

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC PETER HERDIC RESIDENCE

AND/OR COMMON

USE THIS COPY
FOR DUPLICATING

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
407 West Fourth Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Williamsport

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

17th

STATE
Pennsylvania

CODE
42

COUNTY
Lycoming

CODE
081

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input 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 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
Commonwealth Bank and Trust Company

STREET & NUMBER
333 Market Street

CITY, TOWN
Williamsport

VICINITY OF

STATE
Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Lycoming County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
48 West Third Street

CITY, TOWN
Williamsport

STATE
Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE
July 3, 1978

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN
Harrisburg

STATE
Pennsylvania

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Two and one half story house built of stucco over brick in Italian Villa style in 1855-56. The approximate length is 78', width 56'. Height, first floor has ceilings 12'5" and 10'; second floor 9'9" and 10'5" with cupola on top of front section.

In 1955 or 6 a modern appendage containing three offices and two additional apartments was added. This we plan to remove. The original facade still exists.

The Italian Villa style is complete with bracketed eaves and a large square cupola, and ornate window moldings. Windows are narrow and round-headed which are grouped rather than spacial at set intervals. It has four porches, one of which remains, and features Egyptian Lotus Columns, the lower portion of the columns having groves and leaf-like outward curls. The capitals are similar to the Corinthian style, but not as heavily adorned with acanthus leaves.

In the interior, there are three lovely bay windows on each floor. A long hallway extends the width of the house flanked by four archways. A circular opening in the hall allows you to look up into the cupola. There has been some fire damage which is repairable. Several ceilings have decorative plaster moldings.

PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC	ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1855-56

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Peter Herdic/Eber Culver

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Peter Herdic house was built in 1855 or 56 and designed by Eber Culver. It is of the Italian Villa Style, complete with bracketed eaves, ornate window moldings, and a large square cupola. It has four lower porches with "Egyptian Lotus" columns, the lower portion of the columns having grooves and leaf-like outward curls. The capitals are similar to the Corinthian style, but not as heavily adorned with acanthus leaves. The house was surrounded by an intricate wrought iron fence.

Peter Herdic's house, situated on West Fourth Street, was part of "Millionaire's Row" which was a direct result of the foresight, intelligence and ambition of Peter Herdic himself. Eventually, he owned most of West Fourth Street which he developed.

In 1853, Peter Herdic came to Williamsport which was a country town of 2,000. Soon after his arrival "his dynamic personality and restless energy infused new life into the community and every branch of business and industry was renewed and invigorated". He was the "power behind the throne" in just about every city enterprise from 1853-1888. He built houses, business blocks hotels, and churches. He purchased the gas works, constructed the water works, and erected a hotel, the Herdic House, a very pretentious structure for the time; then, he induced the Pennsylvania Railroad to locate its station adjoining it and built a streetcar line from the hotel to center city. One of his greatest feats was to gain control of the log boom with Mahlon Fisher and John G. Reading. In this venture he made 2½ million dollars by raising its tolls. This was at the peak of the lumber era when the log boom was virtually the toll-gate of the lumber industry. He also organized the Lumberman's National Bank, started a rubber works, a brush factor and nail works, the Maynard Street Bridge and the "West Branch Gazette and Bulletin".

He had Williamsport incorporated as a city in 1866 and by fantastic manipulation had Newberry annexed without the residents of that area being aware of it until the feat was accomplished. In the fall of 1869, he was elected the 4th Mayor of Williamsport.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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PETER HERDIC HOUSE

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Peter Herdic's fortunes rose and fell during that "gilded age" of the last half of the 19th century, but in his time of prosperity he built the beautiful Trinity Episcopal Church and presented it to the congregation. He also gave lots for the Congregational Church, the Church of the Annunciation, the First Baptist Church, the First Evangelical Lutheran Church, and contributed generously toward building the Jewish Synagogue.

"To Peter Herdic, more than to any other man, belongs the credit of awakening the sleepy little country town that was Williamsport in 1853 and transforming it into a thriving city".

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See Continuation Sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .3

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 331620 4567100
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Nan Young

ORGANIZATION

Millionaire's Row Historical Homes, Inc.

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

311 West Fourth Street

TELEPHONE

326-3000

CITY OR TOWN

Williamsport

STATE

Pennsylvania

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE ED WEINTRAUB, Director
Office of Historic Preservation

DATE

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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PETER HERDIC RESIDENCE

CONTINUATION SHEET

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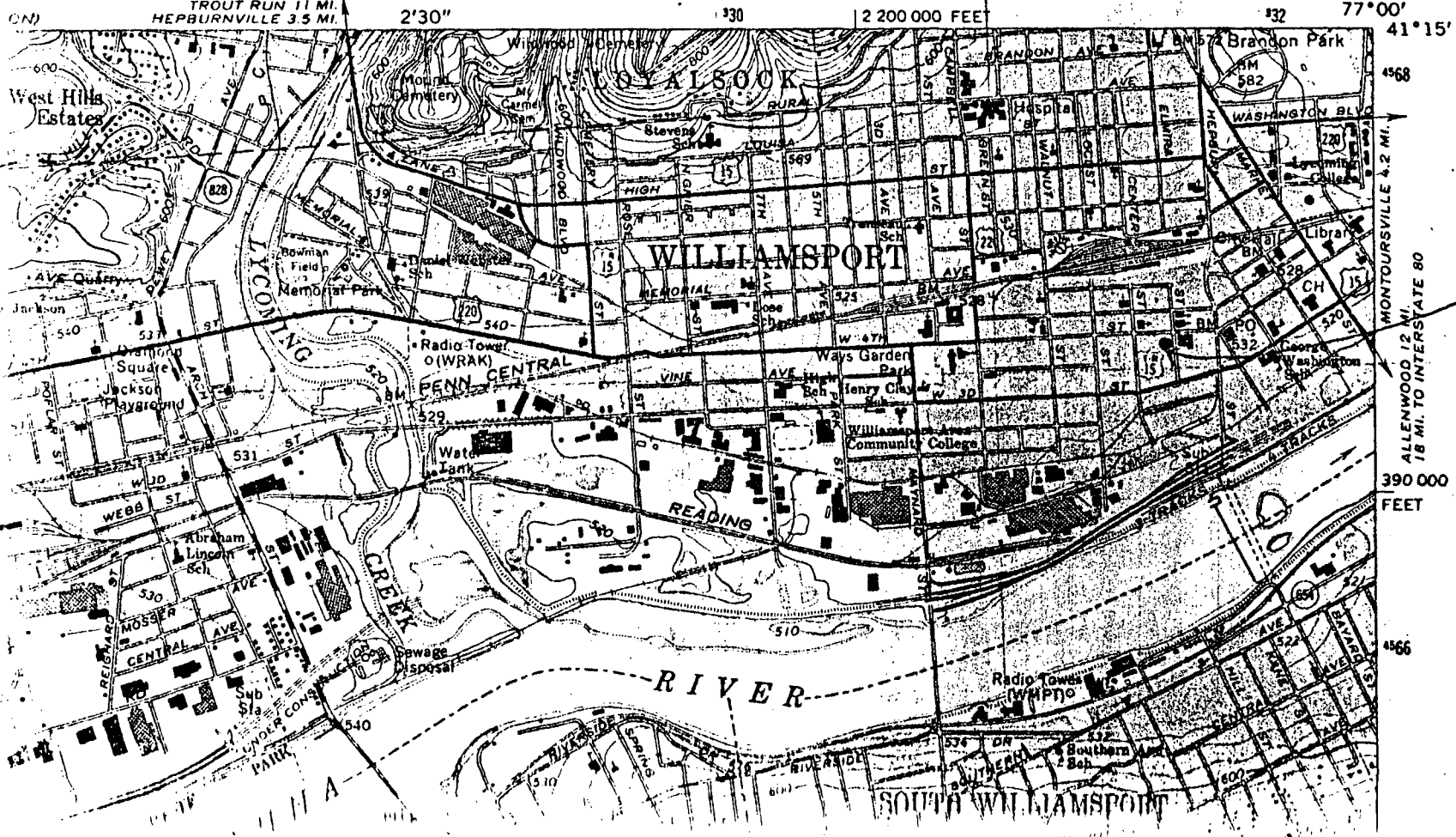
Beginning at a point in the south line of West Fourth Street, 74 feet west of Elmira Street; thence by land now or formerly of A. D. Hermance, south 170 feet to an alley; thence by the same west $75\frac{1}{2}$ feet to the southeast corner of land now or formerly of Hiram M. and Lemuel M. Ulman; thence by the same north 170 feet to the south side of West Fourth Street; thence by the same east $75\frac{1}{2}$ feet to the place of beginning.

PENNSYLVANIA
MENTAL RESOURCES
OLOGIC SURVEY

Plankenhorn Stationery Co.
Williamsport, Pa. 17701

WILLIAMSPORT QUADRANGLE
PENNSYLVANIA-LYCOMING CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NE/4 WILLIAMSPORT 15' QUADRANGLE

5666 IV SW
(MONTOURSVILLE NORTH)



4568
MONTOURSVILLE 4.2 MI.
ALLENWOOD 12 MI.
18 MI. TO INTERSTATE 80
390 000
FEET

*Peter Herdic
Residence*