

*notified Pa. Dept 10/12/72*

STATE:	Pennsylvania	
COUNTY:	Union	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Old Union County Courthouse

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
corner Market Street and Vine Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
New Berlin

STATE: Pennsylvania      CODE: 42      COUNTY: Union      CODE: 119

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) <u>warehouse</u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Union County Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:  
130 South Fifth Street

CITY OR TOWN: Lewisburg      STATE: Pennsylvania      CODE: 42

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Union County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Second Street

CITY OR TOWN: Lewisburg,      STATE: Pennsylvania      CODE: 42

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: 1971       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg,      STATE: Pennsylvania      CODE: 42

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:  
COUNTY:  
ENTRY NUMBER  
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ok

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

ORIGINAL:

Originally this building was a two and half story brick structure with a Flemish bond brick pattern. It had three bays on the west, north, and east sides with a small five sided wing containing three bays protruding out of the south side. All the windows appear to have been twelve over twelve sashes. There was a central door on the north, west, and south sides. There were double chimneys on the west and east ends with a cupola centered between. The inside building apparently had one large room downstairs with three or four on the second floor.

PRESENT:

The building is a two and a half story brick structure without a basement. The original section has three bays on each side with a central door on the north and west sides. The windows of this section are narrow, double one over one sashes on the first floor and two over two on the second. The attic windows to the east are rectangular and those to the west are arched. The central doors have transoms with two lights and the brickwork around the door on Vine Street indicates that it may have been arched at one time. The brickwork of this section is in a Flemish bond pattern. A cupola rests on the center of the roof between two single chimneys. An addition to the south side was built in the late nineteenth century. The axis of this section is perpendicular to the original building. The windows are narrow, double one over one sashes matching those of the first floor of the original building. There are two doors in the addition. The woodwork of the entire building around the doors, windows, and cupola are (s) Victorian. The interior of the building was altered to suit the needs of the school. The first floor is one large room with a stage and the second floor has two large rooms. The stairwell is in the addition. The window frames appear to be original with Victorian sills and entablatures.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Pennsylvania	
COUNTY	Union	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION present appearance

There is little of the 1815 interior remaining. The window openings are original, however, the twelve over twelve sashes have been replaced. A circa 1870 pediment has been added over the windows on the outside. The original external molded window sills have been replaced. The present cupola dates from circa 1857-1865, probably it was rebuilt when the building was converted to a school.

*P* molded window sill

The 1815 interior trim on the first floor has all but disappeared. There is a small sample of the original, light Federal chairrailing below the two east window sills. Everywhere else it has been removed.

The original reeded panel, double doors survive on the western entrance and some of the reeded trim surrounding the windows. The west door originally had a semicircular fan light transom, which was removed circa 1855. A portion of the exterior framing is stored in the attic today. These double doors originally were hung on strap hinges (now missing) with large pintals (three quarters still in place).  
OF THEM ARE

Two original six, molded edge, raised panel interior doors survive on the second floor. Neither shows sign of strap hinges, so likely they were hung on butt hinges.

It appears that the 1855-57 renovation from courthouse to school house saw the interior practically gutted and the external walls wainscotted with narrow beaded edge boards. Later (post 1857) changes have altered even these aspects of the early change. It is certain that the present floor plan little resembles the original, but only a serious study of the building during restoration will answer the many problems of a proper restoration to the original 1815 appearance internally.

Restoration of the exterior may be accomplished fairly well by aid of early sketches, photographs, and surviving fragments of the original frame.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Pennsylvania	
COUNTY Union	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

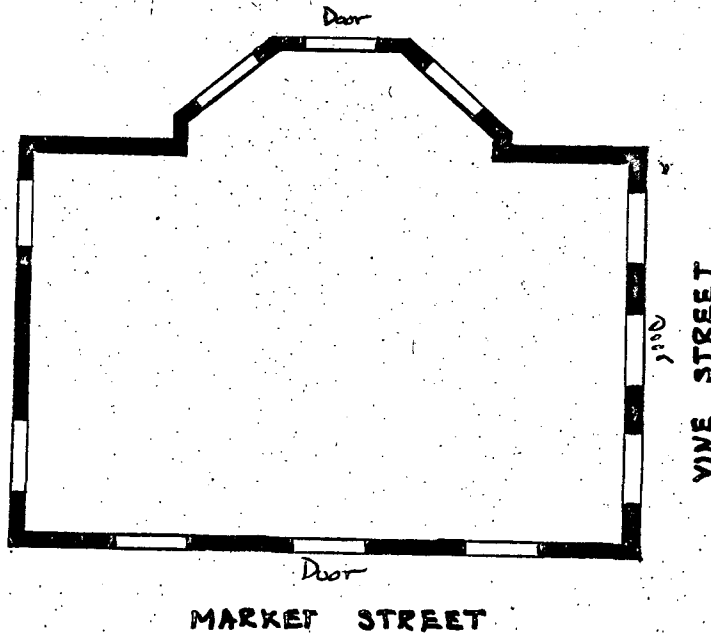
(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION original appearance

In an 1847 lithograph of Market Street, New Berlin the courthouse has a double chimney on the east side and a tall slender cupola with a weather vane in the center of the roof.

A photograph from the late nineteenth century shows the courthouse before the major renovations were made. There is a double chimney on the west end and the windows had molded sills. The front door on the west end had already been changed and the original cupola replaced by the date of this photograph. The small extension to the south possibly may have been the judge's chambers.

The sketch below represents the original shape of the building when built in 1815.



**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1815**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |                                      |   |  |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-        | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | osophy  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Science              | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture            | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | Architecture                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | itarian                                       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater              | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation       | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On March 22, 1813 Union County was created from part of Northumberland County and New Berlin was designated as the seat of government for the infant county. In 1815 a parcel of land on the corner of Market and Vine streets was purchased from Christopher Seibold for sixty-seven cents as a site for the courthouse. In May of 1815 the courts and various county offices officially moved to New Berlin. The new courthouse, built in a classical style typical of the period, served as a central point around which the young county developed and prospered. By the mid-nineteenth century Union County had grown to a size that it was necessary to divide it. When Snyder County was created in 1855 the center of government was moved from New Berlin to Lewisburg, a point more central to Union County. The old courthouse was given a new use as a school and was so used for nearly a century, 1855 to circa 1952. In more recent years it has been used as a factory warehouse. Today community-spirited citizens are seeking to restore and reuse the deteriorating building to the dignity it had for over a half a century.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Rupp. History and Topography of Northumberland, Huntington, Mifflin, Centre, Union, Columbia, Juniata, and Clinton counties, Pennsylvania. Lancaster, Pa.: G. Hills, 1847.  
Union County Sesquicentennial: The Story of a County, 1967.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		40° 52' 45"	76° 59' 45"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/6 of an acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

ORGANIZATION: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission DATE: 1/14/72

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name *William J. Weaver*  
State Liaison Officer

Title Deputy Executive Director  
Pa. Historical and Museum Commission

Date 4/17/72

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



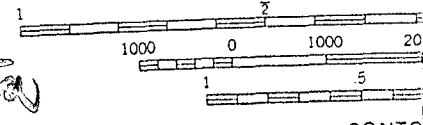
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric method from aerial  
 photographs taken 1963. Field checked 1965

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

*correct location data*  
 JL Millard  
 James L Millard 1974 (June 7)



UTM GRID AND 1965 MAGNETIC NORTH  
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH  
 FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC