United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Colebrook Iron Master's House

other names/site number Colebrook Mansion; Colebrook Estate

2. Location

street & number 5200 Elizabethtown Road [N/A] not for publication

city or town South Londonderry Township [N/A] vicinity

state Pennsylvania code PA county Lebanon code 075 zip code 17015

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this _X_ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property _X_ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide _X_ local

Andrea H. MacDonald 4/26/2010

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

PA Historical and Museum Commission

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- [X] private
- [ ] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [ ] public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- [X] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
6	1	buildings
		district
	1	site
1	2	structure
1		object
8	4	**Total**

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/Single Dwelling
Domestic/Secondary Structure
Agriculture/Subsistence/Animal Facility
Landscape/Street Furniture/Object

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/Single Dwelling
Domestic/Secondary Structure
Landscape/Street Furniture/Object

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Colonial/Georgian

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Stone/Sandstone
walls: Stone/Sandstone
roof: Slate
other: Wood Shake; Metal

Narrative Description

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The Colebrook Iron Master's House is located on the southwest corner of Manheim Road and Elizabethtown Road in the village of Colebrook, South Londonderry Township, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania. The ten acre tract was originally part of the Colebrook Furnace property which was accumulated during the late eighteenth and early to mid nineteenth centuries by Robert Coleman and his descendents. The resources in the complex date to the ca. 1791-1796 time period and include the house, constructed in two parts, the stable, the kitchen house, the spring house, the privy, the spring trough, the carriage shed and the cast iron fence. The Colebrook Iron Master's House has a frame seed house (non-contributing) built in ca.1885. All the eighteenth century buildings of the Colebrook Iron Master's House are constructed of locally quarried brownstone. The ca. 1791-1796 house was constructed in two phases, in the late Georgian architectural style and is characterized as a "half-Georgian" double-pile, side hall plan. The original two and a half story house faces north toward Conewago Creek with an addition that extends to the south and faces east. Directly south of the addition, now separated from the house by a covered entrance hall, is the one story spring house. The two story kitchen house is located immediately west of the southwest corner of the house. A low stone wall to the south visually connects the kitchen house to the privy. A short distance south of the privy is the late nineteenth century seed house. West of the house, on the east side of the driveway entering the property from Elizabethtown Road, is a covered spring trough. To the west of the driveway is a ca. 1791 stone stable with a later addition and a frame carriage shed. The south and west sides of the Colebrook Iron Master's House are surrounded by an eighteenth century cast iron fence, punctuated by brownstone entrance pillars at key points.

Although there have been alterations to the property in its over two hundred year history, the Colebrook Iron Master's House retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship and feeling. The setting has been negatively impacted by surrounding modern development but the siting of the Colebrook Iron Master's House and the enclosure of a definitive grouping of domestic buildings surrounded by a period cast iron fence preserves the eighteenth century setting and feeling of the property. The integrity of the association of the Colebrook Iron Master's House as an eighteenth century domestic grouping remains intact although historically it was part of the Colebrook Furnace industrial complex of which only the stable is still standing.

Narrative Description

The nine acre Colebrook Iron Master's House property extends approximately nine acres to the south along Manheim Road and west along Elizabethtown Road. The Colebrook Iron Master's House property, which includes the buildings and structures, is bounded by wooded areas and modern residential and commercial development. It includes the Colebrook Iron Master's House (contributing building), the Spring House (contributing building), the Kitchen House (contributing building), the Privy (contributing building), the Stable (contributing building), the Carriage Shed (contributing building), the Spring Trough (contributing structure) and the eighteenth century cast iron fence (contributing object). The property also has four non-contributing resources including a late nineteenth century Seed House (building), the foundation of a late nineteenth century corn crib (site), a manmade pond (structure) and a late twentieth century gazebo (structure).

Colebrook Iron Master's House (Contributing)

The two and a half story Colebrook Iron Master's House faces north on a slight rise, perpendicular to Conewago Creek. The house was built in two parts with both the original house and the addition likely constructed between ca. 1791 and ca. 1796. Both sections of the house and all the eighteenth century buildings in the complex are built entirely of brownstone. The brownstone is smooth finished and irregularly laid on the façade of the main house with large pieces of stone simulating quoins at the corners. The original section of the house is three bays (32 feet) wide and two rooms (40 feet) deep with symmetrical fenestration. The façade has a side entrance with an eight panel door crowned with a six light fanlight. The entrance is framed by a pedimented surround with paneled jambs and lintel and simple pilasters. The large six over six double hung wood sash windows have flat wood lintels with corner blocks and wood sills. The two first floor windows have four panel wooden shutters with original hardware. There is a finished stone belt course between the first and second floors. The side gable slate roof has molded wood cornices with dentil detailing and an off center interior brick chimney (Photo 1). Evidence in the attic of the house appears to indicate that the roof was originally covered with wood shakes. It is not known when the shakes were replaced with slate although it may have been when the addition was constructed.

The other elevations of the original Colebrook Iron Master's House are constructed of slightly rough cut brownstone with large finished stones at the corners. The west elevation has two windows on each level that are identical to the windows on the facade. The pedimented gable has two six over six wood sash windows with flat lintels with a slightly projecting center keystones (Photo 2).

The east elevation of the house originally had an open one story porch with a low balustrade. In the early twentieth century the porch was enclosed with windows, and lattice siding was added to the exterior. In ca. 1915 a frame clapboarded second story was added above the enclosed porch to provide more sleeping rooms for the hotel (Photo 1). In the 1950s the second floor space was converted to a three room apartment. The second floor frame addition has two six over six sash windows on the north side. The east side has four bays and the south side has one two over two window and a half glass door.

The twentieth century addition is covered with a shed roof with a shallow overhang and simple brackets on the north and east sides and a deeper overhang with brackets on the south side. The pedimented gable on the east side of the original house has stucco over the brownstone and the lintels over the two six over six windows have been covered.

Shortly after the Colebrook Iron Master's House was built, a two and a half story addition was constructed on the south side of the original house. At the rear of the entrance hall of the house is the original back door which is symmetrically placed opposite the front entrance. This was originally a six panel wood door but the center two panels were replaced with glass at some point, likely in the early twentieth century (Photo 3, Floor Plan 1). On the second floor of the south elevation of the original house, part of an original window with a lintel and a keystone as well as the dentil trim below the cornice can be seen at the point where the addition begins (Photo 4). Below that is a modern fifteen light glass and wood door with the original four light transom.

The addition to the Colebrook Iron Master's House faces east and is constructed of irregularly laid slightly finished brownstone with large finished stones at the corners. It has seven symmetrical bays, including three doors on each of the first two floors. All of the bays have a flat stone lintel with a keystone in the center. The windows are approximately three feet by five feet, considerably smaller than those of the original house, with nine over six double hung sashes and two panel shutters on the first floor (Photo 5). All the first floor doors in the addition have transoms. From north to south, the first door is a six panel wood door, the door in the center is a modern fifteen light glass and wood door and the third door is a slightly narrower half glass door with four lights. On the second floor, the center door is a modern fifteen light glass and wood door and the other two are original six panel wood doors. The addition has a wood shake side gable roof with three hipped roof dormers. When the current property owners moved into the house in 1970, the addition had a slate roof that was in poor condition and there was substantial leaking. At that point the roof of the addition was replaced with wood shakes. The three dormers on the roof slope have two over two double hung wood windows, clapboard sides and wood shake roofs.

The Colebrook Iron Master's House addition has a full length porch on both floors. The slope of the side gable roof provides cover for the porches. On the first floor, the open porch has five narrow square posts. The first floor porch has a herringbone brick floor that extends to the east to form a patio along the full length of the addition. The patio is partially enclosed on the north by an original cast iron fence that runs from the southeast corner of the original side porch to the east boundary iron fence. On the south side of the patio the fence originally extended from the wall of the eighteenth century addition east to a gate, however, only a piece of the fence remains.

The beams that support the second floor of the addition extend outward to also support the second floor porch. On the second floor, the porch is enclosed with a low wooden balustrade with plain balusters. In the late nineteenth or early twentieth century decorative corner brackets were added to all the porch posts and a diagonal spindled wood frieze was placed between the first and second floors. The second floor porch continues in a plainer fashion across the south wall of the original house to connect to a staircase

that provided exterior access to the twentieth century second floor addition off of the original house. The original location of the staircase is unknown.

The south elevation of the addition to the Colebrook Iron Master's House has a door on the first floor, a twentieth century two over one sash window on each of the first and second floors and two smaller four over two sash windows on the attic level. There is a small original brick interior chimney in the back center of the gable that likely served as ventilation for a cast iron stove (Photo 6). On the left side of the first floor of the south wall of the addition is part of a ca. 1910 open porch. In the 1970s the porch was enclosed as discussed more fully below.

The west elevation of the Colebrook Iron Master's House addition has a ca 1910 porch on the first floor that extended for a short distance around the southwest corner just past the original back door of the stone addition. In the twentieth century a decorative balustrade was added to the flat roof of the open porch. By the 1970s the roof balustrade was in poor condition and it was removed. The open porch was extended slightly to the west and enclosed, first with screens and later with windows. The portion of the porch roof on the south side of the house was fitted with glass and wood doors on each end to create an enclosed hallway to the back door (Photo 2, Photo 18). In ca. 2009 a decorative entrance portico was added to the west side of the back hall enclosure.

There are five original bays on the west wall of the first floor of the addition, inside the porch. From north to south are two nine over six sash windows, a grain painted paneled door, with a four light transom, that leads into the current kitchen, another nine over six window and a half glass door that leads into the current laundry. On the second floor of the west side of the addition are three six over six sash windows with flat lintels with keystones. Above the center window on the roof slope is a gable dormer with a wood shake roof and clapboard sides. The window in the dormer was made into a door in ca. 2006 to provide access to a contemporary small, octagonal iron porch (Photo 2).

The interior of the original Colebrook Iron Master's House has a commodious entrance hall and two large rooms on the west side. There is a large paneled wood door, identical to the front door except for a four light rectangular transom in place of the fanlight, on the east wall immediately to the left of the main entrance. This door led to an original open porch on the east side of the house. All the doors in the house retain their original hardware and locks. The interior walls in both phases of the Colebrook Iron Master's House are constructed with overlapping wood planks with wood lath and covered with horsehair plaster. Except for the chimney wall, there are no interior stone walls in the house. The house has narrow yellow pine floors and the ceilings are just over ten feet high.

The entrance hall is approximately ten feet by thirty six feet with a staircase in the left rear corner and an original back door directly opposite the front entrance. The hall has unadorned low baseboards and originally had no cornice molding, however the current property owners have added decorative molding with drop pendant details to the east and west sides of the front portion of the hall and simply detailed Tuscan style columns on either side of the front entrance (Photo 7, Floor Plan 1). The doors that lead to the two rooms on the west side have fluted surrounds with decorative corner blocks. The back door has

the same surround with plain jambs and lintel. To the left of the back door is a paneled wood door that leads to the basement.

The two rooms on the west side of the entrance hall serve as a parlor and a formal dining room. The rooms share a common chimney wall with fireplaces on each side. The fireplace in the parlor has a large wood mantle covered with marbleized paper and a richly detailed nineteenth century cast iron insert for coal in the firebox. The parlor has two large windows on the north (front) or side and one on the west side. All the windows have paneled jambs and headers with molded surrounds, decorative corner blocks and low, deep sills. The parlor has slightly molded deep baseboards (Photo 8). To the left of the fireplace is an arched door opening, with a center keystone and shallow closed cupboards on each side, leading into the dining room.

The fireplace in the dining room has a classically detailed wood mantel and an original cast iron fireback impressed with "Elizabeth Furnace" (Photo 9). The window in the west wall has plain jambs and lintel with a molded surround, corner blocks and low, deep sill. To the left of the fireplace in the dining room is an arched built-in cupboard with two-part paneled doors, and a molded surround with a keystone. On the south wall of the dining room is another back door of the original house. It is a large paneled wood door, grain painted on the exterior, with paneled jambs and lintel and topped with solid raised panel, likely formerly a transom, giving the illusion of a massive opening (Photo 10). That door now leads into the first room of the addition (Floor Plan 1).

The ca. 1795 addition to the Colebrook Iron Master's House has wide plank pine floors, eight foot ceilings and smaller windows, but more lights, than the original house. The addition has also had more changes over the course of two hundred years. On the first floor of the addition there were three rooms whose exact original use is unknown. Each room had an exterior door and a window on the east side. Interestingly, the doors and windows on the east side of the addition have paneled jambs and lintels while those on the west side are plain. The room immediately south of the formal dining room, which originally had an exterior door on the west side, may have been a preparation room for food coming in from the kitchen house. The other rooms were possibly less formal living spaces for the iron master's (or furnace manager's) family, such as a parlor and an office or library. There were no fireplaces but there are signs of pipe openings through the upper two floors of the addition for cast iron stoves such as those manufactured at Colebrook, Cornwall and Elizabeth Furnaces in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century. None of those stoves remain in the Colebrook Iron Master's House. The current owners believe that a wall between the first and second rooms was removed and replaced with the existing archway when the house was a hotel in the early twentieth century. That large space became the hotel dining room and possibly a tavern and the back room of the addition became the kitchen for the hotel.

Today the first room of the addition, directly south of the formal dining room, is a kitchen with two large windows on the west and an exterior door and a window on the east (Photo 11). The paneled door on the east is grain painted on the interior and has a four light rectangular transom. The second room to the south is now the family dining room. The exterior door on the east side is a modern fifteen light glass

and wood door with the original four light transom and on the west is an original half glass door with paneling below. In ca. 1973 the current owners salvaged the fireplace from the ca. 1840s bowling alley building that was located at the rear of the garden lot, north of the house across Elizabethtown Road, parallel to Conewago Creek. The deteriorated bowling alley structure was heavily damaged by the winds and flooding of Hurricane Agnes in 1972 (see Landscape section). They reconstructed the bowling alley fireplace, in a non-functioning capacity, to serve as a dividing space and a focal feature between the current kitchen and the family dining room. The fireplace faces south and the wood mantle features typical swag and medallion Federal detailing. In the southwest corner of the dining room is a built-in corner cupboard with glass doors. The second and third rooms on the first floor of the addition have chair rails, a feature also seen throughout the second floor of the addition. The third or rear room of the addition currently houses a small bathroom, laundry facilities and a decorative gazebo. The enclosed back stairs from the second floor terminate in this room to the left of an original half glass exterior door that now leads into the ca. 1910 porch on the west side of the house (Photo 12). The door on the east side of this room is also a half glass door, narrowed at an unknown time, with a two light transom (Floor Plan 1).

The open staircase in the front entrance hall of the original Colebrook Iron Master's House has a simple turned newel, turned balusters, detailed brackets and wide treads (Photo 7). The staircase leads to a landing where, on the left, there are four steps up to a former door added in ca. 1915 to provide access to new hotel rooms. The staircase turns to the right and goes up one step. On the left, two steps go up to a door, originally a window, which leads to the second floor porch of the addition (Photo 13). The staircase continues to the right, traveling up six more steps to the second floor hall of the original house. The hall is approximately ten by twenty five feet and features a large wooden linen press in the front right corner (Photo 14, Floor Plan 2). Each room on the second floor of the original house, including the hall, has a chair rail and shallow plain baseboards, except the master bedroom. That room has no chair rail but it has deep baseboards identical to those seen in the parlor directly below. Every room on the second floor of the original house and the addition has interior window shutters.

There are three rooms on the second floor of the original house including a small room on the front, directly over the entrance, and two large rooms on the west side. Each room has a paneled door from the hall with fluted surrounds and corner blocks. The small room may have been a dressing room or a nursery; it is now a bathroom with a window with paneled jambs and lintel. The front room on the west side of the second floor is the master bedroom and the second room was likely also a bedroom, both have fireplaces in the common wall. The fireplace in the master bedroom has a wood mantel painted with a simple marbleized design and fitted with a decorative cast iron insert for coal. The master bedroom has two windows on the north side and one on the west side, each with paneled jambs and lintel. There is a closet with a paneled door to the left of the fireplace and no interior access to the next room.

The fireplace in the second bedroom was covered for many years and its brick hearth and firebox are surrounded by a simply detailed wood mantel. There is a closed cupboard on the right side of the fireplace and a closet on the left, each with paneled doors. When the addition was constructed, a

window in the south wall of this bedroom was converted into a door. From this door there are two steps down to the first room on the second floor of the addition. Each of the three large rooms in the addition has a door that opens on to the porch and a window on the east and west sides (Photo 15). They also have interior doors that provide access between the first two rooms and out to the back hall. The hall between the second and third rooms leads to an enclosed staircase down to the rear room of the first floor of the addition.

These rooms were in poor condition when the current owners moved into the house in 1970 because of water damage from the leaking slate roof. The center room on the second floor of the addition was adapted to be a family room and has wood paneling and built-in bookcases (Photo 16). All three rooms were likely originally bedrooms but part of the room on the south end of the second floor became a bathroom in the early twentieth century and was further expanded in the 1980s.

From the second floor hall, a staircase matching the size, detailing and configuration of the stairs between the first and second floors leads to the upper half story, or third floor, of the original Colebrook Iron Master's House. This level also has three rooms, including two on the front (north) of the house, with a hall between them, and one room on the west side. These rooms are quite plain and were clearly meant to be used for servant's quarters or for storage, which is their current use. There is no access between the third floor of the original house and the third floor of the addition.

At the rear of the second floor of the addition, next to the back hall is an enclosed staircase, with a door, to the upper half story or third floor of the addition. Each of the rooms on the third floor have narrow passages that lead to the dormers on the east side (Photo 17, Floor Plan 3b). On the west side, the center room of the addition has a dormer with a fifteen light modern door replacing the original window and leading to a small modern octagonal iron porch. As seen on the second floor, the second and third rooms of the addition are separated by a hall that contains the enclosed back staircase. This floor has considerably lower ceilings in both the original house and the addition. Beside the back stair hall is another enclosed staircase, with a door, that goes up to the attic.

Outbuildings Introduction

Three domestic outbuildings are grouped around the southwest corner of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, including a spring house, a kitchen house and a privy (Photo 18). All three buildings are sited unobtrusively away from the more public north and east sides of the house yet designed to provide easy access to the house by servants and staff. The exterior of these support buildings share a number of construction and stylistic details with the main house including the use of brownstone with distinctive larger stones at the corners, sash or multi-light windows, gable roofs and decorative details.

Spring House (Contributing)

Directly to the south of the addition to the Colebrook Iron Master's House is a one story spring house. The fourteen by twenty four foot spring house is constructed of brownstone with a steep wood shake side

gable roof. There is a door in the west elevation with steps framed by two massive rectangular pieces of brownstone. There were small windows with side-hinged solid shutters on each of the other elevations. In both gable peaks is a small decorative diamond-shaped iron vent (Photo 6, Photo 19). The spring house has a constant flow of water that is piped from springs located in the hills to the south of the property. It is likely that the cast iron piped water system was installed at the time of the construction of Colebrook Furnace, the Iron Master's House and the other buildings in the complex. The piping leads into the house (piping to the house was possibly a twentieth century addition) and to the kitchen house and then to a trough west of the house, beside the driveway, where the water flows continuously.

In the late 1990s the current property owners adapted the spring house into a solarium. Seven glass panels were inserted on each slope of the roof; all original roofing materials were retained. The exterior door on the west side was also covered with a glass panel and the window on the north side, closest to the house, was converted into a low door. The brownstone that was removed to make the window into a door was used to construct steps down into the solarium. The solarium is currently used as a garden and greenhouse space.

Kitchen House (Contributing)

The kitchen house was clearly the center of domestic activity at the Colebrook Iron Master's House. The two story sixteen by twenty four foot brownstone building has a wood shake side gable roof with a simple closed cornice and a large interior corbelled brick chimney on the east side. In the center of roof is a decorative hipped roof cupola that houses the bell for the domestic complex. Also on the east side of the kitchen house is a large bake oven enclosure with a shed roof. The kitchen house has features that echo those found on the main house. On the north side, most visible to the public and visitors, large pieces of stone simulate quoins at the corners, the entrance has a paneled door with a transom and there is a six over six double hung wood sash window (Photo 20). The south side of the kitchen house has a half glass door with nine lights and paneling below and a six over six sash window. In the west elevation there is a six over six window on the first floor and a smaller six over three window in the gable peak of the second floor. The east side, with the bake oven on the first floor, has a small two over two window on the second floor, next to the chimney.

The first floor of the kitchen house is dominated by the large open fireplace on the east wall. The brownstone and brick fireplace has its original trammel and other cooking accessories including several small doors to the bake oven (Photo 21). There is a chair rail in the first floor of the kitchen house and both floors have exposed ceiling beams. When the main house was a hotel in the early twentieth century, the kitchen house was used as a laundry. All the walls, including the fireplace, were covered with dry wall and a cement floor was installed. The current property owners removed the drywall, exposing plastered walls and the chair rail, and uncovered the fireplace. An enclosed staircase, with a door, in the northwest corner leads to a large open room on the second floor.

Privy (Contributing)

South of the kitchen house, connected by a low stone wall on the west side is the eleven by twelve foot privy for the Colebrook Iron Master's House. The brownstone building features large corner stones and a wood shake hipped roof, with a ridge, that is topped with a decorative wood finial (Photo 22). The one story privy was carefully hidden from the road by the kitchen house. The Colebrook Iron Master's House privy has two sections, divided by a plastered stone wall. On the north side, opposite the kitchen house, a simple paneled door leads to a small one seat bench for the servants. On the east side a six panel wood door opens to a larger space with wooden high bench with a hinged cover and a lower bench (Photo 23). The floor of the privy has been covered with concrete. There is a rectangular six light window on the south side of the building. The exterior southeast corner of the privy appears to have previously sustained some water damage and has been repaired.

Spring Trough (Contributing)

West of the kitchen house and east of the driveway is a stone trough that has a continuous flow of spring water. In the early twentieth century, the trough was covered with a wood shake hipped roof with lattice paneling partially enclosing three sides (Photo 24). The water flow to the trough has been estimated at a thousand gallons per hour and has been partially diverted to feed a manmade pond (non-contributing), constructed in the 1980s, at the rear of the property. The spring water travels through eighteenth century cast iron pipes from its point of origin to the south, yet the water consistently tests chemical free and tastes delicious.

Stable and Carriage Shed (Contributing)

West of the domestic buildings of Colebrook Iron Master's House and west of the driveway, is a one and a half story brownstone stable, constructed in two sections, with a frame carriage shed at the northeast corner (Photo 25). The brownstone in both sections of the stable is roughly finished and irregularly coursed but the later section to the south is constructed with smaller pieces of brownstone giving those walls almost a rubble stone appearance. Both sections of the stable have modern metal roofs and all the original doors and windows have eighteenth century strap hinges.

The north side of the stable was likely constructed first. It measures forty seven by thirty four feet and currently has a total of five openings, four of which are visible, on the lower level. At the northeast corner there is a door that is hidden by the carriage shed. Going south there is a window with a side-hinged shutter and a pedestrian door. In the center of this section of the stable is a large one and a half story opening with an inset pedestrian door. The large door appears to be a later addition; the scale does not match the rest of the stable and the opening is awkwardly constructed. The large doors appear to have taken part of an original window on the south side. The original opening may have been the same as the last bay in the original stable; that opening has double doors, a rounded header and a flat brownstone segmental arch (Photo 26).

The later section of the stable is forty by thirty four feet and is noticeably not as well constructed as the original stable. This section is in poor condition with several cracks and missing stones. The southeast

corner had water damage at an unknown time and repairs were attempted using large, more finished pieces of brownstone. Going from north side of the stable addition, there is an inset opening, now closed, which may have originally been a door, a window with a side-hinged shutter, a Dutch door and another window. At the south end of the stable addition is another opening with double doors, a rounded header and a flat segmental arch. There is a stone missing from the arch and a large crack above the opening. On the upper level of the stable addition, above the Dutch door, is a split hay mow door

The rubble brownstone appearance is more noticeable on the south and west elevations of the stable. The stress on the materials at the southeast corner continues to the south wall of the stable addition where the gable peak has been covered with metal (Photo 27). The gable may have originally been stone or wood and was recently covered with metal for stability. The south side has two windows, now with louvered vents, on the lower first floor and one window with a side-hinged shutter on the upper level. On the southwest corner, the stable addition has large pieces of brownstone at the corner.

The rear or west elevation has five low bays on the first level of the original stable, including a door and two windows on the upper level. There are two windows on the lower level of the stable addition and two windows on the upper level. All of the windows have wide louvered ventilation inserts or side-hinged shutters (Photo 28). The north end of the original stable has two windows on the lower level, one on the second level and one in the gable peak, all with hinged shutters. The stonework on this elevation is in excellent condition (Photo 29).

The interior of the original stable has a concrete floor, likely added in the early twentieth century and various alterations of the interior space. It is timber framed with a summer beam that originally ran the full length of the stable. At some point that beam was cut in the center creating a full height open space (Photo 30). No stalls remain on the lower level although there were stanchions and a feeding trough in place at the north end of the stable in 1970. The upper level has a partial wood floor and no apparent opening for a hay drop. The south end wall of the original stable has two pedestrian doors with exterior brownstone framing and flat lintels with a keystone. In the northeast corner of the original stable is a pedestrian door that leads into the frame carriage shed.

A five bay frame carriage shed with a brownstone foundation is attached to the northeast corner of the original stable. This building was apparently originally open on the south side. In the early twentieth century the south wall of the carriage shed was expanded out approximately two feet and enclosed with large doors and the floor was covered with concrete. The current property owner removed that addition (the ghost of the roofline is still visible on the stable) and put in more traditional sets of double doors, allowing the space to be used as a garage. The carriage shed has a side gable roof, with modern metal roofing, and a visible brownstone foundation. On the north side there are two rectangular six light windows and a pedestrian door.

Landscaping

The north and east sides of the Colebrook Iron Master's House are enclosed with a decorative eighteenth

century cast iron fence (contributing). Approximately two thirds of the iron fence is cast into the stone bases and it may have been made onsite at the Colebrook Furnace or at the neighboring Cornwall Furnace. Each section of fencing has narrow spindles finished with a rail and pointed Gothic tops. The sections of fence are divided by decorative scrolled iron details that extend outward and are topped by urn shaped finial (Photo 31). Wooden molds for fence spindles were found in the stable and may have been used to make early twentieth century extension or replacement pieces, today in place primarily on the rear east side of the property. The cast iron fence is a contributing resource.

The cast iron fence was also used, and is still extant, north of the house, across Elizabethtown Road, to enclose the former garden lot which was the location of a nineteenth century one lane enclosed bowling alley along Conewago Creek. The ca. 1840s bowling alley was housed in a long rectangular frame building that ran parallel to the creek. At the west end was a one and a half story room with a fireplace in the west wall. The interior of the bowling had a series of two over two windows and wood paneling. By 1970 the bowling alley was in poor condition and the flooding and winds of Hurricane Agnes in 1972 resulted in the building having to be removed. The current property owners salvaged the fireplace and used it in the dining room of the addition to the house and also saved the nineteenth century bowling pins, balls and the wooden score boards. The garden lot is not included in the boundary of the Colebrook Iron Master's House nomination because none of its original features, except the cast iron fence and brownstone posts, are extant.

The landscaping around the Colebrook Iron Master's House includes large trees,. numerous modern garden areas and several twentieth century manmade ponds. Much of the land west of the domestic buildings was originally used for pastures. In the 1980s a portion of the flow of the piped spring water was diverted to create a large pond to the southeast of the stable. The pond (non-contributing) is surrounded by a picket fence in the center of which is a gazebo (non-contributing). There are several smaller ponds on the property which serve as decorative garden features. South of the domestic buildings and the seed house is the foundation of a former late nineteenth century corn crib (non-contributing) that has been developed into a butterfly garden. Other modern gardens are found off the patio on the east side of the house, on the façade of the house and around the outbuildings.

There is a stone walkway leading from Elizabethtown Road up to stone steps that lead to the front entrance of the Colebrook Iron Master's House. Other stone and brick walkways surround the house and the outbuildings. On the east side of the house a stone walkway leads to several stone steps, framed with low brownstone posts, out to Manheim Road. A former concrete walkway from the driveway east to the house was replaced with bricks found on the property. The driveway from Elizabethtown Road is concrete and brick and the spring trough on the east side of the driveway is surrounded with brick.

Each side of the driveway entrance has a tall brownstone post with a solid stone cap and modern decorative cast iron gates. The same style of brownstone posts mark the entrance to the garden lot directly across the street and formerly framed the walkway that led to the bowling alley. At the northeast corner of the property is another tall brownstone post (Photo 32).

Alterations

There have been few major alterations to the Colebrook Iron Master's House; the majority of changes took place when the property was used as a hotel in ca. 1907-ca.1921. All of the alterations completed by the current property owners, who have resided at the Colebrook Iron Master's House for forty years, were purposely designed to be reversible and all historic materials removed were retained. For the most part their work has consisted of in-kind repairs to original materials such as roofing and plaster, designing an updated kitchen and bathrooms, enclosing an open side porch, replacing several solid wood doors with glass and wood doors for more light and undoing early to mid twentieth century alterations that masked original features. Since 1970, all the repairs and improvements to the Colebrook Iron Master's House have been sensitively completed with a respect for the original design, materials, workmanship and history of the property. Early and mid twentieth century alterations as well changes that have taken place in the last forty years are noted in the overall description of the Colebrook Iron Master's House.

Integrity

The Colebrook Iron Master's House has excellent integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship and feeling. The setting of the eighteenth century property has been minimally impacted by the mid nineteenth century loss of the original buildings related to Colebrook Furnace and by late twentieth century commercial and residential development. However, the Colebrook Iron Master's House is a relatively large self-contained property surrounded by a period cast iron fence and this reinforces the late eighteenth century character of the overall setting. This is also true for association. While original industrial buildings related to the overall Colebrook Furnace complex have been gone for almost one hundred and fifty years, the remaining domestic grouping reflects the eighteenth century founding of the Furnace as well as the more extensive Colebrook Estate residential association of the mid to late nineteenth century and twentieth century. The Colebrook Iron Master's House retains overall integrity and conveys its significance as a distinctive example of late Georgian architecture.

Colebrook Iron Master's House
Name of Property

Lebanon County, PA
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [ ] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [x] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- [ ] A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] B removed from its original location.
- [ ] C a birthplace or grave.
- [ ] D a cemetery.
- [ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [ ] F a commemorative property.
- [ ] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance
Ca. 1791-1796

Significant Dates
Ca. 1791

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown

Period of Significance (justification)
The period of significance includes the likely construction dates for all of the Colebrook Iron Master's House contributing resources.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) N/A

The Colebrook Iron Master's House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for locally significant late Georgian architecture in Lebanon County. The house, constructed in two parts, the stable, the three domestic outbuildings and several supporting structures and objects represented a functional and aesthetically pleasing example of the late Georgian architectural style in rural eighteenth century Dauphin County (Lebanon County was founded in 1813 with land from Dauphin and Lancaster counties). The ca. 1791 to ca.1796 Period of Significance relates to the dates of the construction of the various buildings which happened over a period of time. The construction and maintenance of the Colebrook Iron Furnace, built in 1791, as well as the essential industrial support buildings were the first priority of owner Robert Coleman. Although the construction of the Colebrook Iron Master's House was secondary, the complex was well planned, stylistically coordinated and masterfully crafted.

History of the Colebrook Iron Master's House

The Colebrook Iron Master's House is located at the southwest corner of Elizabethtown Road (S.R. 241) and Manheim Road (S.R. 117) in the village of Colebrook, South Londonderry Township, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania. It is just south of the Conewago Creek and north of the South Mountains. Taking advantage of the power of Conewago Creek and the wood and stone resources of the South Mountains, iron master Robert Coleman established Colebrook Iron Furnace (known for the first year as Mt. Joy Furnace) in 1791. At that time this area was part of Dauphin County and was approximately six miles southwest of Cornwall Furnace and fourteen miles northwest of Elizabeth Furnace, both of which were partly owned by Coleman.

Robert Coleman is well known in the story of iron production in central Pennsylvania. He was born in Ireland but was of English descent and received a good education in County Donegal where he showed an aptitude for numbers and developed a clear and precise style of writing. With these talents Coleman immigrated to the American colonies in 1764 at the age of sixteen with letters of introduction to several prominent businessmen in Philadelphia. He eventually was employed as clerk to a Reading attorney and became acquainted with Grubb family who were in the process of building an iron forge to be known as Hopewell in Lancaster County. After six months of employment at Hopewell Forge, Coleman was hired by James Old to be the head of accounting for all of Old's iron properties which eventually included Quittapahilla Forge, Speedwell Forge, Poole Forge and Reading Forge. Coleman moved between the forges as necessary and in 1773 he married Ann Old, the eldest daughter of his employer. In 1773 Robert Coleman became his own boss by leasing Salford Furnace in Montgomery County for a period of three years.

While Coleman was learning the iron business, Baron Henry William Stiegel was building an iron empire in Lancaster and Berks County. He constructed a new and larger Elizabeth Furnace in Lancaster County in 1760 and purchased the Charming Forge property in Berks County shortly after that. However Stiegel, with his grand lifestyle, overextended himself and in 1775 went to debtor's prison with ownership of Elizabeth Furnace passing to investors John Dickinson, Daniel David Benezet and Charles Stedman. In 1776 Robert Coleman leased Elizabeth Furnace for seven years. He paid Stiegel's debts,

hired the former owner as his clerk and instituted a more businesslike manner of running an iron furnace. Coleman obtained government contracts to provide supplies for the Revolutionary War and used Hessian prisoners to augment his workforce at Elizabeth. He was a Captain in the Pennsylvania militia and soon made key friends in state and national political circles.

Robert Coleman prospered during the War and in 1780 he bought out Dickinson's share of Elizabeth Furnace followed by the purchase of Stedman's share in 1784. In 1785 Coleman bought Speedwell Forge from his father-in-law and in 1786 he purchased shares in Hopewell Furnace and Cornwall Furnace. In addition to amassing a fortune from his iron properties, Robert Coleman served in the Pennsylvania state legislature, was a member of the Pennsylvania Constitutional Congress and became a trustee at both Franklin and Dickinson Colleges. With his wife Ann he raised nine children to adulthood including sons William, James Edward and Thomas Bird. Robert Coleman was always interested in expanding his iron properties and in the late 1780s he began planning the first iron furnace to be developed and owned exclusively by him; that furnace became known as Colebrook.

When Robert Coleman chose the site for his new furnace he likely looked first for the necessary water power and then for nearby wood resources for charcoal production and for other materials such as stone for construction. A central location, not too distant from his other iron interests would make for a more efficient overall operation. With these factors in mind, Coleman chose a spot in Dauphin County along the Conewago Creek at the foot of the South Mountains. Construction of the furnace stack began in May 1791 and was completed by November of that year.

A discussion of the historic documentation of Colebrook Furnace is in order at this point. Robert Coleman was well known for his good business sense and meticulous record keeping. The business records concerning production, income and expenses for Colebrook Furnace are well documented in original Daybooks, Accounting Ledgers, Time Books, Casting Books, Coal Books and so on. However, there is little specific mention regarding the construction of the other buildings besides the furnace stack itself. The work completed by carpenters and stone masons is noted, as is their payment but a description of just what building(s) was constructed is not present. Several well respected local historians have documented the iron industry in central Pennsylvania and Colebrook Furnace is included in their writings but numerous statements to the effect of "In 1791 Robert Coleman constructed Colebrook Furnace and the Colebrook Mansion nearby." provide no verifiable documentation that this is the correct date for the construction of the Colebrook Iron Master's House and related domestic buildings. The construction date range for the Colebrook Iron Masters House has been extrapolated from many sources of information and analyzed to provide a logical documentation of a possible timeline for the development of the Colebrook Iron Master's House property.

Additionally, the exact location of the Colebrook Furnace stack, the charcoal house, early workers housing and other buildings that specifically supported the iron operation has never been exactly determined. No drawings or written description of the complex layout have been located to date and historic sources indicate that all evidence of the furnace operation, with the exception of the mansion, stables, grist mill and "village", were dismantled and completely removed between 1858 and 1860. As

part of late twentieth century studies for a gas pipeline and a proposed sewer treatment plant, minimal archaeological work was conducted on land surrounding the intersection of Manheim Road and Elizabethtown Road but no below ground work was completed in order to determine the definitive location of the former industrial buildings.

While Colebrook Furnace was completed in November 1791, the adverse conditions of a cold winter made it impossible to complete the first blast until April 1792. In order for the first blast to take place, there would have to be, at a minimum, the furnace stack and a coal house as well as a stable for the animals working in the construction of the complex. The Colebrook Furnace Journal for December 1791 indicates that five carpenters were paid a total of one hundred and five pounds for a total of six hundred and thirty two days of work. As a comparison, in 1793 a carpenter and hands were paid a total of one hundred and forty five pounds for a total of seven hundred and sixty nine days of work at Joanna Furnace in Berks County.

There was obviously a considerable amount of construction taking place at Colebrook between 1791 and 1796. In the Colebrook Furnace Journal for March 1793 J. Rodgers is paid for over 78,000 square feet of "mason work" as well as seven days of plastering, stone cutting and setting up a house stove. Based on exterior measurements alone, the brownstone buildings of the Colebrook Iron Master's House total just less than 20,000 square feet. The Colebrook Furnace Day Book notes that a grist mill was constructed in 1793 which would have added approximately seven thousand square feet of masonry (the Colebrook Grist Mill is still standing approximately a quarter of a mile northwest of the Colebrook Iron Master's House on State Game Lands). Craftspeople were often paid a considerable period of time after work was completed. The cutting of stone, plastering and extensive masonry work may indicate that Rodgers was working on the grist mill and the Colebrook Iron Master's House during this time period. The work continued as the Furnace Journal for April 1793 recorded that carpenters were paid one hundred and twelve pounds for completed work. In the 1791-1796 time period there were many payments to various workers for stone cutting and hauling.

Throughout the 1790s Colebrook Furnace had considerable problems with the thirty foot stack walls of the furnace. They had to be rebuilt several times and this may account for some of the masonry work documented in the record books. In March 1795 Samuel John was paid for approximately 28,000 square feet of construction work, for building furnace stack walls, for repairing and completing two hearths and for pointing just over 9,000 square feet of "sundry" walls. After this payment from work at Colebrook Furnace, it is noted that Samuel John paid Elizabeth Furnace his full balance of one hundred and seventeen pounds. The 1792 record books of Joanna Furnace document that Samuel John and his brother Joshua were paid for building the stack at that Berks County furnace.

The 1793 tax records for Dauphin County document that Robert Coleman was taxed for a furnace, a mill and a house. This remains the case for over a decade at which point it appears that the furnace is taxed as an entire complex. The 1810 Dauphin County tax records show a grist mill, a saw mill and a furnace with a total value of $100,000.

It appears that the Colebrook Iron Master's House was completed by ca. 1793 and the addition by ca. 1795. A question remains about the construction timeframe of the domestic outbuildings. The house, with the addition, and the outbuildings were clearly sited to work well together but was this the plan from the beginning or was the addition constructed in a location that fit in with existing outbuildings? All of the buildings are stylistically coordinated with similar construction materials, design and details. The cast iron fence that surrounds the Colebrook Iron Master's House served as a means to enclose the house and related buildings as an entity removed from the industrial buildings of the Furnace. It also showcased an example of the decorative iron work that could be produced by Colebrook Furnace and other Coleman properties.

The spring trough and the stable may have been the earliest constructed buildings in the Colebrook Iron Master's House complex, with possibly a direct connection to the Colebrook Furnace. Lebanon County historian H.C. Grittinger in his 1902 "Iron Industries of Lebanon County" for the Lebanon County Historical Society writes that when the Furnace was dismantled in the late 1850s the village (likely the collection of wooden worker's houses), the mill, the "mansion" and the stables were allowed to remain. All other vestiges of the Furnace operation were completely removed and the property became known as the Colebrook Estate. The original part of the stable shares design characteristics with the other extant brownstone buildings in the complex including slightly finished brownstone on the main elevation, a side gable roof with wood shakes (originally) and the use of keystones on primary openings. In this location the stable may have been removed from the smoke and fumes of the furnace. The later, less well constructed, stable addition may have served as a storage area or another unknown purpose. The carriage shed was likely constructed by the mid to late 1790s as Colebrook became more productive and was host to more visitors.

The Coleman family retained ownership of the Colebrook Furnace and the subsequent Colebrook Estate from its construction beginning in 1791 until 1893 when all the assets owned by Robert Habersham Coleman were assigned to the Pennsylvania Trust Company. While four generations of the family had overall control of the Colebrook property, none of the Colemans made the Colebrook Iron Master's House their permanent home. As the house was being completed, Robert Coleman became father to a fourth son, Thomas Bird Coleman, who would eventually inherit Colebrook. It is likely that Coleman planned the original house at Colebrook, with its restrained elegance, as a future home for one of his sons while they learned the family business. Since this was not likely to happen for some years, the addition may have been constructed as living space for the manager of Colebrook Furnace.

The first manager of the Furnace and likely the first resident of the Colebrook Iron Master's House was Samuel Jacobs who was hired in the 1790s and remained at Colebrook until his death in ca. 1819. Jacobs is characterized as a cruel and vicious taskmaster in an 1869 poem by Philadelphian George H. Boker called "The Legend of the Hounds". The lengthy narrative tells a grisly tale of disobedient hunting dogs thrown into the fire of the Colebrook Furnace. Unfortunately this poem, be it fact or fiction, is frequently the only reference to Colebrook Furnace that can be easily located.

In 1825 iron master Robert Coleman, often called America's first millionaire, died in Lancaster at the

age of seventy two. His will divided his holdings between his four sons with the youngest, Thomas Bird (also seen as Burd) Coleman inheriting Colebrook and Spring Forge in York County where he and his wife Hannah had lived for a number of years. Thomas was known to be humane and charitable and he and Hannah had six children including sons Robert William and William. In 1830, after the death of his wife and two of his older brothers, Thomas brought his family back to the Cornwall Estate where he could oversee his controlling interest in Cornwall Furnace and in Colebrook Furnace. In 1836 Thomas Bird Coleman died suddenly of a heart attack at the age of forty three, leaving sons just ten and thirteen years old. Ann Coleman, the eighty year old widow of Robert Coleman, put her only remaining son Edward in charge of all the family's iron interests and brought Thomas's children to live with her in Lancaster.

In 1844 Robert William (R.W.) Coleman took over the family industry with assistance from his nineteen year old brother William. In 1846 William gained control of all the Coleman iron properties in York County and was put in charge of beginning to shut down Colebrook Furnace. The Furnace had been in a state of decline for several years and it was felt that the resources at Cornwall Furnace could handle the iron contracts. John Reynolds, a former Army officer from Lancaster, was charged with overseeing Colebrook Furnace and local attorney Samuel Small advised the brothers on various business ventures including the future of the Colebrook Estate.

Exactly who managed Colebrook Furnace between 1819 and 1836 is unknown for certain. In 1836 Henry P. Robeson became the manager after working as a clerk at the Furnace for two years. Robeson remained at Colebrook until 1843 when he went to Reading Furnace, which later became Robesonia Furnace. Robeson was followed at Colebrook Furnace by John Benson who would make the Colebrook Iron Master's House his home for almost forty years.

John Benson began his career as a laborer at Hopewell Furnace in Berks County where he came to the attention of owner Clement Brooke. Brooke observed that Benson had fine penmanship and was bright and dependable (not unlike a young Robert Coleman) and promoted him to furnace clerk. Benson apparently worked at several smaller furnace and forges before coming to Colebrook in 1843. Here he oversaw the day to day operations of the declining Furnace and, under the direction of Samuel Small and William Coleman, began to focus on the agricultural resources of the extensive Colebrook Estate which included some five thousand acres.

Benson kept careful records of all the activities of both the Furnace and the estate. His correspondence from R.W. Coleman and William Coleman references their visits to Colebrook for recreational purposes, including use of the newly constructed bowling alley, and requests for supplies from Colebrook for the estates at Cornwall. In 1854 R.W. Coleman wrote Benson to let him know that he and a group of friends would be visiting on March 8th and spending one night. Coleman asked that Mrs. Benson prepare a luncheon of cold meats and that the "ten-pin alley" be in order for use in the evening and after breakfast on the 9th. At the end of 1859 Benson noted that during the year he had sent William Coleman thirty seven chickens, one duck, two hundred and thirty eight ponds of butter and seventy eight dozen eggs.

In 1855 William Coleman married Susan Ellen Habersham in Savannah, Georgia. They returned to Cornwall and took up residence with William's bachelor brother R.W. They had two children, Robert Habersham Coleman, born in 1856, and Anne Caroline Coleman, born in 1858. In 1861, when the children were just five and three respectively, William Coleman died at the age of thirty five. In the midst of the chaos of the Civil War, R.W. Coleman was left with management of the entire Coleman iron industry, which he handled with the continued assistance of Samuel Small. Unfortunately, R.W. Coleman died in 1864 when Robert H. Coleman, the heir to the family fortune, was only nine years old. Samuel Small became the guardian of the children with regard to their ownership of the Cornwall Ore Bank Company. He and widow Ellen Coleman oversaw the management of Coleman properties as well as the education of the two young Coleman heirs.

All traces of the industrial buildings of the Colebrook Furnace had entirely disappeared by 1860. Colebrook Furnace had served the Coleman family well during the years of production. Between 1791 and 1848 Colebrook produced 114,000 tons of iron as compared to Cornwall's 116,000 tons during the same time period. In 1850 Colebrook Furnace ranked fourth in the country in iron production.

Several of the smaller Coleman former furnace properties, including the Colebrook Estate, turned to their agricultural resources, focusing on a particular specialty. At Colebrook it was imported thoroughbred cattle, most notably Devon and Durham herds. Benson was the recipient of a number of Pennsylvania agricultural awards in the 1860s and 1870s for the stock at Colebrook. An 1870 advertisement in the Lancaster *Intelligencer* offered Colebrook Estate "blooded stock" for public sale. John Benson managed the Colebrook Estate and resided in the Colebrook Iron Master's House until his retirement in 1880. He moved to Lancaster to live with his son and died there in 1885.

1880 would prove to be a tragic but important year for the Colemans and ultimately for the fate of the Colebrook Iron Master's House. In 1879 Robert H. Coleman finished his education, married Lillie Clark and returned to Cornwall to take over the family business. He worked with advisor Samuel Small to learn the intricacies of the business but soon traveled south in hopes of finding a more hospitable climate for his ailing wife. She recovered and the young Colemans began building a lavish mansion in Cornwall and Robert designed a modern furnace to be constructed in western Lebanon County and known as "Colebrook" after his great grandfather's first iron furnace. Sadly, Lillie Coleman died in 1880 and the newly constructed mansion in Cornwall was dismantled with the stone donated to build a new structure for St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Lebanon.

Robert H. Coleman consoled himself with work, restructuring the family's iron interests, developed the Cornwall & Lebanon Railroad and railroads in Florida and created a recreational park, a short distance from Colebrook, which became known as Mt. Gretna. In 1884 he remarried and became the father of five children. By 1889 Robert H. Coleman had amassed a fortune of over thirty million dollars however, after a series of financial losses and expensive legal decisions, his debts were placed in receivership with his brother-in-law Archibald Rogers. In 1893 Coleman and his family left Pennsylvania for good and settled in seclusion in upstate New York at Saranac Lake. In 1930 Robert H. Coleman died of tuberculosis and returned to Pennsylvania one more time to be buried at Laurel Hill Cemetery in

Philadelphia.

After the departure of John Benson from the Colebrook Iron Master's House in 1880, nothing is known about the residents of the house or the management of the estate until it was sold in 1905. In that year, the Colebrook Iron Master's House with just over thirty two acres of land was sold by Robert H. Coleman's creditors at public auction to Edward Youtz of South Londondary Township for $3,500. The Youtz family were long term residents of the area who had worked for the Colemans. They converted the Colebrook Iron Master's House into the "Mansion Hotel" which remained in operation until Prohibition in 1921. Much of their business came from the early twentieth century encampments of the Pennsylvania National Guard on land surrounding Colebrook, most of which is now part of State Game Lands. In 1948 Edward Youtz left the Colebrook Iron Master's House to his two daughters, Rosa M. Youtz and Mary Youtz Keener with the request that they make it their home. The property remained in the Youtz and Keener families until it was sold, with just over ten acres, in 1969 to Barry Bucks and his fiancée Susan Goodman. The Bucks married in 1970 and moved into the Colebrook Iron Master's House where they have raised their family and resided for forty years.

Architectural Significance

The Colebrook Iron Master's House is significant as an example of the late Georgian style of architecture in a rural setting, with support buildings that incorporate construction features and stylistic details of the main house. The Colebrook Iron Master's House was constructed in two parts from ca. 1791 to ca. 1796 by iron master Robert Coleman in conjunction with the opening of Colebrook Furnace in 1791. Although Coleman did not intend to live in the residence, he likely planned it as a future home for one of his four sons who would manage the Furnace as they learned the iron business. In the meantime, Coleman built a less formal addition possibly to serve as a home for the resident manager of Colebrook Furnace. All the buildings in the Colebrook Iron Master's House complex were constructed of brownstone that was quarried on the property and it is likely that most the materials for the house and the support buildings came from the Colebrook or Cornwall property owned entirely or in part by Coleman and featured ironwork made at one of his furnaces or forges.

The original Colebrook Iron Master's House and the slightly later addition have similar features that defined Georgian architecture in late eighteenth century America and hinted at stylistic changes that would shortly come with the advent of the Federal style. Both sections of the Colebrook Iron Master's House have side gable roofs, large finished pieces of brownstone at all the corners that provide a decorative quoin effect, symmetrical fenestration and multi-paned windows with thick muntins. The original house was simply yet elegantly designed to be impressive but not ostentatious. It is designed in a "half-Georgian" style with three bays including a side entrance instead of the more common five bays with a central entrance. The house has dentil detailing at the cornice on all elevations and pedimented gables. The windows have flat unadorned lintels with plain corner blocks and four-panel shutters on the first floor. The entrance to the Colebrook Iron Master's House has restrained Georgian detailing with a triangular pediment, a paneled wood door with four panel jambs and lintel and simple pilasters. Rarely seen but present on some late Georgian style houses is the divided fanlight over the entrance door of the

Colebrook Iron Master's House. As the Georgian style matured in America the overall presentation was less ornamental with simplified and more harmonious features.

The single pile addition to the Colebrook Iron Master's House has smaller windows but more lights with nine over six being the most common configuration. Stylistic details are Georgian inspired, yet simply designed and include paneled doors with plain surrounds, four light transoms on first floor doors, flat lintels with keystones over all bays and two panel shutters on first floor windows. The addition is pragmatically designed with multiple door opening to porches on the first two floors and dormers in the roof slope to provide light to the upper half story.

Simplicity of design extends to the interior of both sections of the Colebrook Iron Master's House although the late Georgian features that are represented were crafted with care and style. Most apparent are the deep fluted surrounds, with decorative corner blocks, on all doors in the original house and in a less formal design for doors in the addition. The windows of the original house have molded surrounds with corner blocks, four-panel jambs and lintels and low deep sills. The two fireplaces have large classically styled mantles with marbleizing used in the parlor and the master bedroom. Some of the windows on the east side of the addition have two-panel jambs and lintels. The second floor of the original house, with the exception of the master bedroom, and both the first and second floors of the addition have chair rails.

The late Georgian design of the Colebrook Iron Master's House represents the continued use of a well respected architectural style that conveyed a sense of sophistication and elegance that adapted to be a rural residence for wealthy but industrious people. Its simple pragmatic design worked well in a setting that combined industry with agriculture and the Colebrook Iron Master's House served as an example of excellent craftsmanship, stability and sophistication in rural eighteenth century Dauphin County, Pennsylvania.

Iron forges and furnaces were common sights in eighteenth century Lebanon, Lancaster and Berks counties. In addition to the industrial buildings, most of the furnaces and some of the forges had an iron master's house, often referred to as "the mansion" because of its scale as compared to the average worker's house. The iron community in south central Pennsylvania was competitive but it was also somewhat fraternal. The owners knew each other through employment as clerks for established operations became managers for newly established iron facilities and managers became owners as they purchased existing forges and furnaces or established their own. In rural settings, iron industry families socialized with each other resulting in a number of marriages with familial bonds intricately intertwined.

These relationships, both congenial and competitive, were reflected in the architectural style and size of the furnace and forge residences. Many of the region's iron masters were of English descent although very few came from wealthy backgrounds. The Georgian architectural style was a natural choice based on what they had been exposed to in Europe or as a style that conveyed sophistication, wealth and power. Architectural pattern books provided a basic plan and insight regarding details and stylistic features was interpreted furnace owners and crafted by talented builders, workmen, indentured servants

and slaves.

Like the Colebrook Iron Master's House, a number of the regional iron master's houses were constructed in two sections, usually reflecting different ownership of the furnace or forge. One of the earliest is the house at Hopewell Forge in Lancaster County constructed in ca. 1745 and ca. 1775 by owner Peter Grubb. The original house at the Forge is a small version of the Georgian style with a substantially larger addition. Although the Hopewell Forge house has Georgian features and details, the addition was constructed by Lancaster carpenter Michael Diffenderfer and its four bay design is decidedly Germanic interpretation. Interestingly, Hopewell Forge was Robert Coleman's first place of employment in the iron industry. He soon moved on to James Olds's Speedwell Forge in Lancaster County whose iron master's house was also designed in the Georgian style.

The iron master's house at Speedwell Forge was constructed in two section beginning in ca. 1760. The original house has Georgian features but its four bay exterior and somewhat awkward design also shows a Germanic influence that was likely the builder's interpretation. In ca. 1795 Robert Coleman, the new owner of Speedwell Forge, built a large two and a half story addition to the house that features Georgian details executed in a more refined manner. Interior stylistic features include window and door architraves, chair rails, wainscoting and corner fireplaces. There are also Federal style features found in the Speedwell mansion such as the use of rounded arches on doors, windows and cupboards. Coleman constructed the addition primarily because his son William was to live there while he was managing the Speedwell Forge to learn the iron business.

In Berks County, the Charming Forge Mansion was constructed in two parts in ca. 1749 and ca. 1780. Although it was originally a rather simple Germanic influenced design, the later addition is a formal five bay Georgian style house with a richly appointed interior.

At the time Robert Coleman built the Colebrook Iron Master's House, his home was at Elizabeth Furnace in Lancaster County. In the late 1780s he constructed an addition to the ca. 1763 Stiegel house at Elizabeth Furnace that featured Georgian details executed in a restrained manner. The construction of that house likely assisted Coleman in designing, planning and building both the original house and the addition at the Colebrook Iron Master's House.

The Colebrook Iron Master's House is significant for its late Georgian architecture that is unlike other regional examples and interpretations of the style. The three bay, double pile configuration provides a basis for the restrained Georgian detailing found throughout the exterior and the interior of the house. The two sections were designed to work together to provide a formal yet comfortable living space as well as a less formal space that was pragmatically planned for a comfortable lifestyle. Fortunately, the Colebrook Iron Master's House has retained its support buildings that further reinforce the attention that was given to the exterior and interior construction and detailing of all the buildings in the Colebrook Iron Master's House complex.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Beck, H.H. "Elizabeth Furnace Plantation". *The Journal of the Lancaster County Historical Society,* Vol. 69, 1965.

Beers, F.W., *County Atlas of Lebanon, Pennsylvania.* Philadelphia: F.A. Davis, 1875.

Benson, John. General Correspondence, 1864-1878.

Benson, John. General Correspondence, 1843-1861. R.W. Coleman & Company File, Coleman Papers, Lebanon County Historical Society, Lebanon.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
____previously listed in the National Register
____previously determined eligible by the National Register
____designated a National Historic Landmark
____recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
____recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
____recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

____State Historic Preservation Office
____Other State agency
____Federal agency
____Local government
____University
____Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _N/A_____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 9
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18	371316	4455266	3			
2				4			

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)
Beginning at the northwest corner of the stable, the property boundary travels north 151.25' to a point on the south side of Elizabethtown Road (S.R.241), then east 371.08' along the south side of Elizabethtown Road to a point on the west side of Manheim Road (S.R. 117) at its intersection with Elizabethtown Road, then south 420.09' to a point, then west 214.08' to a point, then south 125.09' to a point, then east 63.07' to a point, then south 109.91' to a point, then west 565' to a point, then north 517.78' to a point, then east 225.09' to the beginning.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
The boundary of the Colebrook Iron Master's House includes all acreage on the south side of Elizabethtown Road historically associated with the property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan M. Cabot

organization _____ date November 16, 2009

street & number 211 Hamilton Street telephone 717-564-5705

city or town Harrisburg state PA zip code 17102

e-mail suscabot@aol.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

  A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Colebrook Iron Master's House

City or Vicinity: South Londonderry Township

County: Lebanon **State:** Pennsylvania

Photographer: Susan M. Cabot/ Susan Bucks

Date Photographed: October 2008, October 2009

Description of Photograph(s) and number:
See Continuation Sheet

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Barry and Susan Bucks

street & number 5200 Elizabethtown Road telephone 717-964-3072

city or town Colebrook state PA zip code 17015

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Bibliography Continued:

Bining, Arthur C. *Pennsylvania Iron Manufacture in the Eighteenth Century*. Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, 1973 2nd edition.

Bitner, Jack. Mt. Gretna: A Coleman Legacy. Lebanon: Lebanon County Historical Society, 1990.

Bridgens, Hy. F. *Map of Lebanon County, Pennsylvania.* Philadelphia: Thomas S. Wagner, Printer, 1860.

Brown, Donald R., Chairman. *Lebanon County: A Post Card History*. Lebanon: The Lebanon County Historical Society, 1992.

Bucks, Barry and Susan, Personal Interviews, 2008-2009.

Colebrook Bowling Alley Score Books, 1849-1882. Two volumes on file at the Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg.

Colebrook Furnace Day Books, 1791 to 1830, 1837-1843, 1848-1858. Records on file at the Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg.

Colebrook Furnace Account, Ledger and Journal Books, 1791 to 1858. Records on file at the Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg.

Dauphin County Tax Records, 1791 to 1800. Records on file at the Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg.

Grittinger, H.C. "The Iron Industries of Lebanon County". *The Lebanon County Historical Society*, Vol. 3, 1902.

Jacobs, Suzanne Fellman. *The History of Joanna Furnace, 1791-1999*. Geigertown, Pennsylvania: the Hay Creek Valley Historical Association, 1999.

Kurjack, Dennis C. *Hopewell Village National Historic Site, Pennsylvania*. Washington: National Park Service, 1954.

Lancaster Intelligencer. "Public Sale of Blooded Stock", June 8, 1870, Page 3.

Lanier, Gabrielle M., Bernard L. Herman. Everyday Architecture of the Mid-Atlantic. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997.

Lebanon County Deed Records, Various Books, 1813-Present, Lebanon County Courthouse, Lebanon.

Miller, Frederic Keiper. *The Rise of an Iron Community: An Economic History of Lebanon County, Pennsylvania from 1740-1865*. Ann Arbor: University Microfilms, 1948.

The New York Times. "Robert H. Coleman Assigns". August 10, 1893.

Noble, Richard E. The Touch of Time: Robert Habersham Coleman, 1856-1930. Lebanon: Lebanon County Historical Society, Volume 16, Number 1, 1983.

Rifkin, Carole. *A Field Guide to American Architecture*. New York: Bonanza Books1980.

United States Direct Tax of 1798, Dauphin County, Londonderry Township. Records on file at the Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg.

United States Federal Census, *Seventh-Fourteenth Census of the Population of the United States, 1790-1920.* Heritage Quest Online.

United States Federal Census Agricultural Schedules, Lebanon County, 1850-1880. On microfilm at the State Library of Pennsylvania.

All of the photographs share the same information:

Name of Building: Colebrook Iron Master's House
County of Building: Lebanon County
Name of Photographer: Susan M. Cabot
Date of photograph: October 2009
Location of original negative: Susan M. Cabot, 211 Hamilton Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102

The enclosed photographs meet the NR-NHL permanence standard and were all printed using HP Vivera 95 Color Ink on HP Premium Plus photo paper on an HP Color Laser Jet Printer.

Photo 1 of 31. Façade of the ca. 1793 Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing south.

Photo 2 of 31. West elevation of the ca. 1793 Colebrook Iron Master's House and the ca. 1795 addition, facing southeast.

Photo 3 of 31. Original and current back door of the ca. 1793 Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing south.

Photo 4 of 31. Former original window of the ca. 1793 Colebrook Iron Master's House, made into a door with the ca. 1795 addition, facing northwest.

Photo 5 of 31. The east elevation of the ca. 1793 Colebrook Iron Master's House and the ca. 1795 addition, facing northwest.

Photo 6 of 31. The south elevation of the ca. 1795 addition to the Colebrook Iron Master's House and the ca. 1793 spring house, facing north.

Photo 7 of 31. The front entrance hall and staircase of the ca. 1793 Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing south.

Photo 8 of 31. The northeast corner and window in the parlor of the ca. 1793 Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing northeast.

Photo 9 of 31. The fireback in the fireplace of the formal dining room in the ca. 1793 Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing north.

Photo 10 of 31. An original back door of the ca. 1793 Colebrook Iron Master's House, now an interior door, facing southeast.

Photo 11 of 31. The dining room and kitchen on the first floor of the ca. 1795 addition to the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing northwest.

Photo 12 of 31. The ca. 1910 porch addition to the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing north.

Photo 13 of 31. The staircase landing between the first and second floors of the ca. 1793 Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing south.

Photo 14 of 31. The second floor hall of the ca. 1793 Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing north.

Photo 15 of 31. The north room of the second floor of the ca. 1795 addition to the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing east.

Photo 16 of 31. The center room on the second floor of the ca. 1795 addition to the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing north.

Photo 17 of 31. The center dormer hall of the third floor of the ca. 1795 addition to the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing east.

Photo 18 of 31. The three domestic outbuildings of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing east.

Photo 19 of 31. The original west side entrance to the spring house of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing east.

Photo 20 of 31. The north and west elevations of the kitchen house of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing southeast.

Photo 21 of 31. The cooking fireplace on the interior east wall of the kitchen house of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing east.

Photo 22 of 31. The east and south elevations of the privy of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing northwest.

Photo 23 of 31. The interior west wall of the privy of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing west.

Photo 24 of 31. The spring trough of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing east.

Photo 25 of 31. The east elevation of the stable and the south elevation of the carriage shed of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing northwest.

Photo 26 of 31. The east elevation of the original section of the stable of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing northwest.

Photo 27 of 31. The south elevation of the stable addition of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing north.

Photo 28 of 31. The west elevation of the stable of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing northeast.

Photo 29 of 31. The north elevation of the original stable and the north elevation of the carriage shed of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing south.

Photo 30 of 31. The first floor interior of the original stable of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, facing northwest.

Photo 31 of 31. The brownstone boundary column and ca. 1793 cast iron fence on the north side of the Colebrook Iron Master's House, looking east.