

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 Slifer House or Slifer Mansion

AND/OR COMMON

Administration Building - Evangelical Home

2 LOCATIONSTREET & NUMBER $\frac{1}{2}$ mile S.E. off Rte. 15 on L.R. 59024
in Kelly Twp., 1 mile N. of Lewisburg

CITY, TOWN

Lewisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF

CODE
42

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

17th

COUNTY
UnionCODE
039**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 Lewisburg United Methodist Homes

Offices

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Lewisburg

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Union County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

2nd and St. Louis Streets

CITY, TOWN

Lewisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1975

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

William Penn Memorial Museum

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 Eli Slifer house is situated on a low bluff overlooking the Susquehanna River. Designed by Samuel Sloan of Philadelphia, the Slifer house is an imposing example of the Victorian country house.

The basic plan of the house is that of a large square with two rectangular wings attached to the rear of the building. The main section of the house is 2½ stories high and constructed of brick. A large overhanging hip roof with prominent cross gables surmounts this section. The main entrance to the house is located in the central bay of this 5 bay section. Windows on the first floor are large french windows. Those on the 2nd story are simple rectangular windows with flat stone lintels. A pair of round arch windows is located in 3 of the gables. Each end of the gables has carved molding and elaborate pendants and finials. A wide porch runs across the main facade and east side of the building. The porch is supported by carved columns and brackets. A 2nd story porch on the east of the building has more delicate and elaborately carved decorations.

Butted into the rear of the main section is a 4 story square tower. Corner pilasters are located on each level. Each side of the 3rd story is pierced by 3 rectangular windows while the 4th story has round arch windows. The steep pitched hip roof is supported by heavy brackets as are the small balconies attached to each side of the 4th story. The rear wing of the Slifer house is two stories high and largely devoid of ornamentation. A smaller one story wing was added at a later date.

Neither the exterior nor interior of the Slifer house has undergone serious alterations. The house was stuccoed 50 years ago and a new shingle roof has replaced the original slate roof. The original shutters have disappeared as has the original carved panel door on the main entrance. Several minor alterations were also made to the interior when the interior was converted to office space. The building is presently owned by the Lewisburg United Methodist Homes and is in a good state of repair.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

- PREHISTORIC
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899 ✓
- 1900-

- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE ✓
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION

- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT ✓

- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1861

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Samuel Sloan

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Eli Slifer house is an excellent example of Victorian architecture. Designed by the noted Philadelphia architect, Samuel Sloan, the Slifer house consists of a blending of architectural styles. An 1862 edition of Godey's Lady's Book featured the Slifer house and included plans and drawings of the house.

Eli Slifer (1818-1888) was a prosperous merchant and manufacturer in the Lewisburg area. Slifer built up a prosperous lumber industry and later turned to the manufacturing of farm implements and boats. In 1848 he turned to politics and over the years served in the state house and senate. He was elected State Treasurer in 1855 and again in 1859. In 1861 he resigned to accept a position in Governor Curtin's cabinet as Secretary of the Commonwealth. He remained Secretary until 1867 when he resigned for reasons of health.

Slifer built his country home in 1861 as the nucleus of a 280 acre farm and orchard. The farm was quite prosperous until the 20th century when it was subdivided. The Slifer house was bought by the Evangelical Association in 1916 which used the building as an old folks home and community hospital. Now owned by the United Methodist Homes, the building is presently surrounded by modern structures of this geriatric facility. A committee has been set up to study the possibility of restoring the building.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mauser, I.H. "Centennial History of Lewisburg", 1886. Pages 129, 130, 145.

Edited by T. Deans. "The Story of Union County", 1963.

Linn, J.B. "Annals of Buffalo Valley", 1877. Pages 32,39,49,254, 458, 550, 558, 559.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

UTM REFERENCES

A [18] [34,156,0] [4,513,715,80]
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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

William K. Watson, Historic Sites Survey

March, 1975

ORGANIZATION

PA Historical & Museum Commission

DATE

787-4363

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1026

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

William J. Wewer

6/6/75

TITLE

William J. Wewer, Executive

DATE

Director, PA Historical & Museum Commission

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:

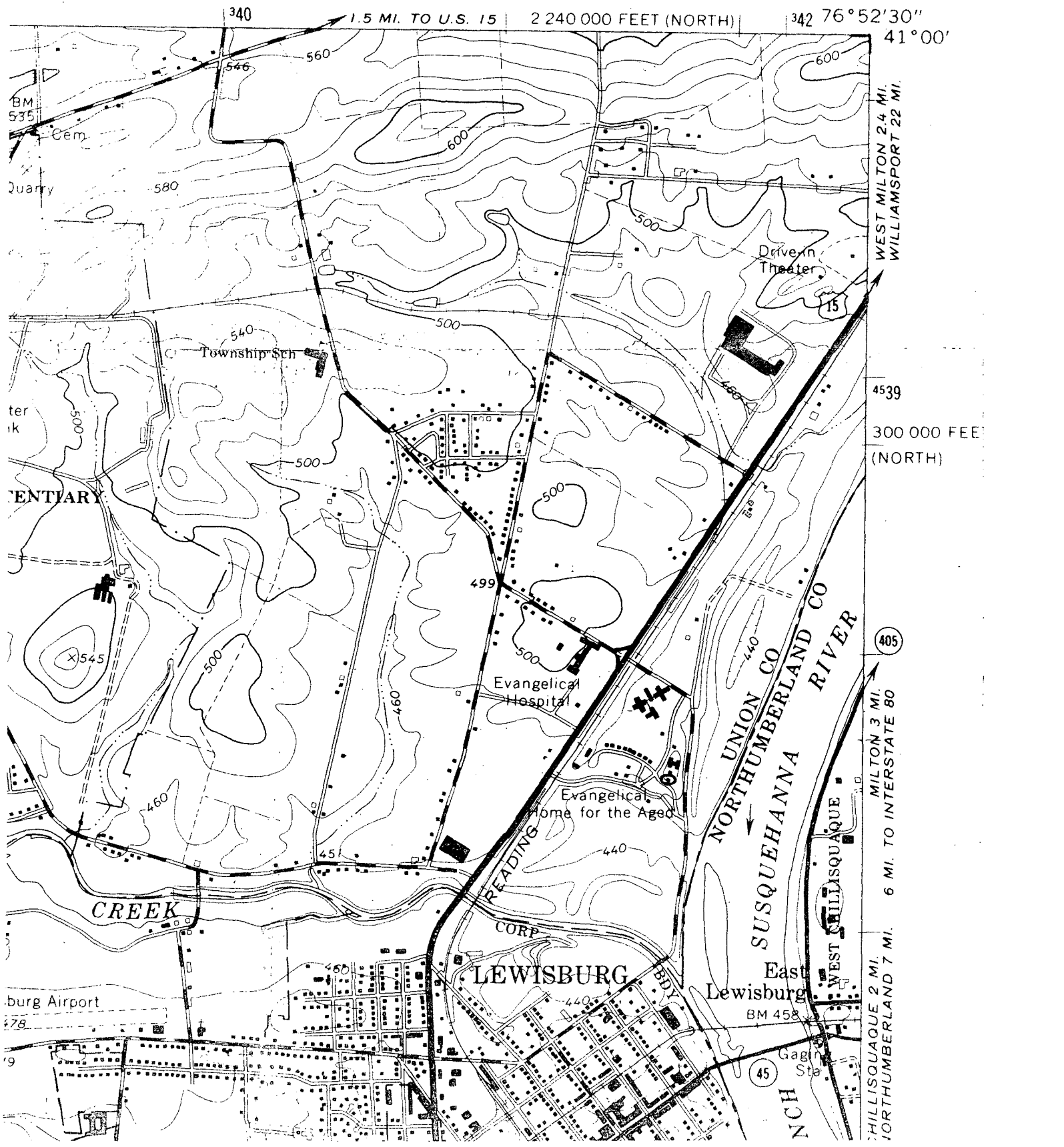
DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

VII GEOGRAPHICAL DATA
 SLIFER HOUSE
 LEWISBURG PA.

5666 III SE
 (MILTON)



WEST MILTON 2.4 MI.
 WILLIAMSPORT 22 MI.

4539
 300 000 FEET
 (NORTH)

(405)

MILTON 3 MI.
 6 MI. TO INTERSTATE 80

CHILLISQUAQUE 2 MI.
 NORTHUMBERLAND 7 MI.

BM 535

Quarry

ter
 ik

WENTIARY

burg Airport

78

79

LEWISBURG

East
 Lewisburg

BM 458

(45)

CHILLISQUAQUE