

Basic Detail Report



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Title Sign for Spencer's Inn

Date 1810

Medium Paint on unidentified softwood board, frame of ash or chestnut, unidentified hardwood, gold leaf, iron hardware

Description Images: on both sides, the state seal of Pennsylvania (an eagle atop a shield displaying a ship, a plow, and three sheaves of grain); no underlying image

Text: on side 1: on upper rail, "1810" over [1810]; on lower rail, "I,

SPENCER" over [I, SPENCER]; on side 2, both rails have thick black paint layer

over [1810] and [I, SPENCER] Construction: Single board, suspended from top

rail; horizontal rails with integral pediment and skirt; turned posts. Board is

hand-sawn into an oval shape with scalloped edge; oriented vertically. Board

has two battens, tapered along the edges and from end to end, inset across one

side to counteract warpage, a practice occasionally encountered in furniture

and painted panels. Battens appear to be original to the board. Each horizontal

rail is tenoned through the turned posts and secured with two pins. The rails

extend up and down to form a decoratively-shaped pediment and skirt (now

missing). Applied moldings are nailed to the faces of the rails, forming a

rectangular frame for text.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width including hardware): 51 1/4 x

23in. (130.2 x 58.4cm) Other (height x width of sign only): 46 1/2 x 20 3/4in. (118.1

x 52.7cm)