

**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 Fireman's Drinking Fountain

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 500 Block, Main Street not for publication

city, town Slatington vicinity of congressional district 15

state Pennsylvania code 42 county Lehigh code

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 type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name Hose Company #1

street & number Fourth & Church Streets

city, town Slatington vicinity of state Pennsylvania 18080

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Lehigh County Courthouse

street & number Fifth and Hamilton Streets

city, town Allentown state Pennsylvania

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 8/22/80 federal state county local

depository for survey records PHMC

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

The Fireman's Drinking Fountain is a twelve-foot (12') high monument which serves as a public drinking fountain. It is located on Main Street in the center of the Borough of Slatington. The statue is seven-foot, three inches (7'3") tall and depicts a volunteer fireman (CA. 1910) holding a child in his left hand and a lantern in his right. The statue was purchased from J. W. Fiske Iron Works, New York, New York and is listed in their catalogue as "No. 500D, Fireman, by Buberle." It is made of zinc (90-95%), Lead (2.4%), cadmium (.28%), iron (.09%), copper (.08%), magnesian (.01%), and a trace of tin. The statue is painted and the lantern is illuminated with an electric bulb at night.

The base is four-foot, nine inches (4'9"0 high and contains a public drinking fountain, a horse trough, and a dog basin. The base was purchased from E. T. Barnum of Detroit, Michigan.

The original cost of the Fireman's Drinking Fountain was \$700.00.

The base was struck by an automobile in 1940 and the horse trough was damaged beyond repair. It was not replaced at that time.

The Fireman's Drinking Fountain was struck by an automobile again on October 28, 1979. This time the statue was toppled from its base, the head severed, and the body cracked. Through a tremendous community effort the Fireman's Drinking Fountain has been restored to its original form. The statue has been repaired and repainted, the horse trough has been recast from old photographs, the water has been reconnected, and the site has been improved with new curbing, protective posts, and two flag poles.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates 1909

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Fireman's Drinking Fountain was erected in 1909 and dedicated in 1910 by Hose Company #1, Slatington. The purchase price was raised through the donations of many local residents. The purpose of the Drinking Fountain was four-fold: a drinking fountain for people, a drinking area for horses, a drinking area for dogs, and a symbol of volunteer service, vigilance, and humanity. Its erection was motivated by a desire to provide a public water source on Main Street, Slatington. A crude watering trough had been abandoned years earlier.

The statue of a fireman holding a young child is unique in that it does not memorialize deceased fireman, but instead honors the living. The volunteer spirit in Slatington and other communities brought about the creation of volunteer fire companies and ambulance corps. This statue honored that spirit of vigilant service. The volunteer spirit continues today as Slatington and the Northern Lehigh Area is served by outstanding volunteer fire and ambulance companies.

The importance of this statue to Slatington and the region was realized when it was damaged in October, 1979. A massive regional effort was launched to restore the statue. Under the guidance of Hose Co. #1, money raised, work completed, and the Fountain rededicated on July 19, 1980. Contributions were received from near and far and the project was completed without the use of tax dollars. The widespread support of this project shows that people still honor the volunteer spirit and that the Drinking Fountain represents a living, growing community. It is the symbol of Slatington and the Northern Lehigh Area.

9. Major Bibliographical Reference

County Records. Rededication Booklet, July 19, 1980. Examination by Robinson Iron Works, Alabama.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .0035

Quadrangle name Palmerton, Pa.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---|---------|----|---|----|----------|----|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 8 | 4 | 48 | 2 | 20 | 4 | 51 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 0 |
| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | |

B

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| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | |

C

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| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | |

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| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | |

G

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| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | |

H

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| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Zone | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification

Starting at a point on Northside of Main Street moving west 8.75 ft.; then SW 15 ft. then S 10 ft.; then in an arch to starting point 17.5 ft.

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 David H. Johnson David D. Altrichter

organization Restoration Committee date

street & number R.D. #1, Box 616 telephone 215-767-1592 or 767-8113

city or town Slatington state PA 18080

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 

Larry E. Tise
title State Historic Preservation Officer date 10/5/81

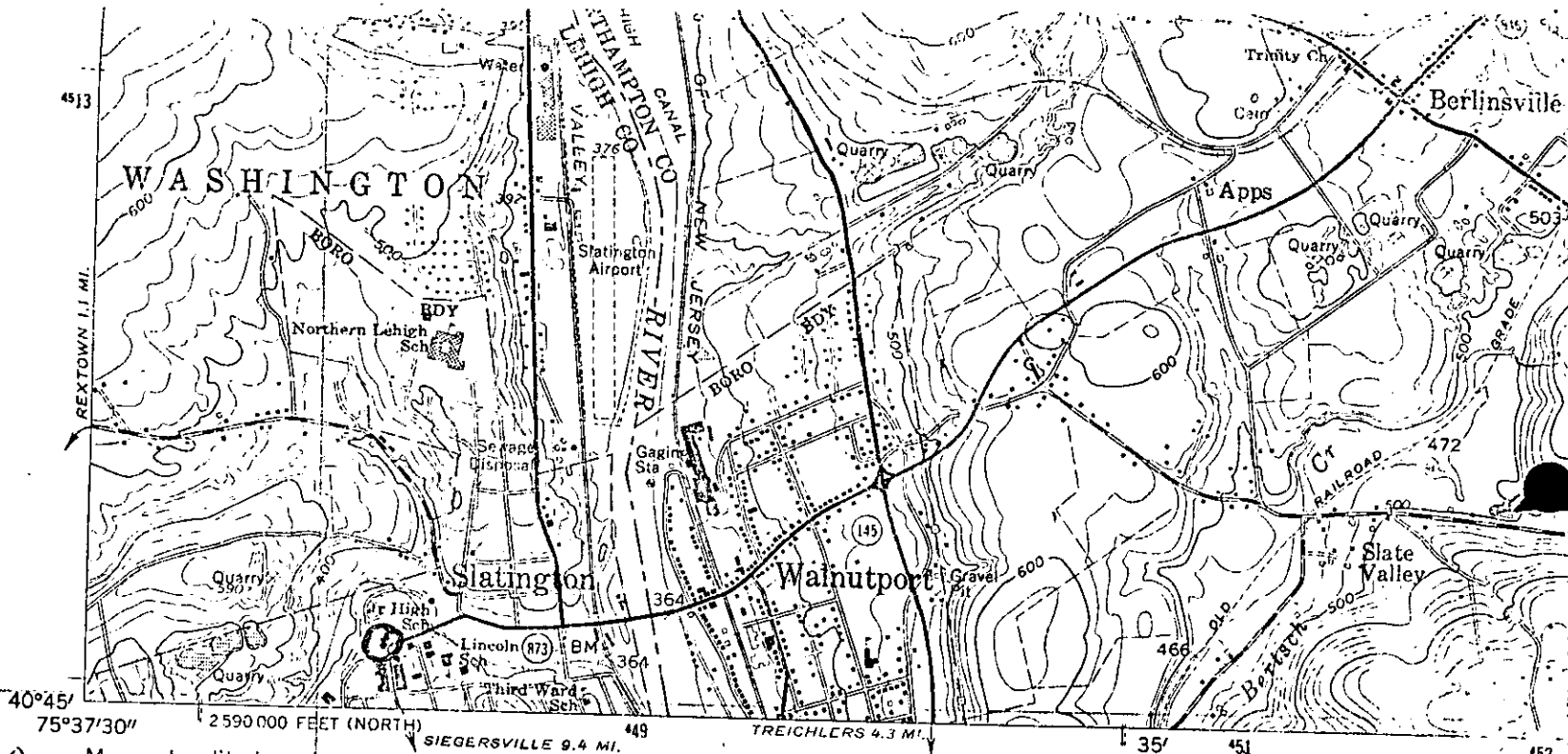
For HCRS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

FIREMAN'S DRINKING FOUNTAIN
 LEHIGH COUNTY
 Zone 18 E448220 N4511170



(SLATEDALE)
 5885 11 NW

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

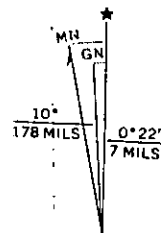
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
 Aerial photographs taken 1951-1952. Field check 1960

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grids based on Pennsylvania coordinate system,
 north and south zones
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 18, shown in blue

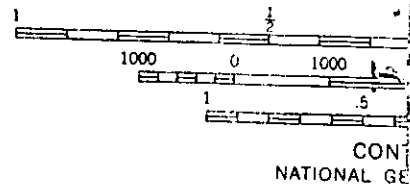
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
 generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

Purple hatching indicates areas to be submerged by Beltzville Lake
 at elevation 628 feet. Areas covered by dashed purple pattern
 are subject to controlled inundation to 651 feet



UTM GRID AND 1970 MAGNETIC NORTH
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



THIS MAP COMPLIES
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GE
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGR