

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

1. Name

historic LADY WASHINGTON INN

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number 2550 Huntingdon Pike NA not for publication

city, town Lower Moreland Township N/A vicinity of

state Pennsylvania code 42 county Montgomery code 091

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

4. Owner of Property

name Fetters Mill Square, Inc.

street & number 2536 Walton Road

city, town Huntingdon Valley NA vicinity of state Pennsylvania 19006

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse

street & number Airy and Swede Street

city, town Norristown state Pennsylvania

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 9-7-79 federal state county local

depository for survey records Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

city, town Harrisburg state Pennsylvania

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____ N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Lady Washington Inn is a 2½ story, stucco over stone and frame structure, composed of three sections. The front or oldest section of the building dates from 1761, the center was built ca. 1780-85, and the rear frame addition was constructed ca. 1850-75. The original section's 18" stone walls are stuccoed on the exterior with plaster applied to the masonry. The center portion's 16" stone walls are treated during the 18th century in this part of Pennsylvania. The mid-19th century frame addition is constructed of clapboard over studs with plaster over wood lath in the interior.

The front section, which includes the tavern room and parlor and contains much of the original woodwork and hardware as well as four fireplaces, is 6 bays by 2 bays with a gable roof and large gable end chimneys. Three gable-roofed dormers pierce the front facing roof slope. These dormers have 6 over 6 windows and unusual star decorated bargeboards (dating for this decoration is uncertain). Two deeply panelled door-ways are located on the front facade. Windows are 6 over 6 on the second story with louvered shutters and 2 over 2 on the first story with panelled shutters. As can be seen in early photographs, the one story porch which once surrounded the front and east sides has been removed.

Both center and rear sections are 2½ stories high and have gable roofs. The rear frame addition, which contains kitchen and laundry facilities, is 3 bays wide, faces west, and has a one story porch.

Aside from the removal of the deteriorated front porch, there have been no modifications of the building's exterior since the 19th century. Interior alterations on the first floor of the original section involved removal of a partition in the parlor as indicated on the floor plan and removal of a circular stairway and enclosure in the southwest corner of the tavern room. Except for the addition of appliances and laundry facilities and the modernization of plumbing fixtures, the first floor of the center and rear sections remain as originally built. Alterations to the second floor involved the removal of a partition in the south bedroom of the front section, the installation of a bathroom and closet complex in the center section, and the addition of another bathroom at the rear. Finally, the attic area was at one time divide into seven stalls for the use of farmers and other transients seeking economical accommodation. These partitions have been removed and the sheathing used to construct the garage that stands behind the house. The garage was built sometime after 1920 when the Inn was converted to residential use. The land included in this nomination is approximate 1 acres. This is the parcel historically associated with the Inn (now including a 20th century garage as well). Plot plan enclosed shows a recent subdivision; property has since been rejoined under single ownership.

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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input checked="" 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 1761, ca., 1780-85, c. 1850-75 Builder/Architect UNKNOWN

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Lady Washington Inn is significant as a well preserved example of a rural way-station for farmers who from the beginning of the 18th century to the turn of our own regularly brought their grain to be ground into flour at the mills along the Pennypack Creek. The Lady Washington is the sole survivor in a chain of inns that once lined an important North-South route--variously known as the Middle, Oxford or Wrightstown Road--from agricultural central Bucks County to the Pennypack Mills and thence to Philadelphia. The connection of the Inn with milling is evidenced by the fact that Austin's Mill, later Walton's Mill, erected prior to 1747, stood on a tract of land adjacent to the Lady Washington. The earliest innkeeper on record was Jonathan Austin (d. 1796), a member of the milling family.

The origins of the Middle Road (now Huntingdon Pike) can be traced back to 1709 when residents of Southampton (Bucks County) petitioned the court for a road "towards the new mill on the Pennypack, which is likely to be our chief market." The road was extended in sections throughout the 18th century forming a continuous route from New Hope to Philadelphia. Middle Road was "turnpiked" in the 1840's and 50's from the Anchor Tavern in Wrightstown (Bucks) to the Philadelphia line and remained a major throughout the 19th century for the transport of agricultural produce to mill and market. It is worth noting that the ca. 1850 expansion of the Lady Washington corresponded to the completion of the turnpike from Fox Chase through Huntingdon Valley to Richborough (Bucks) in the 1950's.

In addition to its role in local commerce, the Lady Washington served as a center for social/potitical congregation and community affairs. From 1823 to 1829 the Moreland Post Office was located here and during the late 19th and early 20th centuries the Lady Washington was a poplurar center for political and business meetings.

* W. W. H. Davis, The History of Bucks County, Pennsylvania (Doylestown: 1876) p. 211.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property .5

Quadrangle name Frankford, PA-NJ

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	8	4	9	4	5	6	0	4	4	4	1	3	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 Norman W. Fesmire

organization Penickpacka Historical Society date

street & number 165 Propert Drive telephone 215-947-0763

city or town Huntingdon Valley state Pennsylvania 19006

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.

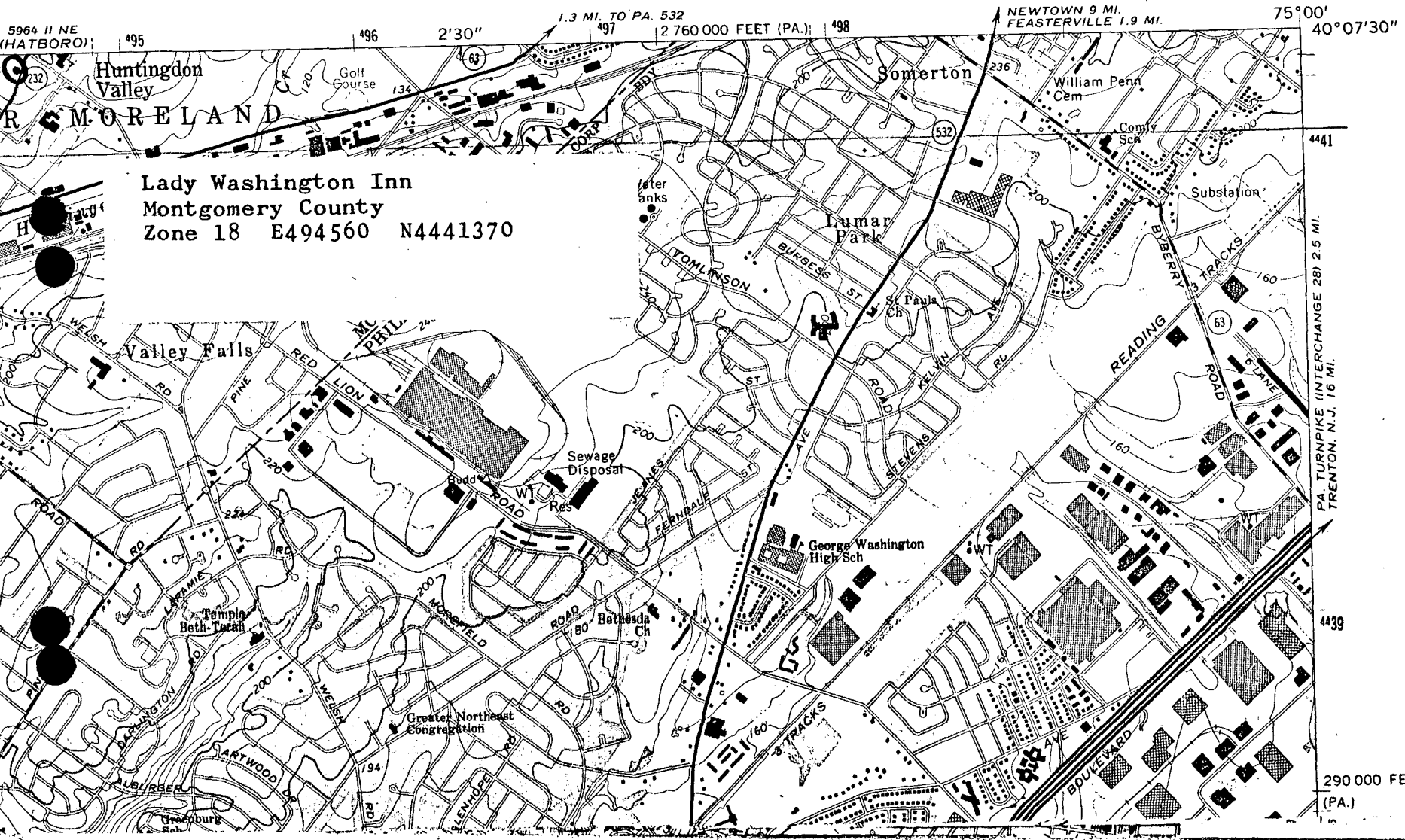
State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title ED WEINTRAUB, Director date 12-10-79
Office of Historic Preservation

For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	date
Keeper of the National Register	date
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

FRANKFORD QUADRANGLE
PENNSYLVANIA-NEW JERSEY
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

6064 111 NW
(LANGHORNE)



Lady Washington Inn
Montgomery County
Zone 18 E494560 N4441370

PA TURNPIKE (INTERCHANGE 28) 2.5 MI.
TRENTON, N.J. 16 MI.

290 000 FEET
(PA.)