

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic WILLIAM SEEL BUILDING

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 319 Market Street not for publication

city, town Harrisburg vicinity of congressional district 17

state Pennsylvania code 42 county Dauphin code 043

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Goldberg, Evans Katzman, ATTENTION: Paul Ziegler

street & number 319 Market Street, P. O. Box 966

city, town Harrisburg vicinity of state Pennsylvania 17108

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dauphin County Courthouse

street & number Front & Market Streets

city, town Harrisburg state Pennsylvania

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1-24-80 federal state county local

depository for survey records Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

city, town Harrisburg state Pennsylvania

7. Description

Condition
 excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one
 unaltered
 altered

Check one
 original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located on Market Street, Harrisburg's major commercial thoroughfare, the William Seel Building is on a corner lot between a large state office building and several small run down commercial establishments. It is a narrow four story four bay building constructed of brownstone and brick. The c. 1950's enameled metal storefront has been removed to reveal the original brownstone. Two very elegant arches were uncovered, but the original storefront is no longer extant. The original storefront was recessed approximately 4" to 6" back from the outside faces of the brownstone. Plug holes and paint line tracts of the original storefront are visible on the jambs and soffits of the arches.

The brownstone below the second floor level has never been painted, but it has been defaced somewhat by the storefront attachment. Large brackets were located above the first floor corners, but only the bases remain. The brownstone above the second floor has been painted. Windows above the first floor consist of large one over one sash with single pane transoms above. The banks of windows are separated at each story by ornamental recessed panels.

The building is surmounted by a handsome overhanging cornice, supported by corbels and large ornamental brackets at the corners of the front and side facades. The sides of the building are brick except for the brownstone arch and pilasters on the alley facade. Stucco was recently applied to the three upper floors on the alley facade.

Very little remains of the original interior. Some vestiges of the original terazzo floor are visible, and there are some remains of the original pressed sheet metal ceiling and cornice.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1912-13

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The William Seel Building is one of the few remaining early 20th century brownstone commercial buildings in downtown Harrisburg. Many of its counterparts have been demolished, or are threatened with demolition in the near future. This building has been purchased by a local law firm, which plans to restore the brownstone exterior and rehabilitate the interior.

The building was constructed between 1912 and 1913 by William Seel, a local merchant. It replaced a one-story frame house. At first, the building houses "Waller and Seel Wines and Liqueous" but in 1919 Seel leased the building to the Kinney Shoe Corporation. The Kinney Shoe Store opened by February of 1920, and remained in the building until the decline of the Harrisburg commercial district in the 1970's. William Seel owned the building until his death in the early 1970's, at which time it was given in trust to the Sylvan Heights Home for Orphan Girls, Inc. and Paradise School, Inc.

The building is representative of the type of commercial architecture once common in Harrisburg, but now becoming increasingly rare. As the two historic photographs illustrate, the building has largely maintained its integrity while its neighbors have suffered from the pressures of urban renewal. It is a handsome example of early 20th century commercial architecture.

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .06

Quadrangle name Harrisburg West, Pa.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	8	3	4	0	1	2	0	4	4	5	8	2	7	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

Zone				Easting				Northing						

E

Zone				Easting				Northing						

F

Zone				Easting				Northing						

G

Zone				Easting				Northing						

H

Zone				Easting				Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet L. Bassett

organization PHMC

date

street & number P. O. Box 1026

telephone

city or town Harrisburg

state Pennsylvania 17120

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

ED WEINTRAUB

title Director, Office of Historic Preservation

date 10/21/80

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

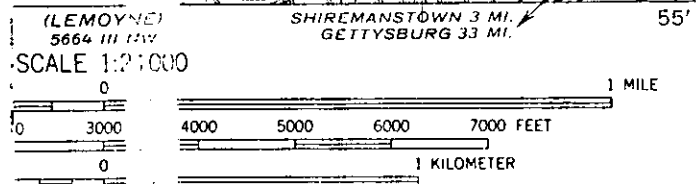
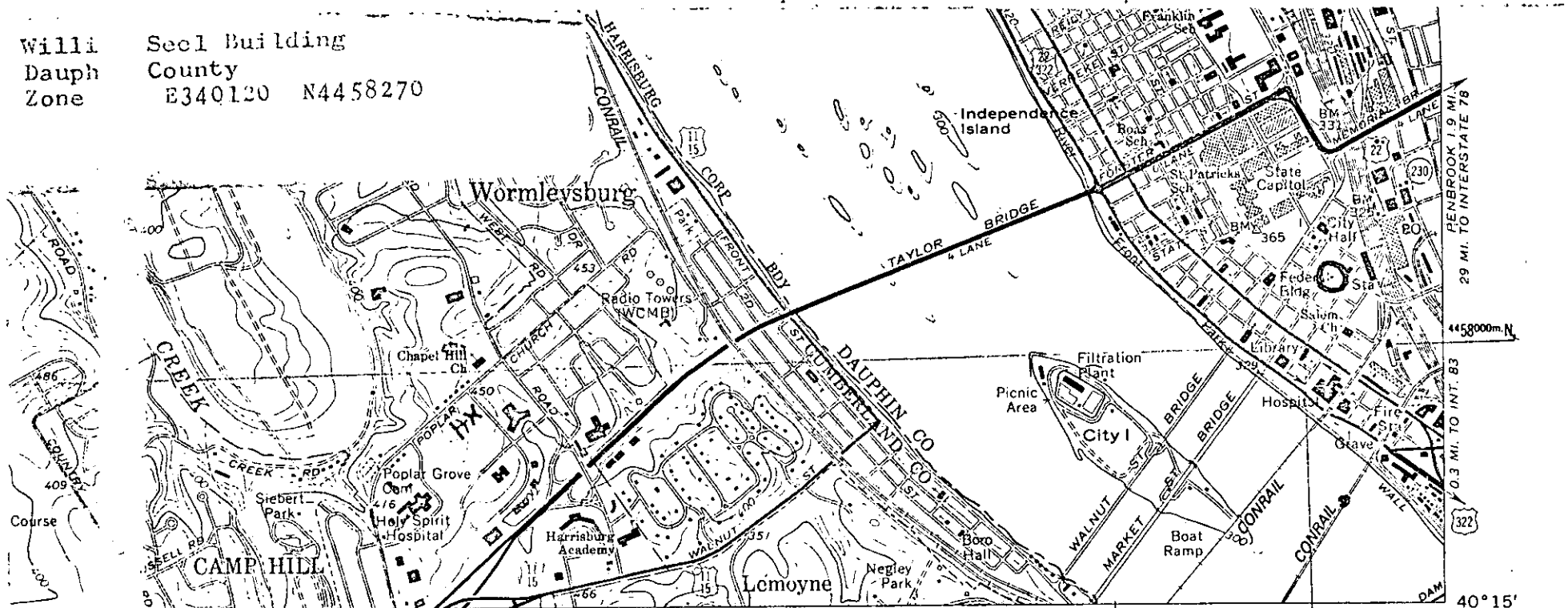
Accepted by the National Register

Attest:

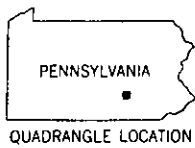
date

Willi
Dauph
Zone

Secl Building
County
E340120 N4458270



VERTICAL INTERVAL 20 FEET
DETTIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

TO NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
FOR MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
State Route	

HARRISBURG WEST, PA.
SW/4 HARRISBURG 15' QUADRANGLE
N4015—W7652.5/7.5

1969
PHOTOREVISED 1974
AMS 5664 IV SW—SERIES V831

(STELTON)
5664 III NE