

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Jenkins Homestead

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

137 Jenkins Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Lansdale

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

13th

STATE

Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF

CODE  
42

COUNTY

Montgomery

CODE

091

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

DISTRICT  
 BUILDING(S)  
 STRUCTURE  
 SITE  
 OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC  
 PRIVATE  
 BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
 IN PROCESS  
 BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

OCCUPIED  
 UNOCCUPIED  
 WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
 YES: RESTRICTED  
 YES: UNRESTRICTED  
 NO

## PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE  
 COMMERCIAL  
 EDUCATIONAL  
 ENTERTAINMENT  
 GOVERNMENT  
 INDUSTRIAL  
 MILITARY  
 MUSEUM  
 PARK  
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
 RELIGIOUS  
 SCIENTIFIC  
 TRANSPORTATION  
 OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Borough of Lansdale

STREET &amp; NUMBER

421 West Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Lansdale

STATE

Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Airy and Swede Streets

CITY, TOWN

Norristown

STATE

Pennsylvania

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Inventory of Historic and Cultural Resources

DATE

1975

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Montgomery County Planning Commission

CITY, TOWN

Norristown

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

The Jenkins Homestead is a five bay, 2½ story stucco over stone dwelling. The (south) front facade has two entranceways, one centrally placed and leading into the hallway and the second, one bay to the right and leading into the kitchen. An open one story, two bay porch projects from the two front entrances. The north facade has an irregular four bay spacing. This is most clearly seen on the second story of four windows; one window is set lower to light the stair well landing. The ground level has been altered somewhat with the east most window now a doorway. A small wood frame enclosed entranceway extends from a second, centrally placed, entrance.

At the gable ends, the original window placement is visible and very irregular. On the east wall, the first story windows, are placed near each corner. One is 2-over-4 and the second, originally 6-over-6, has been expanded to accommodate two windows. The second story has only one window, 6-over-6, at the back. There are two 2-over-4 windows at the attic level. The west gable end is somewhat more regular with a 6-over-6 window near each corner at each level, and two 2-over-4 windows at the attic level. At the first floor rear, a one story, one bay wide wood frame extension replaced that window.

The residence has a through central hallway with a stairwell to the back and two large rooms to either side. The kitchen has a small enclosed stairwell. Each gable end wall has a large internal stone chimney. There is a full basement under the left three bays of the house and only a crawl space under the two bay kitchen side.

Today the interior has been greatly altered, with the fireplaces closed in and used as closets. There are plans, however, to restore much of the residence.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

John Jenkins III

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Jenkins Homestead, although undated, was probably built in the early 19th century by John Jenkins III.

The Jenkins family settled in the area in 1746 when Jenkin Jenkin (grandfather) from Wales bought land in the Montgomery - Gwynedd townships area, to the south of Lansdale. John Jenkin, Jr., father of John III, was a second Lieutenant during the American Revolution and fought in the battles of Germantown and Trenton, among others.

John Jenkins III received ownership of the property in 1805 from his father and the Jenkin Homestead was probably built shortly afterward.

The homestead, the oldest structure in the original borough of Lansdale, is also a fine example of a farmstead of an English Vernacular. Its very regular Georgian plan and internal chimneys are characteristics of this kind of building. The double doors on the southern facade, often termed Germanic, is indicative of the rural adaption of a high styled prototype. The Jenkin Homestead maintains most of its original character and fabric and, as such, is an excellent example of the rural Pennsylvania farm dwelling.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bean, Theodore W., History of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. 1884  
 Jenkins, Howard M. Historical Collections Relating to Gwynedd. 1897  
 Price, Charles H., Jr. "A Study Paper on the Jenkins Home and the Jenkins family." (Lansdale Historical Society)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .3 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>18</u>	<u>475020</u>	<u>4454990</u>	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Inez Early Lincoln & Joseph DelCiotto  
Madeline L. Cohen, Curator/

ORGANIZATION Pa. Historical & Museum Commission/Lansdale Hist. Society DATE 1976

STREET & NUMBER P. O. Box 1026 / TELEPHONE P. O. Box 293 (717) 787-4363

CITY OR TOWN Harrisburg, Pa./ STATE Lansdale, Pa.

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL    STATE    LOCAL X

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

DATE 12/21/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
 ATTEST:

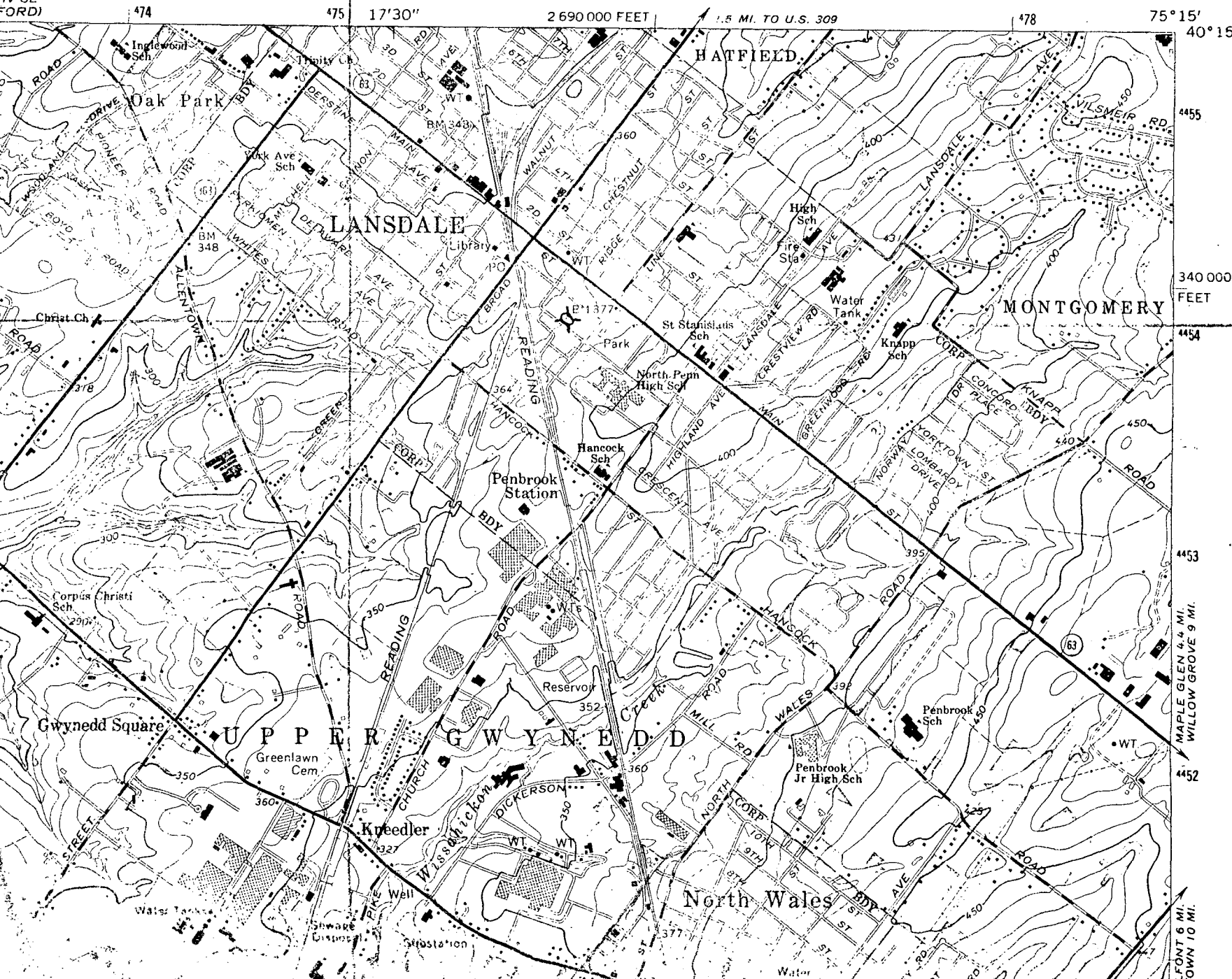
DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

LANSDALE QUADRANGLE  
 PENNSYLVANIA—MONTGOMERY CO.  
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
 NE/4 NORRISTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE

5964 1 SW  
 (DOYLESTOWN)

IV SE  
 (FORD)



75° 15'  
 40° 15'

4455

340 000  
 FEET

4454

4453

4452

MAPLE GLEN 4.4 MI.  
 WILLOW GROVE 9 MI.

FONT 6 MI.  
 TOWN 10 MI.

JENNIS HOMESTEAD - Montgomery County  
 ZONE 18 475 020 4454 990