

The Mill Creek Hundred History Blog

Celebrating The History and Historical Sites of Mill Creek Hundred, in the Heart Of New Castle County, Delaware

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2010

Judge Morris Estate -- Part 1

There are, as you can see on this site, many beautiful, old homes in Mill Creek Hundred, but there are very few that are open to the public. One of the few houses that is open for public view (at least sometimes) is the Judge Morris Estate, also known as the Andrew Gray House. Thanks to the loving restoration carried out earlier last century by a man whose name is very familiar to University of Delaware alums, the house is in excellent condition, especially considering that it's at least 220 years old. In addition to its architectural beauty, few other houses can boast a roster of owners whose record of public service rivals this one.



Like almost every house of its advanced age, the Morris House is comprised of several sections built by various owners over the years. There is no clear consensus on when then oldest section of the house was built, or by whom. According to Francis Cooch in [Little Known History of Newark, DE and Its Environs](#), there are several dates inscribed on stones on different parts of the house: 1684, 1742 or 1752, and 1777. Date stones were often used to record the date of a building's erection, but were also used sometimes to commemorate important dates long after the fact. The original land grant for much of the Polly Drummond Hill (AKA Meetinghouse Hill) area was made from William Penn to William Welsh in December 1683, so if I had to guess, I'd say the 1684 date refers either to this or possibly the date of the first house (probably log) in the area. It's unlikely any part of this house was built then.

It seems that the trail of ownership for the property gets a bit confused for most of the 18th century, but at some point it is purchased by Scottish immigrant [Thomas Montgomery](#). Montgomery was the first of the residents to spend time in public life, and although there is no indication when, I think it was he who built the first section of the current house. Montgomery was in the area by the 1740's, and there is record of him being involved in a local militia regiment at that time. ~~It's possible that he could have built the oldest (probably western) section of the house then*~~. Another possibility is that the 1742/52 date refers to an older house, and 1777 was the date of construction for the current house. He certainly owned the property by 1779 (although there seems to be no specific mention of the house), as in January of that year he conveyed the tract to a [Blair McClenachan](#). If it was



Mill Creek Hundred 1868

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this Blair McClenachan, I think it's reasonable to assume the transaction had something to do with funding for the Revolutionary War. Whatever the reason, Montgomery reclaimed the property from McClenachan in 1786.

The other reason I'm inclined to believe that the property sale was related to the fight for independence is Thomas Montgomery's record of public service. He served in the state legislature in the 1780's and not only attended the state constitutional convention in 1792, but ended up as its chairman after John Dickinson resigned. Also that year, he ran for governor in the first public election for the post, but lost to Joshua Clayton. The following year, Montgomery became the Delaware State Auditor. He also served as a trustee of the New Castle County Almshouse (a poorhouse, which I believe was located in what is now the west side of Wilmington).



I have not had a chance to study the house up close, but from what I've seen, I'd say that Thomas Montgomery's house was probably what is now the northwestern wing, facing Polly Drummond Hill Road. There is a 1 1/2 and a 2 1/2 story section, either of which or both could date to the mid to later 18th century. From the looks of it, the 2 1/2 story section was of a three bay, centered door design common to the time. A little later, probably by the next owner, the south-facing five bay section was built*. This, and the families who occupied it, will be featured in Part 2 of the post.

* Although I still think my analysis makes sense, this page states that "John Barclay built the main 2-1/2 story stone house in 1792." By this, I assume they mean the five-bay, southern-facing section. It then adds that the 1-1/2 story west wing was added by the next owner, the subject of Part 2. I've not been able to verify this information elsewhere, but since they own the house, I'll defer to their assessment.

Edit [2/4/11]: I just found this page, which has a picture of the plaque located on the house grounds. It more or less confirms the previous paragraph, stating that John Barclay built the main section and the rear ell, while the 1-1/2 story section was added later. I still have found little for sure about Barclay, except that he may have been a merchant near Christiana. Also, he may have been prominent in Pennsylvania politics, including serving as mayor of Philadelphia in the 1790's. However, it's not completely clear that this is the same man.

HISTORICAL RESOURCES

- 1849 Rea & Price Map
- Historic Aerial Photographs
- Scharf's "History of Delaware"
- Archiplanet
- National Register of Historic Places
- CHRIS -- Delaware History Resource
- DELDOT Archaeology Reports

LOCAL HISTORICAL GROUPS AND WEBSITES

- New Castle Community History and Archaeology Program
- Hockessin Heritage Foundation
- The Friends of Brandywine Springs
- Lower Red Clay Valley Blog
- Pencader Heritage Area Association
- Old Wilmington.net
- Greenbank Mill
- Wilmington & Western Railroad
- Friends of Auburn Heights
- Hockessin Historical Society
- Historical Society of Delaware
- Preservation Delaware

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2010

Judge Morris Estate -- Part 2

In the last post, we followed the history of what is now known as the Judge Morris Estate up through the ownership of Thomas Montgomery. I haven't determined exactly when Montgomery sold the house (or if he even owned the current, existing house), but he did pass away in late 1799. According to this DNREC news release, the 2-



1/2 story section of the house was built in 1792 by John Barclay, about whom I can find very little information. In 1808, the property was purchased by a member of a prominent Kent County family, Andrew Gray. When the Grays moved into the estate, they named it "Chestnut Hill", and they would own the property for the next 57 years. That same news release also states that it was Gray who, in 1825, built the 1-1/2 story west wing to house a growing compliment of servants. I still think the smaller western section looks older than the larger one, but I'll defer to the state's assessment, since it is their house (more on that in a bit).

Much like his predecessor on the property, Thomas Montgomery, Andrew Gray was very active in public life. He was a member of the state senate from 1817 to 1821, and was instrumental in helping to found what would become the University of Delaware. In 1817, he sponsored and helped pass legislation authorizing a lottery to raise money for the then Newark Academy (lotteries were a popular method of funding at the time). For various reasons, the lottery never took place, and several years later, Gray helped pass new legislation.

This new bill had two important aspects to it, both of which would combine to be his political downfall. First, the bill established a state college to be located in Newark, and secondly, it allowed it to be funded by a tax on stagecoaches and steamboats. Gray saw this as a mostly pain-free method of funding, as, much like today, Delaware was used by travellers heading to and from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington. This tax was designed to be taken primarily from these out-of-state travellers, not affecting Delawareans very much. However, there was a large backlash against the tax, which seemed to originate from residents and merchants in New Castle and Wilmington, both jealous of the Newark location for the school. As a result, Andrew Gray lost his seat in the 1821 election.



Mill Creek Hundred 1868

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Although his political career was done, Gray remained deeply involved in the early years of the Newark Academy, and in the eventual establishment of Delaware College. The lottery fundraiser he sought, after the law was rewritten in the 1820's, did eventually take place and the money raised was used to build a new college building, now known as Old College. Andrew Gray remained a trustee of the college for over thirty years, and ultimately served as the president of the board of trustees. Although Gray's interest in the school may have been at least partially due to a general interest in education, he did have another more personal reason. Well, three, actually - his sons who were enrolled there. One of those sons who attended the college and grew up in the house on Polly Drummond Hill was Andrew Caldwell Gray, and he would climb even higher than his father.



Andrew C. Gray

Andrew C. Gray was born in 1804 in Kent County, and came with his family to Mill Creek Hundred in 1808. He studied law, and 1826 began practicing in New Castle. He became one of the most prominent lawyers in the state, and the practice he started is still in business today. Gray retired from active practice in 1854 and turned his attention to business management, becoming the head of a number of large firms, including the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company, the Farmer's Bank of Delaware, and several railroads. His son, George Gray, exceeded even these lofty heights. George Gray began as an attorney in his father's firm, but would go on to become Attorney General of Delaware, a three-time US Senator, and finally a Federal Judge.

But returning to the house on the hill, after the elder Gray's death in 1849, the estate was sold by Andrew C. in 1865 to Robert Cook. He farmed the land for nine years, until his death in 1874. From then until the mid 1930's, the house was occupied by a series of tenant farmers, none of whom seemed to put much emphasis on the care and upkeep of the house. Then, just as it seemed that the venerable old home might go the way of many of its contemporaries and crumble away, it was purchased by a man not unlike several of its former inhabitants.

In about 1934, the big, stone house and farm were purchased by Judge Hugh M. Morris and his wife, Emma. The Morris' immediately began restoring the old home, and even added the eastern kitchen wing to it. In

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many ways, Morris was sort of a combination of all three of the Grays. He had studied and practiced law, like Andrew C. and George Gray, and like George, had been appointed to a Federal judgeship. And like the elder Andrew Gray, he was deeply involved with the University of Delaware. He was a member of the Board of Trustees from 1929-1959, and served as President from 1939-1959. During his tenure, he oversaw a massive expansion of the size and scope of the school. Four years after his retirement from the board, the university's newly-completed library was named in his honor.



Judge Hugh M. Morris

The most recent chapter in the old house's story began in 1998, when the state of Delaware purchased the estate and incorporated it into the White Clay Creek State Park. Now, the historic house is available for tours, as well as meeting and event hosting. Thanks to the loving care given it by the Morris', this two-century plus year old home is still around for future generations to enjoy and contemplate the public service delivered by its many residents.

Posted by Scott P 

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[Larry T wrote...](#)

I guess they were the houses. You can see buildings in the lower right corner of the picture above. Thanks Donna.

[Donna P wrote...](#)

Larry, I am not sure which corner you mean. I lived in Roseville Park from 1960- 1971 and again in 1974-1976. If you were leaving the development, on the left was a gas station, I think Atlantic. ...

[Continue >>](#)

[Anonymous wrote...](#)

If my memory is correct (an iffy proposition, at times) Red Mill Nursery was located along Capitol Trail just west of the intersection. However, I don't recall for sure if it extended all the way...

[Continue >>](#)

[Larry T wrote...](#)

Does anyone remember/know what was on the corner where the offices are now?

[Bill Harris wrote...](#)

Thanks. That makes sense as historic Christians also used the term "church" to refer to the congregation and not the building. It would make sense that congregations breaking away from an...

[Continue >>](#)

[Paul Drummond wrote...](#)

Fantastic information. I'll be sharing this with my family.

[Scott P wrote...](#)

Thanks, Nancy. I'm glad you like it. The secret is, it's even more fun to write.

[Scott P wrote...](#)

Good question, Bill. From Wikipedia (because, well, why not): Early Presbyterians were careful to distinguish between the "church," which referred the members, and the "meeting..."

[Continue >>](#)

[Nancy Willing wrote...](#)

I am thrilled to find this blog! What a joy to read. I found the link on Mike O's the Seventh Type.

[Anonymous wrote...](#)

Thank you for this enlightening article! I have been asking and searching for information on who was Polly Drummond for over a year now, and it's a mystery solved!

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Judge Morris Estate

WHITE CLAY CREEK STATE PARK
NEWARK, DELAWARE



PROPERTY HISTORY

In addition to serving as a federal judge and owning a prominent law practice, Judge Hugh M. Morris operated a farm on the historic property.

Judge Morris purchased the estate in 1930, added a modern kitchen wing, and remodeled the farmhouse into a comfortable home for his family.

Situated in Delaware's White Clay Creek State Park, the property was acquired by the state in 1998.

Built in the 1790s, this gray fieldstone house is the former home of Judge Hugh M. Morris, a Delaware native, respected attorney



HOSPITALITY WITH A NATURAL DIFFERENCE

and distinguished federal judge. Decorated in the style of the late 1930s, the period when Judge Morris completed renovations to his newly-purchased farmhouse, the estate includes a pond, lovely gardens, rolling manicured lawns, a fenced-in courtyard, and quaint indoor accommodations inside this exquisite stone structure.



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FACILITY DETAILS

JUDGE MORRIS ESTATE

Location: Polly Drummond Road • Newark, DE 19711

Contact: Regional Facility Manager

Address: Bellevue State Park
720 Carr Road
Wilmington, DE 19809

E-mail: destateparks_events@state.de.us

Phone: 302-761-6952

Fax: 302-761-4685

Site Specifications:

Number of rooms	3
Total capacity	125
A/V capabilities	YES
Handicapped accessible	YES
Kitchen facilities	YES
Outdoor capabilities	YES
Overnight accommodations	NO

The Judge Morris Estate boasts a 1790s mansion that is beautifully appointed with period furniture, accessories, gardens, and water features. With a space that accommodates up to 35 guests indoors and 125 under a tent outdoors, the Judge Morris Estate maintains the historic atmosphere inside and out and offers a unique location for weddings and corporate events, and intimate settings for teas and socials.

The Judge Morris Estate is easily accessible from I-95 and is within 45 minutes driving distance from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and two hours from New York City and Washington, D.C.





Judge Hugh M. Morris



Oil portrait of Judge Hugh M. Morris, 1959, by Bjorn Egeli. It hangs in the Hugh M. Morris Library.

Permanent Collection of the University of Delaware.

Hugh Martin Morris (1878-1966), respected attorney and eminent jurist, was born in Greenwood, Sussex County, Delaware on April 9, 1878. He was graduated from Delaware College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1898 where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. His career was diverse and included teaching school in Sussex County followed by the study of law, and admittance to the Bar in 1903. From 1903-1919 he practiced law in Wilmington, Delaware and in 1919 he was appointed Judge of the U.S. District Court by President Woodrow Wilson.

Judge Morris was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by the University of Delaware in 1928. In 1930, he returned to private practice as the principal in the eminent Wilmington law firm of what is now Morris, Nichols, Arshd and Tunnell.

Judge Morris served on the University of Delaware Board of Trustees from 1929-1959 including as its President from 1939-1959. As President of the Board of Trustees, Judge Morris saw the University of Delaware expand approximately five-fold by the size of its enrollment and physical plant. The period during which he served was one of great change and growth for the University of Delaware including the completion of many major buildings; the restructuring of the University with the merge of the women's College and the resulting establishment of coeducation; the enduring of the World War II years and years immediately following which brought an increasing number of students and a different kind of student; the opening of the University to African Americans; and the major expansion of the academic program including the establishment of centers for support and research. Judge Morris, his wife Mrs. Emma Carter Smith Morris (who died in 1950) and their daughter Mary Smith Morris (who died in 1964) were also generous benefactors of the University of Delaware. Judge Morris also had a principal role in establishing important resources that would come to the University ranging from the major gifts of H. Rodney Sharp; of Amy DuPont in establishing the Unidel Foundation; and the gift of 47 Kent Way from Caleb Wright which serves as the President's House.

The Hugh M. Morris Library, first completed in 1963 and expanded in 1986, was named in honor of Judge Morris. The Library was formally dedicated on April 4, 1964 with Judge Morris in attendance. Judge Morris died on March 19, 1966.

Judge Morris believed in the life of the mind and he considered libraries as the symbol of what is great and important about education. He viewed the library as the repository for intellectual endeavor and the history of recorded knowledge where the fire of inspiration could burn brightly. He is said to have called the library both the jewel and also the heart of the University. At the turn of the century he studied in a Delaware College Library which had less than 10,000 volumes. The Morris Library which bore his name in 1965 had more than 500,000 volumes. The University of Delaware Library added its two-millionth volume on October 9, 1991 and is now one of the most technologically advanced libraries in the nation.

This page is maintained by [Eun Daix](#), Collection Development Department.

Questions or comments?

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land, and Pennsylvania, in 1849 and 1850, Lieut. Col. J. D. Graham of the War Department, with a corps of engineers, made another survey for the purpose of locating the site of "the original boundary stone established at the point where the States of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware join each other." That Col. Graham used Meeting House Hill for observations is suggested in the report of Col. W. C. Hodgkins entitled *An Historical Account of The Boundary Line Between the States of Pennsylvania and Delaware* (1894), in which, speaking of the work of his aides, he says: "They had succeeded in recovering the stations of 'Londonderry,' 'Meeting-house Hill' and 'Grandview,' the last two so close together as to amount to practically one station." The word, "recovering," to me indicates an earlier use by other surveyors. At Col. Hodgkins instance, Joseph Willis, of Newark, whom many here will remember, built a "46 foot tripod and scaffold at 'Meetinghouse Hill'." The Hodgkins' survey was made in 1892-1893.

Further than this, Scharf in his *History of Delaware* (1888) says, "There are numerous small hills in this hundred (Mill Creek), the highest of which is 'Meeting-House Hill'." "On this, in the summer of 1852, '53 or '54, a corps of engineers encamped, and erected an observatory about eighty feet high, on which their instruments were mounted. Their object was to survey the coast from New York to the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. * * * * The party was there three or four months, and had a guard of United States soldiers. A few years since another corps of engineers erected an observatory on Drummond's Hill." Even so good an historian as Scharf may become slightly mixed at times, and Conrad "nods" in like manner.

Those who have never viewed the panorama spread out in every direction from Meeting House Hill, have missed much. From the summit, on an ordinarily clear day, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New Jersey, as well as Delaware, can be seen with the naked eye. The following are some of the many objects that can be seen: Iron Hill, Newark, Summit Bridge, the Railroad bridge nearby it, the bridges at St. Georges and Delaware City, the range light below St. Georges, the Dela-

ware River, North from Delaware City for two miles, automobiles at Bear, the Delaware Railroad trains running from Wilmington to Porter, at night, a long string of lights on the Jersey shore, Newport, Stanton, Elsmere, Marshallton, one-half of Wilmington, Corner Ketch, and many intermediate points. On a clear day, with the aid of a glass, Dr. Cooper can pick out the windows of the du Pont Building, ten miles away, and cars leaving Marshallton, running West on the Capitol Trail, for half a mile point their lights directly at his house on the summit. The Coopers love the view in all seasons, spring, summer, autumn, or winter, with everything snow-clad, grey days or gold, but Richard Cooper loves it best in the glory of early summer, just after wheat cutting.

John Chalmers says that, at one time, a blacksmith shop occupied the northeast corner of the cross roads.

Since I began delving into the history of Meeting House Hill, I have learned through several sources of an abandoned road other than those mentioned in the article, "Abandoned Roads." This road leads from the Pike Creek road to Meeting House Hill, and doubtless was that over which trudged the early churchgoers from the Limestone road, who walked barefooted to Pike Creek. It is between the road that leads directly from Pike Creek to the Hill and what is called the Fairview School Road, and although it must have been abandoned for more than a century, its route can yet be traced. More than one person to whom I have talked claims to have traversed it on foot. I think that some of the roads must have been in existence as trails long before, if ever, they received official recognition. I have spent hours trying to unravel the tangle, as to which, mention in histories and in the Levy Court records is most casual and fragmentary.

With respect to roads in Mill Creek Hundred, both Scharf and Conrad make this statement,—“On February 26, 1752, the viewers appointed to review 'the road formerly laid out, leading from Joseph England's to the county line' made a favorable report which was confirmed.” Undoubtedly, this is the road that runs from Eastburn's Red Mill, north over the "Hill" to Corner Ketch and beyond, and undoubtedly this was the same Joseph England who, on May 25, 1752, conveyed to

the then Trustees the present site of White Clay Creek Church. Of this road I find no record in the office of the Clerk of the Peace in Wilmington, who insists that these early records are in Dover, while the State Archivist is equally positive that they are in Wilmington.

In August, 1768, (according to Scharf and Conrad again) the Levy Court was petitioned to open a road from Newark to Cuckoldstown (Stanton), adjoining the plantation of Jeremiah Wollaston, and extending to the old Presbyterian Church, and thence 'til it intersects the road from Newark to the Circle, near the school house of Robert Boggs. According to John Nivin, the old schoolhouse at Milford X Roads was a small stone structure, possibly twenty feet square, probably one of the earliest built in New Castle County, and was located on that part of the Hop Yard tract now owned by Mrs. Cora Johnston at Milford X Roads. James Boggs owned the property around 1750, and probably Robert Boggs was of the same family. Now assuming that the road from Newark to Milford X Roads, Corner Ketch, and beyond, was the road to the Circle, we have this new road as beginning at Palmer Dickey's in Stanton, to Eastburn Heights Garage, to Pike Creek through the old Wollaston tract, over Meeting House Hill, to Milford X Roads, and so on via Thompson's Ford to the New London road that we know now. At the same time, it must be said that a survey of Judge Morris' farm, dated January 2, 1793, shows no road West of the summit of the hill.

In the deed of Joseph England, Miller, to the Trustees of White Clay Creek Church, the beginning was "at the intersection of two roads, the one leading from White Clay Creek landing to McMechin's mill, the other from England's to Cap't Rice's." White Clay Creek landing certainly was just back of Truxton Boyce's home near Stanton, while McMechin's mill may have been at Roseville. There have been no less than three dams there, and the McMechins or McMechens lived in that vicinity. The other road must have been the one whose record is missing. From a plot of a grant by William Penn in 1683 of a larger tract, of which his property was a part, Captain Rice must have lived somewhere in the neighborhood of Fairview School or Ebenezer Methodist Episcopal Church.

Again, after a deliberation of six months, on March 16, 1832, the Levy Court approved the recommendation of a committee "to lay out a road from Ogletown, via England's Mill to the Rev. A. K. Russell's Meeting House,"* and the same day appropriated the sum of one thousand dollars for the building of a bridge over the White Clay Creek at England's mill. March 14, 1833, the bridge was reported completed at a total cost of \$917.38. The names of the committeemen were: George Platt, White Clay Creek Hundred, Eli Biddle, St. Georges Hundred, and James Giffin, of Mill Creek Hundred, and I take off my hat to them.

Even the names of the roads over Meeting House Hill seem to have changed with the passing of years. In addition to those already given, I note on the 1793 survey, that from about the site of the church building the road North is called the New London Road and South, the road to Christiana Bridge, while the road running East from the summit is called the Newport Road. In the Levy Court records in 1831-1833, the Capitol Trail, which did not then run to Wilmington, was known as the road from Newark to Stanton. In one description, the North and South road is known as the Public Road leading from England's Mills (now known as Red Mills) to Corner Ketch, and the road West of the summit as the road leading from Milford Cross Roads, while in at least one description, the Newport Road is called the road leading from Polly Drummond Hill to Taylor's Factory, all of which would be very confusing to the stranger, particularly when we consider that Taylor's Factory, on Pike Creek, has not been operated for lo these many years.

The limitations of time and my own inexperience, not to speak of the limitations of space for this now very lengthy article, will not permit a complete recital of the more than frequent transfers and retransfers of land included within the area of Meeting House Hill. It is therefore with some hesitation that I make the statement that a part of the land appears to be included within the area of a grant of 1,000 acres of land by William Penn to William Welsh, of New Castle County, December 11, 1683; the tract bearing the somewhat

* The Rev. Andrew K. Russell was pastor of White Clay Creek from 1812 to 1839.

appropriate name of Pilgrim Place. Many succeeding conveyances, however, were included in whole or in part with lands directly or indirectly acquired through other grants, all of which leaves me in considerable confusion.

There are, perhaps, within this area, a half dozen or more farms, large and small. With respect to several of these, through kindness, for which grateful acknowledgment is made here and now, I have had access to abstracts of title which carry the chain of ownership back for more than one hundred years, but which, when cited, will be sketched only briefly. Each of these farms, where not subjected to a recent subdivision, has on it a dwelling of colonial days.

To the Southwest, back of Dr. Cooper's, and stretching up towards Crow Hill, is what is called the Gale place, of 60 acres, now owned by Letitia (Gale) Chalmers, who has lived there for forty years. Mrs. Chalmers says that the name of the last previous owner was Lynam, and before him, George Murray, while Beers' *Atlas of Delaware*, 1868, gave the name of the then owner as William Bell. Since the present ownership, the interior of the house has been greatly changed, the old kitchen having been converted into a parlor, incident to which, "Shorty" Chalmers tore out an old Dutch oven and bricked up a huge fireplace, the tale of which left me without words for adequate expression. However, inside and out, and particularly in the attic, the construction of this old stone house, with brick coping, capped with a three-inch plate on which the rafters rest; with plate and rafters held in place by wooden pins, extending into the brickwork; indicate a construction at a much earlier date than any of the present generation can recall. The house may well be two hundred years old.

Approaching from the East, about half-way between Pike Creek and the summit, on the North side of the road, is the farm of 65 acres, now owned by John B. Lynch, on which is a stone dwelling of undoubted great age, despite the repeated modernizations. This house, whose walls are twenty-two inches thick, is built of native field stone, and, from its outer appearance, at first may have been smaller, or it may be that

the original builder rested for a time between the start and finish. The Lynches have lived here for less than seven years, but, through the courtesy of Mrs. Thomas McClary, I have been able to carry the record back nearly one hundred years. March 27, 1838, Nathaniel Richards purchased the farm from Joseph Chamberlain, executor of Nathan Hendrickson. Dutton Richards, born there November 26, 1845, purchased the property after the death of his father in 1876 and lived there until 1902, when he sold it to his son-in-law, Thomas McClary, who in turn sold it in 1912 to John McCall, whose son sold the farm to the present owner. Undoubtedly, the farm house had been standing for many years before it was purchased by Nathaniel Richards.

Not a great distance farther West, on the South side of the road, is a lane that leads into the Ware place of 18 or 20 acres. There is quite an old frame house on this tract, and, while I do not think it can be so old as some of the other houses, I was struck by the appearance of the fireplace crane and some of the hardware that appeared to be of an earlier period than the rest. I conclude that it must have been taken from an older house that the present one replaced. In the attic are two very old four poster bedsteads and a canopy cradle, also a dictionary bearing the date of 1822 and the name of Mary Ann Ware. From the chair rails, exposed beams, hardware, etc., the house may be anywhere from one hundred to one hundred and fifty years old, and is in such a state of disrepair that the tenants were about to move out of it.

Across the road on Rice's Hill, an elevation nearly as high, and but a few hundred yards East of Meeting House Hill, is the "Grand View Farm," of thirty acres, which Leroy B. Walton and his family have occupied for nearly fifteen years. The abstract of title is not traced back of 1814, when Samuel Ogle conveyed the tract to Washington Rice. Samuel Ogle was the son of Joseph Ogle, and the tract was awarded to him by the Orphans' Court out of other lands belonging to the estate of Joseph Ogle, an intestate decedent, which gives color to the belief of Leroy Walton that the Ware farm was a part of the Ogle tract.

What interests me even more, is the stated opinion of

*Leroy Walton, as well as that of the present owner, that before the Ogles, the larger tract was that owned by the Kirkwood family, and while the abstract does not carry the title back so far, this is reinforced by earlier descriptions of the Greenwalt farm that refer to the Walton property as lands of William Kirkwood. This tradition is accepted by William G. Little and his sister, Isabel (Little) Higgins, who formerly lived nearby.

Undoubtedly, "the two-story stone house with frame kitchen and the good frame barn," on the Walton farm, are those mentioned in an Orphans' Court order of sale, dated September 2, 1851, and that they were erected much earlier is quite evident. Besides the fine mantel and the huge chimney, there are several unusual features, as for example, a deep recess in the wall of the front room, apparently intended as a book shelf, and under both the East and the West windows, a deep drawer for which provision must have been made in building the house. With evident intention of building another unit later, the front of the house is frame, but the side walls must be two feet thick. The view from this house, as well as that from the Lynch house, is superb, and the farm is well named "Grand View."

Since April 25, 1881, when William Bright sold to Rebecca P. Thompson the one hundred acres that front on the Christiana Road and the Newport Road, the well known Greenwalt farm has been owned by the Thompsons and the Greenwalts. Earlier, for many years, it was part of a larger tract of about 201 acres lying on both sides of the Christiana road.

That the 201 acres were a part of the larger tract of 402 acres that Jonathan Evans conveyed to Thomas Craighead on February 8, 1724, is evident from the fact that until the deed of April 25, 1881, every description of the 200 acres which John Elliott in his will, dated February 2, 1861, calls Clearfield Farm, excepts and reserves "about 1½ acres being the burying ground belonging to the White Clay Creek Presbyterian Church." From April 18, 1815, to October 24, 1839, the farm was owned by John Clark and his son, Cantwell Clark, grand-

father and father, respectively, of Delaware Clark, still well remembered in Newark.

That the old farmhouse on Clearfield Farm was built in whole or in part by Thomas Craighead, or even by Jonathan Evans, can be believed readily. It is built in two units, that on the South being of logs covered with a vertical siding, and the smaller unit on the North being of stone. While I was so unfortunate in timing my visits as to find the tenants out every time I called, yet the exterior of the farm house amply supports Katherine Greenwalt's statement that it is over two hundred years old. The broad stone arches from the pillars that support the barn are unlike any that I have seen elsewhere.*

* Of all of the farms that lie on the slopes of Meeting House Hill, surely the Cook Farm, of approximately 250 acres, which, with the Walton Farm, was acquired by Judge Hugh M. Morris about a year ago, is to me the most interesting. I call it the Cook farm for the reason that Robert Cook and his heirs owned the farm for nearly seventy years, to be exact, since June, 1865, when he purchased it from Andrew C. Gray, executor of and the heirs of Andrew Gray, grandfather of the late Judge George Gray. The Gray family had owned the property since October 1, 1808, and called it Chestnut Hill Farm. Still earlier, skipping several intermediate conveyances, it was owned as far back as 1786 by Thomas Montgomery, and the deed of Blair McClenachan to him, conveying 660 acres, seems to have included the Craighead Tract, or at least a large portion of it. About seven years earlier, on January 26, 1779, for an unexplained reason, Thomas Montgomery had conveyed the 660 acres to Blair McClenachan, including therein a number of parcels of land which he had acquired by sundry conveyances. Possibly the Revolutionary War or temporary business reverses had something to do with it. In any event, back of Thomas Montgomery, I am hopelessly confused by the multiplicity of conveyances.

North and South, Chestnut Hill Farm extends from the old White Clay Creek School House almost to the summit of Meeting House Hill, and is traversed by the road leading

* See Appendix No. V.

North over the hill, which crosses the farm diagonally, dividing it about equally.

For many years following the death of Robert Cook in 1874, the farm was occupied by tenants, and since, as long as I can recall, absolutely no money was spent on the property, the whole place had reached the saddest state of disrepair when Judge Morris purchased it.

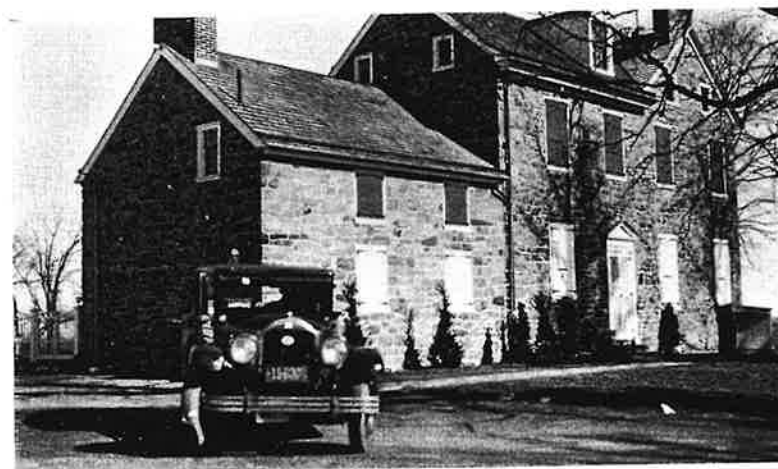
* Since his purchase, Judge and Mrs. Morris have restored the fine stone mansion, which, while adding conveniences undreamed of by Thomas Montgomery, they have treated it so sympathetically, as to have preserved every attractive feature, making the entire house charming to the eye, the interior as well as the exterior. They still have left for them, however, several years entertainment in the way of a restoration of the farm.

The age of the house can best be conjectured by the dates that Judge Morris showed me, cut in unusual places on the outside walls. On the West side of the one and one-half story L on the North side of the main part of the house appears the date, 1684, the year following the grant of "Pilgrim Place" by William Penn to William Welsh. On the Southwest corner of the main part is cut A. D. 1742 or 1752, and to the East, over the doorway, 1777, but no one ever will know when or by whom these dates were cut. If the earlier is authentic, it would make the first unit two hundred and fifty years old.

The entire mansion is built of native stone, similar in appearance to that in the long disused quarry along Pike Creek between the present Capitol Trail and the route of the old road now abandoned.

Whoever were the builder or builders, certainly they wrought well, otherwise the mansion could never have withstood the ravages of time and the shameful neglect of it for so many years. The foundation under the great fireplace and the chimney against the north wall is seven feet deep, extending from wall to wall, and the walls themselves stand apparently as true as when they were erected, according to the latest date, 157 years ago.

It is not my purpose, nor do I believe that Judge and Mrs.



SUMMER RESIDENCE OF HON. HUGH M. MORRIS

Morris would care to have the interior, nor for that matter the exterior, of their attractive country place catalogued for the benefit of the general public, but I cannot refrain from mentioning the beautiful open stairway with its delicate spindles extending all the way to the third floor, nor the chaste woodwork around the front door.

In the cemetery of White Clay Creek Presbyterian Church I find the grave of that pioneer, Evan Rice, who died January 31, 1772. Thomas Montgomery, who died September 19, 1829, in the 82nd year of his age is there also. Beside him lies his wife, Eleanor, "A Most Amiable Woman," who died October 5, 1782, in her 20th year, the epitaph being in Latin. Nearby is the grave of Andrew Gray and the graves of many others whose names I have read so often recently that they seemed like old acquaintances to me.

It would seem to be a bit unfair, not to say neglectful, to close this article without some word of the woman in whose honor Meeting House Hill has been renamed a second time, for, surely, it must have had an Indian name long before.

The roads at the summit of Meeting House Hill cross at right angles; the one from the Capitol Trail to Fairview School and beyond, running North and South, and the other, East and West.

The lot on which the buildings are erected, located on the Southwest corner, is in the form of a right-angled triangle, with the shorter leg fronting on the now abandoned road to Milford X Roads, and the longer, stretching South along the other road. It contains about one acre of land.

The other, the larger lot, is on the Southeast corner of the cross roads. It is nearly rectangular in shape, and contains over three acres. Due to the topography of the Hill, its ownership insures an unobstructed vision in nearly every direction.

March 20, 1829, John Clark, who then owned the Clearfield farm, of which it was a part, conveyed the lot of one acre to Samuel Mecklem for the consideration of \$75. So far as farm purposes may be considered, it was a good sale, and on April 4, 1835, Samuel Mecklem conveyed the lot to Robert

Graham, and since the consideration was but \$42.50, I conclude that he was glad to be rid of it.

That Robert Graham erected the old tavern here at the cross roads is evidenced by the following statement in Scharf's *History of Delaware*:—"On Polly Drummond's Hill, there was a hotel kept for several years, about 1834, by Robert Graham." It seems strange that Scharf should have known about the tavern, and the present name of the Hill and yet have no word about the famous Polly.

Apparently Robert Graham found the tavern business unprofitable, or perhaps he saw in the construction of the Wilmington and Susquehanna Railroad the handwriting on the wall, so far as stage coach business was concerned, for on October 17, 1838, for the consideration of \$725, he sold the property to Mary Drummond, Rachel Evans, and Jane Evans.

Realizing the asset value of the view, Mary Drummond and Rachel Evans, on November 7, 1842, purchased the larger piece of ground from Andrew Gray for the consideration of \$167.18. Jane Evans name does not appear in this conveyance, nor does it appear in the deed by which both lots were, on February 26, 1855, by Mary Drummond and Rachel Evans, conveyed to Isaac Vansant; the presumption being that she had died some time between 1838 and 1842, leaving either Mary Drummond and/or Rachel Evans as her heirs or heir either by inheritance or devise.

The Isaac Vansant who bought this property, lived on the farm on the West side of Muddy Run, later known as the Robert Taylor farm, and now owned and occupied by Mary Kwiatkowski and her children. His son, Isaac Vansant, Jr., well known in Newark, was born in the old tavern in 1856, at which time his father kept a store there.

Since 1855, the property has changed ownership five times, the last purchaser being Richard W. Cooper, who acquired it about thirteen years ago.

Of Rachel and Jane Evans I can learn absolutely nothing, other than a tradition that the three women were sisters. Uncle Dick Buckingham seemed to remember a "Chan Drummond," but Isabel (Little) Higgins, who lived nearby, says

that his name was Chandler Evans and that he was a brother of the sisters.

As for Polly Drummond (*The Book of Feminine Names*, by Charles B. Driscoll, lists Polly as a variant of Mary), the most important item that I have of her, and this from several sources, is that:—"She fed the soldiers," which must refer to the "guard of United States Soldiers," present "in the summer of 1852, '53 or '54." Other than this, I find but little. According to Mrs. Higgins, her mother Mary (McMichael) Little, born in 1822, remembered Polly when she kept the tavern. Mrs. Little had no story impugning Polly's personal character, only her business. She spoke of her as a young widow with several children, a son, Wesley, and a daughter, Mary Ann, "a nice girl." Another story is that a man died there, following a drinking bout, and that when the undertaker came to lay him out, he found another man there so paralyzed with drink that he could not tell which was the dead man.

Although Dr. Cooper showed me just where the old bar stood, he and Mrs. Cooper have so enlarged and remodeled the old tavern that today it must bear small resemblance to the building erected by Robert Graham in 1835.

If there is any one characteristic more marked or more general to those who live on Meeting House Hill than any other, it is an intense affection for the neighborhood, and this feeling appears as deep rooted in the Morrises, whose tenure has been but a matter of months, as it is in those who have lived there for years.

Barnet Gluckman
Notary Public
Appointed Nov. 15-1917
Term four years
State of Delaware

personally came before me, Barnet
Gluckman a Notary Public for
the State of Delaware, Leander
S. Russell and his wife, Mary
C. Russell, parties to this Inden-
ture known to me personally to
be such, and severally acknowl-

ged this Indenture to be their deed. And the said
Mary C. Russell, being at the same time privately
examined by me, apart from her husband acknow-
ledged that she executed the said Indenture willin-
gly, without compulsion or threats, or fear of her
husband's displeasure. Given under my hand
and seal of office, the day and year aforesaid -

Barnet Gluckman
Notary Public

Received for Record Mar. 24, 1920.

F. G. Cole, Recorder

This Indenture, made this Twenty-fourth
day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand
nine hundred and twenty. Between, Harry L.
Clayton and Lillian M. Clayton, his wife
of the Town of Blomere, New Castle County and
State of Delaware, parties of the first part, and
Anna G. Walsh of the City of Wilmington, New
Castle County and State of Delaware, party of the
second part, Witnesseth, That the said parties
of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum
of Ten Dollars current lawful money of the Uni-
ted States of America, unto them well and truly
paid by the said party of the second part, at and
before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the
receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have
granted, bargained, sold aliened, infeoffed, relea-
sed, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents
do grant, bargain, sell, alien, infeoff, release,
convey and confirm unto the said party of the
second part her heirs and Assigns, All That
certain lot, piece or parcel of land, situate in
Christiana Hundred, New Castle County and
State of Delaware, being part of Lot No. 7 in Block
B, as numbered and laid off on the plot of Oak
Grove, recorded in the Office for the Recording of Deeds,
etc, in and for New Castle County aforesaid, at
Wilmington in deed Record 7, Vol. 24, Page 60,
more particularly bounded and decreed as
follows, to-wit: - Beginning at a point on the
Northerly side of the New Road at the distance of
ninety feet Easterly from the Easterly side of
Chestnut Avenue, thence in an Easterly direction

Received for Record March 14th A.D. 1901

Delaware Clark
Recorder

This Indenture made the eleventh day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand and nine hundred and one, (1901) Between Thomas A. Sharpe^{2d} Adelgaide Sharpe his wife of the City of Wilmington County of New Castle^{2d} State of Delaware parties of the first part and Leander B. Russell of the County^{2d} State aforesaid Witnesseth that the said parties of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of Fifteen Hundred Dollars (\$1500⁰⁰) current lawful money of the United States of America unto him well and truly paid by the said party of the second part at and before the Sealing and Delivery of these Presents the Receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged has granted bargained sold aliened enfeoffed released conveyed and confirmed^{2d} and by these Presents does grant bargain sell alien enfeoff release convey and confirm unto the said party of the second part Heirs and Assigns All that certain lot piece plantation or tract of land with the buildings thereon erected situate in Mill Creek Hundred, New Castle County^{2d} State of Delaware bounded and described as follows, to wit: Beginning at a corner stone set in the line of land late of Thomas Montgomery^{2d} running thence by a line of the same South Fifty degrees West ninety eight perches to a heap of stones in a line of land late of John Barclay: thence thence with South Thirty eight degrees East seventy seven perches and five tenths to a corner white oak thence by land late late Christopher Springer deceased, north Forty five degrees East fifty six perches and eight tenths to a corner stone, and north five degrees^{2d} and three quarters West Seventy three perches to the first mentioned stone and place of beginning, containing within those bounds Thirty acres of land be the same more or less, being the same land and premises which John Barclay Sheriff of

Newcastle County Delaware by and under the authority of a deed bearing date on the twenty fourth day of October A. D. 1900 and recorded in the office for the recording of deeds in and for Newcastle County aforesaid in Deed Record M. vol. 16 Page 16 etc did grant and convey unto the said Wilmington Savings Fund Society in fee simple, and the same land and premises which was conveyed by the said Wilmington Savings Fund Society by deed dated the fourteenth day of November A. D. 1900 to Thomas A. Spahr and recorded in the office for recording deeds in and for Newcastle County aforesaid in Deed Record L. vol. 18. page 13 etc. Together with all and singular the buildings improvements ways woods waters water courses rights liberties privileges hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining and the reversions and remainders rents issues and profits thereof and all the estate right title interest property claim and demand whatsoever of them the said parties of the first part in law equity or otherwise howsoever of in and to the same and every part and parcel thereof. To have and to hold the said lot piece plantation or tract of land and buildings hereditaments and premises hereby granted or mentioned or intended to be with the appurtenances unto the said party of the second part his Heirs and assigns to and for the only proper use and behoof of the said party of the second part his Heirs and assigns forever. And the said parties of the first part their Heirs Executors and Administrators do by these presents covenant grant and agree to and with the said party of the second part his Heirs and assigns that they the said parties of the first part their Heirs all and singular the hereditaments and premises herein above described and granted or mentioned or intended to be with the

Albert Stetson
Recorder.

COMPARED
KINK

This Deed, made this eighteenth day of October
in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and
thirty-four.

Between, Frances Clark Smithers, single woman, Martha
G. S. Miles and Arthur S. Miles, her husband, all of the
city of Montreal, Canada, parties of the first part.

And

Hugh M. Morris of the city of Wilmington, New Castle County
and State of Delaware, party of the second part,

Witnesseth, that the said parties of the first part, for and
in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00)
lawful money of the United States of America, the
receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hereby grant and
convey unto the said party of the second part,

All

that certain farm, plantation, or tract of land situate
in Mill Creek Hundred, New Castle County and State
of Delaware, known as "Chestnut Hill" bounded and
described as follows, to-wit:

Beginning at a corner stone, being also a corner of land formerly of John Sanders and in a line of land formerly of Joseph England, thence running by the said England's land north thirty-five degrees west, two hundred eighty-six perches and two tenths of a perch to a post fixed for a corner, bearing north thirty-five degrees west, two perches from a marked Black Oak, thence north fifty-five degrees east, one hundred and forty perches and two tenths of a perch to the middle of the New London Great Road, thence East thirty-two perches and six tenths of a perch to a corner stone: thence South thirty-five degrees East one hundred and fifty-nine perches to a corner black oak in the line of land formerly of Robert Gofmston, thence by the said Gofmston's land South fifty-five degrees west nine perches and eight tenths of a perch, South five degrees east twenty-two perches and eight tenths of a perch, South sixty-three and one-half degrees East twenty perches and two tenths of a perch to a corner post of land formerly of John Sanders aforesaid, thence by the said Sanders land South twenty-nine degrees west one hundred and fifty perches to the first mentioned corner stone and place of beginning, containing within those bounds two hundred and forty-eight acres, one rood and two perches, be the same more or less.

Being the same lands and premises which Andrew C. Gray, Executor of the Last will and testament of Andrew Gray, deceased and Andrew C. Gray et al, heirs at law of the said Andrew Gray did by two several deeds made on the seventh day of June A.D. 1865, and recorded in the office for the recording of deeds, &c., in and for New Castle County aforesaid, in Deed Record B, volume 8, Page 31040, and Deed Record B, volume 8, Page 306, &c., respectively, grant and convey unto Robert Cook in fee simple.

And the said Robert Cook, being as therein aforesaid, died on or about the 30th day of August A.D. 1874, having first made and published his will, dated August 17, 1874, which after his death, was duly probated in the office of the Register of Wills, in and for Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a certified copy of which is filed in the office of the Register of Wills, in and for New Castle County, Delaware, in Will Record B, volume 2, Page 331, therein and whereby he provided as follows:

"I give and devise my daughter, Fannie C. Cook, that certain plantation and tract of land situated in New Castle County, Delaware, containing two hundred and

or less, it being the same which I purchased from the executor of Andrew Gray, deceased, and known as the "Chestnut Hill Farm", to have and to hold the same for her life, and at and upon her death to any child or children of her then living or to the issue of any such who may have died in her life time and to their heirs as tenants in common. But if my said daughter should die without leaving issue as aforesaid, I give and devise the said lands to my surviving children and to their heirs, or to the issue of anyone who may have died leaving issue by right of representation in fee".

That the said Fannie L. Cook, daughter of the said Robert Cook, intermarried with George Hampden Smithers; the said George Hampden Smithers died on or about the 24th day of March 1933, and his widow, the said Fannie L. Cook, died on or about the 29th day of September A.D. 1934; that the said Fannie L. Cook had only two children, namely, Frances Clark Smithers, single woman, and Martha Georgia Smithers, both survived their mother, the said Fannie L. Cook Smithers and are two of the parties of the first part hereto; that the said Martha Georgia Smithers intermarried with and is now the wife of Arthur Lemoy Stanley Mills, one of the parties of the first part hereto.

In witness whereof, the said parties of the first part have herunto set their hands and seals the day and year aforesaid,

Sealed and Delivered
in the presence of
John R. Barry
Ruth O. Granger

Frances Clark Smithers (seal)
Martha G. S. Mills (seal)
Arthur L. S. Mills (seal)

{ U.S. G. R. Stamp
{ 50¢ cancelled }

Dominion of Canada
City of Montreal } as
American Consulate
General,
Montreal, Canada

Dominion of Canada
Province of Quebec
City of Montreal } ss.
Consulate General of the
United States of America

Be it Remembered that on this eighteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirty four, personally came before me, John R. Barry vice Consul of the United States, duly appointed at the place of my official residence, in the City of Montreal, aforesaid Frances Clark Smithers, single woman and Martha G. S. Mills and Arthur L. S. Mills, her husband, parties to the foregoing Indenture, known to me personally to be such and averrally acknowledged this Indenture to be their deed.

And the said Martha G. S. Mills being at the same time privately examined by me apart from her husband, acknowledged that she executed the said Indenture willingly, without compulsion or threats or fear of her husband's displeasure.

Given under my hand and seal of office

John Peery and Sarah with his wife parties to this Indenture known to me personally to be such and severally acknowledged this Indenture to be their deed and the said Sarah with Peery being at the same time privately examined by me apart from her husband acknowledged that she executed the said Indenture willingly without compulsion or threats or fear of her husband's displeasure given under my hand and seal of office the day and year aforesaid at Wilmington Delaware



Abraham Staats No. 10 (Pub)

Received for Record April 27th 1867

A. P. Shannon Recorder

E. 4 d

This Indenture made the nineteenth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty seven Between John A. Duncan Trustee for Sabilla A. Stone of the City of Wilmington in the County of Newcastle and State of Delaware Party of the first part and Elon J. May of the said County of Newcastle Party of the second part Witnesses that the said John A. Duncan Trustee as aforesaid for and in consideration of the sum of One Thousand and Seven Hundred Dollars lawful money of the United States of America unto him well and truly paid by the said Elon J. May at and before the sealing and delivery of these Presents the Receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath granted bargained sold aliened enfeoffed released conveyed and confirmed and by these presents doth grant bargain sell alien enfeoff release convey and confirm unto the said Elon J. May and to his Heirs and Assigns All that certain Plantation or Tract of Land situated in Mill Creek Hundred in the County of Newcastle aforesaid bounded and described as follows to wit Beginning at a corner stone set in the line of land late of Thomas Montgomery and running thence by a line of the same South fifty degrees West ninety eight perches to a heap of stones in a line of land late of John Barclay, thence thierewith South thirty eight degrees East seventy perches and four tenths to a corner white oak thence by land late of Christopher Springer deceased North forty five degrees East fifty six perches and eight tenths to a corner stone and North four degrees and three quarters West seventy three perches to the first mentioned stone and place of Beginning containing within those bounds thirty acres of land

Be the same more or less Being the same land and premises which George S. Hoagland Sheriff of Newcastle County aforesaid in and by his Deed Poll bearing date the Tenth month day of May AD 1866 and Recorded in the proper office at Newcastle in Deed Record Book 8 Page 168 &c sold and conveyed unto the said John A. Duncan Trustee for Sabilla A. Stone his Heirs and Assigns forever Together with all and singular the Buildings improvements ways woods waters water courses rights liberties privileges hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever thereto belonging or in any wise appertaining and the reversions and remainders rents issues and profits thereof and all the estate right title interest property claim and demand whatsoever of them the said John A. Duncan Trustee as aforesaid in law equity or otherwise howsoever of in and to the same and every part and parcel thereof To have and to hold the said Plantation or Tract of Land hereditaments and premises hereby granted or mentioned or intended so to be with the appurtenances unto the said Elon S. May his Heirs and Assigns to and for the only proper use and behoof of the said Elon S. May his Heirs and Assigns forever And the said John A. Duncan Trustee as aforesaid for himself his Heirs Executors and Administrators both by these presents covenant grant and agree to and with the said Elon S. May his Heirs and Assigns that he the said John A. Duncan Trustee as aforesaid and his Heirs and Assigns all and singular the hereditaments and premises herein above described and granted or mentioned or intended so to be with the appurtenances unto the said Elon S. May his Heirs and Assigns against him the said John A. Duncan Trustee as aforesaid and his Heirs and against all and every other Person or Persons whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof by from or under him them or any of them shall and will by these presents warrant and forever defend In Witness Whereof the said John A. Duncan Trustee as aforesaid hath hereunto set his hand and seal Dated the day and year first above written

Sealed & delivered } us John A. Duncan
 in the presence of } Stamp Trustee for Sabilla A. Stone
 Albert W. Smith } \$2.00
 & Earnest Smith }

Received the day of the date of the within Indenture of the within named Elon S. May full satisfaction for the consideration money within mentioned.

John A. Duncan
 Trustee for Sabilla
 A. Stone

To have and to hold all and singular the lands and premises here
 released or mentioned or intended so to be and every part thereof with
 the appurtenances unto the said Thomas Vandever his heirs and af-
 signs to the only proper use and benefit of the said Thomas Vandever
 his heirs and assigns in severally forever so that neither he the said
 Peter Vandever nor Eleanor his wife nor his heirs nor any other per-
 son or persons in his or their or any of their names or steads any estate
 Right Title or Interest of in to or out of the said released pre-
 mises shall at any time hereafter have claim challenge or demands
 but from the same shall be utterly barred and excluded by these
 presents In Witness whereof the said Peter Vandever and
 Eleanor his wife have hereunto set their hands and seals hereunto
 the seventeenth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight
 hundred and Eleven

Signed Sealed and Delivered
 In the presence of
 Joseph Read Isaac Stevenson and

Peter Vandever Jr.
 Eleanor Vandever

Newcastle County N.C. The Execution of the within was pro-
 ved by Isaac Stevenson one of the subscribing witnesses
 thereto in open Court of Common Pleas held at Newcastle in
 and for the County of Newcastle of the December Term A.D. 1814
 In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and
 affixed the seal of said Court

Recorded May 1st 1815

Henry Steele Prothy

This Indenture made the 20th day of August in the year
 of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fourteen Between
 Samuel Cole of White Clay Creek Hundred in the County of Newcastle
 Farmer and Deborah his wife of the one part And Washington
 Rice of Mill Creek Hundred in the same County and State afore-
 said Farmer of the other part Witnesseth that the said Samuel
 Cole and Deborah his wife for and in consideration of the sum of
 Three hundred dollars law ful Money of the United State of
 America to them in hand well and truly paid at or before the
 sealing and delivery hereof by the said Washington Rice the
 receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged by the said Samuel Cole
 and Deborah his wife and thereof and of and from every part

Whereof do release acquit exonerate and forever discharge the
right Rice his heirs and assigns by these presents Have granted
and sold aliened Released Enfeoffed and confirmed and by
unto Do grant bargain and sell alien Release Enfeoff and con-
firm the said Washington Rice his heirs and assigns. All that certain
Pieces of Land situate lying and being in Mill Creek Hundred in
County of Newcastle and State aforesaid and bounded and described
to wit Beginning at a Corner Stone set in the line of land
Thomas Montgomery and running thence by the line of the same
fifty degrees West Ninety eight perches to a heap of Stones in a
field late of John Barclay thence therewith South thirty eight
degrees East seventy Perches and four tenths to a corner white Oak thence
North late of Christopher Springer deceased North forty degrees East
six perches and eight tenths to a Corner Stone and North four
degrees and three quarters West seventy three perches to the first men-
tioned Stone and place of Beginning containing within those
bounds thirty acres of Land be the same more or less [It being a
part of the Real Estate of Joseph Dole Father of the said Samuel late
of White Clay Creek Hundred in the County and State aforesaid
deceased who dying intestate after his decease by proceeding in the
Orphans Court for the County aforesaid Before Nicholas Ridgely
Esquire Chancellor of the State of Delaware sitting as Judge of the
Orphans Court for the said County there was ordered the whole of the
Lands and Premises which were of the said Joseph Dole deceased to
him the said Samuel Dole to be held and enjoyed by him as fully
and freely as the said Joseph Dole held the same as by the Records of
the said Court will fully appear] Together with all and singular
the Houses Buildings Improvements Fences Woods Ways Waters water-
courses Profits Hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto
belonging or in any wise appertaining And all the Estate Right
Title Interest Property claim and Demand whatsoever of the said
Samuel Dole and Deborah his wife and his heirs of in and to the
same and of in and to the same and of in and to every part and
parcel thereof To have and to hold all and singular the above
described Tract or piece of Land containing thirty acres as afore-
said and every part thereof with the appurtenances unto the said
Washington Rice his heirs and assigns To the only proper use
and behoof of him the said Washington Rice his heirs and Af-
signs forever And further it is covenanted by and between
the said parties by these presents that the said Samuel Dole and

883. Deborah his wife and his heirs and assigns all the said premises and every part thereof with the appurtenances against the said Samuel Ogle and Deborah his wife and his heirs and against all and every other person and persons whomsoever having or claiming or that shall or may at any time hereafter lawfully claim the same or any part thereof by front or under him her them or any of them unto the said Washington Rice his heirs and assigns shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents. In witness whereof the said Samuel Ogle and Deborah his wife have hereunto set their hands and seals and dated the day and year first above written.

Signed Sealed and Delivered
In the presence of
Geo. Ogle Wm. Holliston

Samuel Ogle
Deborah Ogle

Received from the above named Washington Rice full satisfaction for the consideration Money above mentioned
\$300.00

Samuel Ogle

State of Delaware. Be it remembered that on this 25th day of August A. D. 1814 personally appeared before us the subscribers two of the Justices of the Peace in and for the county of Newcastle Samuel Ogle and Deborah his wife the grantors named in the within and foregoing indenture and they the said Samuel Ogle & Deborah Ogle severally acknowledge the same to be their act and deed respectively and desired it might be recorded as such and we further certify that the said Deborah Ogle being the day & year aforesaid privately examined by us separate from her said husband & out of his hearing she the said Debora did declare & say that she signed sealed and delivered the said Indenture willing and freely without the fear compulsion or ill usage of her said Husband or fear of his displeasure. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands the day and year aforesaid.

Recorded May 1st 1815

Wm. Russell
James Sanders

This Indenture made the twentyfifth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fourteen Between Joseph Johnson of Chester County in the State of Pennsylvania and Sarah his wife of the one part and John Mendhall of Mill Creek Hundred in the county of Newcastle and

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This Indenture Tripartite made the twentieth

day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven
Between Robert Kirkwood of Mill-creek hundred in the county of Newcastle
in the Delaware state yeoman and Captain Robert Kirkwood junr. Esquire of
the Delaware Battalion in the army of the united states of America of the
first part Thomas Clark of the town and county of Newcastle aforesaid of the
second part and James Wilson of the hundred of white-clay creek in the
same county Gentleman of the third part Whereas the said Robert,
Kirkwood junr. by his letter of attorney or instrument of writing duly executed
and bearing date the eighteenth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand
seven hundred and seventy seven (among other things) did nominate consti-
tute and appoint the said Robert Kirkwood his father his attorney for him and
in his name place and stead to appear in any court of record in the Delaware
state as voucher in a common recovery there to be suffered of a certain plantation
or tract of land with the buildings and improvements thereon and appurtenances
thereunto belonging situate in Mill-creek hundred in the county aforesaid
whereof the said Robert the father was tenant for life and the said Robert the
son after his decease tenant in fee tail and thereupon to vouch over the common
recovery so that a complete recovery might be had of the tenements and premises
before mentioned to the use of the said Robert Kirkwood the father his heirs and
assigns for ever thereby giving and granting to his said Attorney his whole
and sole power to execute and perform the said recovery as fully and effectually
as if he were personally present ratifying allowing and confirming what-
soever his said Attorney should lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue
thereof as by the said instrument relation thereto being had may more
fully and at large appear Now this Indenture witnesseth
that the said Robert Kirkwood & Robert Kirkwood junr. for the docking barring & cutting
of all Estates tail & remainders in tail of & in the mesuages tenements & lands
& hereditaments before mentioned & herein after more particularly described & for the
selling & conveying of the same to & for the uses intents & purposes hereinafter limited
expressed & declared & in consideration of five shillings to them in hand paid by the
said Thomas Clark the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged & for divers other
good causes & considerations them thereunto moving have granted bargained
aliened released enfeoffed & confirmed & by these presents do grant bargain
sell alien release enfeoff & confirm unto the said Thomas Clark his heirs
& assigns all that mesuage plantation or tract of land situate lying &
being in Mill-creek hundred & county of Newcastle aforesaid beginning
at a corner hickory standing in the original line of a tract of land whereof there

is parcel & running by a line of marked trees north three degrees east one hundred
& sixty perches to a corner stake in a savanna thence north fifty eight degrees
west eighteen perches to a corner white oak thence north twenty six perches to
a corner in an old line being a hickory thence by an old line south west by west
ninety perches to an old corner gum thence by an old line of marked trees north
west by north thirty five perches to a corner hickory thence by an old line south
west by west sixty five perches to an old corner white oak being also a corner of
land sometime of a certain Thomas Person thence south East by south one
hundred & thirty perches to the place of beginning containing within s. Coombs
seventy acres of land be the same more or less together with all & singular
the edifices buildings easements ways waters water-courses woods underwoods
timber & trees profits commodities rights liberties improvements privileges &
improvements & appurtenances to the same belonging or in anywise apper-
taining & the reversion & reversions remainder & remainders rents issues &
profits thereof I have and I hold the said mesuage plantation tract
of land & premises with the appurtenances unto the said Thomas Clark his
heirs & assigns for ever to the intent & purpose that the said Thomas Clark
shall & will before the end of may term next coming permit & suffer the said
James Wilson to sue forth & prosecute one writ of Entry sur descision in le
post returnable before the Justices of the court of common pleas at Newcastle
for the county of Newcastle thereby demanding against the s. Thomas Clark
the s. mesuage plantation tract of land & premises herein before mentioned
to be granted by such names & descriptions as in that behalf shall be thought
fit & convenient unto & upon which s. writ of Entry so to be brought the s.
Thomas Clark shall appear gratis & vouch to warranty the s. Robert
Kirkwood jun who shall appear in person or by Robert Kirkwood his attorney
& enter into warranty & after his entry into warranty shall vouch over
to warranty the common vouchee who shall likewise appear & appear &
afterwards make default & depart in contempt of the court so that so that
judgment may be thereupon had & given for the s. James Wilson to recover
the said mesuage plantation tract of Land hereditaments & premises with
the appurtenances against the said Thomas Clark for the s. Thomas
Clark to recover in value against the said Robert Kirkwood jun & for the s.
Robert Kirkwood jun. to recover over in value against the common vouchee to
the End one perfect ~~and~~ common recovery with double voucher may be had
& recovered thereupon & all & every other thing & things to be done & perfected
needful & convenient for the having & suffering the same recovery according
to the course of common recoveries in such cases used & the said recovery is
also to be executed by one writ of Habeas Facias seu inam accordingly
And

AND it is hereby covenanted concluded & agreed by & between all the said parties to these presents for themselves and every of them & every of their heirs that the s.^d recovery so as aforesaid in any other manner to be had & of profits of the s.^d messuage tenements lands hereditaments & premises above mentioned shall be & enure & shall be deemed adjudged & taken & is meant & intended & by all the s.^d parties to these presents is hereby declared to be & enure & the said James Wilson & his heirs from & immediately after the offering the same shall stand & be seized of & all singular the s.^d messuage tenements lands hereditaments & premises above mentioned & every part & parcel thereof with the appurtenances to & for the use & proper behoof of the s.^d Robert Kirkwood Jun^r his heirs & assigns for ever & to & for none other use intent or purpose whatsoever be the s.^d Robert Kirkwood having given unto his son Robert Kirkwood Jun^r a valuable consideration for the fee simple thereof In Witness whereof the said parties to these presents have hereunto interchangeably set their hands & seals the day & year first above written.

Signed sealed & delivered

- in the presence of

Tho: M^r Kerran

Alex^r M^r Beath

Robt. Kirkwood

Robt. Kirkwood Jun^r

Tho: Clark

J^r Wilson



Newcastle County Sh. Acknowledged in open court of common pleas (Ls) held at Newcastle for the county of Newcastle in May Term 1777 In Testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed the seal of said Court.

Recorded June 9th 1777.

Gunning Bedford Shrotho.

Whereas it has been maliciously reported by certain persons with an ill design that John Stidham in Branwynne hundred was the person who should have Executed Hugh Barclay at Newcastle in Newcastle county on saturday the 9th day of June 1770. & as such a report being falsely handed about may not only tend to be prejudicial to the said John Stidham in his private character but pernicious to his young & rising family, Therefore this is to certify to all whom it may concern that the said John Stidham has had no hand in either fact or part in the Execution of the said Hugh Barclay, that the Executioner was a stranger in this county given under my hand in the county afo^{re} this 8th day of July 1777

Thomas Duff former Sheriff
of Newcastle County

of office the day and year aforesaid at the City of Wilmington
this sixth February A.D. 1861.

Wm. B. Wiggins

Notary Public for the State of Delaware
Received for Record June 22^d A.D. 1863.

A. P. Shannon, Recorder.

End.

This Indenture, made the Seventh day of June in the
year of our Lords one thousand eight hundred and sixty five,
Between Andrew C. Gray and Elizabeth W., his wife, George R.
Gray and Eliza, his wife and Charles Gray all of the County
of Newcastle, in the State of Delaware, John B. Gray and
Margaret, his wife of Kent County, in the State of Maryland,
Alexander J. Gray and Augusta, his wife of the City of Washing-
ton, in the District of Columbia, & James W. Dale and Mary
his wife, formerly Mary Gray of Delaware County in the State
of Pennsylvania, Parties of the first part, and Robert Cook of
the City of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania party
of the second part. Witnesseth, that the said parties of the first
part as heirs at Law and devisees in and by the last will and
testament of Andrew Gray late of the City of Wilmington,
in the County of Newcastle, and State of Delaware, deceased,
and in confirmation of the direction and Authority therein
given the Executor of the said Andrew Gray deceased, to
sell and dispose of the Real Estate of the said Testator, and
in consideration of the sum of Twenty thousand dollars law-
ful money of the United States well and truly paid by the
said Robert Cook, party of the second part unto, at or before
the sealing and delivery hereof, unto Andrew C. Gray the
Executor of the said last will and testament of the said
Andrew Gray deceased, as set forth in the deed of conveyance
of the said Executor to the said Robert Cook dated on the day
and year aforesaid for our use and benefit and for the uses
and purposes as set forth in the said will, and in considerat-
ion of the further sum of five dollars lawful money unto the
said parties of the first part well and truly paid by the said
party of the second part, at or before the sealing and delivery
hereof, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, Have granted,
bargained, sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released, conveyed and confir-
med, and by these presents, do grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff
convey and confirm unto the said Robert Cook, party
of the second part and to his heirs and assigns, All that
certain parcel of land or tract of land situate in Mill
Creek Hundred, in the County of Newcastle, and State of Delaware,

known as "Chester Hill" bounded and described as follows, to wit:

A beginning at a corner of land formerly of John Sanders, and on a line of land formerly of Joseph England;

thence northerly by the said England's land north thirty four degrees

West two hundred and eighty six feet and five tenths of a perch

to a post fixed for a corner, bearing North thirty four degrees West;

thence North fifty four

degrees East, one hundred and fifty feet and two tenths to the

middle of the head of Great Pond, thence up the middle

of said Pond North two degrees West nineteen perches and four

tenths to the intersection of the said Pond leading towards the post

thence down the middle of the said "Reservoir Pond", South twenty

seven degrees and a half East forty six perches to the line of

land formerly the estate of Thomas Cote, deceased, thence by

the last mentioned land South fifty four degrees West four

teen perches and seven tenths to a corner stone, thence South

thirty four degrees East, one hundred and eighty nine perches

to a corner stake East in the line of land formerly of John

Sherman, thence by the said Sherman's land South fifty

four degrees West nine perches and eight tenths, South

five degrees East twenty two perches and eight tenths,

South fifty three degrees and a half East twenty perches

and five tenths to a corner post of the land formerly of

John Sanders of said, thence by the said Sanders' land

thence three acres, thence up and seven perches which

has been granted and conveyed to Henry Sherman and

Reuben Caine by instrument under the hands and seals

of the said Henry and Reuben his wife, bearing

date the seventh day of November, A.D. eighteen hundred

and forty five and recorded in the Records of this State

at the office of said in Book B, No. 3, page 201, by

reference to the said instrument with fully appear, do get

as with all and singular the above, rights, liberties, privileges,

franchises and appurtenances whatsoever, to have

and maintain, hold, use, enjoy, profit, own and demand

the same rights, use, profit, property, own and demand

whenever of them the next part of the first part, in

the same manner as if they were in full force and effect

at the date hereof, and as if they were in full force and effect

at the date hereof, and as if they were in full force and effect

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at the date hereof, and as if they were in full force and effect

at the date hereof, and as if they were in full force and effect

The said Farm Plantation or tract of land, Hereditaments and premises hereby granted and mentioned or intended, so to be with the appurtenances, Excepting as aforesaid, unto the said Robert Cook his heirs and assigns, to and for the only proper use and behoof of the said Robert Cook his heirs and assigns forever. And the said parties of the first part for themselves their and each of their heirs Executors and Administrators do by these presents covenant, grant and agree to and with the said Robert Cook his heirs and assigns, that they the said parties of the first part, their and each of their heirs all and singular the hereditaments and premises herein above described and granted and mentioned or intended, so to be with the appurtenances unto the said Robert Cook his heirs and assigns against them the said parties of the first part, their and each of their heirs and against all and every other person or persons whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same, or any part thereof by, from, through, or under him, her, them, or any of them shall and will by these presents covenant and forever defend. In Witness whereof the said parties of the first part have hereunto respectively set their hands and seals the day and year first herein written,

Sealed and Delivered

in the presence of
 M. M. Cleaver
 as to G. R. Gray's wife
 Jas Duval Rodney
 John M. Robinson
 as to John R. Gray & Anna M. Gray
 J. Kempburn
 William Morgan
 James O. Mason Sr.
 W. H. Beatty

Andrew C. Gray	
Elizabeth M. Gray	
G. R. Gray	
Eliza Gray	
John R. Gray	
Anna M. Gray	
Alexander J. Gray	
Anne Augusta Gray	
Charles Gray	
James W. Dale	
Mary G. Dale	

State of Delaware }
 Newcastle County } ss.



Be it Remembered that on this Seventh day of June A.D. 1865, personally came before me, Mark M. Cleaver, a Notary Public for the State of Delaware Andrew C. Gray and Elizabeth M. his wife, parties to this instrument known to me personally to be such and personally acknowledged this instrument to be their deed, and the said Elizabeth M. Gray being at the same time privately examined by me separately and apart from her husband, acknowledged that she executed the said instrument willingly without compulsion or constraint of her husband's displeasure. Given under my hand and seal of Office the day and year aforesaid.

M. M. Cleaver, Notary Public
 State of Pennsylvania, County of Philadelphia ss.



Be it remembered that on this Seventh day of June A.D. 1865. Before me Jas Duval Rodney Commissioner of Deeds for the State of Delaware personally examined Andrew C. Gray and Eliza his wife parties to this instrument known to me as such and personally acknowledged this instrument to be their deed and the said Eliza being

This Indenture, Made the seventh day of June in the year
of our Lords one thousand eight hundred and sixty five,
Between Andrew C. Gray of the Town and County of Newcastle
and State of Delaware, Executor of the last will and testament
of Andrew Gray late of the City of Wilmington in the County
aforesaid, deceased, of the first part; and Robert Cook of the
City of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania of the second
part. Witnesseth that the said party of the first part by virtue
of the direction and authority given him in and by the last
will and testament of the said Andrew Gray, deceased (as by
reference to the said last Will and testament duly proved and
admitted to Probate by the Register of wills for the said County
of Newcastle, and recorded in the Register's office at Newcastle
in Book (V. page 800. fully appears) and in consideration
of the sum of Twenty thousand dollars lawful money of the
United States, now to the said party of the first part well and
truly paid by the said Robert Cook party of the second part
at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the
receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged both granted, bargained
sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released, conveyed and confirmed
and by virtue of the power and authority aforesaid doth by
these presents grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff, release, convey
and confirm unto the said Robert Cook party of the second
part, and to his heirs and assigns, All that certain Town
Plantation, or tract of land situate in Mill Creek Hundred
Newcastle County and State of Delaware, known as "Cheamot
Hill" bounded and described as follows, to wit: Beginning
at a corner there, being also a corner of land formerly of John

Sanders, and in a line of land formerly of Joseph England, thence
running by the said England's land North thirty five degrees West two
hundred and eighty six perches and five tenths of a perch to a post
fixed for a corner bearing North thirty five degrees West two perches
from a marked Black oak thence North fifty five degrees East
one hundred and forty perches and two tenths to the middle of the
New London Great Road, thence up the middle of said Road, North
two degrees West nineteen perches and four tenths to the intersection
of the Great Road leading towards Newport, thence down the middle
of the said Newport road, South seventy seven degrees and an half East
fifty six perches to the line of land formerly the estate of Thomas Cyle
deceased, thence by the last mentioned land South fifty five deg-
rees West fourteen perches and seven tenths to a corner stone, thence
South thirty five degrees East one hundred and twenty nine perches
to a corner Black Oak, in the line of land formerly of Robert Joh-
nston, thence by the said Johnston's land South fifty five degrees
west, nine perches and eight tenths, South five degrees East, twenty
two perches and eight tenths, South sixty three degrees and an
half East, twenty perches and five tenths to a corner post of
land formerly of John Sanders aforesaid, thence by the said
Sanders land South twenty nine degrees West one hundred
and sixty perches to the first mentioned corner stone and place
of beginning, containing within those bounds two hundred and
fifty two acres and sixteen perches, be the same more or less,
Being the same land and premises (Excepting thereout three
acres, three rods and fourteen perches which has been gra-
nted and conveyed to Mary Drummond and Rachel Evans
by Indenture under the hands and seals of the said Andrew
Gray and Rebecca his wife, bearing date the seventh day of
November A. D. eighteen hundred and forty two, and recorded
in the Recorder's office at Newcastle in Book R. Vol. 6. page
395 &c.) which was granted and conveyed to the said Andrew
Gray in his life time by Indenture under the hand and seal of
Annalia Ellick of the City of Philadelphia, bearing date the
first day of October A. D. eighteen hundred and eight, and rec-
orded in the office aforesaid, in Book G. Vol. 3. page 401 &c. as
by reference to the said Indentures will fully appear, Together
with all and singular the Houses, Buildings, improvements
ways, woods, waters, water-courses, rights, liberties, privileges, Ten-
ements and appurtenances whatsoever thereto belonging
or in anywise appertaining and the revenues and remain-
ers, rents, issues and profits thereof, and all the estate, right,
title, interest, property, claim and demand whatsoever which
were of the said Andrew Gray at and immediately before the
time of his death and which now is of the said party of the
first part in law, in equity, otherwise howsoever of or under
any title, claim, demand, right, privilege, or otherwise

Consular Fees

Nos. 2310 and 2311

Received for Record Jan. 25, 1934.

Albert Stetser

Recorder.

COMPARED
FILED

This Deed, made this nineteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirty-three, Between, Leroy B. Walton and Ella M. Walton, his wife, of Mill Creek Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware, parties of the first part, and Hugh M. Morris, of the City of Wilmington, County and State aforesaid, party of the second part,

Witnesseth, That the said parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) lawful money of the United States of America the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hereby grant and convey unto the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns

All that certain farm, plantation or tract of land, with the buildings thereon erected, situate in Mill Creek Hundred, New Castle County and State of Delaware, bounded and described as follows, to wit:

Beginning at a corner stone set in the line of land late of Thomas Montgomery and running thence by line of the same south 50 degrees west 98 perches to a heap of stones in a line of land late of John Barclay; thence therewith south 38 degrees east 77.5 perches to a corner white oak; thence by land late of Christopher Springer, Deceased, north 45 degrees east 56.8 perches to a corner-stone; and north 5 3/4 degrees west 73 perches to the first mentioned stone and place of beginning, containing within these bounds 30 acres, be the same more or less

Being the same lands and premises which Leander S. Russell and Mary E. Russell his wife, by deed dated March 24, 1920, and recorded in the Office for the Recorder of Deeds, etc., in and for New Castle County aforesaid, in Deed Record D, Volume 29, page 295, etc., granted and conveyed to the parties of the first part hereto in fee simple. In witness whereof, the said parties

of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year aforesaid

Sealed and Delivered

in the Presence of
Rebecca Springer
Rebecca Springer

Le Roy B. Walton (Seal)
Ella M. Walton (Seal)

U. S. D. R. Stamps
\$10.00 cancelled.

State of Delaware }
New Castle County }

Rebecca Springer
Notary Public
March 28, 1933.
Term 2 years
Delaware.

Be it Remembered, That on
this 19th day of December
in the year of our Lord, one
thousand, nine hundred
and three, personally came

before me the subscriber a Notary Public for
the State and County aforesaid, Leroy B. Walton
and Ella M. Walton, his wife, parties to this
Indenture known to me personally to be
such, and severally acknowledged this Indenture to be their Deed.

And, the said Ella M. Walton being at the
same time privately examined by me, apart
from her husband, acknowledged that she executed the said Indenture willingly, without
compulsion or threats, or fear of her husband's
displeasure.

Given under my hand and seal of Office
the day and year aforesaid.

Rebecca Springer
Notary Public

Received for Record Jan. 25, 1934.

Albert Stetser
Recorder.

COMPARED
KIRK

This Deed, made this 24th day of January A. D. 1934

Between, Herman H. Pratt and Jennett Pratt, his wife, of Blackbird Hundred, New Castle County, and State of Delaware, parties of the first part; and The State of Delaware, party of the second part.

Witnesseth That the said parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) current lawful money of the United States, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hereby grant and convey unto the said party of the second part
All that certain tract piece

This Indenture, made this Twenty fourth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty, Between, Leander S. Russell, and his wife, Mary C. Russell, of the Town of Marshallton, Mill Creek Hundred, New Castle County and State of Delaware, parties of the first part, and Le Roy B. Walton and his wife, Ella M. Walton, of the City of Wilmington, County of New Castle and State of Delaware, parties of the second part. Witness, That the said parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of Thirty-six Hundred Dollars (\$3600.00) current lawful money of the United States of America, unto them well and truly paid by the said parties of the second part, at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff, release, convey and confirm unto the said parties of the second part their Heirs and Assigns, All that certain lot, piece, plantation or tract of land with the buildings thereon erected, situate in Mill Creek Hundred, New Castle County and State of Delaware, bounded and described as follows, to-wit: Beginning at a corner stone set in the line of land late of Thomas Montgomery and running thence by a line of the same South fifty degrees West ninety-eight perches to a heap of stones in a line of land late of John Barklay; thence thencewith South thirty-eight degrees East seventy-seven perches and five-tenths to a corner white oak, thence by land late of Christopher Springer, deceased, north forty-five degrees East fifty-six perches and eight-tenths to a corner stone, and North five degrees and three quarters West seventy-three perches to the first mentioned stone and place of Beginning, containing within those bounds Thirty acres of land, be the same more or less; Being the same lands and premises which Thomas S. Sharpe, and his wife, by

their Indenture bearing date the 11th day of March, A.D. 1901, as the same remains of record in the office of the Recorder of New Castle County aforesaid in Deed Record L. volume 18, page 458, did grant and convey unto Leander S. Russell in fee simple, Together with all and singular the buildings, improvements, ways, woods, waters, water-courses, rights, liberties, privileges, hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging, or in anywise appertaining, and the reversions and remainders, rents, issues and profits thereof, and all the estate, right, title, interest, property, claim and demand, whatsoever of them the said parties of the first part, in law, equity, or otherwise, howsoever, of, in, and to the same and every part and parcel thereof. To have and to hold the said lot, piece, plantation or tract of land, buildings, hereditaments and premises, hereby granted, or mentioned, or intended so to be, with the appurtenances, unto the said parties of the second part their Heirs and Assigns, to and for the only proper use and behoof of the said parties of the second part their Heirs and Assigns forever. And the said parties of the first part, their Heirs, Executors and Administrators do by these presents, covenant, grant and agree to and with the said parties of the second part their Heirs and Assigns that they the said parties of the first part their Heirs all and singular the hereditaments and premises herein above described and granted, or mentioned, or intended so to be, with the appurtenances, unto the said parties of the second part, their Heirs and Assigns, against them the said parties of the first part, their Heirs all and against all and every other person or persons whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same, or any part thereof, by, from, through or under, her, him, them or any of them shall and will by these presents Warrant and forever defend. In Witness Whereof, the said parties of the first part have hereunto set their Hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Sealed and delivered
in the Presence of
Barnet Gleuckman
State of Delaware }
New Castle County } ss.

Leander S. Russell (seal)
Mary E. Russell (seal)

U. S. D. R. & H.
Stamps cancelled

Be It Remembered, That on this
Twenty-fourth day of March in the year of our
Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty