



Simon Cameron, Lincoln's first Secretary of War, four times United States Senator, Ambassador to Russia, czar of Pennsylvania's political hierarchy, enjoyed an active public life that extended from 1820 to 1877. It was said that "No politician of his generation understood the science of politics better. . .none enjoyed greater power; none had more success."

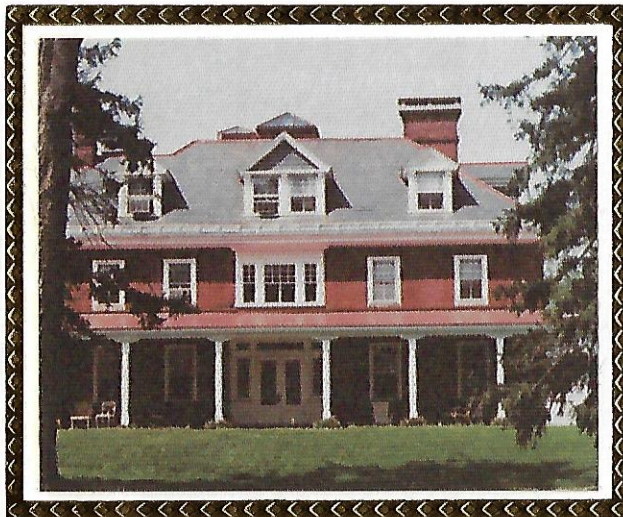
In his later years, Cameron developed a pride in his Scotch ancestry and showed a sentimental attachment to the area around Donegal Springs and Maytown — the site of his birth. And though he had already amassed several estates near Harrisburg prior to the Civil War, he set to work purchasing the old glebe farms surrounding the Donegal Presbyterian Church on which his grandfather and great-grandfather worked.

The elegant mansion that now serves as The Cameron Estate Inn was originally built in 1805 by Dr. John Watson, great-grandfather of President McKinley, as one of the largest homes on the Susquehanna frontier. It was purchased by Simon Cameron in 1872, enlarged and renovated, and was regarded with wonder and admiration by many notables of American history.

"The Mansion" remained in the Cameron family for three generations. James Donald Cameron, who succeeded his father as Senator and served as Secretary of War under President Grant; James McCormick Cameron, grandson and president of the Camerons' Dauphin Deposit Bank, and Mary Cameron, granddaughter, civic benefactor and last of the clan, all made their contributions to the family homestead.

Today, under the thoughtful guidance of proprietors Abe and Betty Groff, this historic estate has been restored to its original splendor. Its 18 beautifully appointed rooms for overnight guests, and award-winning restaurant featuring American and European Country cuisine, seem untouched by the passage of time. The Inn is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and featured in the prestigious "Country Inns & Back Roads."

Colorano "Silk" Cachet



CAMERON ESTATE

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