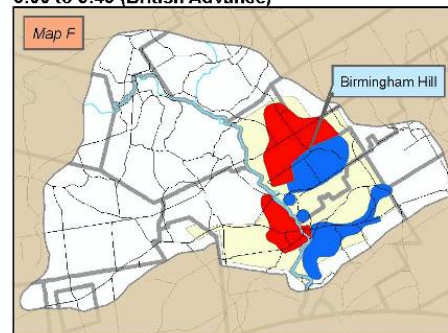
Noon to 2:15 PM (British Form Lines)



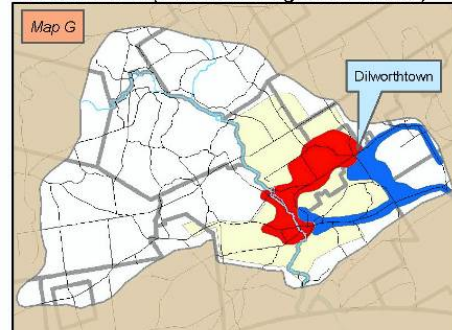
2:30 to 4:45 PM (British Attack)



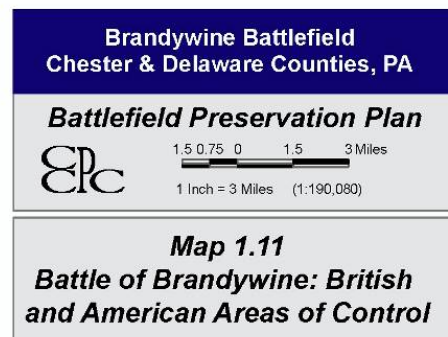
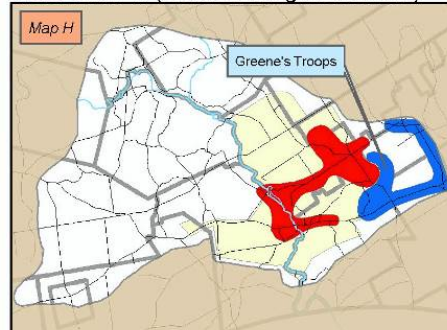
5:00 to 5:45 (British Advance)



6:00 to 6:45 PM (American's Organized Retreat)



7:00 to 7:30 PM (Greene's Rearguard Defense)



Brandywine represents one of the earliest and largest battles of the American Revolution in terms of the number of troops engaged in active combat and total battlefield land area involved (including troop movement, camp, skirmish, and combat sites). It extends through 15 municipalities in two counties, covering approximately 35,000 acres of land. As a testament to its importance, the battlefield is a National Historic Landmark¹, the highest level of historic resource designation in the nation. The battlefield's importance as a local, state, and national resource is additionally recognized as: a 'Protection Area of National Significance' in Chester County's *Landscapes*²; the first designated 'Pennsylvania Commonwealth Treasure'; and a National Park Service 'Class A, Preservation Priority 1' Revolutionary War battlefield. Due to its significance and relative integrity, the battlefield is still used today for training soldiers in KOCO military analysis (see below) and reading a battlefield landscape.

¹ The National Historic Landmark designated in 1961 recognized the existence and importance of the battle to the course of the American Revolution. The boundary was later delineated to include the battlefield known at the time and includes areas where the fiercest battle action occurred. Numerous subsequent studies, each with additional found historical information, led to an increasingly better understanding of battle events and their locations, which extend well afield from the original boundary. The 2010 Study and the following 2013 Plan provide a compilation of 'best known' information to date and show the breadth of the battlefield as accepted by the ABPP. That information is supplemented with the undertaking of Battlefield Strategic Landscapes Plans, such as this plan, as also accepted by the ABPP.

The 2013 Plan develops a ‘Statement of Significance’ for the battlefield that provides a summary explanation of reasons the battle is important, centering around three primary themes: 1) military events; 2) local (mostly Quaker) community and the battle’s impact; and 3) the battle’s role in the American Revolution, including the British capture of Philadelphia and diplomatic negotiations with the French. The ‘Statement’ guides historic resource identification and interpretation opportunities. Built features are examined as to whether they represent and contribute to the battlefield based on the extent to which they are associated with the reasons or themes.

Statement of Significance for the Brandywine Battlefield
(from Brandywine Battlefield Preservation Plan, 2013)

The Brandywine Battlefield highlights one of the United States’ most significant historical events when on September 11, 1777, General Howe and his well-armed professional army engaged the citizen soldiers led by General Washington for a day long battle along the banks of the Brandywine Creek. Although it was a loss for the Americans, it proved that they had the talent and resiliency to fight a long and difficult war. It demonstrated to the Americans that they would never win by fighting a conventional “European” war, forcing them to adopt an alternative defensive strategy that Washington dubbed the “War of Posts.” Lastly, it convinced the French that Washington’s newly formed rebel troops were reliable enough that they deserved assistance from the French Navy, and all the troops and munitions it could deliver.

When the two large armies, which together totaled 30,000 soldiers, marched into the Brandywine Valley, they instantly changed the character of what had been a quiet homogeneous farming community of some 350 residents, most of whom were Quakers. Since the Quaker faith forbade participation in war, even in a just war, the Brandywine Valley Quakers refused to take sides. Therefore, what essentially took place that day was an invasion of “Quaker country” by two outside armies, one British and one non-Quaker Americans. Local Quaker property was damaged or seized by both armies. And although the Quaker community did not cooperate with either side during the active combat, they spontaneously organized to provide medical care to the wounded immediately after the Battle, even turning their meetinghouses into hospitals.

A ‘Living Cultural Landscape’

Brandywine Battlefield is a one-of-a-kind cultural landscape that possesses a special authenticity among remaining battlefields on American soil. This uniqueness provides a foundation and catalyst for successful planning, interpretation, and protection of resources, landscapes, and open spaces, and is vital to preserving Chester County heritage, quality of life, and sense of place, as well as promoting education, outreach, and heritage tourism, as appropriate. The battlefield is distinctive in retaining a visible 1777 landscape, including cultural aspects, historic structures, views, natural features, and open rural lands that document and commemorate the history of the nation, state, region, and local communities.

Cultural aspects of the 1777 landscape endure, most notably the local Quaker community who bring a cultural continuity to the landscape. Quakers lived in the ‘battlefield’ well before and during the battle, and still live there today. Descendants of the Quaker families who experienced the battle are present-day residents, some of whom still reside in their family battle-era homes. The same Quaker meetinghouses used for worship before the battle, and as make-shift field hospitals for the injured of both armies during and after the battle, continue to be used for worship today.

Buildings, structures, and lands of the era also endure. Nearly half of the battlefield’s approximately 35,000 acres remain open and undeveloped, and some tracts still have similar property lines as in the 18th century. Intact colonial-era structures, natural features and landforms, rural tracts and farms, roadways, and other physical elements endure and reflect the critical role that Chester and Delaware counties played in the founding of the nation. Colonial-era enclaves, such as Marshallton and Dilworthtown villages, remain as thriving small communities with associated rural lands that remain in agricultural, equestrian, and other open land uses.

Historic natural features and landforms still characterize this cultural landscape, including challenging, sloped-terrain. Obstacles, such as Brandywine Creek and its associated floodplains and wetlands, are referenced in accounts by British and American troops who had to cross or avoid them.

The battlefield is distinct in that it is a 'living cultural landscape' where people live and work today in continuously-used, well-preserved battle-era structures and lands. Many have been sensitively updated or repurposed to meet modern needs, while still displaying battle-era character. Local, county, state, and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, elected officials, residents, and businesses, along with or as members of Brandywine Battlefield Task Force (BBTF)¹, work to provide outreach, education, interpretation, preservation, and planning for the protection of this highly important national resource. The battlefield is not a museum collection of resources, and planning efforts recognize its continuation as a vital, working landscape that encompasses structures, features, and open spaces that speak to the 1777 landscape. Efforts to preserve and interpret the battlefield should not attempt to duplicate an outdoor undeveloped 'museum', such as Valley Forge National Military Park or Gettysburg National Historic Park. Rather, the battlefield is a living cultural landscape where the local community has an active role as its caretaker and steward as the battlefield is quite literally *their own back yards*.

Recent Planning Efforts

Battlefield planning, preservation efforts, and studies have occurred in the battlefield for decades, at least since the 1961 NHL designation. Recent ABPP-funded projects of the 2010 Study and 2013 Plan extended the previously assumed battlefield boundaries to incorporate northern areas, including Marshallton Landscape and part of Jefferis' Ford Landscape, and provide the most current and holistic battlefield planning documents. The 2010 Study mapped the newly understood full battlefield for the first time, and in doing so, it found that the battlefield was much larger than previously mapped, including lands as far north as West Bradford Township. The 2013 Plan was a follow-up to/recommendation of the 2010 Study.

2010 Battlefield Study and Animated Map

Undertaken by Chester County staff, the 2010 Study inventories historic resources, examines battle logistics, defines battlefield boundaries, maps and animates troop movements and battle action, and provides an educational DVD about the battle.

Inventorying historic resources and lands - Chester County staff worked with municipal historic commission volunteers to complete a preliminary inventory of historic resources (battle-era and non-battle era). The results are individual municipal Historic Resource Atlases (of all identified historic resources) and a Battle of Brandywine Historic Resource Atlas (of only battle-era identified historic resources). It is the first time historic resources were identified on such a widespread scale in the battlefield.

Examining battle logistics using KOCOA analysis - ABPP guidelines require battlefields be examined using KOCOA², a U.S. Armed Forces battlefield analytical technique. KOCOA is used to understand and map the physical extent of a battlefield, locations of battle elements (events and features), and how unique physical geography, cultural topography/ settlement patterns, and communication routes affect military strategy. KOCOA examines land, natural, and built features to identify defining features, which are those features referenced in battle accounts, historic maps, or other sources that help locate battle events in the modern landscape. Figure 2-1 shows defining feature examples and their KOCOA battlefield element category. KOCOA looks at whether features present military obstacles or advantages in a battlefield landscape.

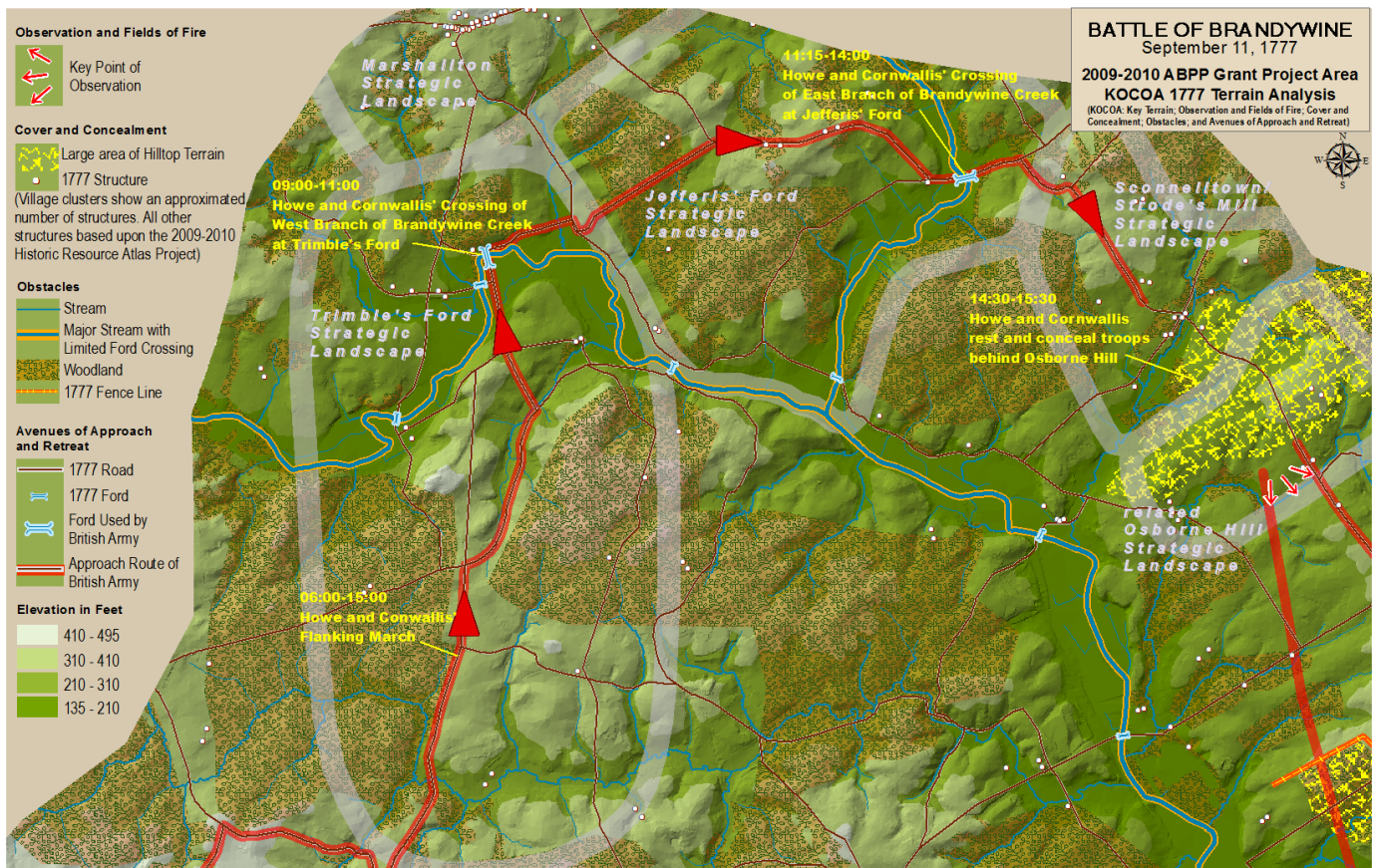
¹ Formed in 1993, Brandywine Battlefield Task Force is a volunteer group of concerned organizations (including municipal, state, and federal representatives, as well as non-profit institutions) interested in working collaboratively to preserve and protect the Battlefield, its history, and its resources through raising awareness about the importance of the battle to American history, coordinating public-private partnerships, and promoting battle interpretation.

² KOCOA stands for Key Terrain; Observation/Fields of Fire; Cover/Concealment; Obstacles; and Avenues of Approach and Retreat. KOCOA has been used since World War II by the Army War College and was first used as a cultural landscape tool at Gettysburg National Military Park in 1996. ABPP uses KOCOA for evaluations of historic battlefields to establish a consistent baseline for battlefield analysis.

Completing KOCO A allows understanding of engagement areas where combat occurred, approach routes taken by troops, and activities behind the lines where battle support actions occurred (e.g. army supply baggage trains, camp sites, non-combatant camp-followers, taverns used for meeting places, farms that provisions were taken from, and meetinghouses, residences, and barns used as field hospitals). The KOCO A analysis led to project mapping of battle events and defining features. The portion of the 2010 Study's KOCO A analysis that pertains to the northern battlefield is shown in the map below.

Figure A-1: ABPP KOCO A Battlefield Evaluation System Definitions

BATTLEFIELD ELEMENT	DEFINITION	DEFINING FEATURE EXAMPLES
KEY TERRAIN	A portion of the battlefield, possession of which gives an advantage to the possessor.	Road junctions, fords, buildings, bridges, high ground
OBSERVATION AND FIELDS OF FIRE	Any point on the landscape that allows observation of movements, deployments, and activity of the enemy, offers opportunity to see over an area and acquire targets, and allows flat-trajectory weapons to be brought to bear on the enemy.	High ground, sloping approaches to entrenched positions, clearings, roads
COVER AND CONCEALMENT	Landforms or landscape elements that provide protection from fire and hide troop positions from observation.	Walls, structures, woodlands, ravines, stream banks, hills, entrenchments
OBSTACLES	Landscape elements that hinder movement and affect the ultimate course of the battle.	Watercourses, walls, ravines, marshes, dense vegetation
AVENUES OF APPROACH	Corridors used to transfer troops between the core battle area and outer logistical areas.	Roads, paths, steam beds, railroads



Mapping the battlefield extent - The 2010 Study maps the full extent of the battlefield for the first time. Using ABPP's 2007 Report on Revolutionary War battlefield sites as a starting point in addition to KOCO A analysis and then recent research by the Study's historian of record, Tom McGuire, it was found through mapping that the battlefield encompasses a much larger area than previously understood, including parts of 15 municipalities in

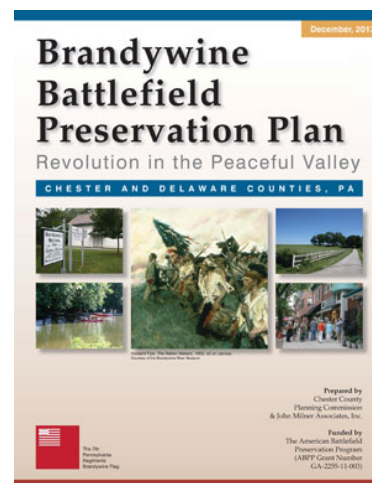
Chester and Delaware counties.¹ Per ABPP standards 'combat areas' and 'associated battle sites', that together make up a battlefield, were considered in determining the extent of the battlefield.² Marshallton Landscape is an associated battle site as it involved behind the combat line events, namely American reconnaissance, that played a key role in battle outcomes. Trimble's and Jefferis' Fords Landscapes are considered associated battle sites as they involved key military events necessary for the successful British tactical flanking maneuver, leading to the battle outcomes. Sconnettown/Strode's Mill Landscape is considered as an associated battle site with Sconnettown as the final stage of the flanking march and Strode's Mill (and related nearby Osborne Hill Landscape) as preparation for battle areas. The Landscape played a role in key military events necessary for completing the successful British tactical flanking maneuver, leading to the battle outcomes.

Animated battle event mapping and educational DVD – The 2010 Study provides digital animated mapping of troop movements and battle action displayed over modern and 1777 landscape features. Using technology to interactively convey battle events, the 2010 Study innovatively provides an improved understanding of the battle and extent of its land area. The animated map has been widely used locally as an educational, interpretive, and planning tool for a broad audience including municipal officials, residents, business owners, and children. Animating battle events 'brings to life' the battle, its larger context, and its impact on the local community. An educational DVD offers a video presentation of the animated map and battle, including its context in the American Revolution.

Key project outcomes – The 2010 Study and animated map have spurred increased local citizen and municipal support and excitement about the battle. The animated map has become a national model in battlefield outreach, education, and planning. The 2010 Study recommends a battlefield preservation plan as a follow-up project.

2013 Battlefield Preservation Plan

Building off the 2010 Study, the 2013 Plan further analyzes and identifies battle-era cultural and historic resources, features, and landscapes throughout the battlefield and offers recommendations on a multi-municipal level. It provides the first holistic plan for the full battlefield area (combat areas and associated sites as delineated by the 2010 Study and accepted by the ABPP), as well as a compilation and summary of prior studies, plans, and information in one document. It provides guidance for continued collaborative work for education, outreach, interpretation, and preservation of battlefield resources and landscapes and meets the mission of the Brandywine Battlefield Task Force. The 2013 Plan was undertaken by Chester County Planning Commission with Brandywine Battlefield Task Force input. Since much of the battlefield falls on privately owned lands, a balance between recognition and planning for this national resource and protection of landowner privacy was a deliberate consideration. To this end, public meetings and outreach events (e.g. Task Force meetings and Chadds Ford Days) were part of the planning process and public comments were incorporated into the 2013 Plan. The 2013 Plan addresses land conservation and historic resources identification, evaluation, and protection strategies; access to public historic sites; potential for pedestrian connectivity, heritage interpretation and educational outreach; and the potential role of heritage tourism. Its subtitle, 'Revolution in the Peaceful Valley', brings to the forefront the additional complication, conflict, and intrigue associated with the battle occurring in a



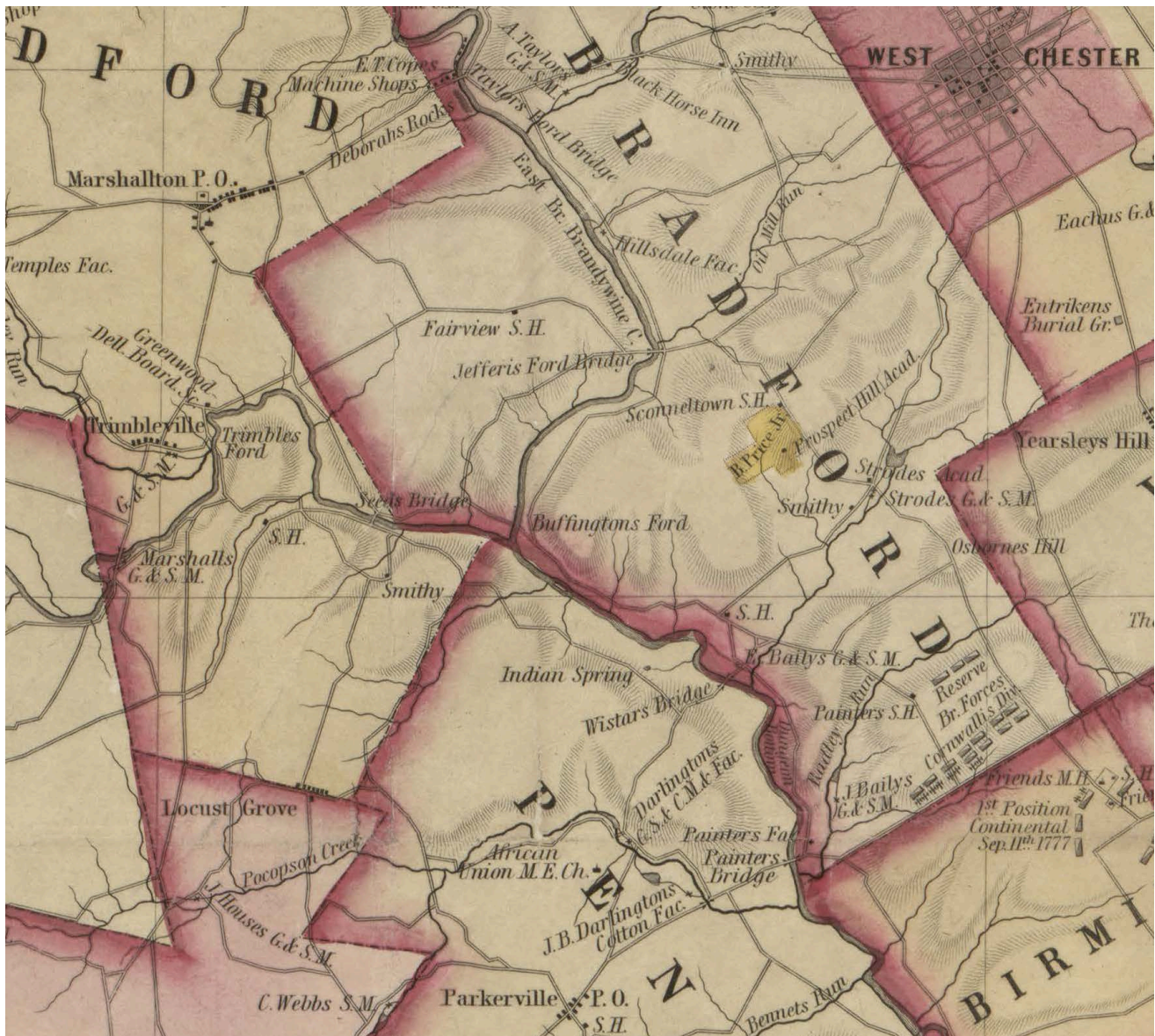
¹ Kennett Square Borough, New Garden Township, East Marlborough Township, Newlin Township, Pocopson Township, West Bradford Township, East Bradford Township, Westtown Township, Thornbury Township, Birmingham Township, and Pennsbury Township in Chester County, and Chadds Ford Township, Thornbury Township, and Concord Township in Delaware County.

² Combat areas are places where core battle military action occurred. Associated sites are actions, places, people, and structures that were impacted and/or needed for the battle to occur. These include troop movements and camp sites (actions and places), farmhouses used as military headquarters and barns and meetinghouses used as field hospitals (structures), and camp followers to support soldiers and citizens who were eyewitnesses to battle events (persons).

largely Quaker pacifist community. It speaks to the two invading armies – one American and one British - that descended upon the Quaker agrarian countryside.

As noted in Chapter 1, a key finding of the 2013 Plan is the identification of Strategic Landscapes, which still reflect the 1777 landscape, represent significant elements of the battlefield, and are critical to battlefield understanding for purposes of interpretation, planning, and preservation. The 2013 Plan recommends further examination and planning for the Landscapes to provide directed guidance to municipalities for local planning and implementation. Landscapes' battle elements and battlefield defining features, from the 2013 Plan, are intended to be clarified through plans such as this plan. The 2010 Study's KOCOA analysis identified, and the 2013 Plan reiterated, Marshallton Landscape, Trimble's and Jefferis' Fords Landscapes, and Sconnelltown/Strode's Mill Landscape as associated battle areas in need of additional analysis.

The enduring resources and landscapes found within the battlefield highly contribute to the character and quality of life in southern Chester and Delaware counties, and the 2013 Plan is a critical tool for raising awareness about their value and importance, and helping plan for their continuation into the future.



1847 Map of Chester County showing the general area of the northern battlefield. This is the earliest county map and closest to the time of the battle known to have this level of detail.



Appendix B

Historic Resources Documentation

This appendix provides detailed property information for historic resources discussed in Chapter 4. This research was completed via extensive deed research undertaken by Chester County Archives. Numbers listed before the historic resource property owner's names refer to 'MapIDs' in Figures 4-2a and 4-2b in Chapter 4. All resources are located in East Bradford Township (modern day and 1777).

51.10, 51.15: Emmor Jefferis (Quaker)

1090 Allerton Road (Parcel #51-7-21 – Emmor's lands are west of Creek, James' lands are east of Creek)

1104 Allerton Road (Parcels #51-7-21.1, 51-7-21.2 – Emmor's farm, house and barn)

1000 Lenape Road (Parcel #51-7-132 – Emmor's mill property, Strodes or Entriaken-Strodes Mill))

Son of James and Elizabeth Tull Carter Jefferis, Emmor Jefferis was a Quaker and member of Concord Monthly Meeting. Contrary to Quaker practice, Emmor Jefferis and Elizabeth Taylor were married by a priest in 1757. The couple had at least three children: James, Emmor (Jr.), and Sarah. There was a depredation claim for two horses, at Parcel #51-7-21 or #51-7-14 (James property) both located in the 1725 Road. This house (#51-7-21.2) is traditionally thought of as the James Jefferis property, but was actually part of the lands that Emmor Jefferis owned in 1777. Parcel #51-7-21 is the property reputed from where liquor was stolen by Crown Forces and where Emmor Jefferis was seized to guide Crown Forces.

50.10: 1090 Allerton Rd (Parcel #51-7-21)

Joseph Townsend reported first sighting the Crown Forces emerging from Jefferis' Ford across the lands belonging to the Jefferis family.

51.15: 1000 Lenape Road (Parcel #51-7-132)

Emmor owned the corn and grist mill property, today referred to as Strode's Mill, from 1772 to 1784 and tax records suggest that his son, Emmor Jr. worked the mill. (See 1781 state tax s-6a.)

51.27: Richard (son of William) Strode (Quaker) – probable Sconnelltown Wheelwright Shop Site

900, 902 Paxson Drive (Parcels #51-7-81.1, 51-7-81.2)

110, 140, 115 Birmingham Road (Parcels #51-7-31, 51-7-31.6, 51-7-81) (note: two Richard Strodes owned property along Birmingham Rd.)

Sconnelltown Wheelwright Shop stood on Birmingham Road where the Bradford Heights looked over the Brandywine Creek below. Richard Strode, son of William and Deborah Woodward Strode, was born ca. 1750 and married Ruth Shields. Some sources suggest that he first married Hannah Battin, but evidence is inconclusive. He was a tanner by trade. He purchased his East Bradford lands between 1775 and June 1777. He filed a depredation claim for E. Bradford lands in 1782. By that time, he was said to be "dwelling in Newlin." (The other Richard Strode (below), who owned Strode's Mill and surrounding areas along Birmingham Road, lived in East Bradford in 1782.)

51.14, 51.11, 51.16: George Strode (Quaker)

415 Birmingham Road (Parcel 51-7-113.1); 950 Sconnettown Road (Parcel 51-7-82.1); 1027 Lenape Road (51-7-36.1)

George Strode was born ca. 1715 and died in 1778. He was first married to Elizabeth Clayton and then Mary (nee Gilpin) Taylor. His known children, presumably by his first wife, were Elizabeth (David Brinton), Elias, Peter, Susanna, and Jonathan. George Strode owned a large parcel of more than 300 acres of land, just north of what is today known as Strode's Mill, which encompasses the following present-day parcels:

51.14: George Strode's Property and probable residence

51.11: George Strode Property with later farmhouse

51.16: George Strode Property with later blacksmith and wheelwright shops where earlier structures may have stood

51.17, 51.18, 51.19: Richard Strode (Quaker) – note there are two Richard Strodes along Birmingham Road

645 Birmingham Road (Parcel 51-7-137.1); 1018 Lenape Road (Parcel 51-7-133.1); 1046 Lenape Road (51-7Q-351)

Richard Strode was born ca. 1742 and was a member of Concord monthly meeting. He married Sarah Hickman in 1764. This Richard Strode was a blacksmith and is the individual who purchased in 1784 what is today referred to as Strode's Mill. He also accumulated approximately 160 acres adjacent to the mill tract encompassing the following present-day parcels:

51.17: Richard Strode Farm

51.18: Strode Tennant House (possible later structure)

51.19: Strode Tennant House (possible later structure)

51.12, 51.22: George Entriaken (Quaker)

945 Tigue Road (Parcel 51-7-115); 972 Tigue Road (Parcel 51-7-135)

George Entriaken was born ca. 1710 and married Mary Woodward in 1736. The couple had one known child named Samuel. George was a miller and owned what is today known as Strode's Mill from 1735 to 1772 when he sold to Emmor Jefferis. He also accumulated lands to the north and east of the mill tract that he owned until his death ca. 1794. The following present-day parcels were owned by George Entriaken in 1777:

51.12: George Entriaken Property and site of residence

51.22: George Entriaken Property and mill race ruin

51.28: William Jefferis property (Quaker)

414 Birmingham Road (Parcel 51-7-34)

Son of Robert and Jane Chandler Jefferis, William was born ca. 1697. He married Elizabeth Ring, widow of John Neild, in 1724 and they had the following known children: William, Samuel, Nathan, Elias, Nathaniel, Mary, Martha, and Hannah. The couple moved from Chester to East Bradford in 1739. Although William lived on and died ca. 1777-78 possessed of his East Bradford lands, it appears that his sons William Jr. and Nathan were paying the taxes on them as early as 1765. From 1765 on, William Sr. was intermittently absent from the tax lists, taxed only for livestock, or taxed as an inmate. William Jr. was to inherit the portion of Senior's land which contains parcel 51-7-34. However, William Jr. also died 1777-78, possibly even predeceasing his father, and he stipulated that his real estate was to be used by his widow Hannah until his son, William III, turned 21.

51.24: Colonel John Hannum property (Quaker ~ disowned 1768)

898 Frank Road (Parcel 51-4-27.1A)

Son of John and Jane Neal Hannum, John Jr. lived ca. 1740-1799. He was a member of Concord Monthly Meeting, but was disowned in 1768 for marrying Alice Parke out of Friends. John was an officer in the Chester County militia and was party to the battle of the Brandywine and the Paoli massacre and is said to have been captured by the British. He inherited a saw mill (not continuously operated) and sizeable plantation in East Bradford from his father in 1773, and by the time he died in 1799 a grist mill and oil mill was also documented.

01.01N: Turk's Head Tavern Site

1 N. High Street (Parcel 1-9-120)

Location is based upon the location of the historic marker in West Chester. The property was owned by Isaiah Matlack in 1777 and the Tavern was first owned by Phineas Eachus. Jacob James took over the license in 1774 and renewed it for two years.

51.04: Thomas Worth (Jr.) (Quaker)

450 N. Creek Road (Parcel 51-5-69-E)

Son of Thomas (1649-1731) and Isabelle Davidson Worth, Thomas Worth (Jr.) was a Quaker and member of Darby and later Bradford Monthly Meeting. He married Mary Fawcett and the couple had the following known children: Samuel, Susanna, Lydia, Rebecca, Hannah, Ebenezer, Joseph, and Mary. He obtained (transaction unrecorded) 350 acres (northern portion) of what was once part of his father's 500 acre tract in East Bradford. He occupied this tract from 1739, when he moved from Darby to East Bradford, until his death in 1778. There was a 350 acre tract is the source of the current day parcel. This parcel was most likely the farm's main house. Further study is necessary to estimate the date of construction, but the chronology would suggest that the house was built around 1739 when Thomas Jr., the first Worth in the township, moved in.

51.23, 51.02, 51.03: Abiah Taylor property (Quaker)

525 N. Creek Road (Parcel 51-5-72.1); 922 W. Strasburg Road (Parcel 51-5-74); 940 W. Strasburg Road (Parcel 51-5-73)

Abiah Taylor was born ca. 1738, the son of Samuel (Sr.) and Mary Smedley Taylor. He married Ann Trimble and had the following known children: Mary, Samuel, Sarah, Ann, Abiah, Deborah, George, and James. Via inheritance and purchase, Abiah amassed a plantation of approximately 250 acres, on which he operated a grist and saw mill. His property and the Taylor family holdings encompassed the following modern day parcels:

51.23 Abiah Taylor House and Barn

51.02 Black Horse Inn

51.03 Mill House

51.34 Residence

51.31N: James Jefferis (Jr.) property (Quaker)

975 W. Miner Street (Parcel 51-7-14)

There was a depredation report for two horses, possibly at this location or the Emmor Jefferis (brother) location. Son of James and Elizabeth Tull Carter Jefferis, James Jefferis (Jr.) was a Quaker and member of Concord Monthly Meeting. He married Ann Cheyney and had six known children: Mary (Hickman), Emmor, Jacob, Elizabeth, Jane, and Cheyney. He inherited his father's dwelling and tract of approximately 220 acres in 1745. Current day parcel 51-7-14 sits on this 220 acre tract.

51.25: John Taylor property (Quaker)

975 Hillsdale Road (Parcel 51-5-83)

Son of Samuel (Sr.) and Deborah Darlington Taylor, John Taylor was born ca. 1748 and married Ann Sellers in 1770 at Bradford Monthly Meeting. John inherited 90 acres of land from his father in 1759 and purchased an adjacent 111 acre tract from Benjamin Townsend in 1774. In 1783 John was taxed for the entire 201 acres, one dwelling, and two outbuildings. This site is reported to have been burned by troops during the flanking march.

51.01: Dr. Joseph Pierce property

890 W. Strasburg Road (Parcel 51-5-75)

Joseph Pierce was a non-resident owner of a this parcel. He lived in Pennsbury and it is not clear who, if anyone, leased this property in 1777. The historic district nomination states this property is the Woodward-Cope House (Southdown). It is the probable site of the Cope Malt Mill.



Appendix C Themed Heritage Tour

This appendix provides detailed information about the interpretive heritage tour highlighted in Chapter 6, where heritage tours are described as one element of heritage interpretation for the northern battlefield. Heritage tours are key elements of interpretation, providing an interpretation network linking Interpretation Sites and Viewing Corridors and Sites with proposed Heritage Centers (at Marshallton village and Strode's Mill area) and the proposed Battlefield Gateway in West Chester Borough. This appendix describes tour #3 of three. Tours #1 and #2 are in plans for Marshallton Landscape and Trimble's and Jefferis' Fords Landscapes. Together the three tours feature battle-era landscape features of farm pastures, farmhouses, barns, mill buildings, road beds and other features that remain intact today and display a still visible colonial era Brandywine Valley landscape. The tours also discuss families living in the area at the time of the battle, and the impact the battle had on them as evidenced by their registered claims against the British Crown for goods stolen by troops as they marched through the area. As expected, tours discuss military events conducted by both armies. Colonial settlement patterns and features, the battle's impact on the local community, and military events of both armies are common major themes among all three plans.

These heritage tours are intended as driving tours for personal vehicles or mini-buses at a maximum. Some people may find these tours could instead be trekked by bicycle. In designing these tours, great regard is taken for private property remaining as such, and guiding people to public-access sites, with Strode's Mill village serving as a recommended center for public interpretation of the northern battlefield in this Landscape and adjacent landscapes. Tours do not necessarily use the historically technical language found in other parts of this plan; for example this tour generally uses the term British troops rather than Crown Forces.

Tour #3: 'Mills, Taverns & Militia'

Heritage Tour Overview

In the early days of September 1777 two opposing armies, numbering more than 30,000 soldiers and camp followers, invaded the primarily Quaker Brandywine Valley. The population of the county in 1800 was approximately 27,000 and a good estimate puts 4,500 people living in the immediate battlefield area in 1777. Key to understanding the nuances of the battle is understanding that the colonial road system which these troops relied upon was designed to link destinations, not population centers which were barely forming. In addition to delineating the transition point on the battlefield from Avenue of Approach to Core Area, the Strode's Mill/Sconnettown Landscape provides insight into the role the transportation network played in the battle and the next chapter of Chester County history following the Revolutionary War. This tour was designed to give the visitor a visual understanding of this relationship. Property addresses are not given for interpretive places unless they are public sites.

Introduction

The Brandywine watershed was one of the key regions in William Penn's 1681 land grant where the early, primarily Quaker, settlers of Chester County quickly realized that in this fertile valley they had found a.... "veritable paradise and refuge from oppression." (Chester County's Great Valley) The rich soils in the valley were highly valued, and the steep incline could support numerous mills, over 130 at the height of use. The dramatic drop is due to the lower Brandywine's underlying geology, as it is situated on the fall line of the rocky Piedmont and broad, flat Coastal Plain formations. This geology had a strong impact on the colonial settlement patterns.

As Penn had intended, Philadelphia flourished as a market center for this region rich in natural and cultural resources and became the focus of many regional and county activities from commerce and shipping to the creative arts and government administration. A significant contribution to the rise of Philadelphia was the Quaker Yearly Meeting, which attracted many prominent farmers and leaders from the region. The importance of the political and financial control yielded by Quakers in Philadelphia cannot be overstressed. Until the Revolutionary War, Philadelphia rivaled Boston and New York as the most important city in the colonies. The Revolutionary War was the first in a series of challenges to the Quakers that began to break down their previously unified social order.

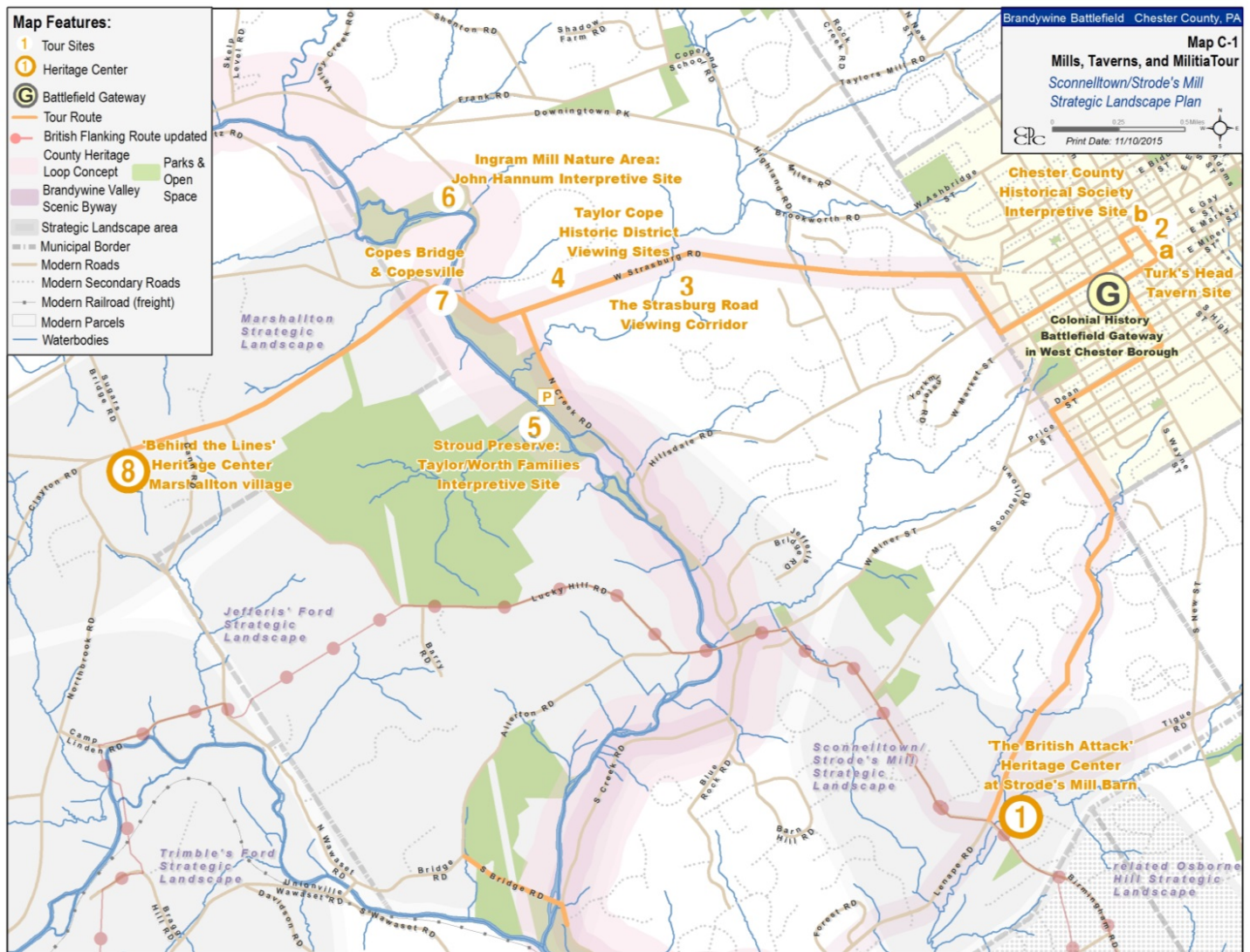
This vital and positive Quaker heritage manifested itself in the Brandywine Valley cultural and built landscape. In 1777, of the five religious centers in the battlefield there were four Quaker meetinghouses and the Baptist meeting house on Route 1 (the Great Nottingham Road.) During the colonial settlement period, taverns/public houses, mills, and meetinghouses formed the destinations and community centers of the Brandywine Valley. The wealthy, largely Quaker population determined road networks that linked their residences to these destinations. By 1777, a system of roads formed connecting the county seat at Chester with the Great Valley in mid Chester County and the markets in Lancaster and Philadelphia. The east/west roads were relatively direct, many having been laid out by William Penn to serve Philadelphia. The north/south roads, however, often followed tortuous routes along wealthy property owner's land while winding up and down the many creek valleys to the fords that provided safe passage.

One of the critical components of the Battle of Brandywine was the superior field intelligence of the local countryside that the British appeared to have during their strategic flanking march of the Continental troops. The largely Quaker population knew the precise routes of transportation within their valley but just as the Chester County Militia often lacked for volunteers, they remained silent unless pressed into service by either army. It was the loyalists to the British Crown that in the end led General(s) Howe and Cornwallis to successfully navigate the web of roads and fords that had been developed since the early 1700's.

Tour Details

In addition to delineating the transition point on the battlefield from Avenue of Approach to Core Area, the Strode's Mill/Sconnettown area and this tour (see Map C-1) provide insight into the next chapter of Chester County history after the Revolutionary War. Although taverns/public houses, mills, and meetinghouses still formed the destinations and community centers of the Brandywine Valley in 1777, this settlement pattern was giving way to growing crossroads communities. At the time of the battle in 1777 Strode's Mill consisted of several farm properties, but by 1820 it was a thriving village. Conversely, the small community at Sconnettown (like Trimbleville) passed out of existence by the beginning of the nineteenth century as fords gave way to bridges.

Turks Head was a neighboring destination named after the Tavern that stood at the crossroad of the Philadelphia Road and Valley Road. A younger group of men who lived in and around Turk's Head, which would become West Chester in 1786, had joined the militia and were staking their futures on the success of the American Revolution. At the time of the battle, most of the Brandywine Valley was controlled by very conservative founding Quaker patriarchs and there was little room for new ambitions. John Hannum, a leader in the Chester County militia and co-founder of West Chester, exemplified this new breed of Chester County residents.



This tour is intended to provide the visitor with a sense of Chester County colonial history and the setting for the Battle of Brandywine in the Valley. It will offer a glimpse into those residents who supported the revolution and joined the Chester County Militia, juxtaposing them against their pacifist Quaker neighbors and family members and those who remained loyal to the Crown. Most of the tour takes place on the northern borders of the battlefield where population centers were starting to form along the Strasburg Road.



Taylor-Cope Historic District and the Strasburg Road

Preparing for Battle Heritage Center

#1: The Strode’s Mill/Barn Interpretive Site

Tour #3 begins at the proposed British Attack Heritage Center in Strode’s Mill village. Settlement at Strode’s Mill began around 1721 when a local resident John Willis and his neighbors erected a mill. It was well located on the Plum Run, a tributary of the Brandywine Creek. Surrounding the mill were hundreds of acres of farmland growing wheat and the new grist mill prospered. In 1784, Richard Strode, a blacksmith, who lived in a handsome stone dwelling on Birmingham Road he built in 1772 when he owned a “store house” and smith shop. The Strode Family had a significant standing in the community and their successful pork product business was housed in the barn adjacent to the mill in 1875. Interpretation of Crown Force activity at this center is largely based upon the memoir of Joseph Townsend. Appendix E provides the full account.



Strode’s Mill was well situated in 1777. The Birmingham Road (1719) was a primary corridor between the county seat at Chester and the Great Valley on the east side of the Brandywine Creek. Although the northern section of the road above Sconnettown does not exist today, there were three intersecting roads in 1777 that led to the growing market center around Turk’s Head Tavern. In 1786, Turk’s Head would become the new county seat called West Chester. The 1720/1745 Road which intersected Birmingham forded the Brandywine at Wistar’s Ford, providing ready access to the Great Nottingham Road to Philadelphia or west toward Kennett. Population grew so rapidly that the drive into West Chester on the 1745 road (today’s Route 52) reflects the 19th century landscape rather than the colonial. You will pass George Entriaken’s farm on the right leaving the village. He owned the mill from 1735 to 1772 when he sold it to Emmor Jefferis. Be sure to stop at Baldwin’s Book Barn (pictured) to begin exploring Chester County History!



Colonial History Battlefield Gateway

#2a Turk’s Head Tavern Site

#2b Chester County Historical Society Interpretive Site, 225 N. High Street

As the county seat, West Chester is not in the Brandywine Battlefield boundaries but is an important destination for understanding the history of Chester County and the role the battle played in that history. It meets all the requirements to be a Battlefield Gateway with its restaurants, clubs, ice cream parlors, and specialty shops. A college town atmosphere adds to the diversity. Tour #3 links the battlefield to the Borough and encourages visitors to explore and enjoy West Chester and to stop at the Chester County Historical Society. The Chester County Historical Society, located on High Street just north of the historic Chester County Courthouse and the original crossroads of the Borough, is an important stop when visiting the battlefield to understand Chester County’s early history. The Historical Society offers exhibits highlighting the area’s history, a lecture series, a research library, and recommendations for self-guided tours of the battlefield and its cultural heritage.



Although the Society of Friends regarded drunkenness as a great veil it did not fault members for making money selling liquor. Thus the Quaker ownership of Turk's Head Tavern, like Martin's Tavern in Marshallton, was not as curious as it might seem. The initial license was granted in 1761 to Phineas Eachus and a Tavern opened at the crossroads that connected Lancaster to Philadelphia and Wilmington to Pottstown. In 1777, the land where the tavern stood was on Isaiah Matlack's property in West Goshen, who signed the original petition for the Tavern. Although the name and its history are complex stories, the location turned out to be the most central in Chester County and is now opposite where the historic Chester County Courthouse proudly stands. The county seat moved to the Turk's Head crossroads in 1786 and the new town was named West Chester. In the end, it was the central location for commerce that moved those in power to relocate the county seat. In 1789, Chester and the townships around the Chester River formed Delaware County and left. Although Turk's Head Tavern did not play an active role in the Battle of Brandywine, shots were fired near it a week later in the morning of the Battle of the Clouds. As you pass the Historic Chester County Courthouse on High Street the location is immediately on your right, where a Susquehanna Bank currently stands. The West Chester Historical Society at 225 N. High Street is a short drive on High Street and well worth the visit to explore the history of Chester County.



#3: The Strasburg Road (Route 162) Viewing Corridor

On leaving West Chester from the Historical Society you will travel on Market Street to Route 162, the historic drover's route to market between Turk's Head and Lancaster. Watch for this house on your right as it marks the beginning of the Taylor-Cope National Historic District which is a focus of this tour. Being a 'free market road', the Strasburg Road became one of East and West Bradford's main thoroughfares and bustled with miller's wagons and drovers. These drovers would herd their sheep, cattle, pigs, and turkeys from Lancaster to Philadelphia for sale, stopping each evening at an inn along the road.

Reading about the men who farmed along the Strasburg Road from Martin's Tavern leading to Turk's Head provides a snapshot of 18th century life and how much it improved after the war when the new country had control over its natural resources and governance. Robert Eachus died around 1729. He ate with wooden spoons from earthenware bowls. His bed mattress was stuffed with chaff. His family of 10 had but three beds, two tables and four chairs. They cooked in a single frying pan. They told time by sun and stars. Isaac Haines died in 1768 and ate from pewter dishes, had 15 chairs and feather beds in his house and wore silver buckles on his shoes. He had a case clock, eleven books, a gun, a wolf trap, and a rat trap. Col. John Hannum, who first saw the British Flanking strategy outside of Marshallton with Squire Cheney, owned ten silver teaspoons when he died in 1799 along with 18 chairs, an eight-day clock, twelve wineglasses, a pair of double-barrel pistols, six feather beds and an extensive library. The women in his household worked eight small and two large spinning wheels, a churn, a coffee mill and a cheese press. He had plenty of food, owned five horses, two colts, seven cows, six calves and had money to lend.



#4: Taylor-Cope Historic District Viewing Sites

Within the district there are 16 historic resources that date from 1724 to 1906. These show the evolution of the area from early plantations and mills to the growth and decline of the industrial sites. By 1730, there were two fine brick mansion houses in the district constructed by the Abiah Taylor Family. You will pass the Black Horse Tavern on your left first and then the Abiah Taylor farm and barn (pictured.) The early farms are back from the Strasburg Road on higher ground while the inn and working buildings in Copesville face the road and are located within a few feet of the pavement.



The Abiah Taylor farm and barn is the earliest of the Taylor properties and is a rare example of English Colonial architecture. With its steep gable roof, single pile construction, hall/parlor plan, Flemish bond brick walls, and evidence of a leaded glass sash it is one of the few examples of first period architecture in Chester County. Abiah Taylor was born ca. 1738, the son of Samuel (Sr.) and Mary Smedley Taylor. Via inheritance and purchase, Abiah amassed a plantation of approximately 250 acres, on which he operated a grist and saw mill.



#5: Stroud Preserve: Taylor/Worth Families Interpretive Site

The first stop is at the Stroud Preserve on Creek Road. This area preserves the colonial properties of Thomas Worth and Abiah Taylor (described above.) Thomas Worth, Jr. was the son of Thomas (1649-1731) and Isabelle Davidson Worth. Thomas Worth (Jr.) was a Quaker and member of Darby and later Bradford Monthly Meeting. He married Mary Fawcett and the couple had the following known children: Samuel, Susanna, Lydia, Rebecca, Hannah, Ebenezer, Joseph, and Mary. He obtained 350 acres of what was once part of his father’s 500 acre tract in East Bradford. He occupied this tract from 1739, when he moved from Darby to East Bradford, until his death in 1778. The 350 acre tract is the source of the following three current day parcels. The primary residence was built around 1739 and the tenant houses on Lucky Hill Road (Timble’s Ford/ Jefferis’ Ford Strategic Landscape Plan) were part of the farm. The residence is private today and 80 acres are in easement.



#6: Ingram Mill Nature Area and John Hannum Interpretive Site

The Ingram Family was one of the founding Quaker families. The Ingram Mill Nature Area is a good place to stop and consider the story of politician, businessman and colonial militiaman John Hannum who exemplified the younger generation of men who made their fortunes supporting the Revolution. His house is located about a mile north of the park but is a private residence. Appointed to the Committee of Observation for Chester County in 1774, he commanded the 1st Battalion of the Chester County Militia. Hannum and his friend Thomas Cheney witnessed the crossing of the British at Trimble’s Ford. He was later taken captive by the British and held prisoner in Philadelphia. In 1784, he was one of three men selected to build a new courthouse and prison for the County of Chester within one and a half miles from the Turk’s Head Tavern. He was a delegate to the PA Convention to ratify the Federal Constitution in 1787. Prior to the construction of the new courthouse, he built the old Washington Hotel on High Street. Hannum profited from the new county seat although his residence and



mill were located north of the Strasburg Road on the same road that Strode's Mill stood on. The property is on the National Register but is privately owned.

#7: Copes Bridge & Copesville

Early production in the district was provided by the grist mill owned by Abiah Taylor and the production of malt from local crops of barley by George Cope. At the turn of the century, farming moved toward animal husbandry and sheep and cattle increased on the Taylor/Cope farms. A tilt hammer mill was established on the Brandywine in the 1790s and Cope's Bridge was completed in 1805. Copesville grew and thrived as the Cope family supplied casting for E.I. duPont's mills in Wilmington. They cast the Corinthian columns for the new Chester County Courthouse in 1845. Stately homes and worker residences remain near the bridge from the time period, reflecting the prosperity of the milling village.



#8: Marshallton Village & the 'Behind the Lines' Heritage Center Blacksmith Shop

The Pennsylvania militia was created in March 1777. Robert Smith was appointed the lieutenant of Chester County. In 1777 he was 56, a farmer in Uwchlan, and a member of John Carmichael's Scots-Irish congregation at Forks of the Brandywine Presbyterian. In April 1777, he estimated the county had 5,000 men capable of militia service, but he warned that many were Tories or Quakers. Male citizens liable for service were supposed to drill and prepare, but few did, especially in Quaker townships including the Bradfords, Newlin, and East Marlborough in the northern battlefield. Things reached an almost comical state in East Marlborough, where not a single soul could be found who was willing to lead the militia. President Read of Pennsylvania finally wrote to Smith, "It has been observed that less Attention has been paid by your County to the furnishing the Volunteers than any other in the State."



Your destination is the Behind the Lines Heritage Center at Marshallton. The village grew along the Strasburg Road, one of the main routes between Philadelphia and Lancaster in the mid-1700s. Unlike Copesville which declined after the mid 1800's, Marshallton continued to grow and is a prosperous village today and featured in the Marshallton Strategic Landscape Plan. The night before the battle, John Hannum and his brother-in-law and friend Squire Thomas Cheney were at Martin's Tavern with other members of the beleaguered Militia.







Heritage Interpretive Signage *Appendix D*

Signage recommendations in this appendix are intended to provide a working outline and starting point to implement Chapter 6 interpretation strategies for the British Attack Heritage Center and related tours. This outline is not meant to be exhaustive, but rather to provide guidelines for future local interpretive efforts.

Battlefield Boundary Signage

‘Entering Brandywine Battlefield’ Signage

Boundary signage for the Landscapes marks key entry points into the battlefield near these Landscapes. This is similar in concept to the existing and long-standing boundary signage on US 1 and US 202 corridors, whereby road signage allows the viewer to understand when they have entered the NHL. Through this signage, viewers will understand when they have entered the battlefield as a whole as defined by the 2010 Study boundary.

- Route 52
- Birmingham Road
- PA 162/Strasburg Road (specifically coordinated with Marshallton & Trimble’s/Jeffers’ Ford Landscapes)
- N. Creek Road (specifically coordinated with Marshallton & Trimble’s/Jeffers’ Ford Landscapes)
- PA 842/W. Miner Street (specifically coordinated with Trimble’s/Jeffers’ Ford Landscapes)

Battlefield Interpretive Signage

Interpretive signage is recommended to follow National Park Service guidelines for such. It is also recommended to coordinate as possible with recent interpretive signage in other parts of the battlefield, e.g. Birmingham Hill, as well as with the recent interpretation efforts for the Revolutionary War Battle of the Clouds and Paoli Battlefield. BBTF hired a professional signage designer to complete a detailed signage design guideline, which is available for interpretive use to all battlefield entities. The guideline provides a variety of signage types and includes sign construction-related specifications. Using this guideline as a baseline creates a unified theme for the battlefield that improves viewer understanding and experience, and provides cost savings to the signage implementer.

Colonial Gateway at West Chester Borough

Chester County Historical Society Proposed Interpretive Site

As one of three proposed Gateways, the information presented at the Chester County Historical Society will be for the entire Brandywine Battlefield. In addition, the CCHS displays provide a thorough history of Chester County and the role it played in this country’s history. Information to be included:

- Brandywine Battlefield animated map
- ‘You Are Here’ battlefield mapping
- All driving tours of the battlefield including: ‘Quaker Heritage’, ‘Ford to Ford’, and ‘Mills, Taverns & the Militia’ Tours and Maps
- Information on activities to enjoy in West Chester Borough, especially for overnight stays
- Books and information on the American Revolution, Colonial Chester County and the Campaign of 1777 including the Battle of Brandywine

Heritage Center at Strode’s Barn

Strode’s Barn Proposed Interpretive Site

Interpretive Panel emphasizing the battlefield in Sconnettown and Strode’s Mill villages and Landscape with both village histories stressing Joseph Townsend’s first person narrative. Discussion of the colonial-era settlement patterns and the growth of one village versus the decline of the other based upon the rise of West Chester at the county seat will be included:

- Sconnettown/Strode’s Mill Village Driving Tour and Map
- ‘You Are Here’ battlefield mapping
- ‘Quaker Heritage’, ‘Ford to Ford’, and ‘Mills, Taverns & the Militia’ Tours and Maps
- A heritage tour of the battlefield in Birmingham Township
- Interpretation of the battle that took place starting at Osbourne Hill

#1: Strode’s Mill 1777 Road Network Viewing Corridor

Pull off at Baldwin’s Book Barn, 865 Lenape Road

Interpretive Panel of the 1777 road network and cultural landscape of the Battlefield emphasizing the corridor going into West Chester. Information to include:

- Battle Impact on Local Civilians information and reported depredation or plundering claims
- ‘You are Here’ battlefield mapping
- Heritage Tour maps

#2: Turk’s Head Tavern and the Chester County Historical Society Interpretive Sites

A partnership is proposed with the Chester County Historical Society and the West Chester Business Improvement District to welcome visitors to the Brandywine Battlefield in the bustling Borough.

Interpretive Panel at the Chester County Historical Society emphasizing the rise of the county seat at West Chester from the crossroad Turk’s Head Tavern. To include:

- See Colonial Gateway at West Chester Borough

#3: Strasburg Road (Route 162) Viewing Corridor

The entire expanse of Route 162 from West Chester Borough to Marshallton Village is a Viewing Corridor. There are numerous viewing sites along the route.

#4: Taylor-Cope Historic District Viewing Sites

The viewing sites along the corridor include:

- Black Horse Inn
- Abiah Taylor House and Barn
- Abiah Taylor Mill House
- Thomas Worth property
- Joseph Cope-Mellor House

#5: Stroud Preserve: Taylor/Worth Interpretive Site

Stroud Preserve pull off at 454 N. Creek Road, turning left off Route 162 and the parking area is just past the Abiah Taylor farmstead property on your right hand side.

Interpretive Panel emphasizing the battlefield in the Jefferis’ Ford Landscape, fords as ‘water roads’ in the colonial-era, and battle impact on civilians to include:

- Stroud Preserve information and natural resources discussion
- Taylor and Worth family history

- The Taylor-Cope Historic District information and historic resource discussion
- 'You are Here' battlefield mapping
- Drovers roads and the development of inns and taverns during the colonial period

#6: Ingram Mill Nature Area & John Hannum Interpretive Site

Turn right on N. Creek Road off Route 162 and the Ingram Mill Nature area is on your right. To see Col. John Hannum's property (the house is not visible from the road) continue north to the intersection of Route 322. The property is on Frank Road.

Interpretive signage at the site to include:

- John Hannum information
- Chester County Militia discussion
- Mills and natural resources discussion
- Cope's Bridge and Copesville Village information
- 'You are Here' battlefield mapping

#7: Copesville and Cope's Village Viewing Sites

The evolution of a mill site in the mid 1700's to an industrial village in the mid 1800's can be viewed on both sides of Cope's Bridge, one of Chester County's oldest and finest examples of a stone arch bridge.

#8: Marshallton Village Behind the Lines Heritage Center

Blacksmith Shop Interpretive Site (Possible 'Behind the Lines' Heritage Center location)

Interpretive Panel emphasizing the battlefield in Marshallton village and Landscape, village history overall and with respect to colonial-era life in a crossroads village, and the village's 19th century development along a well-used drovers' road to include:

- Marshallton 1777 Walking Tour and Map
- 'You Are Here' battlefield mapping
- Historic Marshallton village information
- 'Quaker Heritage', 'Ford to Ford', and 'Mill to Tavern' Tours and Maps

Bradford Meetinghouse Interpretive Site

Interpretive Panel emphasizing the Quaker experience and religion, the area's Quaker roots, and Quakers in relation to the battle and village to include:

- Founding Quaker Families information
- Quaker Testimony of Peace
- Enduring Brandywine Valley Quaker community
- Battle Impact on Local Civilians information and reported Quaker Sufferings

Martin's Tavern Interpretive Site

Interpretive Panel emphasizing Martin's Tavern's role in the battle and the village's role as a 'behind the lines' area, the Brandywine Valley Colonial-era, and taverns' relevance in Colonial America to include:

- Colonial Settlement Patterns mapping and information
- Chester County Militia information
- Role of the tavern in the colonial-era
- History of Martin's Tavern and its role and the village's place in relation to the battle
- 'Mills, Taverns & the Militia Heritage Tour and Map



Appendix E Joseph Townsend Account

The following reminiscence by a young Quaker who witnessed much of the Battle of Brandywine on September 11 was reprinted in the History of Chester County Pennsylvania by J. Smith Futhey and Gilbert Cope in 1881. The following is the introduction and narrative as printed.

Introduction by Futhey and Cope

The battle of Brandywine, as is known to most of our people, was fought on two different fields, — at Birmingham and at Chad's Ford. The British army, soon after leaving Kennet Square, on their march eastward, formed in two divisions, one of them, under General Knyphausen, marching directly to Chad's Ford, and the other, under General Cornwallis, and accompanied by General Howe, the commander-in-chief, taking a northern direction, crossing the west branch of the Brandywine at Trimble's Ford, and the east branch at Jefferis' Ford, and then turning southward to Birmingham.

The public roads in those days were somewhat differently located from what they are at the present day. What is now known as the State road from West Chester to Jefferis' Ford was not then in existence. The road from what is now West Chester — then only known as the Turk's Head — to Jefferis' Ford passed out the present Gay Street to Bradford Avenue, at the northwest corner of the late Orthodox Friends' burial-ground, then diagonally across Edwin James' lot, and by the farm-house on the property of Samuel R. Shipley, south of his residence, then by the dwelling-house on the farm of Edwin James, and from thence, nearly on the route of the present State road, to Jefferis' Ford. Between the farms of Edwin James and John James a road ran over the hills in a northern direction, passing west of the residence of John M. Hildeburn, and running southward to a hamlet known as Sconneltown, where it united with a road from Jefferis' Ford, and continued on to Birmingham Meeting-house, on the bed of the present road. From Sconneltown northward this road has been vacated, but its site in places is still plainly marked, and it can readily be traced. From the farm-house of Edwin James a road ran northward very much as at present, past the farm-buildings formerly of the late Eusebius Townsend. An oil-mill stood in former times a very short distance west of the farm-house of Edwin James. It was supplied with water from a dam across the run a short distance above the mill. The dam has become filled, but both the site of the oil-mill and dam are still plainly discernible.

The road past the mill was formerly known as the Oil mill road, and it is still occasionally so called, although the mill has long since disappeared.

The farm-house already referred to, on the property of Samuel R. Shipley, just outside the present limits of West Chester, still standing and in good preservation, was in the days of the Revolution owned and occupied by one John Townsend. Emmor Jefferis resided in the house late of David Meconkey, west of Jefferis' Ford, his brother, James Jefferis, where John James lately resided, immediately east of the ford, and Cheyney Jefferis, a son of James Jefferis, where Edwin James lately resided. The hamlet known as Sconneltown was situated on the road leading southward towards Birmingham. It has entirely disappeared, but its site is marked by a school-house bearing the same name. Among its few buildings was a large wheel wright-shop, which stood on the east side of the road, and on the brow of the hill nearly opposite the present school house.

When General Washington resolved to dispute the passage of the Brandywine by the British army, and for that purpose marched his forces to its banks, he took possession of the Birmingham Friends' meeting-house, intending

to use it as a hospital for the sick of the army. In consequence of this the Friends held their mid-week meeting on the 11th of September, 1777, in the wheelwright-shop at Sconnettown. Among those present at this meeting were two young men, Joseph Townsend and his brother William, sons of John Townsend, already referred to.

Some years subsequently Joseph Townsend wrote an interesting account of the engagement, and of his observations on that memorable day, which was published in the year 1846; but it has been long out of print, and copies are very rarely to be met with.

Mr. Townsend was at the time of the battle about twenty-one years of age, and resided with his parents, in the house still standing on the property of Samuel R. Shipley, just outside of the present borough limits.

Joseph Townsend Narrative

"During the winter of 1776 and the spring of 1777 the British army had possession of New York, Long Island, etc., and numerous were the conjectures respecting their future destiny, or on what part of the continent the ensuing campaign would be opened. This continued to be the case until the summer approached, when information was generally spread that they were making preparations to leave their winter quarters, which actually took place in the month of July; but their intended movements remained a profound secret until the latter end of the ensuing month, August, when they made their appearance in the Chesapeake Bay. It was then ascertained that their object was to get possession of Philadelphia, and to march thither the most direct and favorable route to obtain that purpose, having been led to believe that the productive country through which they were to pass would render great facility to their contemplated march, and that but little obstruction or opposition would be met with from the inhabitants of that portion of the country. The number of soldiers under arms amounted by computation to seventeen thousand, five thousand of them being German troops, generally termed Hessians, the former being under the command of Gen. Howe, and the latter under Gen. Knyphausen. The fleet conveyed them up above the mouth of the Susquehanna River, and landed them a little east of Turkey Point, from which place they contemplated marching. The news of their landing soon spread throughout the adjacent country, and some were of opinion that a general devastation would be the consequence; others concluded that the country was now conquered, and that peace and tranquility would be restored by the former government being reestablished, as considerable commotion and disturbances had taken place in that section of the country respecting it.

"At that time I resided at my father's (John Townsend), the place of my nativity, adjoining to the ground where West Chester now stands, — a neighborhood where the inhabitants were alive to the prevailing reports and rumors of the day.

"The first account received after their landing was that they were at Iron Hill, a place not much known or spoken of previously as a place of note; the next news was that they were at Allen's tavern, in the settlement of New Garden, a person having arrived who had been in sight of them so near as to discover the buttons on their coats, which I suppose was a regiment of the German troops, who were, during the whole march, kept in front of the army, to cover the English troops from any skirmishing which might take place with the Americans (or rebels, so termed with them), which probably would be the case before they arrived at Philadelphia, their intended winter quarters.

"Things at this time began to wear a serious aspect, and the countenances of many were changed: some of them evidently appeared gloomy, others somewhat brightened up from the consideration of pleasing prospects before them, and the favorable issue soon to be experienced.

"Gen. Washington was early apprised of the British forces landing on the shores of the Chesapeake, and disposed of his troops in different directions, to arrest their progress in their intended march through that section of the country, and to make a stand against them at every position favorable for that purpose. A breastwork was thrown up on an eminence on the east side of Brandywine Creek, nearly opposite to Chad's Ford, near which his principal army was encamped. Scouting-parties were reconnoitring in various directions for several miles up the said creek, to discover if possible the ford over which the invaders intended to force their march.

"Several persons in the neighborhood who had manifested a disposition to support the Americans' cause now thought it advisable to remove their families, stock, and furniture to a distance, that it might be safe from the British plunderers, as destruction would be the consequence if left in their way; others, being of a different opinion, were disposed to remain at home, and risk the danger to which they might be exposed, let the consequence be what it might.

"A majority of the inhabitants were of the Society of Friends, who could not, consistently with their principles, take any active part in the war, and who generally believed it right to remain at their dwellings, and patiently submit to whatever suffering might be their lot, and trust their all to a kind, protecting Providence, who had hitherto protected and prospered their undertaking in an extraordinary manner ever since their first settlement of the country under the proprietor and Governor, William Penn.

"Gen. Washington had his headquarters at Benjamin Ring's, who resided near the east side of Chad's Ford, and Gen. Lafayette was near at hand, in the neighborhood, at Gideon Gilpin's. They were frequently together, which afforded an opportunity to spectators to view them both at the same time.

"On the 10th of September, in the evening, the British forces arrived and encamped at Kennett Square and its vicinity, and early on the morning following were disposed to carry into effect their concerted plan of crossing the Brandywine Creek and routing the American army from their ground of encampment, which was for Gen. Knyphausen to conduct the troops under his command to the high grounds of the creek, on the west side, and commence a brisk cannonading, in order to keep up the appearance of an attempt to cross the stream, while Gen. Howe conducted his troops, artillery, etc., up the stream about seven miles to Jefferis' Ford, that he might surprise Washington's army, which lay southeast of Birmingham Meeting-house.

"The order given to Gen. Knyphausen was complied with. He arranged his artillery on the lands of William Harvey, Jacob Way, and others adjoining, as the most eligible spot for the intended purpose, having the principal part of his troops under arms in full view of the Americans, who occupied the eminences on the east side.

"Gen. Knyphausen commenced his cannonading early after day light, and continued it the greater part of the forenoon. It then, in a great measure, ceased, and it appeared as if the troops were retiring; so much so, that a company of Americans ventured to cross the creek at the ford and advance some distance on the west side without any interruption from the enemy. Thus were the Americans amused during the forenoon, and until information arrived that Gen. Howe and his troops were crossing the Brandywine at Jefferis' Ford, which unexpected intelligence occasioned a general consternation and commotion throughout the whole of Gen. Washington's army.

"It may be recollected the whole of the movements of the enemy were concealed from Gen. Washington. He could obtain no correct intelligence respecting them, except the firing of the cannon opposite to Chad's Ford. It was near twelve o'clock before the information reached him, and it took some considerable time before he could arrange his forces to risk an engagement with them, which he endeavored to do, by posting such of his troops as were prepared for action on the eminence in front of and south of Birmingham Meeting-house. Some few of them were sent forward to the meeting-house, the burying-ground and site contiguous being favorable for the first attack, which took place accordingly,

"As the object of these memoranda is to recite some particulars of the transactions of that day, I shall now turn to the early part of it and relate some circumstances leading thereto. On the arrival of Gen. Washington's army from the eastward, in order to impede the progress of the British after their landing on the shores of the Chesapeake, a considerable number of the soldiers were sick, in consequence of their long marches through the excessive heat of that season of the year. On that account the commissaries, and those who had the charge of the disordered persons, were obliged to take possession of the meeting-houses and other public building as hospitals to accommodate them. Among the number thus designated Birmingham Meeting-house was to be one, and preparations were being made therein for that purpose. First-day morning arrived. Friends assembled as usual, from an expectation that the meeting might be held in the house even if it should be taken possession of afterwards; but, from the situation of it, their request could not be granted. They therefore got permission to take some of the benches out of the house, and placed them under the trees which stood in front thereof, on which they seated themselves in the quiet, as far as was practicable under existing circumstances, inasmuch as the officers and workmen were moving about, and engaged in making preparation to receive the sick, to be brought there as soon as the premises could be got in readiness. . . . Under these circumstances it became necessary that some other building should be provided to accommodate the meeting in future until the meeting-house should be cleared and put in order for the purpose; and how soon that would be the case was uncertain from the present gloomy appearances. Several houses and rooms were talked of, but it was finally concluded to hold the next meeting in a large wheelwright-shop, which stood on the eminence north of the dwelling-house owned by Philip Price (at the date of the writing of this sketch), at a place then in existence, and called Sconnelltown. The next meeting day was on the 11th of the month, which proved to be a memorable day.

"Amos House, who had left his dwelling near Chad's Ford, and was succeeded therein by Lord Stirling and his attendants, was in the practice of visiting the premises almost daily to see what discovery he could make, went down on the morning of the eleventh, after the cannonading had commenced, and rode under the cannon-balls that were discharged from the artillery on the hills, on each side of the creek, without receiving any injury therefrom.

"Possessed with curiosity, and fond of new things, my brother, William Townsend, myself, and some others rode alongside of the Brandywine for some distance to discover the approach of the British army, in case they should attempt to cross at any of the fords on the creek between Jefferis' and Chad's. We fell in with many like ourselves, but no intelligence could be obtained. We then returned to the aforesaid wheelwright-shop, to assemble with Friends in holding our week-day meeting, it being near the hour appointed. While we were sitting there in some disturbance was discovered near the house and about the door, which occasioned some individuals to go out to know the cause, and the uneasiness not subsiding, suspicions arose that something serious was taking place, and the meeting accordingly closed. On our coming out of the house and making some inquiry of what had happened, found it to be an alarm among some of the neighboring women that the English were coming, and that they murdered all before them, young and old. Some of us endeavored to quiet their fears by telling them it was not likely to be the case, and that they had better compose themselves instead of making further disturbance; and while we were reasoning with them our eyes were caught on a sudden by the appearance of the army coming out of the woods into the fields belonging to Emmor Jefferis, on the west side of the creek, above the fording-place. In a few minutes the fields were literally covered over with them, and they were hastening towards us. Their arms and bayonets, being raised, shone as bright as silver, the sky being clear and the day exceedingly warm. Recollecting that there was no one at our dwelling except some of our sisters, we concluded it advisable to return home as expeditiously as possible, as we had no doubt that they were marching direct for Philadelphia, and would pass by the house and over the farm. Our parents had a few days before been called to their daughter Lamborn's, at Kennet, on account of the illness of her children, one of whom had died during their stay there. They were considerably plundered by the rabble which accompanied the army during their encampment at Kennet Square, to which they were contiguous.

"After our arrival at home, and our horses inclosed in the stable, we were in momentary expectation of the army's approach, but in this we were disappointed; and having waited some time, we ventured down the road towards them, and when in sight of Jefferis' Ford we discovered that they had turned their course towards Birmingham, and were passing by where the meeting on that day had been held. Being disposed to have a better and nearer view of them, we sat out for the purpose; and passing by the dwelling of Abel Boake, we soon after met Sarah, his wife, who had been as curious as ourselves, and had been among the soldiers as they marched along. The space occupied by the main body and flanking parties was near half a mile wide. Sarah encouraged our going among them, at the same time admired their appearance, and said what fine-looking fellows they were, and (to use her own phrase) 'they were something like an army,' which we would see for ourselves, if we would go among them, and that there would not be any objection to our entrance. Thus encouraged, we walked on until we approached the flanking party, when a soldier under arms called out, 'Where are you going?' We replied that we wished to see the army, if there was no objection. He observed that there was their captain, we must speak to him; which being done, leave was readily obtained, and in a few minutes we found ourselves in the midst of military characters, rank and file; little to be discovered but staff-officers and a continued march of soldiers, with occasionally a troop of horse passing. Great numbers of baggage-wagons began to make their appearance, well guarded by proper officers and soldiers. We passed through them until we reached one of the most eligible houses in the town (Sconceltown), and soon after divers of the principal officers came in, who manifested an uncommon sociable disposition. They were full of inquiries respecting the rebels, where they were to be met with, and where Mr. Washington was to be found. This inquiry respecting the rebels was a general thing among the common soldiers, and others, as they moved along. The officers aforementioned were replied to by my brother, William Townsend, who modestly and spiritedly told them, if they would have patience a short time, he expected they would meet with Gen. Washington and his forces, who were not far distant. Had we known it, the front of his army was then in view, on the heights at Birmingham Meeting-house, though three miles distant from us. They inquired what sort of man Mr. Washington was. My brother, who had a knowledge of him by being with him at his quarters at Chad's Ford, replied that he was a stately, well-proportioned, fine-looking man, of great abilities, active, firm, and resolute, of a social disposition, and was considered to be a good man. This he observed to check their eagerness for a sight of the general, and to draw forth some further observations from them respecting him; to which one of them answered, that 'He might be a good man, but he was most damnably misled to take up arms against his sovereign.' During the interview, while I was conversing with one of the officers, I inquired of him at what place they had encamped the night before; of which he replied, that he knew not where the main body of the army was, but that their regiment lay on the south side of the hill beyond Kennet Square. He then observed to me, with much animation, 'You have got a hell of a fine country here, which we have found to be the case ever since we landed at the Head of Elk.'

"The house we were in was elevated, so that on the first floor, where we stood, we had a pretty full view of the army as they passed along; and while we were conversing together, my brother called to me to step to the door to see Gen. Lord Cornwallis, who was passing by. He was on horseback, appeared very tall and sat very erect. His rich scarlet clothing, loaded with gold lace, epaulets, etc., occasioned him to make a brilliant and martial appearance. The advanced portion of the army made a halt at this place, and refreshed their horses by hastily clearing off some of the corn patches that were within their reach. It might be observed that most or all of the officers who conversed with us were of first rank, and were rather stout, portly men, well dressed and of genteel appearance, and did not look as if they had ever been exposed to any hardship; their skins were as white and delicate as is customary for females brought up in large cities or towns.

"As we spent no idle time in viewing the strangers who surrounded us, I discovered on a sudden that there was a general stir or movement among them. Inquiry was made what could be the object of it, and it was answered by one of them that they were resuming their march, and that the halt which had been made was only to refresh their horses, to enable them to perform the several duties required of them.

"Having by this time become familiar with them, and no danger or difficulty to apprehend from them, my curiosity or ambition was increased, and I wished a further and more full view than I before had, and to have it to say that I had seen the whole of them, as far as was practicable. I invited James Johnson, an acquaintance, who was standing by, to accompany me, and we proceeded through the crowd on the public road until we reached the advanced guards, who were of the German troops. Many of them wore their beards on their upper lips, which was a novelty in that part of the country. This took place between the dwelling of Richard Strode and Osborne's Hill. Being now in the front, we walked on inconsiderately until we arrived at a pair of bars, opposite the ancient dwelling of Amos Davis, through which we went into the field southwest of the road, and walked up to the upper fence, being the division line between the two tracts of land of Amos Davis and the heirs of his uncle, Daniel Davis. On turning our faces back we had a grand view of the British army, as they advanced over and down the side of Osborne's Hill and the lands of James Carter; scarcely a vacant space left. While we were amusing ourselves with the wonderful curiosity before us, to our great astonishment and surprise the firing of the musketry took place. The advance-guard aforementioned, having arrived at the Street Road, were fired upon by a company of the Americans who were stationed in the orchard north of Samuel Jones' brick dwelling-house. The attack was immediately returned by the Hessians, who, stepping up the bank of the road, alongside of the orchard, used the fence as a breastwork, through which they fired upon the company that commenced the attack. From the distance at which we were from them, — though in full view until the smoke of the firing covered them from our sight, — I was under no apprehension of danger, especially when there was such a tremendous force coming on and ready to engage in the action; nevertheless, I concluded it best to retire, finding that my inconsiderate curiosity had prompted me to exceed the bounds of prudence. I proposed it to my companion, but he refused to return, being disposed to see what further would take place and how it would end.

"I then made the best of my way through the crowd until I arrived at the aforementioned bars on the road, which opened into the field of Amos Davis, where I was met by several companies of soldiers, who were ordered into the field to form and prepare for the approaching engagement. The opening of the bars not being of sufficient width to admit them to pass with that expedition which the emergency of the case required, a German officer, on horseback, ordered the fence to be taken down, and, as I was near to the spot, had to be subject to his requiring, as he flourished a drawn sword over my head, with others who stood by. On a removal of the second rail I was forcibly struck with the impropriety of being active in assisting to take the lives of my fellow-beings, and therefore desisted from proceeding any further in obedience to his commands. The hurry was great, and so many rushing forward under arms, I found no difficulty in retiring unobserved, and was soon out of reach of those called immediately into action. I lost no time on my return, and when I arrived on the top of the hill I discovered on the eminence in Samuel Osborne's field a number of my acquaintances, who were standing near to a considerable number of persons on horseback, and viewing them, with the different movements of the army. I joined in with them. It was now a time of some seriousness and alarm among them. The battle had commenced in earnest; little was to be heard but the firing of the musketry and the roaring of cannon from both parties. It appeared that those on horseback were some of the principal officers of the British army, with their aides, who had collected together to consult about carrying on the engagement to the best advantage. Among them was Gen. Howe. He was mounted on a large English horse, much reduced in flesh, I suppose, from being so long confined on board of the fleet between New York and the head of the Chesapeake Bay, which was about six weeks, occasioned by contrary winds. The general was a large, portly man, of coarse features. He appeared to have lost his teeth, as his mouth had somewhat fallen in. As I stood alongside, I had a full opportunity of viewing him as he sat on his horse, and had to observe his large legs and boots, with flourishing spurs thereon. While the officers were in consultation and we viewing them, together with the smoke issuing from the cannon and musketry, we remarked a tremendous roaring of cannon, and volumes of smoke arising therefrom, at Chad's Ford. Gen. Knyphausen having discovered that the engagement was on with the front of Howe's army at the meeting-house, he immediately forced the troops under his command across the Brandywine, and the whole of Gen. Washington's army at that station were routed from their breastworks, and from the different positions they had taken to impede the march of the British. From these circumstances, Gen. Washington considered it prudent to effect a retreat, which took place accordingly. While we remained on

Osborne's Hill we had the opportunity of making many observations, — the engagement of both armies, the fields in front of us containing great heaps of blankets and baggage, thrown together to relieve the men for action; the regular march of the British army, consisting of horse and foot, artillery, baggage and provision wagons, arms and ammunition, together with a host of plunderers and rabble that accompanied the army; almost the whole face of the country around appeared to be covered and alive with these objects. The time occupied in their passage was about four hours.

"We remained on the hill for some time, and when the engagement seemed to be nearly over, or at least that part of it which was in view, and the day being far on the decline, we were about retiring; but, as admiration and curiosity had been the order of the day, I proposed to some of my companions that we should go over to the field of battle and take a view of the dead and wounded, inasmuch as we might never have such another opportunity. Some of them consented, and others with reluctance yielded. We hastened thither, and awful was the scene, — to behold such a number of fellow-beings lying near each other, severely injured, and some of them mortally; a few dead, but a small proportion, considering the quantity of powder and balls that had been used. It was now time for the surgeons to exert themselves, and divers of them were busily employed. Some of the doors of the meeting-house were torn off, and the wounded carried thereon into the house, which was now occupied as a British hospital, instead of for the American sick, for whom it had been preparing some days previous.

"The wounded officers were first attended to; several of distinction had fallen, and as everything appeared to be in a state of confusion, and we being spectators and assistance required, some of our number, — of whom I was one, — at the request of the surgeons, became active in removing them therein. I desired to know who they were; but it was not a time for inquiring, and I do not recollect to have heard the name of one of them mentioned at that time. After assisting to carry two of them into the house, I was disposed to see an operation performed by one of the surgeons, who was preparing to amputate a limb, by having a brass clamp or screw fixed thereon, a little above the knee-joint. He had a knife in his hand, the blade of which was of circular form, and was about to commence the incision, when he recollected that it might be necessary for the wounded man to take something to support him during the operation. He told some of his attendants to give him a little wine or brandy to keep up his spirits, to which he replied, 'No, doctor, it is not necessary; my spirits are up enough without it.' He then observed that he had heard some of them say there was some water in the house, and if there was, he would like a little to wet his mouth. As I was listening to the conversation, and waiting for the water to arrive, one of my companions caught me by the arm and mentioned that it was necessary to go out immediately, as they were fixing the picket guards, and if we did not get away in a few moments we should have to remain within the lines of encampment during the night. I instantly complied, and we saved our distance, and were at liberty to return home.

"The dusk of the evening was then on, and we set out accordingly, being twelve or fifteen in number, two of whom had started earlier and were some distance before us. I suppose we were all under the erroneous impression that from what had passed during the day there was no probability of an American under arms to be found in the neighborhood. In this, however, we were mistaken, for the two persons aforesaid, who had started earlier, were talking rather freely on the defeat of the American army that afternoon, and were overheard by a scouting-party who had been following the rear of the British during their movements. They were posted in a field on an eminence, and were watching the movements of the British in the evening after the battle was over. [Note.—Tradition says this scouting party was a company of local militia, commanded by Capt. William Gibbons.] They hailed the two gentlemen who had been and were then taking such liberties, and as no answer was returned they repeated their call, which, being disregarded, one of the scouts, without further hesitation or ceremony, fired upon them. The ball penetrated the thigh of one of them named Simon Kerns, and he fell. They then rode off, and were seen traveling up the public road that led to our dwelling. The report of the musket was heard by some of our number who were behind, and that not without serious apprehensions, not knowing what it could mean. When we arrived at the place where the circumstance had happened, we were informed of the particulars, and that a kind neighbor, Richard Strode, had assisted in carrying the wounded man into a small

house, where he lay groaning and lamenting in grievous manner. [Note.—Simon Kerns not having the assistance of a surgeon that night, the wound swelled considerably. Thomas Darlington attended him, but did not think it best to extract the ball. Simon finally recovered, but carried the ball as long as he lived, without serious injury to his person or occupation. He died about the year 1830.]

"It would be difficult to express our feelings on this occasion. We were all panic-struck, not knowing but what it might be our fate, or perhaps worse, in a few minutes. We felt our imprudence or inconsiderate conduct with great force, and the curiosity of the day was now greatly damped. To move forward was terrifying; to remain where we were would be no small punishment under existing circumstances. Some of us had left our families, consisting only of a few females and children, and we knew not what dreadful events might have taken place in our absence. Imagination was worked up to a great height, and our fears were as great as we could well bear, such was the dilemma that we were in. I considered that it overbalanced all that we had seen, and was now without remedy. A consultation was held, and we found ourselves surrounded with difficulties. To pursue the public road home was dangerous, from the expectation that the aforementioned scouting-party, or others of the military, were lying in wait for us, and that we might be fired upon, or otherwise taken up and carried before the prevailing power to answer for our conduct. If we attempted to return through the fields we were apprehensive we might be met by some of the military, and more guilt would appear than if we went boldly along the road. We were two miles from home, and the moon having risen, the night was clear and bright and remarkably still, so every movement could be discovered at a distance. After various projects being suggested, we finally resolved to take the nearest way home, which was through divers fields and woods, from a hope that there would be less danger and risk of being detected. We came to the conclusion before we set out that no conversation should take place on the way, or observations made that would be unfavorable, in case we should be over heard. We accordingly commenced our route, and reached our dwellings at a late hour of the night without molestation or alarm, except in one instance, when climbing over a fence on the way we surprised a flock of sheep which lay alongside taking their repose. They started and ran off as if their greatest enemy was in close pursuit of them. Our fears were up in an instant, not knowing but that those whom we so much dreaded were not at hand.

"We found all safe and undisturbed when we arrived at home, but met with a severe reproof from one of our sisters for having taken such liberties, and given way to an idle curiosity, which might involve ourselves and the family in great difficulty and distress, saying that for her part she had no wish nor desire to see one person in the whole British army. I was satisfied with the correctness of her observation, but it was too late to be remedied. I could say for myself that I do not recollect ever to have felt a more thankful heart to the great author of my existence than I did after I retired to bed, though I knew not what might be the consequence of that day's expedition when it came to be known that we had shown such an attachment to, and familiarity with, the enemies of our country, whom the American forces were contending against, and over whom, under the assistance of a protecting Providence, they finally prevailed, which event was the introduction and establishment of a great and powerful nation.

"Having in the foregoing given some account of the engagements and adventures of one day, — the memorable 11th of September, 1777, I shall now proceed to give some further account of what took place shortly thereafter. The British army remained on the ground of encampment at Birmingham until the third day of the week following, being the sixteenth of the month, having in the course of that time removed all their wounded that survived to the borough of Wilmington (at that time in their possession), amounting to one hundred and twelve wagon-loads. They on that day commenced their further march for the city, having formed two divisions, one of which, commanded by Gen. Knyphausen, proceeded by way of Chester, and the other, being the grand one, under the command of Gen. Howe, proceeded direct to the Swedes' Ford, on Schuylkill, which, after marching through a severe day's rain, encamped the following night on the south side of the Valley Hill, and around the Boot Tavern, at which house the general had his headquarters.

"The ground which they had lately occupied at Birmingham, being now cleared and left in a desolate condition, exhibited a scene of destruction and waste. Some few of the inhabitants who remained thereon, and some others who were returning to the places of abode, found it necessary to call in the assistance of their neighbors to re-bury many of the dead, who lay exposed to the open air and ravages of beasts and wild fowls, having, in consequence of the late heavy rains, been washed bare, and some few of them had never been interred. I was one among a number who attended and performed that duty.

"It would be difficult to describe the many cases of horror and destruction of human beings that came under our notice in this undertaking, but we accomplished it, though in many instances of a most disagreeable and unpleasant nature. During the performance of it we had a full opportunity of beholding the destruction and wanton waste committed on the property of the peaceable inhabitants of the neighborhood, and on the ground of the encampment. Those who were obliged to remain thereon had their stock of cattle destroyed for the use of the army, their horses taken away, and their house hold furniture, bedding, etc., wantonly wasted and burned. It was not uncommon to see heaps of feathers lying about the farms, the ticks having been stripped off and made use of, and the remains of small pieces of valuable furniture lying about their fireplaces, in the fields, unconsumed, when there was no want of timber and fence-rails, which might have been used for their cooking, etc.; but being in an enemy's country, inhabited by rebels, there was no restraint on the soldiery or rabble which accompanied them.

"Having made mention that the meeting-house at Birmingham had been taken out of our possession by the Americans in order to accommodate their sick soldiers, it so turned out that before it could be occupied for that purpose Gen. Howe had the control of it for the use of his wounded officers; and when vacated, and the army removed, friends were at liberty to cleanse and purify it, which was so far done that we held our meeting therein on first-day (Sunday) succeeding their departure ; but considerable repairs were necessary afterwards to put it in the condition it was previous to our being deprived of it. During their occupancy of it several of their principal officers died, and were interred in the burying-ground adjoining, one of them said to be a near connection of the Duke of Northumberland, a young man of the name of Percy."