

= Mount Hope Estate =

Mount Hope Estate is a National Register of Historic Places @-@ listed property in Rapho and Penn Townships , Lancaster County , Pennsylvania , Lancaster County , Pennsylvania . The original estate was the center of operations of the Grubb Family Iron Dynasty during the 19th century and included over 2 @,@ 500 acres (1 @,@ 000 ha) , a charcoal iron furnace , a grist mill , housing for employees and tenants , plus supporting structures such as a post office , a general store , a railroad station , a school and a church . The existing mansion and grounds remain from what was once a thriving industrial headquarters complex and small village .

The mansion itself was originally constructed as a Federal @-@ style home by the prominent family of iron masters ; an 1895 remodeling transformed the structure with the addition of Victorian features . The mansion is constructed of locally quarried red sandstone , as are the outbuildings , which at one time numbered nearly 30 . The grounds is also notable for its pre @-@ 1840 American formal garden , of which there are very few surviving . The estate currently hosts the Mount Hope Estate and Winery , the Swashbuckler Brewing Company , the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire , and other events held throughout the year (see below) .

= = History = =

The estate was the home and center of operations of the Grubb Family Iron Dynasty during the 19th century . The Mount Hope Grubbs were from an early American family whose founder , John Grubb , had come to America from Stoke Climsland , Cornwall , England and settled in Delaware . John 's youngest son Peter Grubb came to the local area about 1734 , when he discovered the vast iron deposits in Lebanon County and purchased 300 acres (120 ha) . By 1742 he had founded the highly successful Cornwall Ironworks , named to recall his father 's ancestral home . By 1783 the family 's holdings covered 10 @,@ 000 acres (4 @,@ 000 ha) . The property was split several times among heirs , and various lands passed between the Grubb and Coleman families in the late 18th century . In 1784 , Peter Grubb 's youngest son Peter Grubb , Jr. purchased an additional 212 @.@ 5 acres (86 @.@ 0 ha) and built a charcoal furnace at a place that he called " Mount Hope " . Peter Jr. left the land to his two sons , who inherited a total of 2 @,@ 307 acres (934 ha) that were to become known as the " Mount Hope Estate " . His youngest son , Henry Bates Grubb , acquired his brother 's share and built the mansion by 1805 .

The Grubbs were locally prominent by at least 1784 , and from 1840 to 1870 were the leading iron manufacturers in Pennsylvania , with Mount Hope Estate serving as the center of their operations . During this period the estate played host to many leading Pennsylvanians including the Shippen family , Episcopalian ministers including Bishop William White and Bishop Alonzo Potter , and other leading ironmasters including Robert Coleman . At the Grubb family 's height in the mid @-@ to @-@ late 19th century , the estate included a charcoal furnace , mill workers ' houses , Mount Hope Episcopal Church (also called Hope Church , and " principally erected for the Grubb family ") , the mansion , many stone outbuildings , and large formal gardens .

After the death of Henry Bates Grubb , the estate was managed by his widow , Harriet Amelia Buckley Grubb , until her children reached adulthood . In 1848 ? 49 , at a cost of about \$ 2 @,@ 000 , she had an Episcopal church , known today as " Hope Church " , erected on the property , " for the moral and spiritual uplift of the tenants on her estate and the employees of the Mount Hope Furnace " . In 1885 , Clement Brooke Grubb , one of Henry 's sons , purchased the mansion and surrounding land for \$ 300 @,@ 000 from the heirs of his younger brother , Alfred Bates Grubb . That October , Clement gave the church and churchyard to the Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania .

Upon Clement 's death , he left it to his daughter , the last descendant of the Grubb family to own it , Daisy Elizabeth Brooke Grubb , who renovated the 32 @-@ room mansion in the Victorian architectural style . After Daisy 's death , the property was subdivided and passed through numerous owners until Charles Romito purchased the mansion and immediately surrounding land for \$ 1 million in 1980 to open a winery .

== Mount Hope Estate and Winery ==

After planting the vineyards and vinting wines , Romito opened the Mount Hope Estate and Winery in 1980 . To promote his new business the first year , Romito hosted several events including an art show , a bluegrass concert , a fifties revival , a country @-@ western weekend , a classical orchestra concert , and a one @-@ day modern jousting tournament . The jousting tournament was so popular that Romito held a two @-@ day renaissance festival the following year in the winery 's parking lot , and gradually expanded this into a permanent attraction , the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire . The property was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1980 , and in 1991 the boundaries were increased as part of the Iron and Steel Resources of Pennsylvania Multiple Property Submission (MPS) .

== Swashbuckler Brewing Company ==

The Swashbuckler Brewing Company , founded by Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire general contractor Scott Bowser , has operated on the grounds since 2000 , and has an annual capacity of 1 @, @ 200 barrels . The company also has a brewpub on the faire grounds , called the Swashbuckler Brew Pub , which serves up its own beers . Bowser has described the beers as " middle of the road , " saying " ... we 're not going for medals . We can 't ; we can sell out completely on a big , hot weekend . " The pub is also open from October through November during theater hours .

== Architecture ==

Two distinct architectural styles are visible in the Estate . Originally constructed in the Federal style for Henry Bates Grubb between 1800 and 1805 , Mount Hope Estate was the most formal ironmaster 's mansion built in the area between 1750 and 1850 . In 1895 , Daisy Grubb oversaw significant changes , adding a Victorian ballroom , a billiard room , chandeliers , and parquet floors , and converting original hinged doors to sliding doors , while still maintaining much of the original construction , including the original facade and fireplace mantels .

== Exterior ==

The south @-@ facing two @-@ story facade , made of locally cut red sandstone , remains substantially unchanged from the original 1800 ? 05 construction . The wooden porch running the length of the facade appears to be a reconstruction , as part of the 1895 remodeling , of a similar original porch .

The entire west end of the house went through substantial changes in the 1895 remodelling . This included the construction of a striking three @-@ story bay window rising to an octagonal turret with a patterned roof , and a two @-@ story bay window near the southwest corner . The most significant additions made during the 1895 remodelling are located at the rear (north) of the house . These include a conservatory with a polygonal glass dome , a greenhouse just east of the conservatory , and an enlarged kitchen . The eastern end of the house was also remodeled in 1895 , in locally cut red sandstone to match the facade . Aside from several gothic arches from the original construction , the entire visible structure at this end was built in 1895 .

== Interior ==

The interior of the mansion , like the exterior , is a mixture of original 1800 ? 05 construction and decoration , blended rooms , and Victorian construction and decor .

The entry hall is almost entirely original construction . Nearly all the woodwork and decoration in this area dates to the 1800 ? 05 period , with the exception of several balusters and newel posts on the spiral staircase , which were Victorian replacements . The major change to the entry hall was the construction of false walls , allowing the conversion of the original hinged doors into sliding doors .

The second floor central hall and Washington Room (on the second floor , in the southeast corner) were also changed very little in the renovation .

The dining room , on the other hand , saw extensive remodeling in 1895 . The room size was increased by the construction of a bay window , parquet floor was installed , and the room was decorated in cherry woodwork , with a gilt and crystal chandelier and sconces . The only original item remaining left in the room was the fireplace mantel . The Pink Room , named for the pink damask which covered the walls in 1895 , the library , the Best Chamber (Daisy Grubb 's bedroom) , was also extensively remodeled .

A number of new rooms were added to the house as part of the 1895 work . A billiard room and ballroom were added in the rear of the house , and several ornate bathrooms were added on the second and third floors .

= = Grounds = =

= = = Outbuildings = = =

At one time there were nearly 30 outbuildings on the estate , as well as a wall surrounding the estate , all constructed of the same locally quarried red sandstone as the mansion , " of which there seems to be an inexhaustible supply on the estate " . Some of the buildings , like Hope Church , are on property that was given away or subdivided over the years , and today , only four remain on the estate , all located to the north (rear) and northeast of the mansion .

The smokehouse is a square two @-@ story building with a hipped roof , and is believed to date to the early 19th century . East of the smokehouse , a 11 ? 2 @-@ story building with a three bay facade and a gabled roof was used as a post office in the late 19th century , and may have served as a schoolhouse originally . The manager 's farmhouse stands 21 ? 2 stories high and is L @-@ shaped with a porch . The springhouse is also 21 ? 2 stories .

= = = Gardens = = =

The overall plan of the gardens , based on English formal gardens , can be traced to the original 1800 ? 05 construction . Although some flower beds , ornamental urns , and the round fountain in front of the mansion were installed at the time of the 1895 remodeling , the overall plan was not changed , leaving the garden as " a very rare and largely intact example of a documented American formal garden predating 1840 . "

= = Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire = =

In 1980 , a jousting tournament was held in the parking lot of the newly opened winery , followed by a two @-@ day Renaissance fair the following year . This gradually expanded to become the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire , which is now held over 12 weekends and draws more than 250 @,@ 000 patrons annually . Featuring a recreation of a 16th @-@ century Tudor village , a replica of the Globe Theatre , Shakespearean plays , musical acts , and artisans fashioning period items such as pottery and potpourri . In 1998 , the faire was named one of the top 100 motorcoach @-@ accessible events in America by the American Bus Association .

= = Other events = =

In addition to hosting the Renaissance fair , the grounds are opened to the public for a number of other events . Tours of the mansion and wine tastings are available throughout the year . Each June , the site is used for the Celtic Fling and Highland Games . The Fling features traditional and modern Celtic music , food , crafts , demonstrations and competitions , and a feis is also held . The Highland Games are officially sanctioned by the Mid @-@ Atlantic Scottish Athletics Association , and include

standard events such as caber tossing and hammer throwing .

In late fall and early winter , the mansion is host to several theatrical performances . From the end of October to mid @-@ November , Poe Evermore , a storytelling event based on the works of Edgar Allan Poe is held . Between Thanksgiving and Christmas , Victorian Christmas or A Dickens of a Christmas , the telling of the story of A Christmas Carol , is performed .