Battle Historic Context & Built Features Inventory

The 2010 Study provides a preliminary ('windshield') inventory of historic resources (battle and non-battle era) in the battlefield as well as battle-era roads. The 2013 Plan uses/builds on 2010 Study information and refines the historic resource inventory, plus identifies historic landscapes and provides a preliminary inventory of evident defining features. The 2013 Plan recommends further evaluation of identified battle-era historic resources, historic landscapes[1], and defining features, particularly in strategic landscapes.

John Chads House is preserved and provides Colonial-era heritage interpretation tours.

This plan takes the next step to 'fine tune' identification of battle-era built features - historic resources/properties and roads in/near Eastern Battlefield Landscapes. To do this, features are considered as to whether and how they support Landscapes' significance in the battlefield[2]. While all built features identified by this chapter are considered historic resources, defining features are those resources that also support Landscape(s) significance.

This chapter 1) reviews previously identified battle-era historic resources (2013 Plan) and roads (2010 Study) and newly identified resources and roads 2) evaluates whether they are also KOCOA built defining features, 3) considers their relationship to the historic and modern landscape, and 4) provides related recommendations. Reference materials used include the 2010 Study KOCOA analysis, 2013 Plan historic resource and defining features inventories, reference maps (historic atlases, aerial photographs), primary sources (firsthand accounts, road petitions, deeds, civilian property loss records), secondary sources (battle and municipal histories), and field study. Specific battle-era property deed information is found in Appendix B.

KOCOA Cultural Topography Analysis

Appendix A describes the 2010 Study's KOCOA analysis and Chapter 3 focuses on aspects of KOCOA related to military strategy and geospatial battlefield analysis. This chapter focuses on aspects of KOCOA related to the built environment or cultural topography[3] – 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', while KOCOA physical geography (part of Chapter 3) can be considered 'natural resources.' Both are elements of historic landscapes and may be elements of 'open space' lands or 'agricultural resources.'

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1 See Chapter 5 for historic landscapes long term land conservation information.

2 See 'Statement of Significance' in Chapter 2.

3 The use of the phrase 'key terrain' in figures to describe historical resources that were damaged, witness to, or otherwise affected by troop activity is recognized as not consistent with the standard KOCOA definition, which is any local feature that dominates the immediate surrounding by relief or another quality that enhances attack or defense. The phrase is used herein to illustrate the overall effect of military actions on the cultural topography of Landscapes. These properties and sites are part of the larger setting that felt the impact of war.

This plan uses KOCOA cultural topography analysis to review, and update as needed, previously identified built features in/near these Landscapes, as well as better understand identified features' relation to the battle. As early agricultural areas in battle-era Townships[2], these Landscapes contain extant battle-era military-related and civilian built features.

Today, Chadds Ford Combat & Fords[3] Landscapes are found in Pennsbury, Chadds Ford, and Birmingham Townships[4], Osborne Hill & Birmingham Meetinghouse Combat Landscapes are in Birmingham, Westtown, and Thornbury Townships, while American Approach & Encampment Landscapes are in Pennsbury and Chadds Ford Townships. Figures 4-1a, 4-1b, 4-1c provide updated KOCOA cultural topography in/related to the Landscapes.

Historic Context

Historic context is an element of strategic landscape significance[5]; it shows patterns or trends that help explain an occurrence, property, structure, building, or site. Key historic context elements are geographical limits, chronological periods, and themes, which provide perspective to understand and identify built features as contributing, or not, to Landscapes. For this evaluation, the geography is the Landscapes and time period is 1777. Relevant broad themes are '18th century landscape', 'local community', and 'military activity', with specific themes of: Brandywine Valley settlement patterns, still readable battlefield areas, Crown Force and American armies logistics, Gen'l Howe's two columns military tactic,

Figure 4-1a: Chadds Ford Combat Area & Fords Landscapes and related KOCOA Cultural Topography Defining Features
(updated from the 2010 Study and 2013 Plan)

DEFINING FEATURE [1]	KOCOA CATEGORY
Historic Resources in Figure 4-2	Key Terrain
Historic Roads	Ket Terrain
Chadds Ford [Upper and Lower]	Key Terrain
Wistar's Ford	Key Terrain
Brinton's Ford	Key Terrain
Hannah Gilpin Bennett (wife of James) - Plundered	Key Terrain
Gideon Gilpin Home – Plundered	Key Terrain
Benjamin Ring Home – Plundered	Key Terrain
Joseph Davis Farm – Plundered	Key Terrain
Nathaniel Ring Farm – Plundered	Key Terrain
William Harvey Farm - Plundered	Key Terrain
Israel Pemberton Farm -- Plundered	Key Terrain
Isaac Gilpin Farm -- Plundered	Key Terrain
Thomas Hannum Farm -- Plundered	Key Terrain
Edward Simonson Farm -- Plundered	Key Terrain
Ann Painter Chamberlain [site] -- Plundered	Key Terrain
Samuel Painter [site] -- Plundered	Key Terrain

Figure 4-1b: Osborne Hill & Birmingham Road Combat Area Landscapes and related KOCOA Cultural Topography Defining Features
(updated from the 2010 Study and 2013 Plan)

DEFINING FEATURE	KOCOA CATEGORY
Historic Resources in Figure 4-2	Key Terrain
Historic Roads	Key Terrain
Birmingham Friends Meetinghouse	Key Terrain
Lafayette Birmingham Cemetery	Key Terrain
Sandy Hollow Heritage Park	Key Terrain
Birmingham Hill Preserve	Key Terrain
Jesse Graves Farm – Plunder & Depredation Claim	Key Terrain
Caleb Brinton Farm - Plunder Claim	Key Terrain
Charles Dilworth Farm - Plunder Claim	Key Terrain
Caleb & Lydia Dilworth Farm - Plunder Claim	Key Terrain
Brinton Grist and Sawmill Tracts - Plunder Claim	Key Terrain
John Bennett Farm – Plunder Claim	Key Terrain
John Woodward Farm – Plunder Claim	Key Terrain
Abraham Darlington Farm - Plundered	Key Terrain
John Woodward Farm [site] - Plundered	Key Terrain
Issac Davis Farm - Plundered	Key Terrain
George Brinton Farm [site] – Plundered	Key Terrain

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1 'Road' indicates the approximate battle-era road roadbed and alignment still exist. 'Spur is the approximate road extension of a battle-era road that still exists. 'Trace' indicates a former battle-era road, farm lane, or by-road that today is largely an archeological site. 'Damage claim' means Depredation report, Plunder report, Quaker Suffering, or Relief Request to Quaker Meeting.

2 1777 Pennsbury and 1777 Birmingham (Chadds Ford Combat & Fords Landscapes). 1777 Birmingham, 1777 Westtown, and 1777 Thornbury (Osborne Hill & Birmingham Meetinghouse Combat Landscapes). 1777 Pennsbury and 1777 Birmingham (American Approach & Encampment Landscapes).

3 Buffington's 1777 Ford is in 1777 East Bradford, but being covered in this plan due to its shared history with the other fords to the south.

4 The three northernmost Fords in this plan cross into other modern Townships: Buffington's is modern East Bradford/Pocopson; Wistar's/Taylor's is modern Birmingham/Pocopson; and Jones is modern Birmingham/Pocopson.

5 Landscapes' context is part of the 'Statement of Significance' (Chapter 2) as supplemented by municipal historic context in Appendix B.

American military strategy and reconnaissance, battle combat areas, local community and battle impact, and Quaker roots/Peace Testimony.

Understanding historic context is necessary to try to better identify built features that are battle-era contributing resources. Built features have been examined for how they support Landscape significance and

Figure 4-1c: Associated Combat Landscapes for Chadds Ford and Birmingham Meeting House and related KOCOA Cultural Topography Defining Features
(updated from the 2010 Study and 2013 Plan)

DEFINING FEATURE	LANDSCAPE	KOCOA CATEGORY
Historic Resources in Figure 4-2c	Combat & Approach	Key Terrain
Historic Roads in Figure 4-3c	See figure	See figure
George Brown Farm Site – Plunder Claim	Combat	Key Terrain
Scott Farm Site – Plunder Claim	Combat	Key Terrain
John Hunt Farm – Plunder and Depredation Claim	Combat	Key Terrain
Thomas Taylor Farm – Plunder and Depredation Claim	Combat	Key Terrain
John Brown Farm - Plundered	Combat	Key Terrain
Caleb James Farm – Depredation Claim	Combat	Key Terrain

convey information about battle events and plan themes. Built features identified as 'contributing resources' (Figure 4-2) have characteristics that embody aspects of Landscape or battlefield significance and plan themes, while features that are also 'defining' (Figures 4-1a, 4-1b, and 4-1c) also relay information about battle military-related events.

Historic Structures, Properties, Sites

This section reviews, refines, and updates information for previously inventoried battle-era historic resources from the 2013 Plan, with the goal to identify battle-era built features that speak or contribute to the overall story of the Landscapes within the battlefield setting. For this plan, historic resources include battle-era buildings, structures, sites, and properties, and in addition to historic context and Landscape significance, consider early settlement patterns and battle events in present-day municipalities. As well, to accomplish this analysis, research (Appendix B[1]) and mapping presenting a depiction[2] of the battle-era development pattern was undertaken by Chester County Archives using primary source materials.

Settlement Patterns

Prominent regional settlement patterns, building types, and architectural design choices characterize the Landscapes and embody the pattern of colonial life. Farmhouses, tenant houses, and outbuildings on farmsteads dotted the landscape near roads for access to farm products and markets. Today, many historic buildings are found abutting the edge of roads, as roads have widened over the centuries since the battle. Settlements also included early crossroads with trades (e.g. blacksmiths or wheelwrights), mills, homes, and taverns. Some buildings served the unanticipated, impromptu role for field hospitals, officer's headquarters, civilian eyewitnesses, or troop concealment for the battle. Most structures were owned/built by settlement families (primarily Quaker), with a few erected by or for farm staff, millers, and tavern owners. Buildings are mostly conservative/practical in design, with any additional elements befitting the tastes of their builders. Structures were often built in phases and expanded, even in the early colonial era, to reflect multi-generational growth or inclusion of new uses. Common

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1 Such analytical mapping shows 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 built features (buildings and roads) contributing and/or relating to the Landscapes. The mapped 1777 landscape can then be compared to historic person accounts and battle and township histories to understand the civilian population (families and locations of their properties and their relative's properties in association/distance to one another), and ascertain present-day locations of historic accounts and battle-era structures/properties. Important for Chapter 3's battle and geospatial analysis, property location/owner mapping is used to trace the Crown Force advance by plotting Quaker sufferings and civilian recordings of depredation and plunder claims on their respective properties.

2 It is important to note that battle-era landscape maps are as accurate as possible depictions. For example, researchers found early roads were improperly laid out, not completed, used but not officially recorded, or abandoned but official vacating never recorded. Minor paths, e.g. farm lanes or by-roads, would not have been recorded. It was found that during the 19th century, records from the 18th century were destroyed.

architectural elements include: 2-story, stone construction, side-gable roofs, and representations of English Colonial vernacular building types popular in the region.

National Historic Landmark District

The Brandywine Battlefield National Historic Landmark (NHL) was authorized January 20, 1961. The National Historic Landmark program recognizes "places with exceptional value because they commemorate or illustrate the history of the United States" and is nested within the National Register of Historic Places. Both were established with the Historic Preservation Act of 1966, and both are administered by the National Park Service.

The National Park Service (NPS) states that a structure, district, building, landscape, object, or site may be "important enough" to be considered for NHL designation if it meets one or more of the following criteria:

1. That is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to, and are identified with, or that outstandingly represents, the broad national patterns of United States history and from which an understanding and appreciation of those patterns may be gained; or
2. That are associated importantly with the lives of persons nationally significant in the history of the U.S.; or
3. That represent some great idea or ideal of the American people; or
4. That embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen exceptionally valuable for the study of a period, style or method of construction, or that represent a significant, distinctive and exceptional entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
5. That are composed of integral parts of the environment not sufficiently significant by reason of historical association or artistic merit to warrant individual recognition but collectively compose an entity of exceptional historical or artistic significance, or outstandingly commemorate or illustrate a way of life or culture; or
6. That have yielded or may be likely to yield information of major scientific importance by revealing new cultures, or by shedding light upon periods of occupation over large areas of the United States. Such sites are those which have yielded, or which may reasonably be expected to yield, data affecting theories, concepts, and ideas to a major degree.

As of 2024 there are over 2400 National Historic Landmarks on the register. Other NHLs in Chester County include the Humphry Marshall house in Marshalltown, the Lukens Historic District in Coatesville, the Wharton Esherick Home and Studio in Malvern, The Lightfoot Mill [Mill at Anselma] in Chester Springs, Cedarcroft in Kennett Square, the General Von Steuben Headquarters in Valley Forge National Historical Park and Waynesborough in Paoli.

The landmark districts span Chester and Delaware counties and six townships. There are 16 register listed properties and five historic districts in the landmark. The landmark is approximately 10 square miles and 375 individual parcels. With the district is the 52-acre Brandywine Battlefield State Historic Park, preserving the residences that served as headquarters for Wahington and Lafayette.

Although the NHL designation denotes exceptional significance, the designation itself does not prevent land development or regulate property use. The NPS recommends property owners familiarize themselves with state and local laws and ordinances that govern historic properties in their community for there may be mechanisms or requirements that differ from Federal law. If a NHL is private property, the owner may do what they wish. Still, the designation is important in that it recognizes exceptional sites that contribute to national history; it takes an act of US Congress to designate an NHL. NHL designation also requires investigation of projects that will alter the character any of the identified elements that define the significance of the NHL.

There are various structures within the NHL that are identified as contributing to its significance. They are:

➢ Birmingham Friends Meetinghouse (1767); Birmingham Twp

➢ Daniel Davis House and Barn (1740); Birmingham Twp

➢ Brinton's Mill (1719); Birmingham Twp

➢ John Chads House; Chadd's Ford Twp

➢ Gilpin Homestead/Howe's Headquarters (1745); Chadd's Ford Twp

➢ Ring House Reconstruction/Washington's Headquarters (originally pre-1750); and Gideon Gilpin House/Lafayette's Headquarters (pre-1745); Chadds Ford Twp. Both are in the Brandywine Battlefield State Historic Site

Chadds Ford Combat & Fords Landscapes Battle Events
Pennsbury Township

After having advanced through a running battle of four skirmishes with American patrols sent to slow the Crown Forces advance east, Gen'l Knyphausen's Division, arrived west of Chadds Ford the morning of Sept. 11. Upon approaching Chad ds Ford, there was a clash with American Forces in the vicinity of Baltimore Pike and Sunny Ridge Lane. Knyphausen's Division continue to move east along Baltimore Pike to position along Brandywine Creek, one part of the Division separates from the main column, following northeast along Brinton's Bridge Road towards Brinton's Ford. The remainder of the Division proceeded east to the vicinity of Chads Ford and Chads Ferry and south to near Hillandale Road. There are two properties in the southern part of the township, close to or along the Delaware border, that both claimed plundering, the Bron property and the Scott property. Pennsbury records for damage claims are notable; around 10 properties are identified, although it is very likely more were affected. These properties are listed in Figure 4-2. These properties are listed with greater detail in Appendix B.

The 1730 Road trace, former section of later realigned to become modern Brinton's Bridge Rd., west of the Creek. The 18th century roadbed and alignment is still evident as is the narrow cartway.

The Eastern Column advancing straight for Chads's Ford was commanded by 61-year old Lt. Gen Baron Wilhelm Reichsfreiherr zu Inn-und Knyphausen, a dependable and able officer who spent much of his career in the Prussian army. Gen'l Knyphausen's Division, consisting of approximately 6,800 men, began moving along the 1743 Great Nottingham Road (away from their camp site along McFarland/Schoolhouse Rds. just east of Kennett Square) at 5AM, led by British riflemen, Loyalist infantry, and British light dragoons. The remainder of the Division followed, including Hessian and British infantry, British artillery, and the baggage supply and provision wagon train including the cattle herd.

Blocking the road to Chads's Ford were elements of American Gen'l Maxwell's Light Infantry Corps. Out in front along the road between Welch's Tavern and Old Kennett Meetinghouse a mile west were four American advance posts. They were under orders to fire on the advancing Crown Forces and then fall back towards Brandywine Creek. Gen'l Knyphausen reported that the first shots of the day were fired at Welch's Tavern (Ezikial Webb's) about a mile east of his Division's camp site when the Crown Force advance guard encountered the first of Gen'l Maxwell's posts. Both sides reported serious fighting and injuries. Withdrawing from Welsh's Tavern, to a hill near Hamorton Village, to Old Kennett Meetinghouse, and then to the vicinity of Baltimore Pike/Hickory Hill Rd. intersection, the Americans waited until the enemy was close, fired a volley then fell back to the next post. This series of four short, but sharp, clashes served to slow Gen'l Knyphausen's advance towards Chad's Ford. Each series of American action caused the Crown Force's lead formations to deploy, engage, chase the retreating Americans, then reorganize before moving forward. By the time the fourth American position had been overcome, British riflemen and Loyalist infantry were tired and disorganized. They had taken relatively heavy casualties, particularly among officers.

Figure 4-2: Eastern Battlefield Contributing Historic Resources
& Current and Recommended Resource Designation Status

ID	Parcel Number	Parcel Address	Owner/Association	NHL	NR	HD	KOCOA	NRE	LOCAL	INTERP
				Current Status				Recomm. Status		
KENNETT TOWNSHIP										
62.02	62-2-13-E	489 Meetinghouse La	Kennett Friends Meetinghouse, c. 1731 site of a skirmish and minutes of women's meeting noted passing soldiers.		X		X			
62.03	62-4-15.2	647 Millers Hill	Abraham Taylor Farm. Abraham Taylor was a Quaker farmer. In 1783 the property contained two dwelling houses and two barns. Suffering and Plunder							
62.04	62-1-36.1	300 Greenwood Rd	Ezekiel Webb Tavern/Welch's Tavern/Anvil Tavern Site. Thomas Welch operated a tavern here as early as 1767. The first shots of the battle were fired near here at 6 am.		X	X	X			
N62.05	62-2-71	307 Kennett Pike	Supply Train Walter Craig Farm Site, located on the 1754 Brandywine Road. Land.						X	
KENNETT BOROUGH										
03.02	3-2-204	108 N. Union St.	Robert Morris/Peter Bell Tavern Site/Unicorn Tavern Site Peter Bell operated the tavern beginning in 1774 that was owned by Robert Morris at the time of the battle. Depredation		X	X	X			
PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP										
64-02	64-3-115	508 Hillendale Rd	Supply Train Issac Mendenhall property, Thomas and Joseph Mendenhall and Amos Davis Oakdale, c. 1840. 86 acres. (Noah Mendenhall (son of Isaac) – Depredation and Plunder		X					
64.04	64-3-119	951 Fairville Rd	Supply Train Issac Mendenhall property, Thomas and Joseph Mendenhall and Amos Davis Stone House c. 1731. 22 acres. (Noah Mendenhall (son of Isaac) – Depredation and Plunder)		X					
64.06	64-3-88	701 Hillendale Rd	Supply Train William Harvey Jr. property, Peter Harvey tenant. c. 1773 stone house, c. 1834 barn. 14 acres (adjoining 150 acres) (Peter Harvey – Depredation and Plunder)						X	
64.08	64-3-38	1011 Baltimore Pk	Joshua Pierce II tenant Farm (Joshua III likely tenant) c. 1770, 4 acres.						X	
64.10	64-3-62.1	1310 Brintons Bridge Rd	Jacob Way Farm, c. 1750, 2 acres						X	
64.11	64-3-113	1383 Hickory Rd	Supply Train Issac Mendenhall property, Thomas and Joseph Mendenhall and Amos Davis "Jacob Schaffer Farm c. 1730" not verified (Noah Mendenhall (son of Isaac) – Depredation and Plunder)						X	
64.12	64-3-82.1	101 Hickory Hill Rd	Joshua Pierce II Tenant Farm (Joshua III likely tenant) Daniel Pierce House, c. 1702 sold to Joshua Pierce in 1769, 3 acres							
64-13	64-3-114	1250 Hillendale Rd	Supply Train Issac Mendenhall property, Thomas and Joseph Mendenhall and Amos Davis Springdale Farm, c. 1836, 60 acres (Noah Mendenhall (son of Isaac) – Depredation and Plunder)				X			
64.15	64-3-36	883 Baltimore Pk.	Dr. Joseph Pierce property, Pennsbury Inn, c. 1714-1720, 8 acres. (Joseph Pierce, Jr. son of Joseph the owner – Depredation)	X	X					
64.16	64-3-87	1349 Hillendale Rd	Supply Train William Harvey Jr. tenant residence, c. 1800 may date to battle, 2.5 acres (Peter Harvey – Depredation and Plunder)						X	
64.17	64-3-85.2	100 Hickory Hill Rd	Dr. Joseph Pierce property, tenant house c. 1760, 3.5 acres (Dr. Joseph Pierce – Depredation)	X					X	
64.22	64-3-96.2-E	620 Baltimore Pk	James Brinton property, Barnes-Brinton House/William Barns Tavern, c. 1714, 1.5 acres (James Brinton – Depredation and Plunder)	X	X					X
64.23	64-3-100	450 Old Baltimore Pk	James Brinton property, Brinton House, c. 1720, 2 acres (James Brinton – Depredation and Plunder)						X	

64-24	64-3-110.1	414 Old Baltimore Pk	James Brinton property, William Shimer House, c. 1773, 21 acres (further research to verify date.) (James Brinton – Depredation and Plunder)					X	
64.25	64-3-74	1401 Brintons Bridge Rd	William Harvey Jr. farm, Amos Harvey tenant, William Harvey House, c. 1715, 7.5 acres (Amos Harvey – Depredation)	X	X				
64-26	64-3-69	1301 Brintons Bridge Rd	James Brinton property, Brinton-King House, c. 1775, 1 acre (James Brinton – Depredation and Plunder)	X	X				X
64-32	64-6-1.4	160 Stabler Rd	Supply Train Caleb and Moses Mendenhall property, c. 1880 potential early core, 8 acres (Caleb and Moses Mendenhall – Depredation)					X	

Following behind the advance column on the 1743 Great Nottingham Road was the Crown Force army's baggage and supply wagon train. Studying roads available to this provision wagon train, it appears the only choice the wagon train had to move away from the skirmishing (and impending battle that was to come) was to head south shortly after passing aka Welch's Tavern. Not far past Welch's Tavern, the wagon train turned south onto the 1759 Road to Wilmington.

Chadds Ford Township & Birmingham Township

Having skirmished with Crown Forces to slow their advance east along Baltimore Pike on Sept. 11, Maxwell's Forces cross over the Creek to rejoin Americans to the east. Earlier that morning, Washington's tactic took form in trying to defend Brandywine Creek and prevent Howe from advancing on this attack to capture Philadelphia, American Generals positioned troops along the east side of the Creek, with the bulk being largely in the vicinity of the Chads Ford and Brinton's Ford areas.

The 1730 Road, modern Brinton's Bridge Rd., looking west to the Creek and former section of the 1730 Road, now a private driveway and road trace, that led to 1777 Brinton's Ford. The 18th century roadbed and alignment is still evident as is the narrow cartway.

Two distinct military activities were taking place in Pennsbury on the day of battle. The first was Gen'l Knyphausen's steady march toward Chads's Ford met with frequent and heavy fire between the two armies. Around 8:30AM, the British heavy artillery was sent up the 1760 Road (today's Brinton's Bridge Rd.) to take their position along the high ground on Brandywine Creek west bank and near Brinton's Mill. By 9:30AM, the Americans had been forced back across the Creek and the Crown Forces were in place for battle[1].

The second military activity involved the Crown Force army's baggage and supply wagon train, including the cattle which while waiting for the battle's outcome, ransacked area properties for added supplies judging from the extensive damage claims from the Mendenhall and Harvey families. Other properties the area were likely impacted as well. After turning south in Kennett Township onto the 1759 Road to Wilmington, the wagon train turned east and waited out the battle on the 1754 Brandywine Road.

In Pennsbury Township, the first colonial holdings impacted by advancing Crown Forces were owned by the Peirce family. There are two colonial structures attributed to Dr. Joseph Peirce with damage claims. James Brinton held significant lands along the 1743 Great Nottingham Road and several colonial structures are attributed to his family. His son, Joseph Brinton, who lived on the western most portion of James Brinton's holdings filed a claim.

In the meantime, Gen'ls Howe's/Cornwallis' Division was heading north with the main body of the Crown Force army. The finest troops in Gen'l Howe's army made up this approximately 9,000-strong Division. The Division's advance guard, led by Hessian Capt. Johann Ewald, was a mixed force of Hessian Jager and British light infantry.

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1 Starting from the movements on modern Brinton's Bridge Rd. is the subject of this Phase 3 study.

Guiding the troops on country roads were local Loyalists, including John Jackson, a clockmaker from East Marlborough, and Curtis Lewis, a blacksmith and large landowner in West Bradford Township, both of whom had scouted the fords of Brandywine Creek the night before. These men were under the direction of Joseph Galloway, Pennsylvania's leading Loyalist, who also accompanied Gen'l Howe. With American patrols scouring the countryside looking for enemy activity there was bound to be conflict. Hessian Capt. Ewald reported that within the first ½-hour of the northern march he encountered American skirmishers, likely at today's Unionville Rd/Street Rd. intersection. This was very likely some part of American Lt. Col. Ross' Detachment who were patrolling the western front. Capt. Ewald reports from then on, skirmishing continued with the American in various places until noon.

Numerous households in the area reported being plundered. Four members of the Gilpin family including Hannah Bennett [Gilpin], Dr. George, Gideon, and Isaac Gilpin all submitted claims. Lease holders John and Margaret Thatcher, renting from Israel Pemberton of Philadelphia, had a claim of suffering submitted by the Concord Monthly Meeting to the Philadelphia Yearly meeting in 1794. The claim stated that the Thatcher's:

> "lived in a comfortable way on a small rented Farm, but in the 9th Month of said year, being the time of the Battle of Brandywine, his Habitation being in the midst of the engagement, and his House a Hospital for the Wounded, himself and Family being fled for safety … he lost most of his Property."

The property the Thatcher's itemized as taken was

> "Cows, Sheep, Swine, Wheat, Rye, Indian Corn, Flax, Potatoes, Hay, Houshold [sic] Furniture, Farmers Utensals, Wearing Apparel, Shoemakers Tools, Leather, Shoes, etc amounting in the whole of upwards of £150, exclusive of the Distruction [sic] of his Fences, and the Loss of a Crop of Wheat then to have been put in the Ground."

Benjamin Ring's home was used as Washington's headquarters' before and during the battle. A Quaker and owner of a saw and fulling mill, Ring reported his property as plundered. Several other properties in Chadds Ford reported plundering although there were likely more. The Ring and Gideon Gilpin homes are contributing resources to the NHL.

Washington also ordered guarding of Creek fords, as far north as Buffington's Ford (Near today's Shaw Bridge Park) and as far south as nearing the PA/DE line. While it is not known for certain, Washington likely knew other fords existed further north, but given the incredible distance and difficult terrain to traverse, not to mention the stifling humid weather, Washington likely thought it an impossible and unfruitful endeavor and thus did not guard these fords. However, Howe successfully executed the nearly impossible strategy[1], arriving at the Strode's Mill Village and Osborne Hill area mid-afternoon, Sept. 11.

Chadds Ford records for damage claims are many; around 20 properties are identified, although it is very likely more were affected. These properties are listed in Figure 4-2.

Osborne Hill & Birmingham Meetinghouse Combat Area Landscapes Battle Events

Birmingham Township & Westtown Township

Osborne Hill

Thornbury and Westtown Townships have a limited number of plunder claims but, as with Birmingham Township, there were likely more. There were three plundering claims in Thornbury and three in Westtown. Interestingly, there are three depredation claims from Westtown. John Hunt claimed a seven-year-old mare was

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1 See The Army Marches at Dawn Plan and related Technical Reports for Phase 2 project.

taken by Crown Forces. Thomas Taylor claimed both farm animals and household goods including "a gray mare, a brown horse, one riding saddle, twenty-nine geese, one red heifer…" Finally, Caleb James stated Crown Forces took "two mares, oats, and one pewter quart."

Birmingham Township, Westtown Township, & Thornbury Township
Birmingham Road area & Battle Hill

There were numerous properties close or adjacent to the Birmingham Meetinghouse reporting plundering. Jesse Graves and his wife reported both plundering and depredation of both agricultural products and household goods. Graves claimed the loss for farm animals and crops:

> "3 horses, 1 cow, 10 sheep, 6 hogs, 80 dozens of wheat, 6 acres of Indian corn, 4 acres of buckwheat, 20 dozens of oats, 3/4 acre of potatoes, flax, 2 tonnes hay, 2 hives of bees, gears for 2 horses, [and] 2 Saddles."

Graves also claimed a significant amount of household goods. Spelling is a direct transcription of the original source material:

> "…1 pair of boots, 1 great coat, 1 pair of buckskin breeches, 8 blankets, 6 pair of sheets, 2 bolsters , 4 pillows, 10 pillow cases, 1 double coverlid, 2 pairs of window curtains, nearly a set of bed curtains all callico, 10 shirts (4 of them fine), 7 shirts (3 of them fine), 3 Linen petticoats, 1 callimines, 4 coarse, 1 drugget, 4 callico short gowns, 1 linen short gown, 4 coarse white aprons, 2 coarse aprons checkt, 3 white fine aprons, 1 checkt white apron, 2 lawn handkerchiefs, 2 kenting handkerchiefs, 2 camblett, 1 barsalonia, 1 silk (?), 3 hollon (?), 11 women capes, 1 pair of stays, 1 pair of silk mittons, 1 pair of leather mittons, 1 bonnett, 1 large worked pocket book with Sundry, 2 table cloths, 8 napkins, 4 towels, 3 pair of trousers, 12 pair of men & women stockings, 2 coarse boy shirts, 9 children shirts & shifts, 1 pair of locket buttons, 1 pair of silver locket buttons, 2 gallico gowns, 2 drugget petticoats, 2 linen petticoats, 3 short gowns, 2 linen short gowns, 6 small white aprons, 2 pair of small trousers, 5 pair of stockings, 2 half satin bonnets, 1 bundle of check stript white linen drugget and silk worsted remnants, 1 bundle of baby cloths, 1 silk & cotton jacket, 1 linen jacket, 5 handkerchiefs , 1 pair of gloves, 2 tea kettles, 1 Japaned canister, 16 effice Mile, 1 brass kettle, 2 coffee potts, 1 iron pot, 1 dozen hard mettle spoons, 7 pewter spoons, 1 tin quart, 3 tin pints, 4 milk pans, 5 earthen potts, 9 earthen Dishes, 3 delf bowls,3 chockolet bowls, 2 Cream jugs, Mustered pot, Pepper box, Skimming dish sadle candlestick , 5 knives & forks, 2000 rail burnt & destroyed, 100 pounds of lard, 10 pounds of beef & bacon, [and] 20 gallons of soap."

Because of the combat and troop movement within Birmingham Township, at least eight property owners claimed plundering but there were likely more.

Associated Encampment & Approach Landscapes Battle Events

The Approach Landscape is split into two branches. One branch, largely divisions lead by Gen'l Knyphausen is the approach used for the first phase of combat at and around Chadds Ford. The second, largely divisions lead by Cornwallis and Howe, use a different approach to the combat area of the second phase of the battle at Osbourne Hill and the Birmingham Meeting House.

Gen'l Knyphausen's troops follow the Great Nottingham Road east from their Kennett Square and Borough encampment towards upper and lower Chadds Ford. Knyphausen's front lines are engaged in skirmishes with Maxwell's Light Infantry the entire distance up to the engagement at Chadds Ford.

Howe and Cornwallis leave the encampment and head north and east along XXXX through East Marlborough, Pocopson, West Bradford and East Bradford Townships. The Crown Forces then proceeded south along XXXX through Westtown Township, aligning their divisions in Birmingham and Thornbury Townships for the second phase of engagement with America forces at and around Osborne Hill and the Birmingham Meetinghouse.

Following the end of second phase of combat, the American exit the area, heading east along the Great Nottingham Road. The Crown Forces remain in the area. Their encampment is largely in central and northern Chadds Ford Township. Gen'l Knyphausen's brigades are north of the Great Nottingham Road between XXX and XXX. Cornwallis and the Hessian brigades are clustered around Dilworthtown.

Chadds Ford Conflict: Approach Landscape in Kennett Township

Around 5:00 am on September 11th, Gen'l Knyphausen divisions leave their encampment and travel east of the Great Nottingham Road, today's Baltimore Pike, towards Chadds Ford. Their first skirmish with American troops is with Maxwell's brigade around the site of Welch's (later Anvil) Tavern, just north of the Road on the current property of Longwoods Gardens.

Chadds Ford Conflict: Approach Landscape in Pennsbury Township

Skirmishes with Maxwell's brigade continue as Crown Forces travel east along Great Nottingham Road. There is an identified at the Kennett Meetinghouse, currently near the corner of Kendal Road and Baltimore Pike. There are likely incidental skirmishes with Maxwell's brigade all the way to Chadds Ford.

Another route used by American forces is Cossart Road. Connecting Creek Road with modern PA Route 52, was established in 1730 and served as a route to an important crossing and part of the encampment, Gibson's Ford.

Chadds Ford Conflict: Approach Landscape in Chadds Ford Township, Chester County

Upon crossing Smith's Ford at the Delaware/Pennsylvania line, America troops continued northward along Ridge Road to Ring Road. Ring Road continued to the Benjamin Ring house, Washington's headquarters and the heart of the encampment.

Chadds Ford Conflict: Approach Landscape in Chadds Ford Township, Delaware County

There are documented reports of plundering of properties on the east side of the Brandywine in Chadds Ford Township, Delaware County.

In 1772, Joseph Davis acquired a license to run Sign of the Compass Tavern along the Great Nottingham Road. Davis' family settled on the tavern's property in 1772 and lived there until 1777. It is likely this property was plundered.

John Thatcher and his wife leased a 53-acre tract from John Pemberton. An account of suffering was filed with the Concord Monthly meeting detailing the losses of the Thatcher's during the battle:

> "…in the 9th Month of said year, being the time of the Battle of Brandywine, his Habitation being in the midst of the engagement, and his House a Hospital for the Wounded, himself and Family being fled for safety … he lost most of his Property, consisting of Cows, Sheep, Swine, Wheat, Rye, Indian Corn, Flax, Potatoes, Hay, Houshold [sic] Furniture, Farmers Utensals, Wearing Apparel, Shoemakers Tools, Leather, Shoes, etc amounting in the whole of upwards of £150, exclusive of the Distruction [sic]of his Fences, and the Loss of a Crop of Wheat then to have been put in the Ground."

Crown Forces Encampment in Kennett Square Borough and Township

The Crown Forces Kennett Square encampment, prior to the engagement the morning and afternoon of September 11th, is described in Phase 2 for the southern battlefield.

American Encampment Landscape

Washington and his forces began their approach to the banks of the Brandywine, at Chads Ford, on Setp4mber 9th. The encampment was established at fords north and south of the upper and lower Chads Ford. The Taylor regiment of the Chester County militia was stationed two miles to the south at Smith Ford on the modern border between Delaware and Pennsylvania. Other regiments established encampments at Gibbons and Chandlers Fords, north of Smiths Ford, and Hollingsworth Ford [previously identified as Mendenhall's Ford], south of Smith Fords. Intelligence suggested that Crown Forces would engage with a multi-pronged attack at Chads and other Brandywine fords.

By the afternoon of the 9th, Washington set up his headquarters at the home of Benjamin Ring. By the evening of the 9th, American forces were encamped at various locations on the east bank of the Brandywine. Intelligence placed the attack on the 11th, providing the forces time to re-enforce their encampments with various defensive works.

Historic Resources Contributing to Eastern Battlefield Landscapes

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 that: were present at the time of the battle in or near the eastern battlefield, contribute to significance or plan themes, and may also inform about battle events.

Figure 4-2 update the 2013 Plan historic resource and defining features inventories[1] for the respective Landscapes and are categorized as 'contributing' resources to the Landscapes. Structures, properties, and sites in the figures existed at the time of the battle, and as such are listed by their battle-era property owner or tenant name unless otherwise indicated. In all figures, '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 contributing to a Historic District) and suggested future designation based on this project. Current historic resources designations are: 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), and/or KOCOA built defining feature (KOCOA). Suggested future designations are historic resources to consider for National Register eligibility as individual resources or as part of a historic district (NRE); as locally significant (Local); and/or as an interpretive site (Interp[2]).

Contributing resources, whether they are defining features, National Register listed or eligible, or another designation, are equally valuable resources that tell the story of aspects of the battle and battlefield and are worthy of protection.

From 1989 Study –
Edgewood was on NR in Bham
Birmingham Orthodox Meetinghouse was on NR in Bham

From 1989 Study – known hospital sites -
Birmingham Meeting,   (NR 1971)
Old Kennett Meeting   (NR 1974),
General Store and Saddlery, Dilworthtown NR HD (1973), Old Wilmington Pike/Brinton's Bridge Rd, Birmingham

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1 In the 2013 Plan, Historic Resources are listed in Figure 3.6 and Defining Features in Figure 3.9.
2 See heritage tour in Appendix C.

Historic Roads

Examining historic resources for Phase 1 and Phase 2 strategic landscapes projects revealed the need to reconsider the assumed battle-era road network as key roads thought to have existed at the time of the battle appeared to be later roads. This section reviews and updates the assumed 2010 Study battle-era road network.

Roads - as built features under KOCOA - are a key feature for battlefield analysis (Chapter 3) as to their role in the battle/locations of battle events, whether they are KOCOA built defining features, and their relationship to the battle-era and modern landscape. Understanding where roads were located at the time of the battle, and in relation to properties, structures, and reported losses, is necessary to clarify and compare locations of places, and their proximity to one another, which are referenced in historic accounts, deeds, road petitions, and civilian property loss records.

Review of roads was necessary to carry out basic project goals of identifying route(s) taken by Crown Forces to move from DE into PA, establish their encampment, and march the day of battle. This also includes understanding roads leading to fords and the fords themselves as 'waterway roads.' 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 re-examined the battle-era road network using primary source materials. Their detailed research and analytical mapping[1] provide a visual representation of the public road network, as well as properties[2], including their owners, present at the time of the battle. It 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 that road network.

This battle-era road mapping is considered a depiction, as delineating historical information with varying degrees of specificity and availability is a challenging and imperfect task, and the area has seen changes since 1777. For example, Red Clay and Brandywine Creeks and municipal borders have altered over time, and modern Kennett Square Borough did not exist as such in 1777. But Phase 1 and Phase 2 mapping provides the best and possibly first detailed modern delineation of the battle-era road network that employed specific primary source research.

Knowledge of battle-era properties was needed to map battle-era roads (and vice versa} – original road petition descriptions and property line/owner/deed descriptions were compared against one another, and with other historic mapping[3], to confirm historic information and accuracy in mapping. Date labels next to roads on battle-era road mapping indicate road petition dates. There may have been additional public roads, cart paths, and by-roads in existence in 1777 for which documentation no longer exists or is not available. Given the large tracts sizes 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 so they can only be located when named in other reference materials or as remaining imprints on the landscape seen via Lidar and like mapping. The 1874 and 1883 maps show farm lanes, some of which project researchers' conjecture were likely there at the time of the battle. This is surmised as development was minimal during that roughly 100-year time span in Chester County, which remained rural and relatively unchanged in the 19th century still having battle-era properties and families.

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1 1777 Map by Clifford Parker, Chester County Archives, provides a delineation of best available primary source information from Chester County Archives as researched by Archival staff.

2 Appendix B contains 1777 property and damage claims mapping.

3 1847 (roads), 1860 (properties), 1874 (property owners and roads), and 1883 (properties lines) maps were referenced as they are considered the most accurate, detailed, and closest in age to 1777 of known and accessible maps.
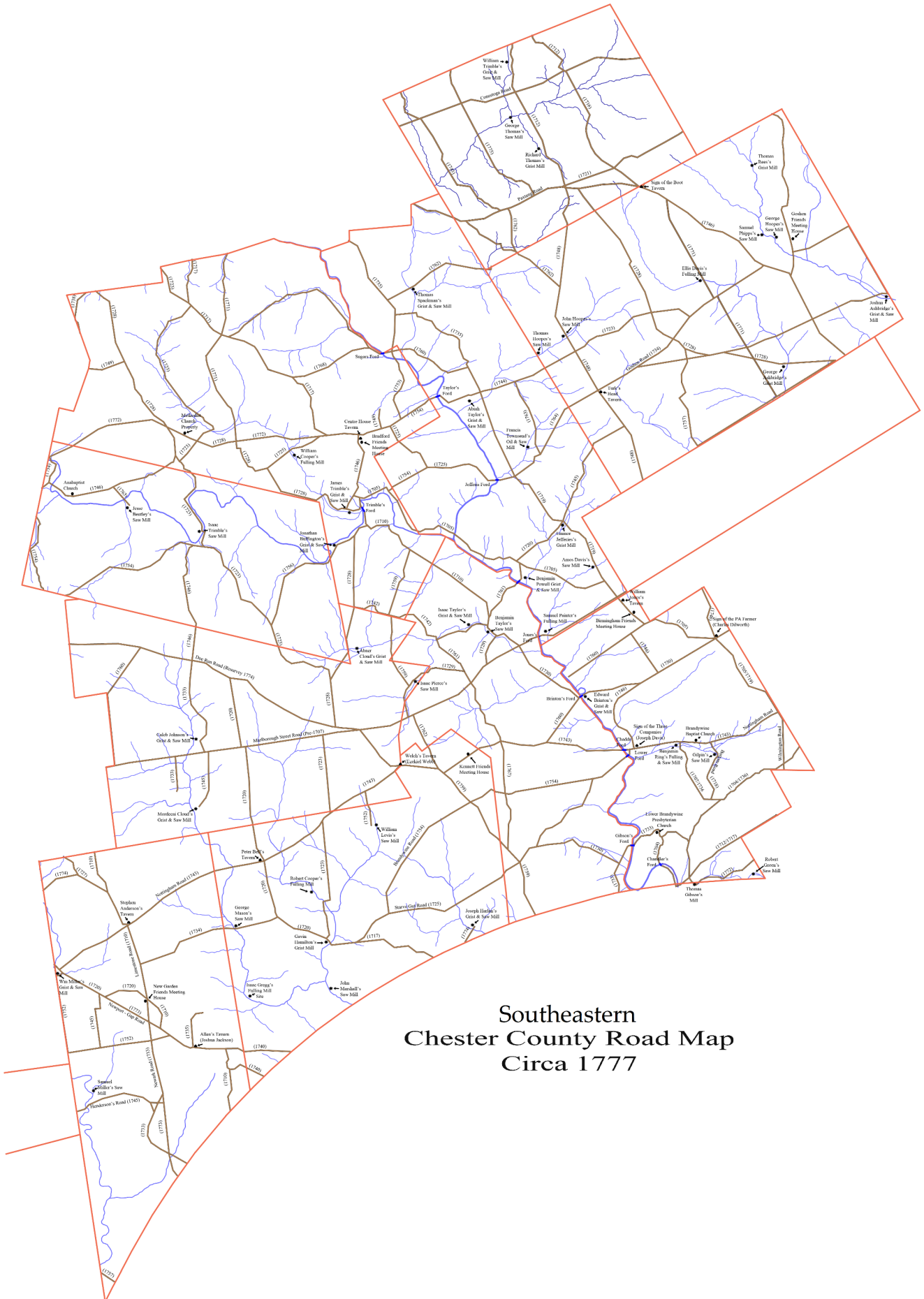
Southeastern
Chester County Road Map
Circa 1777

The battle-era map depiction provides a basis for understanding the public road network available to Crown Forces and American Forces, as well as civilians impacted by the battle and the local community at large. By analyzing the location of extant battle-era structures, properties/owners, and roads, some of which still exist, along with civilian recordings of battle-related losses, a clear picture of the location of troop movement, battle features, and battle events emerges.

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, in Phase 1 there were several 'Roads to the Great Valley' all leading to the industrial corridor in colonial-era Caln Township and Chester 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 the 1777 Road map are the primary way Phases 1 and 2 can provide 'road names' to discuss extant roads at the battle.

Recommendations

Using the analysis undertaken in this chapter, the following recommendations were developed and are to be used in concert with historic resource recommendations in Chapter 5. 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, as it identifies extant features that still define the battle/battlefield. Protecting those resources is paramount for efforts to maintain and/or interpret the battlefield and its history 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. This plan recommends expanding on the successful historic resource protection that has occurred to date.

4-1.   Consider the possibility of a Thematic/Multiple Property National Register eligibility nomination for the battlefield, which could include historic resources, historic districts, roads, fords and other battle-related built features. The strategy should outline funding and hiring an architectural historian to assist. (BBTF, Battlefield Historical Commissions, PHMC, CCPC, DCPD, Architectural Historian)

4-2.   Research extant battlefield historic resources from the 2013 Plan and those identified in this Plan. Update municipal historic resource inventories to reflect these contributing battlefield resources. (Battlefield Historical Commissions)

4-3.   Research 18th century families in the Landscapes. 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. (Historical Commissions working with Military historian)

4-4.   Determine how to integrate newly attributed and/or associated resources into their respective historic districts. This could entail including them in the municipal historic resources inventory as such and designating them as locally significant resources. This could also include updating National Register documentation, whether or not the updated information is officially submitted to the National Register. (Battlefield Historical Commissions, CCPC, DCPD)

4-5. Continue to refine 1777 property and road network mapping in New Castle County and Delaware County. (Local historians and volunteer researchers with possible guidance from CC Archives)

4-6. Update historic resources information and mapping from the 2013 Plan to reflect findings herein. (CCPC)

4-7. Work with BBTF and other battlefield municipalities to investigate developing battlefield design guidelines. Such an effort could help provide guidance for redevelopment, rehabilitation, reuse, infill, or new construction that preserves the character and scenic values of the Landscapes and battlefield overall. (Battlefield Municipalities, BBTF)

4-8. Consider applying to become a Certified Local Government (CLG). The CLG program provides technical assistance and small grants to municipalities for historic resource projects. (Battlefield Municipalities)

4-9. Include specific battlefield and Landscape references and protection policy during the next update to municipal Comprehensive Plans. (Battlefield Municipalities)

4-10. Encourage adoption of consistent or at least compatible definitions for historic resources in ordinances. This can be promoted through the municipal continued participation in BBTF and its historic resources subcommittee, and would require regulatory amendments by municipalities. (Battlefield Municipalities)

4-11. Consider adopting a historic battlefield protection zoning overlay. This overlay could supplement existing municipal historic resources provisions and would address protection of historic resources in the Landscapes. Consider possible land conservation options for battlefield lands via this overlay as well. Thornbury and Pennsbury Townships, Chester County have a battlefield zoning overlay, which should be consulted as a starting point. (Battlefield Municipalities)

4-12. Include the battlefield as a key feature that is to be addressed in land development design. (CCPC, DCPD, Battlefield Municipalities)