

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

OL

20

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC DILLINGERSVILLE UNION SCHOOL and CHURCH ASSOCIATION

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Zionsville Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Zionsville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

15th

STATE

Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF

CODE

42

COUNTY

Lehigh

CODE

077

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<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 Union School and Church Association

STREET & NUMBER

R. D. #1, Zionsville Road

CITY, TOWN

Zionsville

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania 18092

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Lehigh County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

455 Hamilton Street

CITY, TOWN

Allentown

STATE

Pennsylvania

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

8/8/74

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania 17120

# 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 fourth and present structure was constructed in 1885. Built of native fieldstone this one story structure has a Bangor slate gable roof and an projecting entranceway with gable roof and frame bell cupola. The structure is rectangular in shape and measures 52 feet by 30 feet. The long walls (52 feet) have five bays. Windows are four over four, double hung sash with plain wooden frame and sills as well as panelled shutters. The entranceway is located in the projecting stone section located in the third bay. The doorway itself has a wooden frame with a panelled door. The square bell tower has louvered openings and an octagonal sphere topped by finial weathervane. Small two over two attic windows are located in the gable ends.

The interior is entered through a pair of doors from the vestibule. The long interior can be divided by a suspended wall, headed down from the ceiling, creating two distinct classrooms. The ceilings and walls are plastered, the Potter also has four foot high, pine wainscoating. Coat peg rails are located about a foot above the wainscoating. The floor is of uniform width pine boarding. Two pot-bellied stoves, one for each classroom, stand in the center of the floor. The stove pipes rise through the ceiling to a pair of brick chimneys located along the roof ridge. A large eight light kerosine chandelier is located in the ceiling at the center of the room.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 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

1885

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

**ABSTRACT:** The significance of this structure lies not only in its fine Germanic architecture but in its history as an educational facility.

In 1734, a group of Lutheran settlers secured a warrant to a tract of land of 29 acres 137 rods. Their hopes were to use this tract of land for a church and school. In 1735 they built their first church. The original structure was log and was used also for a school soon after its construction. The church at this time was known as Upper Milford and was jointly used by the Lutherans, Reformed and Mennonites. During the early 1700's this area of Lehigh county was considered a remote, mountainous and poor area. The survival of this religious congregation and other remote congregations depended upon the deligence of the local people and the rare and infrequent visits of preachers. From 1745, the Upper Milford Congregation as other small frontier Lutheran congregations in the area was ministered to by Henry Melchior Muhlenberg and his assistants. This congregation did not have a full time minister until the late 1760's.

On February 21, 1799 the members of the three local denominations met in the log church/school and formulated plans for the construction of a new more permanent structure. The second school was built in 1799, half of the building was used for school purposes, the other half as a dwelling.

In 1844 the citizens of Upper Milford adopted the public school system. The Upper Milford church/school was rented for use as a public school and was then known as the Dillinger Schoolhouse.

In 1845 the three congregations; Lutheran, Reformed and Mennonite, officially recorded the church land and structures on the property to be owned equally by all three congregations.

In 1848, a third school was built. In January of 1867, the three congregations formed a corporation through the Court of Common Pleas of Lehigh County to be known as the Union School and Church Association.

In 1870 the Association sold all but two acres of their original land (sold 27 acres, 97 rods). The proceeds were used as a fund to conduct free summer school.

In 1885 the fourth and present school building was constructed on the site still under the ownership of the Union School and Church Association.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

DILLINGERSVILLE UNION SCHOOL AND CHURCH ASSOCIATION - Lehigh County

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Significance: continued

In 1941 the Dillinger Schoolhouse was dropped from the public school system and since that time has seen use as a community hall, lawyers office and today as an community museum and educational resource.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Tappert, Theodore G. & John W. Doberstein, eds. The Journals of Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, Vol. I, II, III. Philadelphia: The Muhlenberg Press, 1942.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Milford Square, Pa. QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>18</u>	<u>4581560</u>	<u>4480260</u>	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

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 Mrs. Donald D. Doney, Sandra F. Eck, Mrs. Floyd Keim/Susan M. Zacher

ORGANIZATION Dillingersville Ladies Auxiliary/Pa. Hist. & Mus. Comm. DATE April, 1978

STREET & NUMBER R. D. #1, Box 437/ P. O. Box 1026 TELEPHONE 717-787-4363

CITY OR TOWN Zionsville/Harrisburg 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

*Ed Weintraub* 6-26-78

TITLE ED WEINTRAUB DATE

State Historic Preservation Officer

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

