The son of a German immigrant, Peter Wentz II, and his wife Rosanna established their farmstead on 300 acres of land inherited from his father, Peter Wentz I, by 1744. The red stone farmhouse was completed in 1758 and combined an English Georgian floor plan with architectural details that reflect the Wentz's German heritage.

George Washington used the Wentz Farmstead as the headquarters of the Continental Army two times during October, 1777. His staff included personal servants, a 50-man security force known as Washington’s Life Guard, his aide-de-camp, and a military secretary. The surrounding landscape of Worcester was occupied by as many as 10,000 troops.

At the close of the Revolution, the national economy struggled, and agricultural markets slumped. Peter Wentz sold his farm to Devault Bieber in 1784 and moved to a smaller house in Whitpain. In 1794 Bieber sold the farm to the Reverend Melchior Schultz, a minister of the Schwenkfelder Church. The farm remained in the Schultz family for 175 years. The farm and the house interior were updated and modernized over time, but the house exterior changed comparatively little. The Schultz family is credited with the preservation of the farmstead and much of the history that has passed down through the years. The County of Montgomery purchased the property in 1969, and began the research and restoration project which led to the opening of the house by July 4, 1976.
Earliest residents of the area were members of the Eastern Woodland Nations. They hunted and fished, built villages, and cleared fields to grow crops, including corn, beans, and squash. Projectile points and stone tools found in fields and near water sources document their presence. As more colonists settled in the area in the mid-1700s, the Indigenous peoples were forced out.

Crops were grown for the family’s use, for sale, or to barter for other goods. Flax provided fiber for linen clothing and household uses. Apples and pears were harvested for eating and cooking and could be pressed for cider. A garden yielded vegetables for cooking and herbs for seasoning foods and for medicinal purposes. Wheat, corn, rye, hay, and straw are all field crops grown for use at home and for sale to others.

Animals supplied both food and labor. Horses were ridden and trained to harness, and oxen pulled plows and carts. Cows were bred and supplied milk to drink and to be made into butter and cheese. Sheep supplied wool for cloth for warm clothing and bedding. Chickens gave a steady supply of eggs.

Farming demanded long hours of hard labor, and everyone on the farm worked. Indentured servitude or purchase of enslaved people were two means landowners used to secure help. Three tax records and three ads in the Pennsylvania Gazette document the presence of two indentured servants and two enslaved Black men on the Farmstead between 1766 and 1779.

The County of Montgomery restored the house to the era when it served as Washington’s headquarters. The farm buildings, livestock, and kitchen gardens represent early Pennsylvania German farming culture and practices in the region. You are welcome to:

- Visit for a tour of the historic house and farm
- Walk along the 1.25-mile nature trail
- Enjoy programs and events year-round