ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

ON THE PORTION OF THE WAYNE GLEN PROPERTY
(ALSO KNOWN AS THE RICHTER PROPERTY) NEAR
THE VALLEY FRIENDS BURIAL GROUND
Tredyffrin Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania

PREPARED FOR:

Arcadia Tredyffrin, LLC
114 Forrest Avenue, Suite 201
Narberth, Pennsylvania 19072

And

Valley Friends Meeting
1121 Old Eagle School Road
Wayne, Pennsylvania 19087

December 2016

CULTURAL RESOURCE CONSULTANTS
ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

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Tredyffrin Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania

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Wayne, Pennsylvania 19087

Date:
December 20, 2016
SECTION 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An archaeological investigation was conducted by RGA, Inc. (RGA) on the portion of the Wayne Glen Property adjacent to the Valley Friends Burial Ground in Tredyffrin Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. This work has been conducted jointly for Arcadia Tredyffrin, LLC and the Valley Friends Meeting. The Wayne Glen Property is located at the southwest corner of Walker Road and Old Eagle School Road. The objective of the archaeological investigation was to determine whether any unmarked burials existed within the Wayne Glen Property adjacent area of early burials within the Valley Friends Burial Ground.

The area of archaeological investigation consisted of an approximately 50 foot by 250 foot (0.29 acre) area adjacent to the Valley Friends Burial Ground. An archaeological investigation to confirm the presence or absence of unmarked burials was conducted within the portion of the Wayne Glen Property near the early burial ground. The topsoil covering approximately 4,876 square feet, or a total of 39 percent, of the area of archaeological investigation was removed to investigate the top of the subsoil for evidence of grave shafts or other indications of human burials.

The archaeological investigation revealed no soil stains representing grave shafts or evidence of cultural activities related to human burial within the portion of the Wayne Glen Property closest to the location of early burials in the Valley Friends Burial Ground. Therefore, RGA recommends no further archaeological investigation.
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SECTION 4.0 INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological investigation conducted by RGA, Inc. (RGA) on the portion of the Wayne Glen Property adjacent to the Valley Friends Burial Ground in Tredyffrin Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania (Figure 4.1). This work has been conducted jointly for Arcadia Tredyffrin, LLC and the Valley Friends Meeting. The Wayne Glen Property is located at the southwest corner of Walker Road and Old Eagle School Road. The objective of the archaeological investigation was to determine whether any unmarked burials existed within the Wayne Glen Property adjacent to the location of early burials within the Valley Friends Burial Ground. The area of archaeological investigation consisted of an approximately 50 foot by 250 foot area (0.29 acre) adjacent to the Valley Friends Burial Ground. The archaeological investigation was conducted within the area of archaeological investigation as shown on Figure 4.2.

Michael L. Young, PhD, RPA served as Principal Investigator and meets the professional qualifications standards of 36 CFR 61 set forth by the National Park Service (Appendix A). Dr. Young authored the report; Jennifer Falchetta directed the fieldwork, and Patricia McEachen produced report graphics. Richard C. Grubb served as report editor, and Catherine Smyrski served as technical editor. Copies of this report and all field notes, photographs, and project maps are on file at the RGA offices in Cranbury, New Jersey.
Figure 4.1: U.S.G.S. Map
(from 1966 U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle: Valley Forge, PA [photorevised 1981]).
Figure 4.2: Area of Proposed Archaeological Investigation near Valley Friends Burial Ground, depicting the limits of the early burial ground within the existing burial ground property (red polygon).
SECTION 5.0 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Detailed research of the prehistory and history of the Wayne Glen Property was previously conducted by RGA for Arcadia Tredyffrin LLC, prior to this engagement. An overview of the history directly related to the nearby Valley Friends Burial Ground is provided below.

The Wayne Glen Property consists of the westerly half of an abandoned farm property formerly bounded on the north by Walker Road, on the south by East Swedesford Road, and on the east by the Montgomery County/Chester County line. Old Eagle School Road (a.k.a Valley Road or Port Kennedy Road) now serves as the project site’s eastern boundary. Both the Valley Friends Meeting House and its associated burying ground occupy locations straddling Old Eagle School Road on land originally conveyed to the Society of Friends out of the former farm, with the burying ground now surrounded on two sides by the Wayne Glen Property (see Figure 4.2).

The first settler within the Wayne Glen Property was Lewis Walker, a Welsh farmer, joiner, turner, and carpenter, who established a homestead farm, known later by the name “Rehobeth.” Lewis Walker’s will left instructions for the conveyance of nine square perches of land to the Society of Friends for a meeting house and burial ground. In 1731, the Haverford Monthly Meeting authorized Valley Friends to build a meeting house “at the Grave Yard near Lewis Walker’s Dec’d, which was left by the said Lewis by his last will for that purpose” (Puthery and Cope 1881: 237). However, it was not until 1756 that Daniel Walker, acting as executor of his father’s will, formally conveyed to the Friends the nine square perches of land “Beginning at a stone at the end of the lane that leads from the late Dwelling House of the said Lewis Walker to the great Road…” (see RGA, Inc. 2016: Table 6.1) (Chester County Deeds, Book K, Vol. 10, 353).

A review of documentary records, including nineteenth century county histories, period biographies, published recollections, early Valley Forge Park guides, National Register nominations, and Historic American Building Survey records, as well as information provided by the Valley Friends Meeting concerning the project site, reveal references to the establishment and expansion of the Valley Friends Meeting House and its associated burying ground on lands formerly associated with the farm (see RGA, Inc 2016: Table 6.1). Primary source evidence confirms that the Valley Friends Meeting House and burial ground on the Walker property were utilized during the Revolutionary War as an encampment. Records of the Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting (PQM) minutes from March 1778 state that, “the meetinghouse at Radnor, being taken by the American sol'diey [sic] and made a Barrack of for some months, the Friends have been obliged to meet at a private house, but they hope to be able to meet again in their meeting at that place, when the house is repaired. The meeting at the Valley, Gwinned [sic] and Plymouth have also been occupied by the American sol'diey” (PQM 1778). Additionally, one of the early entries in the Walker Family Gravedigger’s Graveyard Accounts (1800-1887) reads, “No. 12th, Lawrence Batters wife and Grand Child bury Next the Road, all as strangers __. The rest of the Groun[d] __ the Soldiers Buried, in 1778. there is Roome for one row Next to the wall, none bury’d in ____.” This account supports the view that the meeting house was used as a hospital and that dead Revolutionary War soldiers were buried together in the Quaker burying ground near the road. A secondary source notes that a “hospital was established in the Valley meeting house of the Society of Friends near the encampment,” and that “during its occupation for that purpose, the members of the Society met regularly for worship at the house of Isaac Walker.

Collectively, these sources provide compelling evidence for internments in the burying ground from an early period. However, these documents do not contain direct evidence of burials outside the limit of the current cemetery on the Wayne Glen Property. References in deeds refer to soldiers from the Revolutionary War and “strangers” buried near the early meeting house and in rows of the early cemetery, indicating that the early burials were within a portion of what is currently the cemetery property. On the basis of information provided by the Valley Friends Meeting, the likely location of the early burial ground within the existing cemetery property has been plotted (see Figure 4.2).
Figure 5.3: 1877 J. D. Scott, Combination Atlas Map of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania and 1883 Breou's Official Series of Farm Maps of Chester County, Pennsylvania.
SECTION 6.0 METHODOLOGY

The objective of the archaeological investigation was to determine whether any unmarked burials exist within the Wayne Glen Property adjacent to the Valley Friends Burial Ground. The scope of work adhered to a work plan prepared for and approved by Arcadia Tredyffrin, LLC and the Valley Friends Meeting, dated February 26, 2016. An archaeological investigation to confirm the presence or absence of unmarked burials was conducted within the portion of the Wayne Glen Property near the early burial ground as shown on the Figure 4.2.

The topsoil covering at least 35 percent of the area of archaeological investigation was to be removed to investigate the top of the subsoil for evidence of grave shafts or other indications of human burials. This allowed inspection of a portion of the subsoil, while enabling the archaeological investigation to proceed around and between existing trees.

During the archaeological investigation, the topsoil (A horizon/plowzone) was stripped by a backhoe with a flat bucket from approximately 4,876 square feet, or a total of 39 percent, of the area of archaeological investigation. The removal of topsoil was supervised by archaeologists to ensure that the horizontal and vertical limits necessary were maintained. The archaeologist possessed stop-work authority over the backhoe and operator, as needed. The top of the subsoil was carefully investigated with hand tools to identify any grave shafts or other evidence of human burials. The upper portion of suspected burials/graves or other cultural features was manually excavated to determine their nature. An archaeologist capable of distinguishing human bone from animal bone was on-site at all times during the investigation. As requested, representatives from Valley Friends Meeting visited the area during the archaeological investigation.

Soil stains identified at the top of the subsoil were exposed and recorded in detail. Portions of soil stains were manually excavated to facilitate profile exposure. Plan and profile views were drawn and photographed. Excavated soil from manual excavations was screened through one-quarter-inch wire mesh. Determinations were made regarding the origin of each feature. Features may be of prehistoric or historic cultural origin, or the result of natural formation processes, such as root casts or back-filled rodent burrows, known as krotovinas (Schiffer 1987:208-210). Photographs of field activities were taken. Upon completion, all excavation was backfilled to return the ground surface to its previous level. The results of the archaeological investigation are discussed in detail in Section 7.0.
SECTION 7.0 RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In October 2016, the topsoil was removed from a total of 4,876 square feet, 39 percent, of the area of archaeological investigation (Figure 7.1). A total of five strip blocks, Strip Blocks A through E, were excavated (see, for example, Plate 7.1). The combined area investigated in the strip blocks exceeded the minimum 35 percent of the area of archaeological investigation specified in the work plan.

Two soil stains, designated as Feature 1 and Feature 2, were identified within these strip blocks. Feature 1 was found in four of the strip blocks (Strip Blocks A, B, C, and D), and ran parallel to the existing wall of the Valley Friends Burial Ground (see Figure 7.1). This soil stain was approximately 1.0 to 1.5 meters wide and was located approximately 1.5 meters from the existing burial ground wall. The soil stain was excavated in Strip Block C and was determined to be shallow, extending only approximately 8 cm (0.25 feet) below the top of the subsoil (Figure 7.2; Plate 7.2). The soil within Feature 1, consisting of 7.5YR 4/3 (Brown) Silt Loam, is consistent with the overlying plowzone. This soil stain is interpreted as likely caused by prior construction activity or possibly represents an area of deeper plowzone associated with the turning of plows at the edge of the former agricultural field at this location.

The second soil stain, designated Feature 2, was identified within Strip Block A. This small soil stain was oval, measuring approximately 25 by 30 cm (0.9 by 1.0 feet) and was found at the top of the subsoil. Feature 2 was bisected manually, and the stain extended to a maximum depth of approximately 20 cm (8 inches) below the top of the subsoil (Figure 7.3; Plate 7.3). Soil within Feature 2 consisted of 10YR 3/2 (Dark Brown) mottled with 10YR 4/4 (Brown) and 10YR 5/8 (Strong Brown) silt loam. Many roots, root fragments, and offshoots were identified in this feature and it is interpreted as a small root cast.

The archaeological investigation revealed no soil stains representing grave shafts or evidence of cultural activities related to human burial within the portion of the Wayne Glen Property closest to the location of early burials in the Valley Friends Burial Ground. RGA recommends no further archaeological investigation.
Plate 7.1: Overview Strip Block B.
Photo view: Southwest
Photographer: Jennifer Falchetta
Date: October 4, 2016

Plate 7.2: Feature 1, Profile, North Wall.
Photo view: South
Photographer: Jennifer Falchetta
Date: May 1, 2015
Figure 7.2: Feature 1 Profile.

Key:
Feature 1 Fill: 7.5YR 4/3 (Brown) Silt Loam
B1: 7.5YR 5/4 (Brown) Silt Loam
B2: 7.5YR 5/8 (Strong Brown) Silt Loam
Plate 7.3: Feature 2, Profile, West Wall.

Photo view: North

Photographer: Jennifer Falchetta

Date: December 7, 2012
Key:
Feature 2 Fill: 10YR 3.2 (Dark Brown) m/w 10YR 4/4 (Brown) & 10YR 5/8 (Strong Brown)
B2: 7.5YR 5/8 (Strong Brown) Silt Loam w/ Decaying Quartz

Figure 7.3: Feature 2 Profile.
SECTION 8.0 REFERENCES

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Schiffer, Michael B.
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1966  7.5' Quadrangle, Valley Forge, PA, Photorevised 1981.
SECTION 9.0 APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR
MICHAEL L. YOUNG
PRINCIPAL SENIOR ARCHAEOLOGIST (36 CFR 61)

Professional Experience Summary:

Michael Young provides technical oversight on most archaeological projects undertaken in Pennsylvania. Mr. Young has served as a Principal Investigator on all phases of archaeological investigations, and specializes in historic and prehistoric archaeology. Mr. Young has prepared and directed cultural resources surveys in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, NEPA, and various municipal and state cultural resource regulations. He exceeds the qualifications set forth in the Secretary of Interior’s Standards for Archaeologists [36 CFR 61].

Representative Project Experience:

Playwicki Farm Carriage House Renovations, Lower Southampton Township, Bucks County, PA (Sponsor: Lower Southampton Township) Directed a Phase I archaeological survey conducted to identify potentially significant archaeological resources associated with the eighteenth through twentieth-century Snodgrass Farm and the nearby Playwicki Indian Village at Lower Southampton Township’s Playwicki Park. A total of seven subsurface features, 55 prehistoric artifacts, and 6,170 historic artifacts were recovered in the vicinity of the Carriage House. The Township redesigned the construction plans for the Playwicki Carriage House modifications to avoid impact to archaeological resources.

New Visitor Center/Museum at Mill Grove, Lower Providence Township, Montgomery County, PA (Sponsor: County of Montgomery) Directed a Phase I archaeological survey for proposed improvements to the John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove, a National Historic Landmark (NHL). Five mule component archaeological sites were identified, one having the potential to contribute to the significance of the Mill Grove NHL. The prehistoric component of two of the other sites was also determined to be potentially significant. Phase II archaeological investigations were recommended at all three of these archaeological sites, if they could not be avoided by the project undertaking.

Women’s Rights National Historic Park, Town of Seneca Falls, Seneca County, NY (Sponsor: National Park Service) Directed intensive archaeological investigation at the Wesleyan Chapel in the Women’s Rights National Historic Park. Based on the identification of intact nineteenth-century deposits, archaeological monitoring was recommended to mitigate the adverse effects of the proposed rehabilitation. Recovered and analyzed a total of 9,379 artifacts, many of which dated to the chapel’s period of significance. The artifact assemblage and records were curated to National Park Service Standards.

Wheatley Meadows Residential and Commercial Subdivision, Township of Harrison, Gloucester County, NJ (Sponsor: Orleans Homebuilders) Directed archaeological data recovery investigations at the National Register-eligible Zane Farmstead Archaeological site. Archaeological evidence from the early nineteenth century provided an opportunity to reconstruct the material culture of descendants of an early Quaker family in the Delaware Valley. Archaeological evidence from the late-nineteenth century offered an opportunity to explore the material culture of members of a successful farming family in the late-nineteenth century. The analysis of data allowed consideration of the archaeological manifestation of a rural domestic site and changes in its associated material culture during the nineteenth century.
Representative Project Experience (Continued):

**Brownsburg Park**, Upper Makefield Township, Bucks County, PA (Sponsor: Upper Makefield Township) Directed Phase I/II/III archaeological investigations for the municipal park project located on uplands near the Delaware River. The project included the construction of athletic fields, parking lots, walking paths, and other infrastructure. Archaeological investigations identified significant prehistoric archaeological resources. The findings provided insight into ancient Native American lifeways within the Middle Delaware River Valley. A poster of the archaeological findings was prepared for the general public.

**Northampton County Park and Recreation Maintenance Facility**, Upper Nazareth Township, Northampton County, PA (Sponsor: Northampton County) Directed the Phase I-III archaeological surveys for proposed improvements to a Northampton County Park and Recreation maintenance facility. The Phase I/II archaeological survey identified a significant prehistoric site containing two Middle Woodland features within the project area. To mitigate the project effects on the site, RGA performed Phase III archaeological data recovery investigations at the site. The findings contributed new insight into Native American subsistence practices, lithic technology, ceramic technology, and settlement patterns in the Middle Delaware Valley.

**Tatamy Rails to Trails**, Tatamy Borough, Northampton County, PA (Sponsor: PennDOT) Principal Investigator for a supplemental geomorphological investigation and Phase I archaeological survey completed within the floodplain of Bushkill Creek for the Tatamy Rails to Trails project. The geomorphological survey determined that the project area possessed comprehensive disturbance associated with previous grading and filling activities. The Phase I archaeological survey included excavations of a subsurface archaeological feature identified by a previous geomorphological survey. The feature was identified as a twentieth-century fill episode and determined not significant. No further archaeological survey was recommended.

**Mine Restoration Project**, Nesquehoning Borough, Carbon County, PA (Sponsor: The Wildlands Conservancy) Directed a Phase I archaeological survey for the proposed Mine Restoration Project in Lehigh Gorge State Park. Nineteenth-century cartographic evidence indicated that the project area was situated within the confines of the historic community of Lausanne, a coal mining town abandoned in the late nineteenth century. A pedestrian survey identified the remains of the Union Sawmill, established in 1787 by a pioneer settler.

**Philadelphia Family Court House**, City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, PA (Sponsor: Pennsylvania Department of General Services) Provided oversight to the Principal Investigator during Phase I-III archaeological surveys for the Philadelphia Family Court House project. The surveys included an assessment of archaeological sensitivity, and a strategy of manual and mechanical excavation based on background research and existing conditions. The surveys identified and archaeologically mitigated adverse effects to the National Register of Historic Places-eligible Family Court House Site (36-PH-0161), a residential site dating from 1785 to the 1950s. The site provided significant information on the early historic settlement of western Philadelphia and the diet, material culture, and consumer behavior of the area’s late eighteenth and early nineteenth-century residents.

**Coplay Creek Sewer Interceptor**, Whitehall Township, Lehigh County, PA (Sponsor: Coplay-Whitchell Sewer Authority) Directed Phase I/II archaeological surveys conducted for a proposed new sewer interceptor. The Phase I archaeological survey identified three potentially significant prehistoric sites and assessed the effects on the National Register-listed Troxell-Steckel House and Farm. It was determined that this mid-eighteenth-century property would not be affected by the undertaking. The proposed alignment was redesigned to avoid two of the prehistoric sites and a Phase II archaeological survey conducted at the third site determined that it was not eligible for listing on the National Register.

**Galloping Brook Residential Development**, Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth County, NJ (Sponsor: Vanker Associates) Directed Phase III archaeological data recovery excavations conducted at the Lawrie Farmstead site, home of the nephew of Gawan Lawrie, Deputy Governor of the Colonial Province of East Jersey. Organized an archaeological field school at William Paterson University in Wayne, NJ, where students learned archaeological excavation and laboratory processing techniques. The site was initially occupied in 1705 by Scottish Quakers and abandoned no later than 1850. Study of the archaeological evidence from the site has provided substantial new information regarding the level of adherence to Quaker tenets and interactions with other groups at an early Colonial settlement.
APPENDIX B: ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Author: Michael L. Young, PhD, RPA
Title: Archaeological Investigation on the Portion of the Wayne Glen Property
(Also Known as the Richter Property) Near the Valley Friends Burial Ground,
Tredyffrin Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania
Date: December 2016
RGA Database Title: Wayne Glen Burial Ground
RGA Project No.: 2016-244PA
County: Chester
Municipality: Tredyffrin Township
U.S.G.S. Quad: Valley Forge, PA
Drainage Basin: Trout Creek, Schuylkill River, Delaware River, Delaware Bay, Atlantic Ocean
Regulation: Section 106, National Historic Preservation Act of 1966; the Environmental
Rights Amendment, Article 1, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution
(1988)
Project Type: Private Development
Project Sponsor: Arcadia Tredyffrin, LLC
Client: Arcadia Tredyffrin, LLC and Valley Friends Meeting
Level of Survey: Archaeological Investigation
Cultural Resources: None