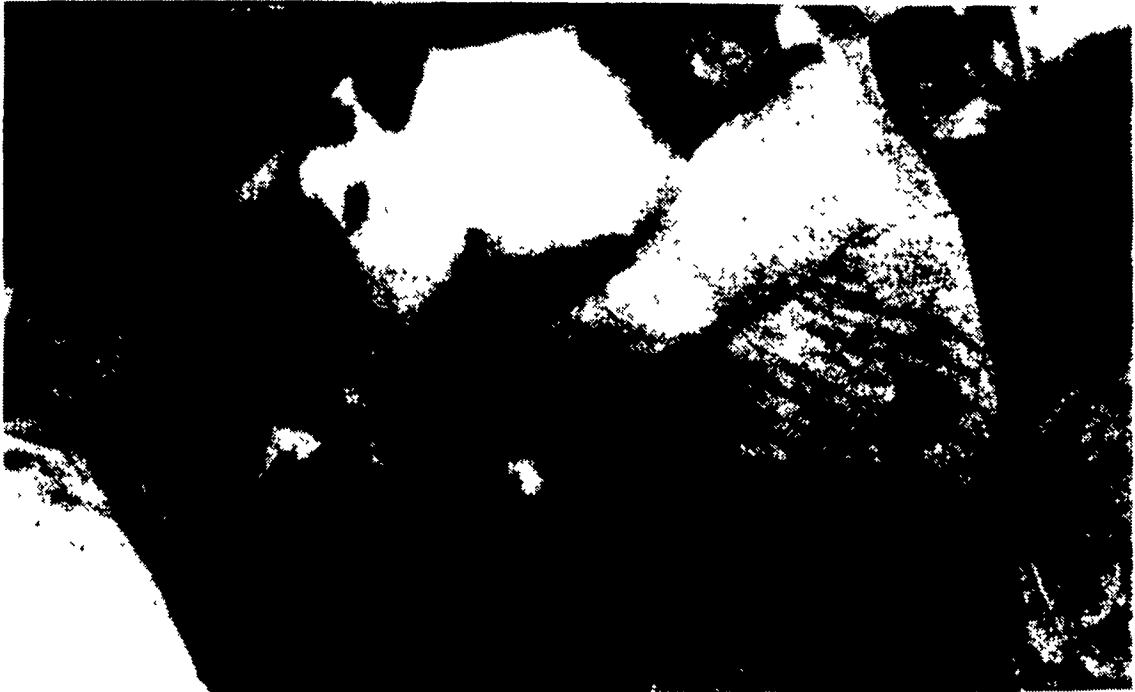


Kid's KOrner



The prickly skin of an Osage orange fascinates this little one. The tour guide explained that many years ago farmers planted a line of the Osage trees that worked as a nature's barb wire. The jagged bark extended from the tree trunks and formed a barrier.



The children got a chance to milk one of the goats. One nursery school child complained, "Hey, I can't squirk any out." He learned it's a lot harder to milk a goat than it looks.

Visit Springton Manor Farm

BY LOU ANN GOOD

WEST CHESTER (Chester) — Many children grow up and seldom see a cow or goat or pig. They don't understand how vegetables grow or what a plow looks like.

That's one of the reasons for Springton Manor Farm. It's a real working farm on 300 acres in Chester County. School groups, families and others can visit and watch such things as the goats being milked and the vegetable garden being tended by a tenant farmer. Visitors can pet horses, cats and other animals and tour the nature trail.

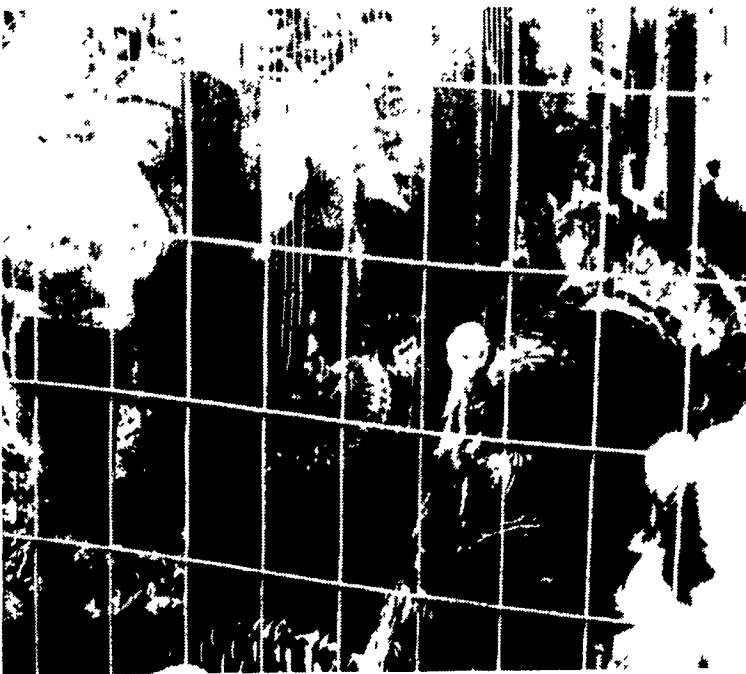
The land was part of William Penn's estate in the 1700s. In 1833 a country manor house was built on the property by former U.S. Congressman Abraham McIlvaine. In 1912 George Bartol turned the mansion into a stately showplace. The mansion can be rented for private parties and public functions, but the grounds can be toured during the farm tour season. The farm includes 16 historic

farm buildings and an historic farm exhibit in addition to the farm animals and petting zoo.

Recently a nursery school called Childrens Corner visited the farm

while we snapped pictures of them.

If you would like to tour the farm, call 215 942-2450 or 215 431-6415 for fees and further information.



These turkey gobblers spread their feathers to show off their multi-colored coats to the children who watched. The Springton Manor guide explained that the feathers of the male geese, chickens, peacocks and turkeys are always prettier and more colorful than the females.



"Oink, oink," said this pig when roused from a nap. The children liked poking his hairing skin.



The Childrens Corner from Chester plopped on the hillside by the barn and talked about such things as the difference between a pony and a horse, and how the farmer stores corn in the corn crib and prepares the soil for planting.



Three little boys exclaim over the softness of a rabbit.