

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC James Ford House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Cowanesque Street

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Lawrenceville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 10

___ VICINITY OF

STATE Pa. CODE 42

COUNTY Tioga CODE 117

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Clifford and Beverly Merritt, Jr.

STREET & NUMBER Cowanesque Street

CITY, TOWN Lawrenceville

___ VICINITY OF

STATE Pa.

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Tioga County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER Main Street

CITY, TOWN Wellsboro

STATE Pa.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE None

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

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

This two-and-a-half story brick house was built by Stephan Potter in 1831. The original house had two sections - a main front section and a rear section. The main front section consisted of a long hall and two main rooms on the first floor, three bedrooms on the second floor and an attic. The one-and-a-half story rear section containing the kitchen and dining room was separated from the front section by a wide hall (later removed.) In 1920 the rear section was raised to two stories and extended to the west. Also at this time the wall between the two sections was removed and the present dining room and kitchen were erected. A porch was erected on the rear section in 1916 and enclosed in 1920. The main section of the house has a front facade three bays across, an eastern facade four bays deep, and a western facade which consists of two bays.

The windows of the front facade are six-over-six sash with decorated lintels and a wooden block in the keystone position. A full width one story porch on the front of the house has fluted Ionic columns and a hip roof. The entrance is in the west of the front facade and is a semi-elliptical opening. The six paneled door is flanked by side lights and topped with a recessed semi-elliptical fan opening.

The remaining windows of the house are six-over-six sash with the exception of the two half-elliptical attic windows on the east and west gables. The main section of the house has stepped gables with twin chimneys on the east side. The front facade has a cornice with brackets.

On the east side of the rear section is a one bay, one-story porch with a hip roof and fluted columns. The door of this porch led to the original great hall.

18 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 type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1831

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1831 James Ford had this house built for his son, Charles. It is an excellent example of later Federal architecture found on the frontiers in the 1800's. Even though there have been slight alterations to the structure, the integrity has not been destroyed, and the original section has been well preserved. In addition to its architectural significance the house has historical significance due to its relationship to James Ford and his son.

Mr. Ford purchased land on the Cowanesque River in 1816. He built himself a home and opened a store in the new town which he named Lawrence.

His first business became very successful as were his following endeavors. Ford's family business enterprises were some of the most extensive in the country (including a lumber mill, a flour mill, and a hotel and business block in Lawrence). James Ford served in the State Legislature and as a representative in Congress. Among his accomplishments he helped to begin the first Lawrence Newspaper (1840) and to create the Lawrenceville Academy. (1848).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Brown, R. E., History of Tioga County, Harrisburg Press, Harrisburg, 1897, pages 520-542.
- Darling, Dr. L., J., Lawrenceville, Present and Past, The Lawrenceville Herald, April 3, 1886,
- Elmira Star Gazette Staff, History of Seven Counties, Elmira Star Gazette, 1885, pages 36-37.
- Rolf, M. O., Old Tioga and 98 Years of Its Existence, Funnell and Rolf, Tioga Pa., 1877, pages 38-54.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	3,2,3,3,0	4,6,5,1,6,7,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Merritt, Jr., owners
Irene Schiavoni, Student Aide

ORGANIZATION None DATE June 18, 1975
Pa. Historical and Museum Commission

STREET & NUMBER Cowanesque Street TELEPHONE
Box 1026, Wm. Penn Museum

CITY OR TOWN Lawrenceville STATE
Harrisburg

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL X

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 [Signature]

TITLE Executive Director DATE 10-22-75
Pa. Historical and Museum Commission acting

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

HOUSE -
county

23 330
51 670

TIOGA QUADRANGLE
PENNSYLVANIA-NEW YORK
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5308.11
(CA)

