

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

29  
For HCRS use only

received

Date entered

## 1. Name

historic ALEXANDER HAMILTON HOUSE

and/or common Alexander Hamilton Memorial Free Library

## 2. Location

street & number 45 East Main Street \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Waynesboro \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 9

state Pennsylvania code 42 county Franklin code 055

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name The Borough of Waynesboro

street & number 57 East Main Street

city, town Waynesboro \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Pennsylvania 17268

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Franklin County Courthouse

street & number 1 North Main Street

city, town Chambersburg \_\_\_\_\_ state Pennsylvania

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Pennsylvania Inventory  
of Historic Places

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 6-19-79 \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

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 Library building is an example typical of the rural interpretation of the 5 bay Georgian Style. This simplified Georgian Style is common to the Pennsylvania Valley.

It is a 2 story brick building with double end-chimneys and side walls capped by parapets. It was built in 1814.

The ground floor facade contains 5 bays with a central door flanked by 2 windows on each side. The windows are capped by flat brick arches. The door is capped by a semi-circular arched window. The brick work fronting Main Street is flemish bond.

The front porch is not original to the structure but was added in 1841. It is Greek Revival in style with added Victorian elements. The heavily molded cap is supported by two fluted columns.

The first floor contains 5 windows all in-line with the ground floor bays. The windows are capped by flat brick arches.

The cornice contains the only intricate detail work on the facade. It is highlighted by delicate moldings with dentil work and carved wreaths.

The roof is standing seam in and not original to the building. It covers a sawn-wood shingle roof that probably dates to the mid-19th century.

The sides of the building contain 2 windows over 2 with a semi-circular fan light centered in the attic between the end chimneys. The brickwork changes to American bonding on the sides.

The building continues toward the rear of the lot in the shape of an "L". The "L" extends back from the west side of the building (to the left when facing the front door). The brickwork in the rear of the structure and the "L" is done in common bonding.

The "L" appears to be original to the main structure. The inside of the "L" (exterior facing east) extends out to form a 2 story porch. There are 3 bays under the porch roof with a center door flanked on each side by a window. The configuration is repeated on the ground and first floors.

The two-story brick addition to the east of the main structure (to the right when facing the front door) was built in 1955. It contains the stack rooms for the library.

The interior of the Library was originally 16 rooms but was extensively altered in the 1950's. The alterations were done so as to make the building into a public library. Little remains of the original interior fabric. Also located on the property is a 1½ story, gable roofed stone spring house.

# 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 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 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 1814

Builder/Architect Builder: Mr. Bittinger

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Alexander Hamilton House is a five bay vernacular Georgian style structure that is located amid Victorian Downtown Commercial Buildings. It represents the only example of an earlier era of economic property in the Waynesboro area. (Current area buildings were constructed in 1890 thru 1920).

The house was constructed by a Mr. Bittinger in 1814 and the interior woodwork was done by Eli Horner. The Greek Revival porch was added by the new owner, Alexander Hamilton, when he purchased the house in 1841.

Alexander Hamilton came to Waynesboro in 1817 from Chester County where he was a wagon maker and blacksmith. He built a brick home on Mechanic Street and married his neighbor's daughter, Jane Besore. The Hamilton's had 12 children, nine survived. Their son, John who was a farmer, painted portraits and the portraits of his parents now in the library were his work.

The structure became a library in 1955 willed to the Borough of Waynesboro by Jane Yost, a descendent of Alexander Hamilton. In 1978, the building was further restored and modernized for library use.

The structure is an example of the architecture popular at the time of the incorporation of the community. Waynesboro incorporated December 21, 1818 and signifies the property of the founders of the community.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Records. Alexander Hamilton Memorial Free Library, Waynesboro.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .369

Quadrangle name Waynesboro, Pa.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A 

1	8	2	7	9	2	7	0	4	4	0	3	5	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

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 Richard A. Miller, Borough Manager

organization Borough of Waynesboro date \_\_\_\_\_

street & number 57 East Main Street telephone 717-762-2101

city or town Waynesboro state Pennsylvania 17268

# 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

title ED WEINTRAUB, Director date \_\_\_\_\_  
Office of Historic Preservation

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

Keeper of the National Register date \_\_\_\_\_

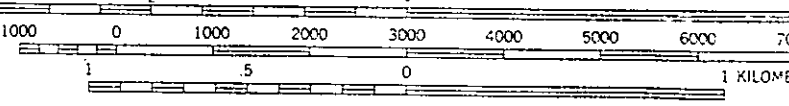
Attest: date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration



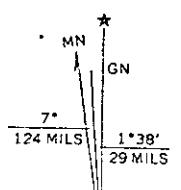
REID 5.2 MI. LEITERSBURG 4.6 MI. HAGERSTOWN 12 MI. RINGGOLD 3.1 MI. SMITHSBURG 7.3 MI. WAYNE HEIGHTS 11 MI. MONTEREY 5.5 MI. (SMITHSBURG) 5463 11 NE

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

Survey  
Photogrammetric methods  
1944  
datum  
Coordinate system, south zone



Waynesboro, Va.

SE/4 Chambersburg 15' Quadrangle

N 3945 - W 7730 / 7.5

1944

Photorevised 1968

AMS 5462 I SE-series V831