

CHESTER TIMES – January 10, 1927 – ASK STATE TO BUY
COLONIAL SITE – Senator and Representative to Back Bill for Property in This
City

Senator Albert Dutton McDade and Representative William c. Alexander will present a bill in the present session of the legislature for the purchasing of eight acres of land, including the Washington headquarters on the Baltimore Pike at Chadd's Ford, this county, and that the properties be taken over and dedicated to the commonwealth.

Mr. Alexander said today that it is the desire of the American Legion posts throughout the country that the bill be passed at this time, as it is the intention of the American Legion to hold a sesqui-centennial September 9, 10, and 11, the year, on the battlefield of Brandywine, which will be the anniversary of the battle of the Brandywine.

The Washington headquarters was the property of Benjamin Ring, and the old farm house, as it was at that time, was used by General Washington as his headquarters.

It is believed on very good authority, that the battle of the Brandywine saw the American flag unfurled in battle the first time. It is claimed by historians that the American flag was first used September 3, 1777, at Cooch's Bridge in the state of Delaware. This, however, was only a skirmish, and General Washington was not engaged at that point.

The American flag was adopted June 14, 1777, and the battle of the Brandywine was the first thereafter in which General Washington had personal command.

It is said that the battle of the Brandywine was the bloodiest of the war. It will be remembered that General Lafayette was wounded at the battle of the Brandywine, and that Count Casimir Pulaski, a Pole fought at Brandywine.

The American Legions of the nation plan to have, as participants in the sesqui-centennial, not only representatives of the United States Government, but representatives from the French, British and Polish governments and also representatives from the states which had troops engaged at the battle of the Brandywine.

President Coolidge and Governor John S. Fisher of Pennsylvania will be invited to deliver addresses.

Dr. Farrell, a past commander of the Bernhard F. Schlegel Post, No. 134, West Chester, first proposed the plan to make Washington's headquarters a patriotic shrine and has worked for the project for several years, acting in the name of the local Post.

The dinner guests included: Senator Albert Dutton MacDade and Mrs. MacDade, Representative William C. Alexander and Mrs. Alexander, Deputy

District Commander of the American Legion, Robert W. Neall and Mrs. Neall, the
Commander of the Schlegel Post, Samuel Wesley Long and Mrs. Long.

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION